



# ASSEMBLY ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

## ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER

EDITED BY SUSAN M. TARLO, ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN

SPRING 2006



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## Message From the Assembly Chairman

Susan M. Tarlo, MB, BS

EOH Assembly Mission Statement: To reduce the Burden of Respiratory Illness from Environmental and Occupational Exposures through Research, Patient Care and Education.

Welcome to the spring newsletter. It has been a very interesting experience to Chair this Assembly since last May, and to learn more about the activities of the Assembly and the ATS Board of Directors. It has made me appreciate more than ever the effectiveness and seemingly effortless work of David Tollerud as previous Assembly Chair who led the Assembly into the current vibrant form. Our Assembly owes thanks to him for his leadership in the previous two years.

Currently our Assembly has 499 primary members (1337 primary and secondary members) of whom about one third are from outside of North America. In recognition of the importance of the international nature of our membership we have formed a new EOH Committee, the International Committee, which Bill Beckett has agreed to chair. This builds on our previous Assembly practice of having an EOH International leadership lunch each year at ATS.

The other new committee, which involves our Assembly as a major contributor is the ATS Environmental Health Policy Committee. This is an ATS Committee rather than an Assembly Committee

but the Chair, Bill Rom, and several of the members (Isabelle Romieu, Kent Pinkerton, Mark Frampton and Jon Samet) are primary members of our Assembly. I have therefore asked Bill to provide a short report for this newsletter since clearly the issue of air pollution is central to our Assembly.

Further important reports in this newsletter are from the Planning Committee, very actively and ably chaired by Carrie Redlich, and the Program Committee chaired by Kent Pinkerton, which has led to an outstanding program this year. Both Committees perform crucial roles in our Assembly and require dedication and

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## Message From the Assembly Chairman Cont'd

Susan M. Tarlo, MB, BS

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time from those involved. I hope that we will continue to be able to draw on members willing to participate in the EOH Assembly Committees – requiring commitment but also very rewarding! Bill Rom, as Chair of the nominating Committee assured me that his committee would identify upcoming and talented members for nomination to continue the high quality of these volunteers for our Assembly.

Our new website editor is Sushma Bhat, and with initial help from Akshay Sood, she has enthusiastically taken on this role and has increased and updated the web-site information. I would again en-

courage those of you with interesting cases to submit them for website publication (which is associated with a citable reference), and which has been a popular site for residents and fellows and may encourage more interest in occupational and environmental lung disease. Formal instructions for submissions can be found on the website. If you have digital images of pneumoconiosis cases to add to the website, Sushma would also be pleased to receive these. In addition, since Sushma will have increased commitments in the coming year, I would encourage anyone with interest in helping Sushma with the website

to contact her or myself.

In further news, the Bioterrorism Section, previously Chaired by Mark Frampton is now re-named the section on Terrorism and Inhalation Disasters. It has broad ATS participation but is "housed" in EOH. Rogene Henderson and Charles Frevert are the current Co-Chairs, with the new Co-chair for next year Chris Lettieri. They are encouraging submissions for Annual Meeting, have a postgraduate course approved, and are in a process of developing a web-page. Their focus is broader than bioterrorism and includes disasters, large scale emergencies, and

emerging threats. Members from our Assembly have also provided assistance to ATS in relation to other environmental and occupational questions, and have provided input to the Research Advocacy Committee regarding the NIEHS strategic plan.

As we move towards a new Assembly year, I look forward to more exciting developments. I'd be very happy to hear suggestions from any members of our Assembly. We hope to attract more young colleagues, so please bring them to our Assembly Meeting at ATS, and I look forward to seeing you there.

## EOH Planning Committee

Chair: Carrie A. Redlich, MD, MPH

EOH Planning Committee members for the past year (2005-2006) are listed below:

Susan M. Tarlo, MB, BS  
(EOH Assembly Chair)

Sushma Bhat, MD  
(EOH Webmaster)

Amund Gulsvik, MD, PhD

Paul K. Henneberger, ScD

Hillel S. Koren, PhD

Stephanie London, MD

Benoit Nemery, MD, PhD

Kent E. Pinkerton, PhD

Debra J. Romberger, MD

Isabelle Romieu, MD,  
MPH, DSc

Frances S. Silverman, PhD

Akshay Sood, MD

David J. Tollerud, MD

Kjell O. Toren, MD, PhD

Susanna G. Von Essen, MD

David N. Weissman, MD

Adam Wisniewski, PhD

The past year was an active one for EOH Assembly Projects, with

several completed, ongoing, and newly funded projects:

### Completed Projects:

1) **2nd Jack Pepys Workshop on Occupational Asthma** (Project Chairs - Susan M Tarlo and Jean-Luc Malo). A

*(Continued on page 3)*

## EOH Planning Committee Cont'd

Chair: Carrie A. Redlich, MD, MPH.

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document summarizing this workshop, which was held in May 2004, is published in the European Respiratory Journal – An ATS/ERS Report: 100 key questions and needs in occupational asthma (ERS 2006; Vol 27(3)). The slides from the workshop are on the website of the Center for Asthma in the Workplace ([www.asthma-workplace.com](http://www.asthma-workplace.com)), listed under the 2004 events.

### Projects in Progress:

**1) Revision of ATS/ DLD Questionnaire** (Project Chair - George O'Connor)

The revised Respiratory Disease Questionnaire - Adult Version is undergoing a second round of cognitive evaluation at the National Center for Health Statistics, as well as field-testing by Susan Kennedy in Vancouver. Dr O'Connor plans to have a final version available by the 2006 ATS Annual Meeting. As the Adult Version is close to finalized, the committee plans to turn its attention back to the devel-

opment of a revised a Childhood Version.

**2) ATS Statement on Health Effects of Tremolite** (Project Chair - Marc Schenker) The final Tremolite document is in preparation. The committee hopes to have it submitted to the ATS Board by the 2006 ATS Annual Meeting. The topic continues to be one of importance in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world as government agencies and the public grapples with how to respond to non-occupational asbestos deposits.

**3) Stress and Asthma Workshop** (Project Chair - Rosalind Wright)

A document summarizing this workshop, which was held in October 2004, with funding from ATS as well as NHLBI and the Fetzer Foundation, is nearing completion. The focus of the publication, to be submitted to AJRCCM, is the methodology involved in measuring stress, and research gaps relevant to asthma and

lung diseases in general.

**4) Standardizing Low Molecular Weight (LWM) Occupational Allergens** (Project Chair - Adam Wisniewski). A workshop was in conjunction with the ATS 2005 conference, with support from the ATS. Over twenty participants with expertise in immunology, biochemistry, and clinical occupational asthma met to identify key issues, including theoretical and technical aspects of the problem. Additional funding was requested and approved by the ATS for the current year to complete a manuscript focused on the workshop proceedings; providing guidelines and recommendations for the preparation and use LMW occupational allergens. A brief working meeting is planned at ATS 2006 to further develop this document.

### Newly Funded Projects:

**1) Work-Exacerbated Asthma** (Project Chair - Paul Henneberger)

Paul Henneberger recently received ATS funding to conduct a workshop and prepare a statement on Work-Exacerbated Asthma. A preliminary meeting was already conducted in December 2005 in Arlington, Virginia, supported by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NIOSH/CDC). The workshop will take place in conjunction with the 2006 ATS Conference. If interested in more information or serving as a reviewer for this statement, please contact Paul Henneberger at email address [pkh0@cdc.gov](mailto:pkh0@cdc.gov).

**2) Biomass Combustion and Respiratory Health** (Project Chair - Isabelle Romieu) Isabelle Romieu received ATS funding to convene a Biomass Combustion Working Group and hold a workshop focusing on the health impacts of exposure to smoke from combustion of wood and other bio-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## EOH Planning Committee Cont'd

Chair: Carrie A. Redlich, MD, MPH

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mass and explore future research agendas. A subsequent state-of-the-art review or ATS statement on biomass combustion and respiratory health is planned. If interested in more information please contact Isabelle Romieu at email address [iromieu@correo.insp.mx](mailto:iromieu@correo.insp.mx).

Carrie A. Redlich MD, MPH will continue as Program Chair of the EOH planning Committee for the coming year. EOH members are encouraged to submit applications for Assembly / Committee projects, which can span a range of EOH issues, problems, or

activities relevant to the EOH assembly, the larger ATS membership, or to investigators and health practitioners outside the ATS. If you have an idea for a project (or want to serve on the Planning Committee in the future) please contact Carrie or other

members of the Planning Committee. Project applications, which are not lengthy, are usually due mid-July. Funding odds appear to be much better than NIH proposals.

## EOH Program Committee

Chair: Kent Pinkerton, PhD

The 2006 ATS International Conference will showcase over 300 abstracts from our assembly presented over 4 days in 5 symposia, 5 mini-symposia, 5 poster discussions and 5 thematic poster sessions. Exciting presentations are scheduled

from more than a dozen countries. Co-chairs and facilitators from our assembly will provide an exciting program to stimulate lively interactions and discussions among the participants. The EOH assembly will also sponsor a postgraduate

course on emergency responses to natural disasters as well as acts of terrorism as part of the educational meetings offered before the official opening of the 2006 conference. The program for this year is truly a stellar year for the presentation of

original research, studies and cutting edge concepts in environmental and occupational medicine. Please be sure to attend by searching for EOH-sponsored sessions at this year's meeting!

## ATS International Lung Health Committee

Bill Beckett, MD

The International Lung Health Committee of ATS has among its charges to facilitate interactions of the ATS with all non-US organizations and with international programs of organizations within the US. Another objective is to develop strategies to enable

ATS to be more effective in promoting lung health throughout the world. Ongoing activities include support of international STOP TB activities, and support of the annual international epidemiology MECOR course, recently described by ATS President Peter

Wagner in the ATS News.

New initiatives include support for an organizational meeting of the newly established Pan African Thoracic Society. Drs. Stephen Gordon of UK and Heather Zar of South Africa described plans

for an inaugural in organizational meeting of African pulmonologists to be held in Cape Town.

The European Respiratory Society has also recently joined in financial support of this effort. This committee

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## ATS International Lung Health Committee Cont'd

Bill Beckett, MD

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has also supported establishment of an ongoing Trainee International Travel Award Program to bring young investigators from other countries to the ATS in a format that will support their professional development and help them establish research col-

laborations with ATS investigators. This program was conceived by Dr. Gustavo Matute-Bello of the University of Washington. One goal of this committee is for each ATS Assembly to establish its own International committee to encourage and support international

members as assembly leaders. EOH Assembly Chair Dr. Susan Tarlo asked Bill Beckett to establish this committee for the EOH Assembly, and he will be joined by Dr. Wan-Chen Tan, of the National Singapore University and University of British Columbia,

Vancouver. She was nominated for this position by the Asia Pacific Respiratory Society.

For more information, see the committee list on the ATS web site under "About ATS - Committees."

## The Environmental Health Policy Committee

Chair William N. Rom, MD, MPH

### Members:

Kent Pinkerton  
Dorr Dearborn  
Richard Dey  
Al Miller  
Serpil Erzurum  
Jonathan Samet  
Mark Frampton  
Isabelle Romieu

### ATS Staff:

Gary Ewart

### ALA Representative

Janice Nolan

The agenda for this new committee has been a focus on outdoor air pollution and the EPA, in particular. The committee has been closely monitoring and participating in the EPA standard setting process for particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and ozone.

### PM<sub>2.5</sub>

The committee has been very active in analyzing and responding to EPA documents regarding the standard for particulate matter. The Committee reviewed the EPA staff paper, a compendium of existing research on the health effects of particulate matter. The EPA staff paper provides analysis of the existing research on PM and made a recommendation that EPA consider issuing a standard that is more strict than the existing standard.

The Committee, on behalf of the ATS, has reviewed the EPA staff paper and provided

both written and oral comment the EPA analysis. The ATS comments supported the overall conclusion of the EPA staff paper and recommended EPA consider setting the revised standard at the lower end of the range proposed by the EPA staff paper, specifically:

12 microgm/m<sup>3</sup> for the average annual standard  
25 microgm/m<sup>3</sup> for the 24-hour standard,  
99th percentile for data monitoring

The current standard is:

15 microgm/m<sup>3</sup> for the average annual standard

65 microgm/m<sup>3</sup> for the 24-hour standard  
98 percentile for data monitoring

Additionally, the ATS sent a letter to the EPA Administrator urging the EPA to issue a revised PM rule of 12/25/99. The Am Coll of Cardiology, Am Coll of Prev Med, Am Public Health Assoc, and several respiratory care groups joined the ATS in the letter to the EPA Administrator. Committee member Dr. Dorr Dearborn had personal meeting with EPA Administrator Johnson to make the case for tightening the EPA standard for PM.

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## The Environmental Health Policy Committee Cont'd

Chair William N. Rom, MD, MPH

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In December, EPA Administrator Johnson issued a proposed new standard for PM of:

15 microgm/m<sup>3</sup> for the average annual standard  
35 microgm/m<sup>3</sup> for the 24-hour standard  
98 percentile for data monitoring

The proposed standard largely ignores the recommendations of the ATS, the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee and the EPA, all of whom recom-

mended a more stringent standard. The public comment period for the proposed PM rule ends April 17th.

In response to the Administrator Johnson's proposal, Drs. Rom and Samet have a commentary in press with the Am J Respir Crit Care Med criticizing this standard. The committee will also coordinate ATS involvement in local field hearing on the PM rule in Chicago, Philadel-

phia and San Francisco expected in February. The committee will draft comments on the proposed rule for ATS leadership review.

### OZONE

The committee has also been active in the rule making process for ozone. The EPA has just begun the process of collecting and interpreting existing research on the health effects of ozone and has released an initial draft EPA staff paper.

The EPA staff paper also calls for a tightening of ozone standard. Committee member Richard Dey MD provided comment to the EPA on the draft staff paper. Several iterations of the EPA staff paper are expected over the next year. The committee will continue to review and provide comment on future EPA drafts. EPA is expected to issue a proposed rule on ozone in December 2006.

## Section on Terrorism and Inhalation Disasters

Charles Frevert, MD

Between the sarin attack in Tokyo, Sept 11th, the anthrax scare of 2001, the tsunami in 2004, and the Gulf Coast hurricanes this past year, one is reminded that disasters occur and are not uncommon. In the November 2005 ATS News, Peter Wagner, M.D. discussed the role of ATS in response to disasters and laid out a clear path for the society to follow. He also charged the Section on Terrorism and Inhalation Disasters (TID) of

the Assembly on Environmental and Occupational Health to formulate a proposal to address how ATS can respond to future disasters.

In their proposal the TID section leaders developed goals in the areas of research, education, and clinical outreach to allow ATS to respond to both natural and man made disasters. Key to this proposal is the need to develop strategies for clinical outreach. This

is an area that Christopher Lettieri, MD the section's co-chair elect has been working on over the past year. Short term strategies for clinical outreach include a Symposium and a Post-Graduate Course that will take place at the International Conference in San Diego in May 2006.

- ATS Symposium: The Pulmonary and Critical Care Response to Catastrophes

- ATS Post Graduate Course: Disaster Medicine: The Medical Response to Terrorism, Natural and Industrial Catastrophes. This course, which will be given on Saturday, May 20th requires Registration.

Long term strategies of this section include the development of a Disaster Medicine Network where collaborations with the appro-

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## Section on Terrorism and Inhalation Disasters Cont'd

Charles Frevert, MD

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appropriate professional groups and federal agencies will be developed. The Disaster Medicine Network will allow ATS and its members to become an important resource for

advice and clinical expertise during disasters that have the potential to cause pulmonary disease.

We would like to invite all interested individu-

als to the annual business meeting of the TID section during the International Conference in San Diego. The membership meeting will be held on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 12N-

1:30p.m. at the Manchester Grand Hyatt hotel, Randle D Ballroom (Level 4).

### ATS Assembly On Environmental and Occupational Health 2006 San Diego Sessions

#### Post Graduate Course

##### Saturday, May 20

PG19	Disaster Medicine: The Medical Response To Terrorism, Natural And Industrial Catastrophes	8:00 am	4:00 pm
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#### Scientific Symposia

##### Sunday, May 21

A78	Air Pollution And Childhood Respiratory Health: What Are The Effects Of Local Traffic?	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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##### Monday, May 22

B78	The Respiratory Tract As Portal-Of-Entry For Inhaled Nano-Sized Particles: Medical Applications And Implications	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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##### Tuesday, May 23

C76	Genetics Of Lung Disease: From Mouse To Man	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
C80	The Pulmonary And Critical Care Response To Catastrophes	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

##### Wednesday, May 24

D10	Novel Risk Factors And The Global Burden Of Copd: Beyond Cigarette Smoking	8:15 Am	11:00 Am
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#### Meet The Professor Seminars

##### Sunday, May 21

MP413	The Pneumoconioses In 2006: Forgotten But Not Gone?	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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##### Monday, May 22

MP511	Methods For Identification And Analysis Of Stem Cells	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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##### Tuesday, May 23

MP614	Molds: Allergy, Inflammation Or Reactions To Toxins?	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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## ATS Assembly On Environmental and Occupational Health 2006 San Diego Sessions Cont'd

### Sunrise Seminars

#### Monday, May 22

SS112	Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis Associated With Environmental Mycobacteria	7:00 am	8:00 am
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#### Tuesday, May 23

SS213	Is My Lung Function Really That Good (Bad)?: Spirometry Equipment And Technique Errors That Elevate (Reduce) Test Results	7:00 am	8:00 am
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#### Wednesday, May 24

SS313	Emerging Occupational Lung Disorders	7:00 am	8:00 am
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### Mini Symposia

#### Sunday, May 21

A14	Endotoxin: From Detection Methods, To Genes And Exposure In Occupational And Environmental Health	8:15 am	11:00 am
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#### Monday, May 22

B16	New Insights In Air Pollution Epidemiology And Mechanisms	8:15 am	11:00 am
B85	Update On Asthma/Copd Epidemiology And Outcomes: From Risk Factors, Risk Of Other Diseases To Treatment And Screening	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

#### Tuesday, May 23

C15	Inhaling Your Food: Nutrition, Obesity And Airways Disease	8:15 am	11:00 am
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#### Wednesday, May 24

D87	New Advances In Ozone Health Effects	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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### Poster Discussion Sessions

#### Sunday, May 21

A24	Indoor And Outdoor Air Pollution Epidemiology	8:15 am	11:00 am
A96	Current Topics In Occupational And Environmental Lung Diseases	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

#### Monday, May 22

B96	Gene And Environment Interactions In Occupational And Environmental Lung Disease	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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#### Tuesday, May 23

C24	Oxidant Gas And Particulate Matter Health Effects	8:15 am	11:00 am
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#### Wednesday, May 24

D25	Health Consequences Of Natural And Unnatural Disasters	8:15 am	11:00 am
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### Thematic Poster Sessions

#### Sunday, May 21

A126	Health Effects Of Nanomaterials	8:15 am	4:15 pm
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#### Monday, May 22

B113	Pulmonary And Cardiovascular Impacts Of Air Pollutants	8:15 am	4:15 pm
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## ATS Assembly On Environmental and Occupational Health 2006 San Diego Sessions Cont'd

### Thematic Poster Sessions Cont'd

#### Tuesday, May 23

C131	Global Occupational And Environmental Diseases	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C132	Smoking And Its Health Effects	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C133	Asthma Epidemiology: Outcomes, Drugs, Depression And Other Risk Factors	8:15 am	4:15 pm

### Please Consider submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2007!

For your information, the FY2007 (January 1-December 31, 2007) project application forms for Assembly/Committee projects will be available on the ATS website in April 2006 at:

<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/projectform.asp>

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have an idea for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee chair Carrie Redlich [carrie.redlich@yale.edu](mailto:carrie.redlich@yale.edu)

The timeline for the application and review process follows:

April 2006: FY2007 forms are available

July 25, 2006: Assembly/Committee project applications are due to

the ATS office. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Early-mid August 2006: abridged versions of the proposals will be posted on the ATS site and emails will be sent to ATS Leadership, Assembly Planning Committee Chairs, Assembly Chairs, ATS Committee Chairs, appropriate ATS staff and the PRS committee, to notify them that the current, un-reviewed proposals are available. This will give everyone an opportunity to touch base with any of the applicants if they would like to get involved with a project before it goes to the PRS for review.

August 1-18, 2006: Assembly Planning Committees will meet via conference call to review appropriate proposals. Any proposal that has indicated on

the form that a specific ATS committee may want to become involved will be sent to the ATS committee chair and to the appropriate staff member. Committees are encouraged to work with appropriate ATS staff and review any proposals and to send recommendations to the applicant and to the PRS.

September 6, 2006: Revised proposals and all reviews from Assemblies and Committees are due to ATS office. This includes any proposal that has revisions based on a review by an Assembly Planning Committee or an ATS Committee.

Early October 2006: Program Review Subcommittee (PRS) meeting.

Early November 2006: Program & Budget

Committee (P&B) meeting. Recommendations from the PRS will be provided to the P&B Committee. At the discretion of the P&B Committee, specific projects will be added to the FY2007 budget as new items.

December 2006: ATS Board reviews FY 2007 Budget.

Please contact Elisha Malanga with any questions at tel: 212/315-8693 or email: [emalanga@thoracic.org](mailto:emalanga@thoracic.org).

## Patients to Speak At Sixteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at sixteen of the 2006 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia for the last four years and

at over 25 ATS symposia at the 2004 and 2005 International Conferences.

This is the third year that patient speakers will participate within the Assemblies' Symposia. The patients will make a five-minute presentation at the symposia to offer in-

sight into their personal journeys; to address their diagnosis, treatment, and how the disease has dramatically altered their lifestyles, family, career and relationships. They will share their insight into what patients would like physicians and researchers to know about physi-

cian/patient relationships; and the importance and relevance of the work in which investigators and researchers are engaged.

The symposia at which a patient-perspective will be presented are listed below:

Assembly	Session Code	Title	Date/Time
AII	B7	Genotypic and Phenotypic Predictors of Response to Asthma Therapy: What do NHLBI Clinical Research Studies Tell Us?	Monday, May 22 8:15-11:00 am
BS	A7	Respiratory Lung Health and the Family: The Influence of Family on Adherence, Disease Management, and Health Outcomes	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
BS	D9	Community Involvement in Pulmonary and Critical Care Research: What, Why and How?	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
CP	A2	Novel Outcomes for Novel Therapies in COPD	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
CP	D2	Update in the Diagnosis and Management of Pulmonary Vasculitis	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
CC	B74	Genetic Influences on the Susceptibility To and Outcome of Critical Illness	Monday, May 22 1:30-4:15 pm
CC	C7	Clinical Studies in the Pediatric ICU: Update From the Pediatric Acute Lung Injury and Sepsis Investigator's (PALISI) Network	Tuesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
MTPI	C6	Diagnosis and Management of Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections - The New ATS Guidelines	Tuesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
NRSG	A8	Critical Care of the Geriatric Patient	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am

## Patients to Speak At Sixteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia Cont'd

NRSG	B6	Biobehavioral Considerations in Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation	Monday, May 22 8:15-11:00 am
PED	A9	Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia: Not Just the Other Inherited Lung Disease	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
PC	D75	Taking the Next Step, Improving Outcomes in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension	Wednesday, May 24 1:30-4:15 pm
RCMB	B77	Evolving Concepts of Stem Cells and Lung Repair	Monday, May 22 1:30-4:15 pm
RCMB	D7	New Developments in the Genetics of Respiratory Disorders	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
RNS	D76	Sleep, Breathing and Metabolic Function	Wednesday, May 24 1:30-4:15 pm
RSF	A79	Impact of Smoking on Lung Function: Therapeutic Implications and Biological Mechanisms	Sunday, May 21 1:30-4:15 pm

## ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) Symposium and Poster Session

### ATS PAR Symposium

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the fifth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Monday, May 22nd from 8:15-11:00 a.m. The topic will be "COPD and Comorbidities: Treating the Whole Patient" chaired by Sharon I. S. Rounds, M.D and John W. Walsh. The program includes the following:

- COPD As A Systemic Condition - S.

I. S. Rounds, M.D.,  
Providence, RI

- Panel: Experience of Patients With COPD And Comorbidities - J. W. Walsh, Miami, FL
- COPD and Cardiovascular Disease - D. D. Sin, M.D., Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Obesity, Wasting and BODE Index - B. R. Celli, M.D., Boston, MA
- Skeletal Muscle Function in COPD - P. D. Wagner, M.D., La Jolla, CA
- COPD and Endocrine Issues: Diabetes - E. N.

Schachter, M.D.,  
New York, NY

- Depression and Anxiety In COPD Patients - J.R. Curtis, M.D., M.P.H., Seattle, WA
- Session Summary - S. I. Rennard, M.D., Omaha, NE

lung and sleep disorders will present information about their organizations. A representative from each organization will be available at the poster session to provide additional information.

### ATS PAR Poster Session

The ATS PAR Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 21 until Wednesday, May 24, 2006 at the Center Terrace of the San Diego Convention Center. Public Interest Organizations (PIO's) concerned with



# ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> 4:30-6:30 PM  
MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT  
BETSY A-C (LEVEL 2)

## Documents Forum at 2006 International Conference

On Sunday, May 21 from 7-9 PM, the Documents Editor, Holger Schunemann, MD and Documents Staff Judy Corn will lead a forum on Official Documents: what they are, how they're developed, and how they're peer reviewed, approved and disseminated. New Board-approved policy guidelines for document development and their impact on the Society will also be addressed. All Assembly leadership, current writing committee members, as well as individuals interested in serving on writing committees in the future are urged to attend this informative session. Participants will receive a packet of highly cited ATS documents and procedural guidelines.

ATS Documents Forum  
Sunday, May 21, from 7-9 PM  
Randle Ballroom A/B, Hyatt