

# Nursing Assembly Newsletter

Edited by Georgia L. Narsavage, PhD, APRN, FAAN, Assembly Chair



## American Thoracic Society

### Message From The Assembly Chair

Georgia L. Narsavage, PhD, APRN, FAAN

#### Improving the Health of Older Adults with Pulmonary Disease: Two Years & Onward

The American Thoracic Society Assembly on Nursing truly benefits from a relatively small but vigorously active group of professionals who took on a special initiative two years ago - to place a renewed emphasis on care for our aging population. After two years, as I complete my very rewarding term as your chair, there remains much more to be done. We must move further forward on implementation - but we have made an excellent start! Our funding from the American Nurses Association Specialty Nursing Association "Partners in Geriatrics" Grant in conjunction with The John A. Hartford Foundation of New York enabled us to expand the knowledge of ATS members about the unique needs of older adults with pulmonary disease in critical care, pulmonary rehabilitation and home care settings. This ATS "Nurse Competence in Aging"

project was facilitated by Dr. Barbara Resnick, consultant and expert Geriatric Nurse Practitioner and researcher. Three major ATS statement documents completed revisions over the past two years. Thanks to our members hard work, and the support of our John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing consultant, Dr. Barbara Resnick, three documents were developed/ revised and incorporated a geriatric focus. All have been approved by the ATS board.

These three major outcomes of the work of the nursing assembly in the past two years were publication of the ATS Position Statement on "Home Care for Patients with Respiratory Disorders". American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine 171 (12): 1443-1464; Narsavage, GL, Anderson, K., Rokosky, J, et. Al. (2005) writing committee; "Research Priorities for Respiratory Nursing" led by Janet Larson; and

"Pulmonary Rehabilitation" led by Lindi Nici with Richard Zuwallack. Although we know nursing education has sensitized us to the needs of our older adult patients, we had not been consistent in including them in our documents. Having a Gerontologic Nurse Practitioner as consultant was very helpful, and we thank Dr. Resnick for sharing her time and expertise with us.

Another goal was achieved as the program committee, led by chairs, Lynne Reinke (2005) and Lisa Cicutto (2006), and chair-elect Kathleen Lindell, solicited major symposia proposals that incorporated care of older adults - two were approved and programmed for May 2006 so half of our nursing program major offerings will have a gerontology focus: A08 - CRITICAL CARE OF THE GERIATRIC PATIENT; and D79 - SIGNIFICANT GERONTOLOGICAL ISSUES IMPACTING

(Continued on page 2)

Spring 2006

#### Officers of the NUR Assembly

Assembly Chairman  
2004-2006: Georgia L. Narsavage  
gnarsavage@mcg.edu

Assembly Chair-elect  
2006-2008: Janet L. Larson  
jllarson@uic.edu

Planning Chairman  
2005-2007: Maureen R. George  
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Program Chairman  
2005-2006: Lisa C. Cicutto  
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Program Chair-elect  
2005-2006: Kathleen O. Lindell  
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Nominating Chairman  
2005-2006: Mark B. Parshall  
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Web Director  
2005-2006: Lynn Fukushima  
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#### Inside this issue:

Message From the Assembly Chair	1-2
Nursing Planning Committee Update	2-3
Member Profile	3-4
ATS 2006 Nursing Sessions	4-5
Assembly/Committee Project Applications	5-6
PAR	6-7
ATS Documents Forum	8
Nursing Dinner	8
Nursing Membership Meeting	8

(Continued from page 1)

**PULMONARY REHABILITATION.** Please see the entire list of sessions to be sponsored by the assembly on nursing for San Diego 2006. Conference offerings will be evaluated and we expect future program committees to continue this essential geriatric initiative for our ongoing work. Under the direction of Annette DeVito Dabbs (2005) and Maureen George (2006), the planning committee has moved to incorporate a geriatric specialist as a member of the two main Assembly committees. Both Program and Planning committees for the ATS Nursing Assembly will include at least one member who has a geriatric specialty focus. I especially want to thank the members of these key assembly groups.

Our current and future projects include a revision to the Dyspnea Statement, being led by Paula Meeks, Best Practices for Smoking Cessation being co-led with EOH by Mary Ellen Wewers, and an exemplar for preparing Evidenced

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Planning Committee members for their hard work over the last year. The Planning Committee has worked in support of the following initiatives:

° Approval of the continuing project renewal application *Dyspnea assessment and management strategy*. The purpose of this project is to revise the 1999 ATS Dyspnea statement using recent research advances to enhance our understanding of the mechanisms

Based Practice Guidelines (Symptom Management) led by Virginia Carrieri. We are still looking for someone to guide to completion a major project on Enhanced Pulmonary Assessment Skills -- the development committee co-chaired by Marianne Kwiatkowski and Audrey Gift have prepared a 150 page document that now needs an experienced editorial committee to synthesize it for publication. If you have such experience in editing and are willing to take on this opportunity, please contact myself or Janet Larson, incoming assembly chair.

In May 2005, we in the nursing assembly celebrated with ATS "100 years of Respiratory Nursing" - a stimulating look back at our history by Marilyn Abraham and Suzanne Lareau, followed by my forecast for the future. This year we hope you will join us for the first nursing assembly dinner on Monday evening May 22, 2006. We are delighted that Jane Scullion, chair of the Royal College of Nursing

of dyspnea, the best ways to measure the symptom, and emerging practice trends in the treatment of dyspnea. The secondary purpose is to develop a patient educational product to disseminate recommendations on self-management of chronic dyspnea.

° Approval of the new application *Evidence-based practice feasibility project*. Evidence-based practice (EBP) are the clinical decisions made through the identification,

Respiratory Nurses Forum will speak on "A Global Network for Nurses". We have been able to move into the international arena thanks to the support of ALTANA Pharma AG through our German colleague, Antje-Henriette Fink-Wagner. I met Ms. Scullion at the European Respiratory Society last year and expect that she will stimulate you to think about how we can link our nursing work around the world. You have received a notice to allow you to register to attend the dinner following the nursing assembly meeting.

I thank you for supporting me in this challenging experience as the nursing assembly chair for the past two years - it has truly expanded my horizons and I hope you also can take advantage of the leadership opportunities that the American Thoracic Society provides to all of its members. See you in San Diego!

evaluation, and application of relevant information. EBP has been used by professional organizations to improve the knowledge base for nurses. The initial idea for this proposed project came from the experience of ATS Nursing Assembly member Virginia Carrieri-Kohlman who was an invited expert on dyspnea for the Oncology Nursing Society. This experience prompted V. Carrieri-Kohlman to propose to the nursing assembly leadership that the ATS nursing

(Continued on page 3)

# Nursing Assembly Planning Committee Update Cont'd

(Continued from page 2)

assembly pursue a similar undertaking to determine the best evidence for pulmonary nursing practices. The first project will focus on the evidence for pursed-lip breathing. Annette Dabbs, Susanne Cooke, Kathleen Lindell, Donna Caruthers and Rik Gosselink are the other members of this project.

°Review of new and ongoing projects from other Assemblies

°Continued effort on the Advanced Practice education project and the ANA-SNAP gerontology project.

Members who are interested in submitting a project proposal for next year can get more information and download applications from the ATS website.

New members were also added to the Planning Committee this year to more broadly represent the interests of gerontology, pediatrics and ERS membership.

Members of the 2005-2006 Nursing Assembly Planning Meeting include:  
Georgia Narsavage

Jan Larson  
Marcia Winston  
Mary Kathryn Reeves-Hoche  
Nina Zimmermann  
Kathleen Lindell  
Tina Tolomeo  
Lynn Reinke  
Lisa Cicutto  
Lynn K. Fukushima  
Carmen Hernandez  
Huong Q. Nguyen  
Jane Z. Reardon  
Monica Fletcher

## Member Profile



*Cynthia T. French, MS, APRN, BC, AEC*

As a staff nurse in the critical care unit at Saint Vincent's Hospital in Worcester Massachusetts, Cynthia French developed an interest and passion for pulmonary and critical care nursing. After receiving her bachelor's degree from Worcester State College she joined the critical care nursing staff of the University of Massachusetts Medical Center (UMMC).

In the early 1980's Cynthia left the critical care setting to become a staff nurse in the ambulatory pulmonary clinic at the UMMC. It was here that her collaboration

with Richard S. Irwin, MD began. Wanting to offer their patients more than what was currently available in central Massachusetts, Dr. Irwin and Ms. French developed a number of new programs: chronic cough clinic, home mechanical ventilation pulmonary rehabilitation program, asthma co-management program and an inpatient pulmonary nursing consult service.

To further develop her professional role as a pulmonary nurse clinician, Cynthia joined the Massachusetts Thoracic Society Nursing Committee in the mid 1980s. It was here that she met current ATS members Mary Horn, Janet Crimlisk, Mary Hanley, Mary Gilmartin and Eileen Breslin. With their encouragement, Cynthia joined the ATS in 1989. ATS provided for national networking, updates in information as well as a place for Cindy to develop additional research knowledge and skills. Her earliest research efforts were in pulmonary rehabilitation, transtra-

cheal oxygen, and asthma education; more recently, her research has focused on health related quality of life in chronic cough. Role models and mentorship within the nursing assembly at ATS were instrumental in getting her interested in the health related quality of life area. Cynthia credits Paula Meek, Leslie Hoffman, Maureen George, Susan Lareau, Kathleen Lindell, Virginia Carrieri-Kohlman, Lisa Cicutto and others with mentorship, role modeling and helping to integrate her as a working member of the nursing assembly. Other opportunities afforded by ATS membership included being able to participate in the movement for certifying asthma educators and to gain the knowledge necessary to build a team that was instrumental in successfully obtaining medicare intermediary coverage for pulmonary rehabilitation in the state of Massachusetts.

In the early 1990s, Cynthia matriculated into the University of

(Continued on page 4)

## Member Profile Cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

Massachusetts Graduate School of Nursing where she earned her MS in the ambulatory nurse practitioner specialty. Subsequently, she was a primary force establishing the nurse practitioner role as an important adjunct to the care of the patients in the Lung and Allergy Center at UMass Memorial Medical Center (UMMMC).

The French-Irwin collaboration led to the development of the Cough Quality of Life Questionnaire, first presented at ATS. In 2004, the Nursing Assembly conferred the Marilyn Hansen Award on Cindy for having the best original nursing

research abstract (*French CT, Fletcher K, Irwin, RS. The responsiveness of the Cough Quality of Life Questionnaire (CQLQ) in patients being treated for chronic cough. AM J Respir Crit Care Med 169:7 508A, 2004*).

Currently, Cynthia serves in three roles at the UMMMM. While she provides care to chronic cough, home ventilator and other pulmonary patients as a Nurse Practitioner, she has returned to critical care as assistant to the Chair of Critical Care Operations where she has responsibility for participating in the development, implementation and evaluation of clinical prac-

tice guidelines and for contributing to the development of the mentoring program for Acute Care Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants and the institution's new ICU telemedicine initiative. Cynthia also serves as Assistant Editor for the Editor in Chief's Office of CHEST.

As an ATS Nursing Assembly member for over 15 years, Cynthia says, "ATS is a great place to network, learn and develop future research questions and to constantly rejuvenate my enthusiasm for pulmonary nursing."

ATS 2006 – SAN DIEGO			
Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Nursing			
<b>SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA</b>			
<b><u>Sunday, May 21</u></b>			
A8	Critical Care Of The Geriatric Patient	8:15 am	11:00 am
<b><u>Monday, May 22</u></b>			
B6	Biobehavioral Considerations In Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation	8:15 am	11:00 am
<b>YEAR IN REVIEW SESSION</b>			
<b><u>Monday, May 22</u></b>			
B71	Nursing Year In Review	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
<b>MEET THE PROFESSOR SEMINARS</b>			
<b><u>Sunday, May 21</u></b>			
MP415	Asthma Self-Management And Education	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
<b><u>Monday, May 22</u></b>			
MP513	The 6MWT And The Shuttle Walking Tests In Pulmonary Rehabilitation: Are They Difficult?	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
<b>SUNRISE SEMINARS</b>			
<b><u>Monday, May 22</u></b>			
SS114	Yoga And Other Non-Pharmacologic Approaches To Symptom Management In COPD	7:00 am	8:00 am

# ATS 2006 – SAN DIEGO

## Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Nursing Cont'd

### SUNRISE SEMINARS CONT'D

#### Tuesday, May 23

SS215	Management Of Patients With Tracheostomy Tubes: Current Advances And Practical Strategies	7:00 am	8:00 am
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### MINI SYMPOSIA

#### Sunday, May 21

A86	Hot Topics In Pulmonary Rehabilitation	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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#### Tuesday, May 23

C16	Controlling Asthma: A Multifaceted Approach	8:15 am	11:00 am
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### POSTER DISCUSSION SESSIONS

#### Sunday, May 21

A26	Issues In Asthma Care And Patient Education	8:15 am	11:00 am
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#### Tuesday, May 23

C94	Assessing Symptoms And Responses To Management	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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#### Wednesday, May 24

D27	Issues In COPD Management And Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs	8:15 am	11:00 am
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## Please Consider Submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application For Funding in FY2007!

Please consider submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2007!

For your information, the FY2007 (January 1-December 31, 2007) 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 Maureen R. George at [maureng@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:maureng@mail.med.upenn.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, unreviewed 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-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.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Please Consider Submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application For Funding in FY2007! Cont'd

(Continued from page 5)

September, 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 Sub-Committee (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 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	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
BS	A7	Respiratory Lung Health and the Family: The Influence of Family on Adherence, Disease Management, and Health Outcomes	Sunday, May 21
BS	D9	Community Involvement in Pulmonary and Critical Care Research: What, Why and How?	Wednesday, May 24
CP	A2	Novel Outcomes for Novel Therapies in COPD	Sunday, May 21
CP	D2	Update in the Diagnosis and Management of Pulmonary Vasculitis	Wednesday, May 24
CC	B74	Genetic Influences on the Susceptibility To and Outcome of Critical Illness	Monday, May 22
CC	C7	Clinical Studies in the Pediatric ICU: Update From the Pediatric Acute Lung Injury and Sepsis Investigator's (PALISI) Network	Tuesday, May 23
MTPI	C6	Diagnosis and Management of Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections - The New ATS Guidelines	Tuesday, May 23
NRSNG	A8	Critical Care of the Geriatric Patient	Sunday, May 21

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

ASSEMBLY	SESSION CODE	TITLE	DATE/TIME
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 PAR Symposium

### 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 Co-morbidities: 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 Co-Morbidities - 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

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

### ATS PAR Poster Sessions

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 lung and

## 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  
Manchester Grand Hyatt**

## NURSING ASSEMBLY DINNER

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER  
FOR THE NURSING  
ASSEMBLY DINNER  
TO BE HELD ON  
MONDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> AT 6:30PM**

**THE DINNER HAS BEEN MADE  
POSSIBLE BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM  
ALTANA PHARMA LG**

Please go to: <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/about-ats/assemblies/nur/news/pages/assembly-dinner-at-ats-2006.html> to download a Registration Form or contact [nur@thoracic.org](mailto:nur@thoracic.org) with any questions.

# NURSING ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**MONDAY MAY 22, 2006  
4:30PM—6:30PM**

**MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT  
FORD A-C  
(LEVEL 3)**