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# Sleep & Respiratory Neurobiology

Editor: Vsevolod (Seva) Polotsky MD, PhD

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## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

The Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Assembly <https://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/index.php> had an outstanding year. The field of sleep medicine attracts clinicians and researchers across multiple disciplines in medicine opening great opportunities for young physician-scientist and aspiring clinician-educators.



Vsevolod (Seva) Polotsky MD, PhD

Several major new developments took place in our Assembly and have been discussed extensively by the Executive Committee this year:

- 1) Training and Mentorship is one of the major subjects of our discussion. The Assembly regularly posts grant funding opportunity information on the Website. ATS presentations by junior members are supported by Abstract Scholarships. We have several mechanisms actively engaging trainees and junior members in the vibrant Assembly environment, especially via participation in our Web Committee. I encourage all trainees and junior members to attend our Membership Meeting followed by the Assembly Dinner during the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Monday, May 19, 2014. The Assembly Leadership will be available to answer your questions in person before the Membership Meeting .
- 2) Sleep fragment series became increasingly popular thanks to the hard work of the former Website Directors Mihaela Teodorescu and Renaud Tamisier and current Website Directors, Vidya Krishnan and Pedro Genta. The fragments will now be directly submitted to the Annals of the ATS. The selected fragments will be published in the Annals and the others will be directed to the SRN Website.
- 3) SRN Journal Club is becoming increasingly popular. Check our Website <https://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/journal-club.php> for the schedule.

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR (Continued)

- 4) SRN Assembly Projects have had a great success this year. Two completed Assembly projects were published in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine: An Official American Thoracic Society Clinical Practice Guideline: Sleep Apnea, Sleepiness, and Driving Risk in Noncommercial Drivers. An Update of a 1994 Statement by Kingman Strohl et al. *Am J Respir Critl Care Med*, Vol. 187, No. 11 (2013), pp. 1259-1266. <http://www.atsjournals.org/doi/full/10.1164/rccm.201304-0726ST> and An Official American Thoracic Society Statement: Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Adherence Tracking Systems. The Optimal Monitoring Strategies and Outcome Measures in Adults by Richard Schwab et al. *Am J Respir Critl Care Med*, Vol. 188, No. 5 (2013), pp. 613-620. <http://www.atsjournals.org/doi/full/10.1164/rccm.201307-1282ST>

I would like to express my gratitude to all members of our Executive Committee who worked with me to implement our agenda. I would like to acknowledge the Chair of our Program Committee Christopher O'Donnell PhD and Chair-Elect Nick Antic, PhD, MBBS for putting together an excellent program for the ATS 2014 in San Diego. The scientific quality of submitted abstracts was outstanding, which greatly facilitated programming. Chris and Nick took an innovative approach by coupling major symposia with lectures by leaders in the field with mini-symposia and poster discussion sessions on a similar topic on the same day. They have also invited rising stars in the field to give featured talks during the mini-symposia.

Chairs of our Web committee, Pedro Genta and Vidya Krishnan have done a herculean job this year on our Website. They newly developed a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ATSSRN> and a Twitter account. <https://twitter.com/ATSSRN> Our Journal Club and Sleep Fragments are among the most popular activities across the ATS!

Chair of our Planning Committee, Sanjay Patel, MD, MS successfully promoted competitive new and renewed Assembly projects. If you are interested in participating in Assembly Projects, contact Sanjay at [spatel@partners.org](mailto:spatel@partners.org). Sanjay is also in charge of our Assembly Dinner at the ATS. Last year he invited David Dinges, PhD to speak and the lecture was both very enlightening and entertaining. This year Sanjay has invited Sean Drummond, PhD, to speak at our Assembly dinner. Finally, the Planning Chair also spearheads the Assembly efforts to solicit and review applications for the James B. Skatrud New Investigator Award. <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/assembly-awards/assembly-on-sleep-and-respiratory-neurobiology-james-b.-skatrud-new-investigator-award.php>. The winner will give 15 min presentation highlighting his career during our Assembly Membership Meeting. Contact Sanjay or me if you have questions regarding the award.

As the Assembly Chair, I have been representing our Assembly at the ATS Board of Directors. I have attended 3 meetings which provided me with the wealth of information about the ATS. I learned a great deal about educational and research activities within the society and about the ATS contribution to respiratory health in the US and around the world. One of the successes of the ATS was the MECOR program (Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical and Operations Research), which facilitated training of clinical investigators in respiratory diseases in many countries. Another example is the ATS Foundation, which supports many young investigators with research grants, which became increasingly important in the new era of meager federal research funding. One of the important initiatives by the ATS is Health Equality, which is actively promoted by the ATS President, Patricia W. Finn, MD. Our Assembly is very supportive of this important initiative targeting the equal access to the high quality medical care for all.

I have been honored to serve as the Assembly Chair in 2013-2014 and to represent Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology on the Board of Directors. I look forward to serving in this capacity another year. The Executive Committee and I would welcome any input from Assembly members. Feel free to contact me at [vpolots1@jhmi.edu](mailto:vpolots1@jhmi.edu) with any questions. I hope to see all of you in San Diego in May.

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Chris O'Donnell, PhD, Chair and Nick Antic, PhD, MBBS, Chair-Elect

As chair and chair-elect of the SRN Assembly, we would like to thank the SRN Assembly members for submitting their latest scientific research to the ATS 2014 meeting. We would particularly like to thank the SRN Program Committee for their diligent work in reviewing the many abstracts we had submitted for the 2014 program. Thanks also to the ICC Chair, Irina Petrache for her help in integrating our program into the meeting, and the ATS staff for their constant attention to detail and immediate feedback whenever issues have arisen. We have a very exciting program for 2014 that will hold interest for our broad base of assembly members that include basic scientists, pediatricians, and clinicians from varying fields but with common interests in sleep and respiratory neurobiology.

This year's program will begin with two post-graduate courses. On Friday we will have "Technological Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment of Sleep Disordered Breathing," which is an updated version of last year's highly attended course and will encompass interactive and small group sessions focusing on the management of sleep disordered breathing in clinical practice. Saturday, "New Insights in Pathophysiology and Consequences of Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Children" will review the most current research on the pathophysiology of OSAS in children, with a particular emphasis on the growing impact of obesity.

As a new feature this year we have organized our mini-symposia to reflect the themes of the three major symposia. To highlight this further, we have scheduled each major symposium in the morning with its matched mini-symposium—including a 'rising star' in of the field as featured speaker—in the afternoon on the same day. For instance, Sunday's major symposium, "*Impact of Hypoxia on Cardio-Metabolic Health: Good or Evil?*" (Speakers: Seva Polotsky, Dan Gottlieb, Chris O'Donnell, Richard Mackenzie, Rob Roach, and Jonathon Jun) will be followed in the afternoon by a mini-symposium centered on the theme "*Hypoxia: How Bad is the News?*" with featured speaker Silke Ryan (University College, Dublin). Likewise, on Monday, the morning's major symposium "*Comparative Effectiveness Trials in Sleep Medicine: Results from Recent Studies and Future*" (Speakers: Doug McEvoy, Matt Naughton, Peter Cistulli, Carole Marcus, Ferran Barbe, and Susan Redline) precedes the mini-symposium, "*Randomized Controlled and Prospective Clinical Trials in Sleep Disordered Breathing*"—enabled by the critical mass of randomized controlled trials this year—with Michael Arzt (University of Regensburg) as featured speaker. Lastly, Tuesday's "*Controversies in Obstructive Sleep Apnea Management: Pro-Con*" (Speakers: Nick Antic, Pat Strollo, Najib Ayas, Bob Owens, Sonya Craig, Matt Naughton, Rich Schwab, and Atul Malhotra) is paired with its afternoon mini-symposium, "*Latest in Diagnosis and Management of Sleep Disordered Breathing*," which will start with a talk by featured speaker, Danny Eckert (Neuroscience Research Australia). The final mini-symposium on Wednesday will cut across our entire field to showcase the latest and most significant studies. The session, titled "*Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology: High Impact Science*," will begin with a featured presentation from Ferran Barbe from the Spanish Sleep Network.

The poster discussion sessions also include a broad range of interesting topics with a seasoned group of facilitators to lead the discussions. Sessions will include "*Pediatric Sleep and Sleep Medicine*"; "*The Impact of Sleep Disordered Breathing on the Heart and Other Organ Systems*"; "*Upper Airway and Respiratory Control During Sleep*"; "*Epidemiology & Genetics of Sleep Disordered Breathing*"; and "*Novel Screening Approaches and Therapies for Sleep Disordered Breathing*."

Furthermore, with late-morning thematic poster sessions on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, attendees will be able to discuss one-on-one with the authors their current research on topics such as "*Pathological Sequelae of Sleep Disordered Breathing*"; "*Diagnosis, Treatment, and Management of Sleep Disordered Breathing*"; and "*Upper Airway and Respiratory Control During Sleep and Non-Pulmonary Sleep Disorders*."

Finally, with David Gozal, MD (University of Chicago) presenting the Clinical Year in Review for Sleep on Wednesday, attendees will receive an overview of major advances in clinical sleep medicine over the last year.

(Continued on Page 4)

The ATS will be continuing its Clinical Core Curriculum for three tracks – Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine—to meet additional needs of many of the attendees at the conference. Each curriculum is designed to address major components within the American Board of Medical Specialties blueprints over a 3-year period. The first Sleep Curriculum session will occur on Tuesday morning (7:00AM to 8:30AM) and focus on “*Sleep-Related Movement Disorders, Pharmacology, and Sleep in other Disorders.*” The second session on Wednesday morning (7:00AM to 8:30AM) will deal with “Sleep-Related Breathing Disorders.”

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego, and anticipate an interesting and, hopefully on occasions, provocative meeting that challenges us as a field to be innovate and creative, ultimately developing new strategies for the diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders.

# ATS 2014 - San Diego

## Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Sleep & Respiratory Neurobiology

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Postgraduate Courses</b>			
<b>Friday, May 16, 2014</b>			
PG4	TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Saturday, May 17, 2014</b>			
PG23	NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE PATHOPHYSIOLOGY AND CONSEQUENCES OF OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA SYNDROME IN CHILDREN	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Scientific Symposium</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 18, 2014</b>			
A10	IMPACT OF HYPOXIA ON CARDIO-METABOLIC HEALTH: GOOD OR EVIL?	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Monday, May 19, 2014</b>			
B8	COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS TRIALS IN SLEEP MEDICINE: RESULTS FROM RECENT STUDIES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 20, 2014</b>			
C8	CONTROVERSIES IN OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA MANAGEMENT: PRO-CON	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Sunrise Seminars</b>			
<b>Monday, May 19, 2014</b>			
SS117	NEW METHODS TO FACILITATE CPAP ADHERENCE	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 20, 2014</b>			
SS218	COPD-OSA OVERLAP SYNDROME: AN OVERVIEW	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 21, 2014</b>			
SS317	THE PHYSIOLOGY OF UPPER AIRWAY COLLAPSE	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Meet The Professor Seminars</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 18, 2014</b>			
MP412	GENETICS AND GENOMICS OF SLEEP APNEA	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Monday, May 19, 2014</b>			
MP513	INTEGRATING DENTISTRY IN SLEEP MEDICINE	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Mini-Symposium</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 18, 2014</b>			
A99	HYPOXIA: HOW BAD IS THE NEWS?	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 19, 2014</b>			
B99	RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED AND PROSPECTIVE CLINICAL TRIALS IN SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 20, 2014</b>			
C99	LATEST IN DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 21, 2014</b>			
D98	SLEEP AND RESPIRATORY NEUROBIOLOGY: HIGH IMPACT SCIENCE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Poster Discussion Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 18, 2014</b>			
A30	PEDIATRIC SLEEP AND SLEEP MEDICINE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A109	THE IMPACT OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING ON THE HEART AND OTHER ORGAN SYSTEMS	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 19, 2014</b>			
B110	UPPER AIRWAY AND RESPIRATORY CONTROL DURING SLEEP	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 20, 2014</b>			
C110	EPIDEMIOLOGY AND GENETICS OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 21, 2014</b>			
D30	NOVEL SCREENING APPROACHES AND THERAPIES FOR SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Thematic Poster Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 18, 2014</b>			
A68	PATHOLOGIC SEQUELAE OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 19, 2014</b>			
B67	DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, AND MANAGEMENT OF SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 20, 2014</b>			
C64	UPPER AIRWAY AND RESPIRATORY CONTROL DURING SLEEP AND NON-PULMONARY SLEEP DISORDERS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM

# PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Sanjay Patel, MD, MS, Chair

I would like to provide an update on the activities of the Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology Planning Committee over the last year. The Planning Committee is charged with developing long range plans for the Assembly. For 2014, we have two ongoing projects:

Dr. Susmita Chowduri: *Impact of Mild Obstructive Sleep Apnea in Adults.*

This project began in 2013 and was renewed for a second year. A group of 14 members who are specialists in clinical sleep research, sleep epidemiology, and clinical trials led by Dr. Chowduri and Dr. Stuart Quan have performed a systematic review of the relevant literature on mild OSA. A comprehensive literature search has been completed with several hundred papers screened and reviewed for relevance. Currently, the team is extracting data from relevant publications. The final product will be an ATS statement that will provide a comprehensive review of the evidence regarding the neurocognitive and cardiovascular impact of mild OSA and the effectiveness of treatment in this setting.

Dr. Shirin Shafazand: *Sleep Education for Pulmonary Fellows*

This project, initiated in January 2014, aims to develop a web based instructional resource to aid pulmonary and critical care fellows and other practitioners in attaining a better understanding of the diagnosis and management of sleep disorders. The first conference call was held on January 28, and subsequent monthly meetings are planned. The first two case based modules are underway with Shirin Shafazand as lead author on "Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea" and Margaret-Ann Carno as lead author on "Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Apnea". Volunteers are needed to serve as co-authors on these modules and to lead other topics. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dr. Shirin Shafazand at [sshafazand@med.miami.edu](mailto:sshafazand@med.miami.edu).

We will have further updates on these projects at the Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 19 at the 2014 ATS International Conference in San Diego. If you are interested in submitting an Assembly Project proposal or just have a great idea for one, please send me an email at [spatel@partners.org](mailto:spatel@partners.org).

The Planning Committee is also charged with soliciting and considering applications for the 2014 James B. Skatrud New Investigator Award. This prestigious award has been given to promising young investigators in the field who have gone on to successful research careers as well as leadership positions in the ATS. Please, check the ATS website at <http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/assembly-awards/assembly-on-sleep-and-respiratory-neurobiology-james-b.-skatrud-new-investigator-award.php> for more details. The application deadline this year was March 31st, 2013. The award will be presented at the Assembly Membership Meeting in San Diego.

Finally, we will be hosting a dinner reception with the aim of facilitating interaction between Assembly members. The reception will be held on Monday, May 19th from 7:00 - 9:00 PM following the SRN Assembly Membership Meeting. Dr. Sean Drummond, Associated Professor of Psychiatry at University of California at San Diego and Director of the Behavioral Sleep Medicine Program, VA San Diego, will be our guest speaker. His lecture "The Advantages of Serendipity for your Clinical Research Career" should be spectacular and the reception should be a great opportunity to re-connect with old friends as well as meet trainees and other new Assembly members. I hope to see you there.

# WEB COMMITTEE REPORT

Pedro Genta, MD and Vidya Krishnan, MD MHS, Co-Chairs

The ATS SRN Web Committee has continued the momentum of excitement and activity from years past. Our mission has been to use the SRN Assembly website to promote sleep education for professionals and patients, support academic pursuits of research and publication, and to create a network by which members of our SRN Assembly can foster collaborations to further the field of Sleep Medicine.

We are very excited about some of the new initiatives of this year. First, we have launched our Social Media networking, via Twitter™ and Facebook™, to connect our Assembly members and establish a forum by which to share information about news in Sleep Medicine and start dialogues about interesting sleep topics. We invite every member to join our social network community on these media and invite those who you know to do the same (search for “ATS SRN Assembly”). Second, we are actively engaged in the creation of a series of patient education videos, to help demonstrate the importance of sleep disorders in a visual format. This series of patient education videos is anticipated to be published starting in Summer 2014. And third, our members, Drs. Jay Balachander and Shirin Shafazand, have garnered the support of ATS funding to create a comprehensive curriculum for Sleep medicine for Pulmonary fellowships. This endeavor will have long-lasting implications for the training of our next generation of pulmonary and sleep scholars.

Many of the initiatives started in the last few years have continued and thrived. Our Education subcommittee, led by Dr. Sutapa Mukherjee, has published a number of patient education pamphlets on sleep disorders, available at the SRN Assembly website (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/patients-pamphlets.php>) as well as published in print periodically in the Annals of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) journal. The redesign of the SRN Assembly website allows for easier navigation to the activities of our Assembly (<http://thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/index.php>).

The Sleep Fragments series is now a featured section every other month of the Annals of the American Thoracic Society publication. This is a great opportunity for trainees and junior faculty to publish cases that are unique and educational to our sleep community. Submissions and peer-review are now conducted by the journal editors (at [http://www.atsjournals.org/page/AnnalsATS/instructions\\_for\\_authors](http://www.atsjournals.org/page/AnnalsATS/instructions_for_authors)). Accepted cases are published both in the Annals of ATS journal as well as on the SRN Assembly website (<http://www.thoracic.org/clinical/sleep/sleep-fragment/index.php>). In addition, sleep fragments not accepted for print publication are considered for online-only publication on the SRN Assembly website. The best Sleep Fragment submission of the year 2013 will be honored with the annual Best Sleep Fragment Award for 2013 at the annual conference in May 2014.

The online monthly Journal Club continues to be well-received by members and trainees. The one-hour sessions entail engaging discussions about thought-provoking and varied topics in the realm of sleep medicine. Again, we use this forum to engage our younger members to participate in the ATS organization and our assembly, while soliciting the experience of experts in the topic to guide the discussions. Previous Journal Clubs are cataloged on the website for members who cannot participate in real-time, or wish to reference the discussion (<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/srn/journal-club.php>). We are grateful to the JC Co-Chairs, Drs. Jonathan Jun and Shirin Shafazand, as well as the presenters, panelists, and participants, for the continued enthusiasm in this endeavor. We welcome ideas and participants for future Journal Club events from our Assembly members.

We believe that the SRN web committee is a wonderful way to get more involved in our assembly. Please join, submit a sleep fragment, connect with us through Facebook or Twitter, suggest a topic for the Journal club and the pamphlets and videos. We welcome all those who want to share their ideas and talents – please join us at the ATS SRN Website Committee meetings at the ATS conference in May 2014 (meeting dates/times to be posted on our website) to get more involved or email us. We would like to hear your feedback.

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*Assembly on  
Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology  
Membership Meeting*

*Monday, May 19th  
5:00pm-7:00pm*

*Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego*

*Harbor Ballroom G-H  
Second Floor*

*Assembly on  
Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology  
Reception*

*Monday, May 19th  
7:00pm-10:00pm*

*Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego*

*Harbor Ballroom I  
Second Floor*

**Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application  
for funding in FY2015!**

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2015. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org).

Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair Indu A. Ayappa, PhD at [indu.ayappa@nyumc.org](mailto:indu.ayappa@nyumc.org).

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:mrodriguez@thoracic.org).

## *Help Us Help You!*

Have you moved, changed your title, added new skills, credentials or other information? ATS members can now update their contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile quickly and easily online with the Member Profile Update form.

Keeping your profile current ensures accuracy during the ATS International Conference registration process and also helps the ATS provide you with valuable member benefits. To streamline the process, the ATS has updated and combined demographic categories, which makes it easier for you to send us pertinent information to serve you better.

The Member Profile Update form is safe and secure, and your updates will be reflected immediately in our database. Please take a minute to login and update your member record today at

<http://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php?rl=https://thoracic.secure.force.com/MPU>

At this same web link members can now also print their own, personalized membership certificate!

**Please join us in honoring William W. Busse, MD, during ATS 2014 in San Diego on Saturday, May 17, at 7 p.m., at the Sixth Annual American Thoracic Society Foundation Research Program Benefit.**



His impassioned advocacy and generosity towards the ATS Foundation Research Program has given promising young investigators in pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine a "lifeline" at a crucial moment in their careers. Because Dr. Busse's clinical and research interests are central to both the ATS and the AAAAI, the Foundation invites friends and colleagues in both organizations to celebrate his remarkable dedication to helping patients.

There are several ways you may pay tribute to Dr. Busse:

- If you are planning to attend ATS 2014, please register for the Benefit at <http://www.thoracic.org/go/benefit>.
- If you are unable to attend the Benefit but wish to place an ad or make a donation to the Research Program in honor of Dr. Busse, please visit <http://www.thoracic.org/go/benefitcontributions>.

For more information, contact ErinMarie Nebel at [EMNebel@thoracic.org](mailto:EMNebel@thoracic.org) or at 212-315-6464.

**Every dollar contributed will go directly to support research awards for early career scientists.**

# LUNG DISEASE WEEK AT THE ATS

January~December, 2014

In 2014, the ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) continues its successful program "Lung Disease Week at the ATS," which represents a society-wide initiative to recognize the many rare lung disorders for which ATS PAR member organizations provide support and guidance to patients and their families. For a series of one-week periods throughout 2014 ATS PAR will bring patient issues to the front and center of the Society's agenda. Working with its PAR partners, the ATS will develop, aggregate and host links to disease-specific content on its Web site. Material will include patient stories, testimonials, interviews, videos, photos, support group information, details on ongoing legislative efforts and clinical trial updates. The ATS will foster interaction between patients, clinicians and researchers by hosting online question-and-answer sessions, Webinars and/or podcasts featuring lung disease experts. See the full calendar of lung disease weeks below.

2014 Date	Disease Week	PAR Member	ATS Board Member
Feb 9-15	Sarcoidosis	<b>Andrea Wilson</b> (Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research)	Carrie Redlich, MD
Mar 2-8	Cystic Fibrosis	<b>Beth Sufian</b> (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation)	Samya Nasr, MD
Apr 6-12	ARDS	<b>Eileen Rubin</b> (ARDS Foundation)	Shannon Carson, MD
Apr 20-26	Sleep Disorders	<b>Ed Grandi</b> (American Sleep Apnea Association)	Atul Malhotra, MD
Jun1-7	LAM	<b>Mary Harbaugh</b> (The LAM Foundation)	Charlie Strange, MD
Jun 22-28	Scleroderma	<b>Kerri Connolly</b> (Scleroderma Foundation)	Nick Hill, MD <i>(ATS Past President)</i>
July 6-12	Pulmonary Hypertension	<b>Debbie Castro</b> (Pulmonary Hypertension Association) <i>*Also local onsite event</i>	Jason Yuan, MD
Aug 3-9	chILD	<b>Greg Porta</b> (chILD Foundation) <i>*Also local onsite event</i>	Robin Deterding, MD
Aug 24-30	Rare Lung Diseases	<b>Jack Kelly</b> (Lymphangiomatosis & Gorham's Disease Alliance)	Jess Mandel, MD

Sep 7-13	Lung Transplant	<b>Jeff Goldstein</b> (Lung Transplant Foundation) <i>*Also local onsite event</i>	Various
Sep 21-27	Pulmonary Fibrosis	<b>Teresa Barnes</b> (Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis)	Jesse Roman, MD
Oct 5-11	Asthma	<b>Charlotte Collins</b> (Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America)	Greg Downey, MD
Nov Dec 7-13	Lung Cancer	<b>Regina Vidaver</b> (Free to Breathe, <i>formerly NLCP</i> )	Linda Nici, MD

## Official ATS Documents: Informational Opportunities at the 2014 ATS International Conference in San Diego

If you're developing or interested in developing an Official ATS Document (Statements, Clinical Practice Guidelines, Workshop Reports, Technical Standards, or Systematic Reviews), please consider attending one or more of these free opportunities while you are in San Diego at the ATS International Conference:

- Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC) Workshop/Meeting: Friday, May 16th from 6-9 PM, Golden Hill A/B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Manchester Grand Hyatt.

This session is **required** for all Guideline Panel Chairs and Chairs of new document projects. The session is **recommended** for Chairs of ongoing non-guideline projects. Please RSVP to John Harmon at [jharmon@thoracic.org](mailto:jharmon@thoracic.org) if you have not already done so.

- 6-7 PM – Presentations by DDIC members about the Official Document types, methodological requirements for each, and other practical issues (e.g., conflict of interest management, review, and approval); a light dinner will be served.
- 7-9 PM – Current Guideline Chairs (or their designees) will give progress reports and then troubleshoot informally with DDIC members and ATS staff. New Guideline Chairs will have the opportunity to listen to these reports and learn about the “trials and tribulations” of guideline development from experienced peers.

**Update:** A second session has been added for current Guideline Panel Chairs or new Guideline Panel Chairs who cannot attend the Friday evening session. The second session will be held on Saturday, May 17 from 5-6 PM, TBA, Manchester Grant Hyatt.

- Guideline Methodology Training Program Information Session: Monday, May 19th from 7-8:30 PM, Balboa A/B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Manchester Grand Hyatt. Anyone who is interested in learning more about this new training program is welcome to attend. A brief description of the program will be provided, followed by time for questions and answers. A light dinner will be served. RSVP to [kwilson@thoracic.org](mailto:kwilson@thoracic.org) is required. Space is limited.
- Ad Hoc meetings: If your project committee is having a full day, half day, or meal meeting in San Diego, you have the opportunity to schedule an appointment for Dr. Kevin Wilson (ATS Documents Editor) or Dr. Jan Brozek (ATS Methodologist) to stop by your committee meeting to discuss and answer questions about Official ATS Documents. To schedule a meeting, email Kevin Wilson at [kwilson@thoracic.org](mailto:kwilson@thoracic.org) or Jan Brozek at [brozeki@mcmaster.ca](mailto:brozeki@mcmaster.ca) Please indicate the name of your panel and a range of time that would be appropriate for their visit.
- Office Hours: Stop by our second annual “Office Hours” to meet and talk with Dr. Kevin Wilson and/or Dr. Jan Brozek about any Official ATS Document related matters. Office hours will be held from 10-11 am on Sunday May 18 and Monday May 19 in the Manchester Grand Hyatt (Room TBA).