

ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER

EDITED BY SALLY WENZEL, ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN

SPRING 2005



Message From the Assembly Chairman

Sally Wenzel, M.D.

Officers of the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation

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From the Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation (AII) Chair, Sally Wenzel, M.D.:

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in San Diego for a productive and enjoyable International Conference. The Assembly on AII will again be making a significant contribution to the Conference by sponsoring post-graduate courses and major symposia, as well as abstract sessions (please see the listing included in this newsletter for details). In addition, the Assembly on AII is also sponsoring evening post-graduate seminars and an Assembly dinner educational and social program. At the dinner, Dirkje Postma, M.D., Ph.D., will speak about the relationship between asthma and COPD. We urge Assembly members to contact Julie Wilder,

Ph.D., at aii@thoracic.org to make reservations.

Also, please make certain to join us at the Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 23rd from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in Randle Ballroom A. Additionally, if you have any interest in participating in the Assembly on AII Program Committee Meeting for the 2006 International Conference, please contact Mario Castro, M.D., M.P.H., at castrom@wustl.edu. Volunteering is a good thing! For the first time, we are looking for fellow participation on Assembly committees; if you are interested in becoming involved, please send us an email at aii@thoracic.org.

Finally, many members of the Assembly on AII have been active "behind the

scenes" over that last year. Our Assembly is working diligently to upgrade our website and we therefore greatly appreciate your input. Please send your feedback to Ashok Patel, M.D. at patel.ashok@mayo.edu. Keep in mind that links to Assembly-sponsored Statements and Workshops from the last 10 years should be online soon. Additionally, we are working with other assemblies to increase the participation from our international constituency by increasing the Assembly's visibility awarding travel grants. All in all, it is an exciting time for the Assembly on AII!

I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego!

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Report from the Assembly on AII Planning Committee

By: Bethany Moore, Ph.D. Assembly on AII Planning Committee Chair

What have we been doing?

The Assembly Planning Committee (APC) for the Assembly on AII is an organization of individuals

with a desire to create and promote educational and professional resources for Assembly members. In addition, we coordinate the efforts of all of the subcommit-

tees within the Assembly on AII. In particular, you should find information in this mailing regarding the Assembly Dinner organized

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Report from the Assembly on AII Planning Committee

By: **Bethany Moore, Ph.D.** Assembly on AII Planning Committee Chair

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by our Membership Committee, new website developments headed by our web team and efforts to foster better communication and collaboration with our international members headed by the International Committee.

Besides these important issues, the APC is proud to announce the funding of an Assembly on AII project that was a joint effort with the European Respiratory Society (ERS). This project creates a task force to provide recommendations on "Asthma Control and Exacerbations: Standardizing Endpoints for Clinical Asthma Trials." We are pleased to provide our support for this project which will standardize the concepts and definitions of asthma control and exacerbations so that conclusions about asthma severity can be based on standardized data. This should provide valuable outcome measures for future clinical trials and will thus facilitate the process of study design for all clinical researchers. We congratulate D. Robin Taylor, M.D., Helen Reddel, M.D., Ph.D., and Sally Wenzel, M.D., for putting together this important project proposal.

A second project that was spearheaded by Assembly on AII member Gustavo Matute-Bello, M.D., and Jacob Boe, M.D., Ph.D., was to create international travel awards to identify researchers in target nations and allow them to attend the ATS International Conference to present their research and have a chance to interact with other scientists and become acquainted with the assembly system. This project was also approved for funding by our Assembly and was subsequently approved at the program level. This is an important step in our efforts to reach more researchers in more nations around the world.

What do we want to do in the future?

One of the APC's major goals this year will be working to identify ways we can promote and encourage the careers of our more junior members. We want to identify the needs of fellows and junior faculty members and find ways to implement programs to address these issues. This may involve the creation of mentoring relationships or simply providing networking opportunities. We are eagerly seeking

pulmonary fellows (both research and clinical) and junior faculty members who would like to participate in these discussions and planning sessions. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Beth Moore, Ph.D., via e-mail at Bmoore@umich.edu.

A second goal for this year is to identify Assembly projects that would be of value to our members. Do you have an idea for a workshop that would be useful? Is there a topic which you would like to see an ATS consensus document clarify? Do you have an idea for ways to improve networking opportunities for our members? Any and all ideas are welcome. You can send comments to Beth Moore, Ph.D., by e-mail at Bmoore@umich.edu or make plans to attend the **Assembly on AII APC Meeting** at the Conference in San Diego, which will be held Monday, May 23rd from 6:45 a.m. till 8:15 a.m. in Edward A Room (level 2) at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel. This will be the meeting where we discuss future Assembly projects and goals.

If you want to hear a report from the work we did this past year, want to meet other

colleagues in the Assembly on AII, want to hear other ways you can be involved and/or want to vote on Assembly leadership, please plan to attend our **Assembly on AII Membership Meeting** which will be held Monday, May 23rd from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego. The Assembly Dinner will follow this meeting. Dirkje Postma, M.D., Ph.D., from the University Hospital in Groningen in the Netherlands, will give a lecture called "Is the Dutch Hypothesis Refuted?" The buffet-style dinner will take place in the Marina D room at the San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina starting at 6:30 p.m. To register, send an email to aii@thoracic.org. Seating is reserved on a first come first serve basis. We would like to thank Merck & Co. Inc. for their sponsorship of the AII dinner.

Hope to see or hear from you! Without your input, we will have only limited data with which to plan for the future—and you know how scientists and clinicians hate a lack of data!

Joint ERS/ATS Task Force On Asthma Control, Severity and Exacerbations

Chairs: **Helen Reddel, M.D., Ph.D., and Professor D. Robin Taylor, M.D.**

The primary aim of this Task Force is to provide consensus recommendations on stan-

dardized definitions and data collection methods for assessing asthma control and

asthma exacerbations in clinical trials. Its secondary aims relate to assessment of

asthma in clinical practice and to the establishment of a

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Joint ERS/ATS Task Force On Asthma Control, Severity and Exacerbations

Chairs: Helen Reddel, M.D., Ph.D., and Professor D. Robin Taylor, M.D.

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minimal common set of outcomes which would allow for the pooling of data from existing studies. The Task Force has been approved by the scientific committees of both the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and the American Thoracic Society (ATS) and will run from 2004 to 2006. Currently, the Task Force has 24 members from around the world, in-

cluding three primary care clinicians. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) have each provided an observer to the Task Force, reflecting the potential impact of its recommendations on the design of future clinical trials. The Task Force has initially commenced with a literature review carried out by the

members, aimed at identifying the outcome variables which have been used in previous studies for the assessment of asthma control, severity and exacerbations and reporting on their measurement characteristics. We will subsequently move on to interpretation and integration of these findings as the basis for agreed definitions of each of asthma control

and exacerbations, with recommendations about the preferred methods of measurement and ways of reporting.

Assembly on All Members: Dinner Invitation

Julie Wilder, Ph.D., All Membership Committee Chair

On behalf of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) Assembly on Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation (AII), I would like to invite you to attend our Third Annual Membership Dinner on Monday, May 23rd during the **ATS 2005 International Conference** in San Diego, California.

The Assembly on All Membership Meeting will take place from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel. All Assembly members are encouraged to attend with their trainees and other individuals interested in the Assembly on AII. At the meeting, important ATS and Assembly business will be discussed and information disseminated. It is always an enjoyable and informative hour or two and snacks are served! Immediately following the Membership Meeting, the buffet-style dinner will take

place in the Marina D room at the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina, which is located approximately one block away from the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

The programming for the evening will consist of the presentation of the Assembly on AII Trainee Travel Awards and an entertaining lecture by Dirkje Postma, M.D., Ph.D., of the University Hospital in Groningen in the Netherlands, entitled "Is the Dutch Hypothesis Refuted?" This should be an excellent update on the status of the links (or perhaps the lack thereof) between asthma and COPD.

Merck & Co., Inc. has generously agreed to sponsor this event and we are consequently pleased to be able to offer this opportunity free of charge. It is our hope that, as in past years, the dinner will provide an opportunity for

Assembly on AII members with similar or distinct clinical and scientific interests to have a chance to meet and mingle in an informal setting. In addition, we hope that the dinner will provide an environment conducive for the exchange of ideas and information and for the establishment of collaborative interactions.

We would like to strongly encourage established Assembly on AII members to invite junior colleagues to join them. We hope to provide a chance for junior members to meet and network with more senior mentors. For this reason, Assembly on AII members will be allowed to invite up to two guests. You must register attendance for yourself and your guest(s) at the time you make your reservations.

We hope you will join us for this informative and insight-

ful evening. Seating will be limited to the first 100 persons who reply. To register for the dinner, please send an e-mail to aai@thoracic.org or visit www.thoracic.org/assemblies/aai/aaidinner05.asp.

See you there!

Allergy, Immunology and Inflammation Assembly Website

The web team needs your help for improving our website! In order to better know and support out assembly's

needs and goals for future collaborative exchanges, please take a few minutes to complete the following

online survey at <http://websurveyor.net/wsb.dll/15395/AllWebsurvey.htm>

Your feedback will make a difference!.

ATS Assembly On Allergy, Immunology 2005 San Diego Sessions

Date/Time	Session Code	Centennial Session
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-10:40AM	A05	Asthma Therapy: 100 Years Of Progress
		Mini-Symposium
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-11:00AM	A12	Innate Immune Pathways In Asthma
Sun. 5/22 1:30PM-4:15PM	A82	New Insights Into Severe Asthma
Mon. 5/23 1:30PM-4:15:00 PM	B82	Airway Remodeling: Genes, Gene Products And Mediators
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-11:00AM	C12	Advances In Asthma Therapy: The New And New Ways Of Using The Old
Tues 5/24 1:30PM-4:15PM	C82	Genetic And Immune Determinants Of Asthma
Wed. 5/25 8:15AM-11:00AM	D12	Genetics Of Sarcoidosis
Wed. 5/25 8:15AM-11:00AM	D13	Exhaled Breath Condensate - A New Measure Of Inflammation In Asthma
Wed. 5/25 8:15AM-11:00AM	D14	Antigen Tolerance - Bystander Or Culprit?
Wed. 5/25 1:30PM-4:15PM	D82	Mechanisms Of Allergic Inflammation
		Poster Discussion Session
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-11:00AM	A21	Genetic Polymorphisms: Implications For Development, Severity And Treatment
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-11:00AM	B21	The Interface Of Innate And Acquired Immunity: Molecular Mechanisms
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-11:00AM	B22	Exhaled No And Induced Sputum In Airway Disease
Mon. 5/23 1:30PM-4:15PM	B91	Modulation Of Allergic Inflammation
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-11:00AM	C21	Viral And Bacterial Infections In Asthma
Tues 5/24 1:30PM-4:15PM	C91	Immunologic Factors Controlling Airway Hyperresponsiveness
Wed. 5/25 8:15AM-11:00AM	D21	Dendritic Cells: Regulation Of Function And Control Of Inflammation
Wed. 5/25 8:15AM-11:00AM	D22	Mechanisms And Modification Of Lung Injury In Lung Transplantation
Wed. 5/25 1:30PM-4:15PM	D91	Inflammatory Cell Aptosis
Wed. 5/25 1:30PM-4:15PM	D92	Inflammatory Cells: Recruitment, Activation And Intracellular Signaling
		Thematic Poster Session
Sun 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A31	Macrophages: Their Roles In Afferent And Efferent Immune Functions
Sun 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A32	Mechanisms And Consequences Of Immune Activation
Sun 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A33	Mechanisms Of Airway Remodeling
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A34	Mechanisms Of Allergic Inflammation
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A35	Lung Injury And Inflammation
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A36	Animal Models Of Asthma And Inflammation
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A37	Airway Inflammation In Asthma And Autoimmune Disease
Sun. 5/22 8:15AM-4:15PM	A38	Epithelial Inflammation

ATS Assembly On Critical Care 2004 Orlando Sessions Cont'd

Thematic Poster Session Cont'd		
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B31	The One Airway: Rhinitis, Sinusitis And Asthma
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B32	Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis And Sarcoidosis
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B33	Mouse Models Of Pulmonary Fibrosis
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B34	Mast Cells, Eicosanoid Biology, And Inflammation
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B35	Asthma Therapy: Inhaled Steroids And Combinations
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B36	Asthma Therapy
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B37	Regulating Immunity In Asthma
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B38	Aerosol Therapy: Biophysics & Technique
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15PM	B39	Exhaled Breath Condensate In Disease
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-4:15:00PM	B40	Atopy And Infections Early In Life
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-4:15PM	C31	Smoking And Airway Disease
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-4:15PM	C32	Genetic Factors Controlling Expression Of Asthma Phenotypes
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-4:15PM	C33	Clinical Asthma
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-4:15PM	C34	The Biology Of Granulocytes: Eosinophils And Neutrophils
Symposium		
Sun. 5/22 1:30PM-4:15PM	A76	Molecular Basis Of Cell Signaling In Inflammatory Disorders Of The Lung
Mon. 5/23 8:15AM-11:00AM	B07	Severe Asthma: Advancing Our Understanding Of A Distinct Phenotype
Mon. 5/23 1:30PM-4:15PM	B78	Heterogeneity Of Asthma And Copd: From Theory To Clinical Practice
Tues. 5/24 8:15AM-10:30AM	C05	Getting The Dirt On Asthma: Paying Tolls On The Inflammation Superhighway
Tues. 5/24 1:30PM-4:15PM	C75	Strategic Defense In The Lung: Key Counter-Regulatory Pathways That Control Injury, Inflammation And Fibrosis
Meet-the-Professor Seminar		
Mon. 5/22 12:00PM-1:00PM	MP401	Fungal Respiratory Allergies: Just The Facts
Tues. 5/23 12:00PM-1:00PM	MP501	Lipid Mediators That Reduce Airway Inflammation
Tues. 5/24 12:00PM-1:00PM	MP601	Severe Asthma: Characteristics, Mechanisms And Management
Tues. 5/24 12:00PM-1:00PM	MP602	Important Targets For Therapeutic Intervention In Pulmonary Diseases: Cyclic Nucleotide Phosphodiesterases
Postgraduate Course		
Fri. 5/20 8:00AM-4:30PM	PG01	Genetics Of Human Complex Lung Disease
Sat. 5/21 8:00AM-4:00PM	PG16	Severe Asthma: The Comprehensive Approach From Genotype To Treatment
Sat. 5/21 8:00AM-4:00PM	PG17	Pathogens In Early Life: Determinants For Immune Responses To Respiratory Allergens!
Sunrise Seminar		
Mon. 5/23 7:00AM-8:00AM	SS101	Non-Infectious Complications Of Bone Marrow Transplantation
Mon. 5/23 7:00AM-8:00AM	SS102	From Functional Polymorphisms To Common Physiological Mechanisms Uderlying Asthma And Atopy
Tues. 5/24 7:00AM-8:00AM	SS201	Clinical Approach To Infantile Wheezing
Wed. 5/25 7:00AM-8:00AM	SS301	Lung Repair And Regeneration

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 con-

tact your Assembly Planning Committee chair Bethany Moore bmoore@umich.edu

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FY2006 Assembly/Committee Project Forms are Available! Cont'd

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The timeline for the and 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 COI 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 2005: 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 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 2005: ATS Board reviews FY 2006 Budget

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

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 insight 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.

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

Assembly	Session Code	Title	Date/Time
AII	B7	Severe Asthma: Advancing Our Understanding of a Distinct Phenotype	Monday, May 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?	Sunday, May 22 8:15 am-11:00 am
CP	C3	Sarcoidosis: How to Manage the Difficult Clinical Problems	Tuesday, May 24 8:15 am-11:00 am

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

Assembly	Session Code	Session Title	Date/Time
CP	B72	The Scleroderma Lung Study: Lessons for Interstitial Lung Disease	Monday, May 23 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
CC	D74	Theory and Practice: Managing the Brain in Mechanically Ventilated Patients	Wednesday, May 25 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
EOH	A77	Sex and Gender Issues in Obstructive Lung Disease	Sunday, May 22 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
MTPI	D7	Airway Infections: Pathogenesis and Consequences	Wednesday, May 25 8:15 am-11:00 am
NRSG	B5	Tobacco Addiction and Treatment: Current and Emerging Findings from Bench to Behavior	Monday, May 23 8:15 am-11:00 am
NRSG	D77	Innovative Physiological Interventions in Pulmonary Rehabilitation	Wednesday, May 25 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
PED	D5	Respiratory Care of the Patient with Neuromuscular Weakness	Wednesday, May 25 8:15 am-11:00 am
PED	B9	New Developments and Advances in Pediatric Interstitial Lung Disease	Monday, May 23 8:15 am-11:00 am
PC	C10	Pro-Con Debates in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension	Tuesday, May 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?	Sunday, May 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 Re-

search 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"



ALLERGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND
INFLAMMATION
ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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