

Spring 2005

Respiratory Structure & Function Assembly Newsletter

Edited by Michael Reid, Assembly Chairman

Message from Mike Reid, Ph.D., Chair of the RSF Assembly

Well, here it is mid-April. With winter in grudging retreat and spring emerging, the Society is busy preparing for the American Thoracic Society (ATS) International Conference which will be held May 20-25, 2005 in San Diego, California. The Conference is always a terrific meeting, a dynamic week of leading-edge science and state-of-the-art clinical medicine. This year's meeting is especially important: it marks the 100th anniversary of the ATS and will therefore feature an array of special activities to celebrate the centennial, including a Nobel Laureates Symposium and an Opening Reception Birthday Party for the ATS. I urge you to visit the ATS website at www.thoracic.org to look for sessions of particular interest and plan to join us in San Diego.

In 2005, the RSF Assembly is an especially vital part of the ATS: we now have 2,354 total members, 714 of which have primary affiliations in our Assembly. Approximately 35 percent of our membership is from outside the U.S. These international members contribute importantly to the success and diversity of our Assembly, participating

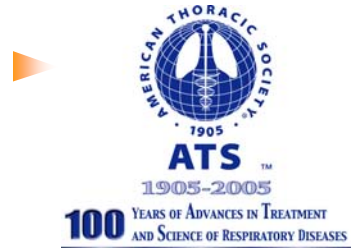
throughout the scientific program and serving on every Assembly committee. We are a rich blend of basic and physician scientists who are heavily involved in the Society's work. Our members possess key roles in ATS leadership and currently spearhead ATS projects addressing issues such as severe asthma, genetics of airway hyperreactivity, smooth muscle function and smooth muscle adaptation. We also figure importantly in the 2005 International Conference: this year, the RSF Assembly is contributing 724 scientific abstracts and will conduct scientific sessions, educational courses and workshops.

The Assembly leadership has been hard at work during the run-up to the International Conference in San Diego. Under the leadership of Chair Wayne Mitzner, Ph.D., the RSF Program Committee have programmed scientific sessions of special interest to RSF Assembly members and have selected travel award recipients from among the outstanding abstracts submitted by Assembly students and fellows. Under the leadership of Vito Brusasco, M.D., the RSF Assembly Planning Committee has overseen the selec-

tion of recipients for the Ann Woolcock Memorial Award and the Joseph R. Rodarte Award for Scientific Distinction and has organized an excellent Assembly dinner to be held in San Diego on Monday, May 23rd, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. The RSF Assembly Nominating Committee, chaired by Stephanie Shore, Ph.D., has developed a slate of outstanding candidates for Assembly leadership that will be elected by RSF Assembly members at this year's business meeting.

As you can see, the Assembly is in high gear and the International Conference promises to be an exciting experience. I encourage you to get involved in RSF Assembly activities while in San Diego. A great way to start is by attending our annual business meeting. It will be held Monday afternoon, May 23, 2005 at 4:30 pm in the Manchester Grand Hyatt (Betsy rooms A-C; level 2). The agenda will be short and to the point and will include a quick run-down of ongoing Assembly activities and the election of selected Assembly officials. Show up and vote, make yourself known! Then join us

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Officers of the RSF Assembly
Assembly Chairman
 2004-2006: Michael Reid
Michael.reid@uky.edu

Planning Chairman
 2004-2006: Vito Brusasco
Vito.brusasco@unige.it

Program Chairman
 2004-2005: Wayne Mitzner
wmitzner@jhsph.edu

Program Chair-elect
 2004-2005: Reynold Panettieri
rap@mail.med.upenn.edu

Nominating Chairman
 2004-2005: Stephanie Shore
sshore@hsph.harvard.edu

Web Director
 2004-2005: Raed Dweik
dweikr@ccf.org

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Message from Mike Reid, Ph.D., Chair of the RSF Assembly Cont'd

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Immediately afterward for the Assembly Dinner to be held at Aubergine's in the charming Gaslight District. This venue only accommodates 150 guests and these tickets will go

fast so reserve your seat today by returning the form enclosed with this newsletter. It will be a memorable evening filled with good food and lively conversation among your fel-

low Assembly members. I look forward to seeing you there!

RSF Assembly Nominating Committee Report

By Stephanie Shore, Ph.D., Nominating Committee Chair

The RSF Assembly Nominating Committee (composed of Assembly members Vito Brusasco, M.D., Peter Pare, M.D., and Stephanie Shore, Ph.D.) met by teleconference on January 31, 2005. The Committee is pleased to nominate Wayne Mitzer, Ph.D., and Reynold Panettieri, Jr., M.D., for the position of RSF Assembly Chair for the 2006-2008 term. Both have been active in the assembly for many years and both are recent RSF Assembly Program Committee Chairs. The RSF Assembly Chair is responsible for

coordinating and approving all major activities of assembly, attends all ATS Board meetings and provides advice and guidance to ATS leadership. The Nominating Committee is also delighted that Susan Hopkins, M.D., Ph.D., and Andrew Halayko, Ph.D., have agreed to run for the position of RSF Assembly Program Committee Chair-Elect for the 2005-2006 term. Both Susan and Andrew have been active in the Assembly Program Committee for several years (the Program Committee plans and schedules all

the Assembly sessions at the ATS International Conference). Finally, the Committee nominates Jeffrey Fredberg, Ph.D., and Connie Hsia, M.D., to serve on the 2005-2006 Nominating Committee. Elections for these positions will be held during the RSF's Assembly annual meeting, which will take place during the ATS International Conference in San Diego.

RSF Assembly Planning Committee Report

Vito Brusasco, M.D., Planning Committee Chair

Twelve members from North America, Europe and Australia who regularly participated in Assembly activities, compose the RSF Assembly Planning Committee for year 2004-2005. The major activities of this group included the evaluation of projects submitted by members affiliated to RSF Assembly or other assemblies, the organization of assembly dinner and the presentation of awards.

Among the projects evaluated for year 2004-2005, the Committee fully supported "Airway Smooth Muscle Adaptation to Length Change: Implications for Airway Hyperresponsiveness," a study aimed at updating the knowledge in the areas of mechanisms of airway narrowing and publishing a state-of-the-art review with

the goal of further stimulating interest in the area of airway hyperresponsiveness and its underlying mechanism. Furthermore, the Committee supported a project submitted to the Clinical Problems (CP) Assembly as a primary assembly aimed at identifying proper outcomes to determine uniform definitions or criteria for what constitutes a beneficial response to therapeutic interventions in trials involving patients who suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The ATS Program Review Sub-Committee approved both projects. Other continuing RSF Assembly projects include "Genetics & Physiology of Airway Hyperreactivity," "Airway & Pulmonary Vascular Smooth Muscle Function" and "Severe Asthma."

The tradition of an RSF Assembly sponsored dinner will continue at this year's International Conference. The dinner, which will be held on Monday, May 23rd, will feature speaker Wayne Mitzner, Ph.D., who will entertain participants with an interesting and amusing subject. As in previous years, two prestigious awards, the Joseph R. Rodarte Award for Scientific Distinction and the Ann Woolcock Memorial Award, will be presented at the dinner to the awardees identified by the RSF Assembly Planning Committee. The Joseph R. Rodarte Award has been made available through a generous grant from the SensorMedics, a subsidiary of Viasys Healthcare, and is annually awarded to an established investigator with recognized and

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RSF Assembly Planning Committee Report cont'd

Vito Brusasco, M.D., Planning Committee Chair

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distinguished scientific achievement in the area of respiratory structure. The Ann Woolcock Award, which is supported by an endowment that

has been established through the generosity of GlaxoSmithKline and the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand, is annually awarded to

a young investigator for career research accomplishments in the field of asthma.

FY2006 Assembly/Committee Project Forms are Available!

For your information, the FY2006 (January 1-December 31, 2006) application forms for Assembly/Committee projects now available on the ATS website 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 Vito Brusasco, M.D., at vito.brusasco@unige.it

The timeline for the end review process follows:

March 2005: FY2006 forms are available

July 18, 2005: Assembly/Committee project applications are due to the ATS office. Late submissions or submissions without proper financial disclosures will not be accepted.

early-mid August 2005: 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: 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 2nd 2005: 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 2005: Program Review Sub-Committee (PRS) meeting

early November 2005: Program & Budget Committee (P&B) meeting. Recommendations from the PRS will be provided to the P&B Committee. At the of the P&B Committee, specific projects will be added to the FY2006 budget as new items.

December: ATS Board reviews FY 2006 Budget

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

RSF Assembly Program Committee Report

Wayne Mitzner, Ph.D., Program Committee Chair & Rey Panettieri, M.D., Program Committee Chair-Elect

This year was a very good year for the RSF Assembly at the ATS International Conference. In the last year, our Assembly has significantly expanded in both the number of abstracts presented and the number of sessions programmed. We were able to program two additional formal

symposia and one additional poster discussion, as compared to the programming available at the 2004 meeting in Orlando, Florida. This increase in the number of sessions offered was a result of a 20 percent increase in the number of abstracts submitted to sessions identified with

our Assembly. This year, the RSF Assembly had 724 abstracts that its Program Committee programmed into individual poster discussions, mini-symposia and thematic poster sessions.

The RSF Assembly Program Committee Report cont'd

Wayne Mitzner, Ph.D., Program Committee Chair & Rey Panettieri, M.D., Program Committee Chair-Elect

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For those not familiar with the ATS' internal structure, the single most important feature that distinguishes the different assemblies is the group of topics in the abstract category list you see when it's time to submit an abstract in October. The topics on this list are not fixed and are sensitive to the continually changing research and clinical environments. As new areas of interest develop, new submission categories are added. If an existing category only gets a very few abstracts for successive years, it is dropped. Individual assemblies "own" the various topics, meaning that all abstracts submitted to a particular topic are assigned to the assembly that either already had it or had recently proposed it. Each year the complete category list is reviewed at each assembly's Program Committee Meeting in the spring and any

changes have to be approved by the full committee. The bottom line is that if there is a topic that members of the RSF Assembly feel is not represented on the current category list for submitting an abstract, it is very important to let the incoming Committee Chair know. This can be suggested to the ATS. If there are no other assemblies that want to handle the additional topic, it will likely be approved. If there is another assembly interested in the same topic, then some compromise is usually worked out by splitting the topic accordingly. Part of the reason we increased the number of RSF Assembly abstracts this year was that we added new categories under our umbrella.

The most difficult job of the Program Committee is sorting out the submitted abstracts into groups for the

poster discussions and mini-symposia. As you may have noticed, the titles of these type sessions are generally different from the abstract submission category topics. The actual titles of abstract sessions at the meeting are determined by the Committee Chair and Chair-Elect at the December meeting. However, this process requires input from all Program Committee members, primarily because our Assembly has such a broad spectrum of interests, ranging from exercise to lung injury to lung mechanics to smooth muscle, etc., in addition to a host of disease models. It would not be possible for the Chair and Chair-Elect to adequately represent all these diverse areas. Rey and I greatly appreciate all the help we have received from our Committee in programming this year's Conference.

ATS 2005 – SAN DIEGO

Sessions Sponsored by the RSF Assembly

POSTGRADUATE COURSES

Friday, May 20

| | | | |
|------|---|---------|---------|
| PG13 | PULMONARY FUNCTION LABORATORY: GUIDELINES AND CONTROVERSIES | 8:00 am | 3:40 pm |
|------|---|---------|---------|

Saturday, May 21

| | | | |
|------|---|---------|---------|
| PG26 | AEROSOL DELIVERY: FROM BASIC SCIENCE TO THERAPY – PROMISES, PRACTICE AND PROBLEMS | 8:00 am | 4:00 pm |
|------|---|---------|---------|

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA

Sunday, May 22

| | | | |
|----|---|---------|----------|
| A7 | ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
|----|---|---------|----------|

Monday, May 23

| | | | |
|----|---|---------|----------|
| B8 | REMODELING THE SYSTEMIC VASCULATURE TO THE LUNG | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
|----|---|---------|----------|

Tuesday, May 24

| | | | |
|----|---|---------|----------|
| C7 | EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX REGULATORS DURING PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL LUNG REMODELING: IMPLICATIONS FOR THERAPY | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
|----|---|---------|----------|

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
| C78 | OBESITY AND PULMONARY DISEASE | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
|-----|-------------------------------|---------|---------|

Wednesday, May 25

| | | | |
|----|--|---------|----------|
| D8 | INTRACELLULAR SIGNALING MOLECULES: NEW THERAPEUTIC TARGETS IN TREATMENT OF ASTHMA AND COPD | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
|----|--|---------|----------|

| | | | |
|-----|--|---------|---------|
| D79 | PULMONARY GAS EXCHANGE: INTEGRATION OF MODERN EXPERIMENTAL AND MODELING TECHNIQUES | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
|-----|--|---------|---------|

ATS 2005 – SAN DIEGO

Sessions Sponsored by the RSF Assembly Cont'd

| SUNRISE SEMINARS | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------|----------|
| <u>Monday, May 23</u> | | | |
| SS120 | PHYSIOLOGICAL PHENOTYPING OF THE LABORATORY MOUSE | 7:00 pm | 8:00 am |
| <u>Wednesday, May 25</u> | | | |
| SS320 | GRADING PULMONARY FUNCTION TESTS FOR PRACTICING PULMONOLOGISTS | 7:00 pm | 8:00 am |
| MEET THE PROFESSOR SEMINARS | | | |
| <u>Sunday, May 22</u> | | | |
| MP420 | MECHANICS OF THE RESPIRATORY PUMP | 12:00 noon | 1:00 pm |
| <u>Monday, May 23</u> | | | |
| MP520 | NEW TOOLS FOR STUDYING GENE EXPRESSION IN THE LUNG | 12:00 noon | 1:00 pm |
| <u>Tuesday, May 24</u> | | | |
| MP619 | CLINICAL IMPORTANCE OF LOW ATTENUATION DISTRIBUTION AND AIRWAY DIMENSION ASSESSED BY X-RAY CT IMAGES IN PATIENTS WITH OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD/ASTHMA) | 12:00 noon | 1:00 pm |
| MP620 | IN VITRO CULTURE TECHNIQUES TO ASSESS AIRWAY REMODELING AND FUNCTION | 12:00 noon | 1:00 pm |
| MINI SYMPOSIA | | | |
| <u>Sunday, May 22</u> | | | |
| A19 | G-PROTEIN COUPLED RECEPTORS IN AIRWAY HYPERRESPONSIVENESS | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
| A88 | DOES TGF BETA DIRECTLY REGULATE BRONCHOMOTOR TONE? | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| A89 | HFOV: APPLICATIONS AND OUTCOMES | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| <u>Monday, May 23</u> | | | |
| B19 | SUPPLY AND DEMAND DURING EXERCISE: THE PROBLEM COMMON TO ATHLETES AND PATIENTS | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
| B89 | PERIPHERAL MUSCLE FUNCTION IN COPD | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| <u>Tuesday, May 24</u> | | | |
| C19 | HETEROGENEITY IN VENTILATION AND PERFUSION | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
| <u>Wednesday, May 25</u> | | | |
| D89 | NEUROTROPHIC FACTORS: NEUROIMMUNE MECHANISMS AND CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| POSTER DISCUSSION SESSIONS | | | |
| <u>Sunday, May 22</u> | | | |
| A99 | ANIMAL MODELS OF EMPHYSEMA | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| <u>Monday, May 23</u> | | | |
| B28 | NEW INSIGHTS FROM LUNG IMAGING | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
| B29 | REGULATION OF AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE PHENOTYPE AND FUNCTION | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
| B99 | MECHANICAL MODULATION OF AIRWAY NARROWING | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| <u>Tuesday, May 24</u> | | | |
| C97 | NEURAL CONTROL: THE MASTER SWITCHES REGULATING AIRWAY CALIBER | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| C98 | MECHANICAL STRESS AND MOLECULAR SIGNALING | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| C99 | ACUTE LUNG INJURY: MEDIATORS AND MECHANISMS | 1:30 pm | 4:15 pm |
| <u>Wednesday, May 25</u> | | | |
| D28 | CELLULAR MECHANISMS IN RESPIRATORY MUSCLE FUNCTION | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |
| D29 | ALI/ARDS: INSIGHTS INTO MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR MECHANISMS | 8:15 am | 11:00 am |

Patients to Speak At Fourteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at fourteen of the 2005 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia for the last three years and at nine ATS symposia at the 2004 International Conference in Orlando.

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

sight into what patients would like physicians and researchers to know about physician/patient relationships; and the importance and relevance of the work in which investigators and researchers are engaged.

| ASSEMBLY | SESSION CODE | SESSION TITLE | DATE/TIME |
|----------|--------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| All | B7 | Severe Asthma: Advancing Our Understanding of a Distinct Phenotype | Mon., 5/23 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| BS | A6 | What are the Causes of Health Disparities in Lung Diseases and What Can We do About Them? | Sun., 5/22 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| CP | C3 | Sarcoidosis: How to Manage the Difficult Clinical Problems | Tues., 5/24 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| CP | B72 | The Scleroderma Lung Study: Lessons for Interstitial Lung Disease | Mon., 5/23 1:30 pm-4:15 pm |
| CC | D74 | Theory and Practice: Managing the Brain in Mechanically Ventilated Patients | Wed., 5/25 1:30 pm-4:15 pm |
| EOH | A77 | Sex and Gender Issues in Obstructive Lung Disease | Sun., 5/22 1:30 pm-4:15 pm |
| MTPI | D7 | Airway Infections: Pathogenesis and Consequences | Wed., 5/25 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| NRSG | B5 | Tobacco Addiction and Treatment: Current and Emerging Findings from Bench to Behavior | Mon., 5/23 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| NRSG | D77 | Innovative Physiological Interventions in Pulmonary Rehabilitation | Wed., 5/25 1:30 pm-4:15 pm |
| PED | D5 | Respiratory Care of the Patient with Neuromuscular Weakness | Wed., 5/25 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| PED | B9 | New Developments and Advances in Pediatric Interstitial Lung Disease | Mon., 5/23 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| PC | C10 | Pro-Con Debates in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension | Tues., 5/24 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| RCMB | C8 | Targeting Lung Cancer: Novel Molecular Targets and Treatment Strategies | Tuesday, May 24 8:15 am-11:00 am |
| RNS | A8 | Moving Toward Best Practice: Where Does the Diagnosis and Treatment Of Sleep Apnea Fit in the Care of Heart Failure? | Sun., 5/22 8:15 am-11:00 am |

Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) Symposium

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the fourth PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Wednesday, May 25, 2005, from 8:15-11:00 a.m. Dr. Homer Boushey and Dr. John D. Newell will Chair the PAR Symposium "Imaging the Lungs in Research and Care". The PAR is excited to present the following speakers:

Charles White, MD - "Keynote Address - New Technologies applied to an Understanding of Lung Disease"

Michael Gotway, MD - "Radiologic-Anatomic Correlations"

John Newell, MD - "Quantitative CT scanning in longitudinal studies of emphysema"

Jim Hogg, MD - "The nature of small-airway obstruction in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease"

Jonathan Goldin, MD, PhD - "Radiologic Assessment of interstitial pulmonary fibrosis"

David L. Levin MD, PhD - "MR imaging of Pulmonary Blood Flow"

Eric Hoffman, PhD - "Regional Characterization of Lung Structure and

Function via Micro and Multidetector CT: New Views for New Insights"

Asgar Dirksen, MD, PhD - "Repeatability of lung density measurements with low-dose CT"

Three patients will share their experience by describing their personal journey with their specific illness. Our goal is to increase the awareness of physicians and researchers to the major life challenges and alterations faced by patients with a serious and sometimes little known disorder.

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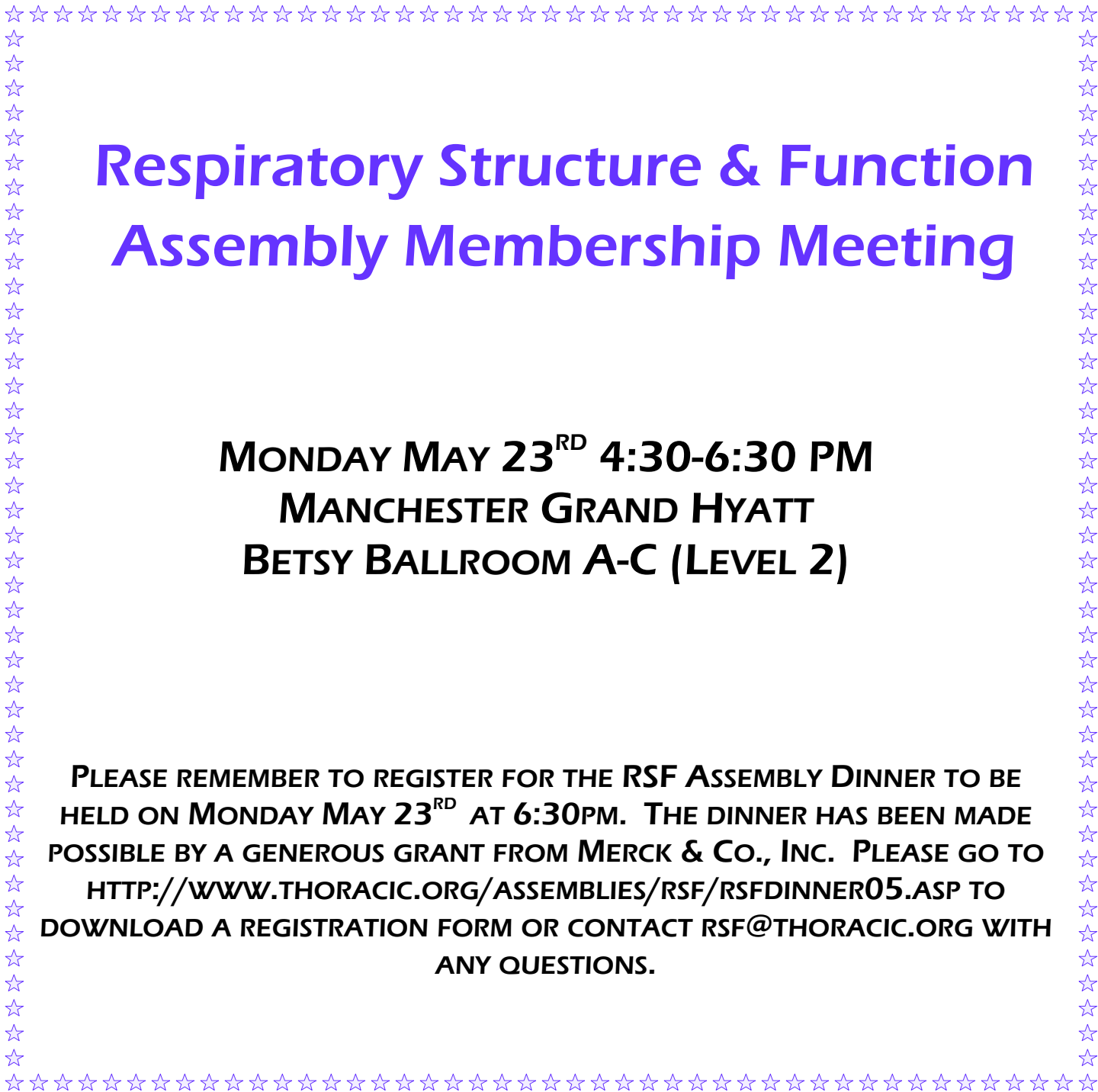
Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) Symposium Cont'd

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PAR's Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 22 until Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at the Center Terrace of the San Diego Con-

vention Center. Public Interest Organizations (PIO's) concerned with lung and sleep disorders will present information about their organiza-

tions. A representative from each organization will be present at the poster session to provide additional information.



Respiratory Structure & Function Assembly Membership Meeting

MONDAY MAY 23RD 4:30-6:30 PM
MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT
BETSY BALLROOM A-C (LEVEL 2)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER FOR THE RSF ASSEMBLY DINNER TO BE HELD ON MONDAY MAY 23RD AT 6:30PM. THE DINNER HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM MERCK & Co., INC. PLEASE GO TO [HTTP://WWW.THORACIC.ORG/ASSEMBLIES/RSF/RSFDINNER05.ASP](http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/rsf/rsfdinner05.asp) TO DOWNLOAD A REGISTRATION FORM OR CONTACT RSF@THORACIC.ORG WITH ANY QUESTIONS.