



PC ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER

EDITED BY JOE G. N. GARCIA, ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Pulmonary Circulation Colleagues:

Greetings! With the International meeting just a short time away, I thought I would share some Assembly developments with you. One important development is the PC-sponsored mini-symposium in memory of our late greatly esteemed and much-loved colleague, Christopher A. Dawson, MD, a PC scientist who was instrumental in advancing many fundamental concepts in pulmonary hemodynamics. This mini-symposium to honor Chris, chaired by Drs. Troy Stevens and Elizabeth Harrington, will be named, "Expanding roles for endothelial cells in the pathogenesis of lung diseases: Mechanisms and pharmacologic targets."

A second PC initiative is the attempt to garner funds from the PC assembly membership to support travel for post-docs and students to attend the meeting. I plan on asking for mon-

ies from the ATS Board of Directors for this cause. Unfortunately, continued support for PC Assembly projects such as this depends, as it does every fiscal year, on the ATS budget and many worthy projects across all Assemblies fall short of a funding priority

For these meritorious efforts, I am writing to ask you to seriously consider making a worthwhile charitable gift to the PC assembly to support these very special projects. This is the perfect opportunity to designate a gift to memorialize Chris' life and work and to promote the career development of young PC scientists. Small and large, these contributions will enable our Assembly to serve its members better. Jahar Bhattacharya and Gerry Turino have been successful in garnering donations from Donald Santel and Cotherix Inc. in partial support of the Chris Dawson Memorial Symposium to be held at this year's ATS meetings in

Orlando. Additional funds are needed. In the coming months, you will receive a solicitation for funds for the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly. Please consider making a contribution to support activities like travel awards and the memorial symposium.

I thank you in advance for your commitment and I look forward to seeing you in Orlando.

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ATS Assembly On Pulmonary Circulation 2004 Orlando Sessions

DATE/TIME	SESSION CODE	SYMPOSIA
Sun. 5/23 1:30-4:15 pm	A77	Strategies For Strengthening The Alveolo-Capillary Barrier
Tues. 5/25 1:30-4:15 pm	C75	Sildenafil, Nitric Oxide And BNP: The Role Of CGMP In Emerging Therapies For Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension
Wed. 5/26 1:30-4:15 pm	D75	Acute Lung Injury: Targeting Coagulation And Fibrinolysis
SUNRISE SEMINARS		
Mon. 5/24 7:00-8:00 am	SS116	Controversies In The Care Of Pulmonary Thromboembolism
Tues. 5/25 7:00-8:00 am	SS217	New Insights Into Pulmonary Hypertension
Wed. 5/26 7:00-8:00 am	SS317	Pulmonary Involvement In Scleroderma
MEET THE PROFESSORS		
Sun. 5/23 12:00-1:00 pm	MP415	Pulmonary Thromboembolism
Mon. 5/24 12:00-1:00 pm	MP516	Pulmonary Hypertension
MINI-SYMPOSIA		
Sun. 5/23 8:15-11:00 am	A15	Expanding Roles For Endothelial Cells In The Pathogenesis Of Lung Diseases: Mechanisms And Pharmacologic Targets
Sun. 5/23 1:30-4:15 pm	A86	Emerging Therapies For Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension
Tues. 5/25 8:15-11:00 am	C17	Molecular Pathobiology Of Primary Pulmonary Hypertension: Roles Of BMP's And Serotonin
Wed. 5/26 1:30-4:15 pm	D85	Pulmonary Embolism: New Clinical And Experimental Observations
THEMATIC POSTERS		
Sun. 5/23 8:15 am-4:15 pm	A54	Lung Injury: Cellular Mechanisms And Emerging Pharmacologic Targets
	A55	Signaling Pathways Regulating Vascular Cell Proliferation, Differentiation And Survival
Sun. 5/23 8:15 am-4:15 pm	A56	Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension: Clinical Aspects
Mon. 5/24 8:15 am-4:15 pm	B52	Nitric Oxide And Related Molecules
Mon. 5/24 8:15 am-4:15 pm	B53	Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension: Mechanisms And Pharmacologic Targets
Tues. 5/25 8:15 am-4:15 pm	C60	Pulmonary Embolism

12TH ANNUAL GROVER CONFERENCE

Emerging evidence intimates that lung macro- and microvascular endothelial cells arise from distinct embryological (e.g. epigenetic) origins and, further, that these cells remain differentiated throughout embryonic, fetal and adult life. Thus, macro- and microvascular endothelial cell phenotype is

controlled by both epigenetic and environmental factors. Interplay between epigenetic and environmental control of cell phenotype is poorly understood, and the clinical implications of such phenotype regulation have only recently been considered. Thus, this application seeks funding to sup-

port the 2004 Grover Conference on the Pulmonary Circulation, entitled *Genetic and Environmental Determinants of Pulmonary Endothelial Cell Function*, to assess the interplay between epigenetic and environmental regulation of endothelial cell phenotype. Specifically, the 2004 Grover

Conference seeks to provide a forum for experts in endothelial cell and vascular biology to rigorously address:

1. The epigenetic origin of macro- and microvascular endothelial cells;

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12TH ANNUAL GROVER CONFERENCE CONT'D

(Continued from page 2)

2. Control of cell function through activation of unique signaling networks in phenotypically distinct endothelia;
3. Endothelial cell plasticity; and,
4. Endothelium as a therapeutic target in medicine.

Proceedings from this meeting will be disseminated as a special book edition, published by *Futura*. We re-

quest funding for partial support of travel and lodging for speakers. The 2004 Grover Conference will be the 12th in this series, representing the longest-standing conference on the Pulmonary Circulation, and will be held at the Lost Valley Ranch in Sedalia, Colorado. As in earlier formats, equal time will be given to presentation and discussion to optimize scientific interchange

among experts in the field. At the conclusion of this meeting and as part of the published report, we will have identified areas of need for future investigation in lung vascular biology. Partial list of confirmed speakers:

- George Yancopoulos
- Duncan Stewart
- Daphne DeMello
- Shelia Haworth

- Ann Akeson
- Peter Davies
- William Aird
- Kurt Stenmark
- Jahar Bhattacharya
- Mark Gillespie
- Renata Pasqualini
- Takayuki Asahara
- Joe Garcia
- Andreas Zeiher
- Norbert Voelkel
- Bob Hebbel

PC ASSEMBLY: PULMONARY CIRCULATION 2004 MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA (ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN- SKIP GARCIA, MD)

1. Introductions/Updates: PC Committee Chairman: *Skip Garcia, MD*
 - a. 2003-04 Planning Committee Chair: *Robb Glenny, MD*
 - b. 2003-04 Program Committee Chair and Chair-Elect: *Mark Gillespie, PhD / Greg Elliott, MD*
 - c. 2003-04 Nominating Committee Chair: *Jason Yuan, MD, PhD*
Nominations from the Nominating Committee (2004/05 Program Chair Elect)
Nominations for 2004-05 Nominating Committee Members
2004-05 Ballots and Elections
 - d. Web Director: *Bill Altemier, MD*
2. Grover Conference Steering Committee: *Troy Stevens, PhD*
 - a. Funding Status of Grover Conference: *Troy Stevens PhD/Wiltz Wagner PhD*
 - b. Jointly funded by the ATS, the AHA, and NIH
3. Assembly Highlights:
 - a. Chris Dawson Memorial Symposium- *Wiltz Wagner PhD*
 - b. Gordon Conference 2004/2006: Andover NH- *Skip Garcia MD*
 - c. PC-ERS Conference Copenhagen 2005- *Paul Hassoun MD*
4. Assembly Projects: *Vic Tapson, MD/ Dick Bland, MBBS*
5. Leadership Award- *John Newman MD*
6. Grover Prize: *Wiltz W. Wagner PhD*
7. Certificates of Appreciation for Outgoing PC Officers
8. Call for new Program Committee/ Planning Committee members for 2005
9. Visit from the ATS Officer
10. Report from ATS International Relations and World Lung Health Committee- *Stefan Uhlig, PhD*
11. Report from *AJRCCM* Editor-elect- *Edward Abraham, MD*
12. Thanks to Jim Loyd and Skip Garcia for the liquid nutrition
13. Adjourn

CME opportunity

STRESS AND ASTHMA WORKSHOP

October 1-3, 2004, Arlington, VA

Co-sponsored by the American Thoracic Society, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the Fetzer Institute

We would like to invite you to a multi-disciplinary Workshop on Stress and Asthma which will be held in Arlington, VA from October 1 - 3, 2004. This workshop brings together experts both within and outside the fields of asthma and allergy to bridge overlapping human and animal research providing insights into links between stress and asthma and allergy development and disease expression. Observations from both clinical experience and empirical research discussed in this workshop also promises to influence how we go for-

ward in understanding disparities in asthma morbidity.

The goals of the Workshop are:

- To address the issue of measuring stress in scientific studies including the challenge of inferring psychological factors (i.e., stress) from physiological signals (hormonal, autonomic, immune)
- To identify pathways or mechanisms that may link stress to lung disease morbidity
- To integrate experimental knowledge from basic science, animal research, and

human studies and address future directions for research in this important area

- To consider stress as an environmental factor that may help explain socioeconomic and ethnic disparities in asthma

The Workshop will generate a consensus document on the state of knowledge, the most promising new hypotheses, and critical research needs projected over the next few years.

For more information, please go to <http://www.thoracic.org/ assemblies/eoh/ savethedate.asp>.

www.thoracic.org/ assemblies/eoh/ savethedate.asp. To register please go to <http://www.thoracic.org/ assemblies/eoh/docs/ regform.doc> and download the registration form. If you have any questions regarding the Workshop, please contact Monica Simeonova at the ATS Office at msimeonova@thoracic.org, tel.: 212-315-8696.

Patients to Speak At Nine Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at nine of the 2004 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia, which were held at the 2002 and 2003 International Con-

ferences. Three of the patient speakers are members of the PAR; however the majority of the patients were recruited by members of the PAR.

This is the first 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 physi-

cians 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
BS	C8	Helping Teens Breathe Easier	Tues. 5/25/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
CP	D3	New And Emerging Developments In Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency	Weds. 5/26/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
CC	B74	Surviving Intensive Care – Theory And Practice Of Optimizing ICU Care For Better Long-Term Recovery	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
EOH	B79	COPD: Genetics, Biology And Clinical Aspects	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
MTPI	C5	Management Of Lung Disease Due To Nontuberculous Mycobacteria	Tues. 5/25/04 – 8:15am-11:00am

Assembly	Session Code	Title	Date/Time
NUR	A76	Clinical Considerations In The Care Of The Patient With Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis	Sun. 5/23/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
PEDS	D5	Redefining Pediatric Obstructive Sleep Disordered Breathing (SDB) In The 21 st Century: From Arbitrary Thresholds To Evidence-Based Diagnostic Criteria	Weds. 5/26/04 – 8:15am-11:00am
PC	B72	Pulmonary Hypertension: More Than Just PPH	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm
RCMB	B77	At The Interface Of Injury And Repair: Cellular And Development Basis Of (Re)Modeling In Lung Disease	Mon. 5/24/04 – 1:15pm-4:15pm

PAR Symposium

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the third PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in Orlando on Sunday, May 23, 2004, from 8:15-11:00 a.m. Dr. Thomas R. Martin, will Chair the PAR Symposium, "Phenomenal Progress and Promise from Translational Pulmonary Research". The PAR is excited to present the following speakers:

•Edwin Silverman, MD, PhD - "What Genetics

Can Teach Us About COPD"

•Frank McCormack, MD - "Silencing LAM; Science, Synergy and Serendipity"

•Jim Loyd, MD - "The Pressure is on; Translating Emerging Molecular Targets into Novel Therapeutic Approaches for Pulmonary Hypertension"

•Bruce Trapnell, MD - "From Obscurity to

Clarity in a Decade: Pulmonary Alveolar Proteinosis as a Model of Discovery and Therapeutic Promise"

Each presenter will be followed by a patient perspective. Four 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.

PAR's Annual Poster Session will immediately follow the PAR Symposium. Public Interest Organizations (PIO's) concerned with lung and sleep disorders will present information about their organizations. A representative from each organization will be present at the poster session to provide additional information.

PULMONARY CIRCULATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY MAY 25TH 6:30AM-7:30AM

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL
SALON 6
(LEVEL 2)

PULMONARY CIRCULATION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY MAY 25TH 4:30PM-6:00PM

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL
SALON 5
(LEVEL 2)

PULMONARY CIRCULATION ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY MAY 24TH, 2004

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL

SALON 3

(LEVEL 2)

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED THROUGH A

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