



Pulmonary Circulation Assembly Newsletter

We help the world breathe
PULMONARY • CRITICAL CARE • SLEEP

Edited by Jahar Bhattacharya, Assembly Chair

SPRING 2009

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Message From the Assembly Chairman

Jahar Bhattacharya, M.D.

Springtime Greetings to all! Here's the highlights of PC Assembly news for 2008 which was a busy and exciting year.

The Grover Conference, held in September, went off without a hitch. Congratulations to organizers Jeremy Ward and Jason Yuan for a superb job! The Grover Conference is the most important of traditional PC Assembly projects and the longest running conference on the pulmonary circulation. Attendance at last year's conference was to overflow capacity and all attendees unanimously gave high ratings to the meeting, marking for the 14th time the outstanding success of this conference series. The 2008 John T. Reeves, Terry Wagner, and Estelle Grover memorial lectures were given by Nicholas W. Morrell, M.D., Ivan F. McMurtry, Ph.D., and Margaret R. MacLean, Ph.D., respectively. The 2008 Young Investigator Award was given to Navdeep S. Chandel, Ph.D. and Larissa A. Shimoda, Ph.D. Congratulations to all!

Planning is in progress for the next Grover Conference and you are most welcome to get involved with this exciting process by proposing a meeting subject or offering support in whatever way possible.

Thanks to the spirited involvement of our Assembly members and the Planning Committee chaired by Troy Stevens, I am pleased to announce that three projects proposed by the PC Assembly were ap-

proved by the ATS International Conference Program Review Committee. This triples the number of PC Assembly projects from the previous year. The project titles are: *Assessment of Thromboembolic Disease During Pregnancy (Todd Bull)*, *Angiogenesis in the post-natal pulmonary circulation: Fact or fiction (Troy Stevens)*, *Diagnosis and Treatment of Pulmonary Hypertension of Sickle Cell Disease (Elizabeth Klings)*. Congratulations to all who participated in this process!

The Program Committee jointly chaired by Paul M. Hassoun and Karen Fagan has strived to provide a novel and high quality program for the ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA, on May 15-20, 2009. The PC Assembly is sponsoring two Postgraduate Courses, two evening Postgraduate seminars, three sunrise seminars, two Meet the Professor Seminars, and an additional twenty-six scientific sessions (including three scientific symposia, five mini-symposia, six Poster Discussions, and twelve Thematic Poster sessions) focusing on topics related to pulmonary vascular disease and function, and encompassing cell fate and apoptosis, endothelial permeability, and vascular remodeling, from molecular mechanisms through translational approaches and genetics. We continue to broaden our assembly's interests and have included "hot topic" sessions such as pulmonary vascular diseases in hemoglobinopathies (e.g., sickle cell disease), potential novel therapies targeting signal-

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Message From the Assembly Chairman

Jahar Bhattacharya, M.D.

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ing pathways in pulmonary vascular remodeling, and right ventricular response to exercise in pulmonary hypertension. In organizing a challenging program we have also sought the contribution of PC junior members, senior members, and our Assembly international colleagues, to chair or moderate the various PC sessions. For a full program and details, please click www.thoracic.org/go/international_conference. At the International Conference, please remember to attend the PC Assembly membership meeting, which will be held on Monday May 18th at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel, Elizabeth Ballroom F (Second Level).

After a long and thoughtful discussion, the Nominating Committee (Jim Sylvester, Larissa Shimoda and Wiltz Wagner) proposed the following candidates, all of whom have agreed to run: for Program Committee Chair-Elect: James Loyd, Nicholas Morrell. For Nominating Committee: Wiltz Wagner, Jason Yuan. The PC Journal Club run by PC Web Director, Kaushik Parthasarathi and Leadership Committee member, Konstantin Birukov continues with energy and innovation. The Parthasarathi-Birukov team continued the JC as an interactive online format. Our success have spawned in-

terest among the other ATS Assemblies to start their own JCs. As before, the topic editor selects a publication in a field of interest to the Pulmonary Circulation community. Both the authors of the publication and other experts in the field participate in the discussion. These monthly discussions have generated immense interest both among experienced and young researchers. The topic areas are: Pulmonary Hypertension/Vascular Remodeling (R. Zamanian, Stanford); Endothelial Permeability/Pulmonary Edema S. Dudek, University of Chicago); Leukocyte Adhesion/Migration (W. Altemeier, University of Washington); Thromboembolic Disease (V. F. Tapon, Duke); Hypoxic Vasoconstriction (S. Gharib, University of Washington); and Pulmonary Circulation: Development/Pediatric Disease (E. Nozik Grayck, UCHSC, Denver, CO).

In the past year, six JCs were organized to discuss "hot" papers on the role of stem cells in lung injury (prepared by Diego Alvarez); Rho-kinase inhibitors in neonatal pulmonary hypertension (prepared by Eva Grayck); COX-2 in pulmonary hypertension (prepared by Sina Gharib); MAPKs in ventilator-induced lung injury (prepared by Holger Mueller and Bernd

Schmeck); pluripotent stem cells in lung (prepared by Diego Alvarez); Diagnosis of Pulmonary embolism (prepared by Victor Tapon). Our web-based activities have continued to strengthen, thanks to Kaushik Parthasarathi. Interactions have increased with the ATS Web managers in improving features of the ATS web site, including its forums. News and other features of interest to the Pulmonary Circulation members are frequently updated on the PC Assembly web page.

The PC Assembly's ATS Website Clinical Case was slated for February, 2009. We sincerely thank Jim Klinger for preparing a thoughtful Clinical Case document on COPD and pulmonary hypertension, and Paul Hassoun for his help with comments. The case is now uploaded on the ATS website. Since this is my last Spring newsletter, I thank you all for making our Assembly vibrant and dynamic. My special thanks are to the Leadership Committee for innovative and critical input during the monthly conference calls and to Miriam Rodriguez and the ATS staff for generous and always-available support.

See you in San Diego!

Jahar

ATS 2009 – San Diego

Sessions Sponsored by the

Assembly on Pulmonary Circulation

Postgraduate Courses

Friday, May 15, 2009

PG9 DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY OF PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION: STATE OF THE ART

8:00 AM

-

4:00 PM

ATS 2009 – San Diego Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Pulmonary Circulation

Postgraduate Courses

Saturday, May 16, 2009

PG24	CONTROVERSIES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION MANAGEMENT: PAST IMPERFECT, FUTURE CONTINUOUS	8:00 AM	-	4:00 PM
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Symposia

Sunday, May 17, 2009

A85	SELECTIVE KINASE OR MULTI-KINASE INHIBITORS IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Monday, May 18, 2009

B88	PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AND SYSTEMIC VASCULOPATHY IN SICKLE CELL DISEASE	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C5	SCLERODERMA-RELATED PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION: A PARADIGM FOR VASCULAR REMODELING	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D9	BEYOND BMPR2: GENETIC APPROACHES TO PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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D90	A TALE OF TWO CITIES: REMODELING IN THE LUNG VASCULATURE AND AIRWAY	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Evening Postgraduate Seminars

Sunday, May 17, 2009

E1	CURRENT AND EMERGING THERAPIES FOR PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION: DIFFICULT CHALLENGES, FRESH APPROACHES	7:00 PM	-	9:00 PM
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Tuesday, May 19, 2009

E7	CURRENT CONTROVERSIES IN PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION: PRO-CON DEBATES	7:00 PM	-	9:00 PM
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Meet the Professor Seminars

Sunday, May 17, 2009

MP415	PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION: MOVING THE BENCH TO THE BEDSIDE	12:00 PM	-	1:00 PM
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Monday, May 18, 2009

MP515	PULMONARY HYPERTENSION IN COPD	12:00 PM	-	1:00 PM
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Tuesday, May 19, 2009

MP616	PULMONARY HYPERTENSION IN LEFT HEART DISEASE: THE PULMONOLOGIST'S APPROACH TO DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT	12:00 PM	-	1:00 PM
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Sunrise Seminars

Monday, May 18, 2009

SS114	PULMONARY HYPERTENSION: WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?	7:00 AM	-	8:00 AM
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Tuesday, May 19, 2009

SS214	ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY AND RIGHT HEART CATHETERIZATION IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	7:00 AM	-	8:00 AM
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Sunrise Seminars

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

SS315 PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AND INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE	7:00 AM	-	8:00 AM
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Mini-Symposia

Sunday, May 17, 2009

A17 TREATMENT OF PAH	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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Monday, May 18, 2009

B17 NOVEL CELL SIGNALING MECHANISMS IN PULMONARY VASCULAR CELLS: POTENTIAL THERAPEUTIC TARGETS	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C95 PULMONARY ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION: THE IDEAS KEEP COMING	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D14 TO BE OR NOT TO BE: CELL FATE AND PULMONARY VASCULAR DISEASE	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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D96 BUILDING A FIREWALL: ENDOTHELIAL BARRIER DYSFUNCTION	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Poster Discussion Sessions

Sunday, May 17, 2009

A105 ENDOTHELIUM: FUNCTION AND REGULATION	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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A106 ROLE OF INFLAMMATION IN PULMONARY VASCULAR REMODELING AND INJURY	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Monday, May 18, 2009

B27 FROM ALPHA TO OMEGA: ASSESSMENT AND OUTCOMES IN PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C27 RIGHT VENTRICULAR FUNCTION AND EXERCISE	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D27 THE PULMONARY VASCULATURE IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY	8:15 AM	-	10:45 AM
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D105 PULMONARY VASOREACTIVITY	1:30 PM	-	4:00 PM
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Thematic Poster Sessions

Sunday, May 17, 2009

A51 EXPERIMENTAL MODELS OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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A52 VASCULAR REMODELING AND ANGIOGENESIS	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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A53 VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE CELLS	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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Monday, May 18, 2009

B53 ACUTE PULMONARY EMBOLISM: DIAGNOSIS, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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B54 CHRONIC THROMBOEMBOLIC PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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B55 PULMONARY HYPERTENSION -- CLINICAL	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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B56 PULMONARY EDEMA: CLINICAL	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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B57 ENGINEERING THE LUNG: BIOMECHANICS OF THE LUNG CIRCULATION	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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Thematic Poster Sessions

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

C63	DETERMINANTS OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION OUTCOMES	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
C64	DIAGNOSIS OF PULMONARY HYPERTENSION: HEMODYNAMICS AND BIOMARKERS	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
C65	PULMONARY HYPERTENSION ASSOCIATED WITH LUNG DISEASES OR OTHER ILLNESSES: PATHOGENESIS, DIAGNOSIS, AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

D49	GENOTYPES AND PHENOTYPES IN PH	8:15 AM	-	4:00 PM
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Please consider submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2010!

This year we will once again use an **Online Application Process** using an electronic grants submission site called proposalCENTRAL. All interested applicants must submit their Assembly/Committee Project Applications online through proposalCENTRAL. To avoid being rushed at deadline time, applicants are encouraged to register and complete a professional profile at proposalCENTRAL as early as possible.

There will be a link to proposalCENTRAL on the ATS homepage at www.thoracic.org along with comprehensive instructions that have been designed to correspond with the fields in the online application.

Please consider submitting an online application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please con-

tact your Assembly Planning Committee chair Troy Stevens at tstevens@jaguar1.usouthal.edu.

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: mrodri-guez@thoracic.org.

Patients to Speak at Fifteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at fifteen symposia at the 2009 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposium for the last seven years as well as at an increasing number of sessions at ATS International Conferences from 2004 to 2008.

This is the sixth year that patient speakers will participate within the Assemblies' Symposia. The patients will make a five-minute presentation to offer insight into their personal journeys. This insight will address diagnosis, treatment, and how the disease has dramatically altered their lifestyle, family, career and relationships. They will share their perspective 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:

Patients to Speak at Fifteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

ASSEMBLY	SESSION CODE	TITLE	DATE/TIME
CP/AII	A3	Controversies In Lung Transplantation: A Pro-Con Debate	Sunday, May 17 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
CP/BS/NRSG/RCMB	A82	High Impact Disease Modifying Therapies In Advanced COPD: Current Status And Future Directions	Sunday, May 17 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
PC/RCMB	A85	Selective Kinase Or Multikinase Inhibitors In Pulmonary Hypertension	Sunday, May 17 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
SRN	A87	Sleep-Disordered Breathing Beyond Obesity: The Role Of Gender, Race, And Genetics	Sunday, May 17 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
EOH/AII	B9	Fat And Flow: Implications Of Diet And Obesity For Asthma	Monday, May 18 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
CP/AII	B82	Clinical Problems In Sarcoidosis	Monday, May 18 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
PC/AII/CP	C5	Scleroderma-Related PAH: A Paradigm For Vascular Remodeling	Tuesday, May 19 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
SRN	C8	New Frontiers in the Management of Obstructive Sleep Apnea	Tuesday, May 19 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
RCMB/AII/CP/CC/PC/RSF	C85	Mechanotransduction In Lung Injury, Repair And Fibrosis: May The Force Be With Us	Tuesday, May 19 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
RSF/CP/CC/NRSG/PC/RCMB	C86	Causes Of Multi-organ Failure In Critically Ill Septic Patients	Tuesday, May 19 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
CP	D2	Lung Cancer Clinic: State Of The Art	Wednesday, May 20 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
CC/CP	D4	Therapeutic Frontiers In Acute Lung Injury	Wednesday, May 20 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
BS/CP/NRSG/PED/PR	D10	Medication Availability And Access: Issues Of Value And Affordability	Wednesday, May 20 8:15 AM-10:45 AM
RCMB/AII/CP	D89	Targeting Tumor Microenvironment Interactions In Lung Cancer	Wednesday, May 20 1:30 PM-4:00 PM
CC	D93	Non-Pulmonary Problems in the ICU	Wednesday, May 20 1:30 PM-4:00 PM

ATS PAR Symposium

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the eighth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Sunday, May 17, 2009 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.. The topic of the symposium is “Lung Fibrosis” and it will be jointly chaired by David H. Ingbar, M.D.

and Donna J. Appell, RN. The program includes the following:
New Molecular Targets In Pulmonary Fibrosis - P.B. Bitterman, M.D., Minneapolis, MN

- Patient's Perspective - *TBD*
- Lessons From Pulmonary Fibro-

sis In Hermansky Pudlak Syndrome NHGRI - B.R. Gochoico, M.D., Bethesda, MD

- Genomics And Pulmonary Fibrosis - J.E. Loyd, M.D., Nashville, TN

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ATS PAR Symposium

(Continued from page 6)

- Molecular Diagnostics And Biomarkers In IPF - N. Kaminski, M.D., Pittsburgh, PA
 - Where Are We With Clinical Trials In IPF? - *TBD*
 - Novel Treatments For Pulmonary Fibrosis: Stem Cells And
- All That Jazz - L.A. Ortiz, M.D., Pittsburgh, PA
- Wrap-Up Interactive Discussion - D.H. Ingbar, M.D., Minneapolis, MN
- The ATS PAR Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 17 – Tuesday, May 19 2009 in the Exhibit Hall of the San Diego Convention Centre. 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.

ATS Public Advisory Roundtable's Third Annual

Breathing Better with the ATS Forum

This is a forum at which patients will have the unique opportunity to network and learn more about their disease. This year the panelists will focus on oxygen management and quality of life issues.

Panel Includes:

Patrick Strollo, MD

Sam Giordano, MBA, RRT, FAARC

Rell Trey Schwab

If you have any patients in the San Diego area, please encourage them to attend. They will have an opportunity to hear from and network with other patients and experts in the pulmonary community.

May 16, 2009, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel located at One Market Place, San Diego, CA

RSVP by: April 30th, 2009 by emailing cwhite@thoracic.org or call

Courtney L. White at (212) 315-8640

Fellows Get First Year of ATS Membership for Free!

ATS is offering a free year of ATS membership to all first-year pulmonology, critical care, sleep fellows and post-doctoral PhD fellows! This special program is intended to welcome fellows to the ATS community. The Society would like these junior entrants to the fields of respiratory medicine to take advantage of the benefits of membership and look to ATS as their professional home for post graduate and continuing medical education, networking on a global scale, and for helping them to serve the needs of patients and the public at large.

Today's fellows will be the research and clinical professionals who will achieve the next major advancement in the science and treatment of pulmonary disease, critical illness and sleep disorders critical to advancing science and practice of the fields.

To learn more about this program, send an e-mail to fellows@thoracic.org or visit the ATS Web site at www.thoracic.org and click "Free Year for Fellows" under the Membership drop down menu. Program directors are encouraged to share this information with their fellows and other colleagues.

ATS Foundation to Host Inaugural Benefit Dinner for the ATS Research Program at ATS 2009 in San Diego

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation of the American Thoracic Society invites you to attend our Inaugural **Gala** Dinner benefiting the ATS Research Program on Saturday, May 16, 2009 in San Diego, California. The **evening** will begin with a **reception** at 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:45 PM. The **event** will be held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt on the Fourth Level in the Randle Ballroom. During the dinner, we will recognize ATS Research Program **awardees** and honor the **recipients** of the 2009 Breathing for Life Award. Please join us! **Please register early as seating is limited.**

To register for **the conference and reception/dinner** go to:

<http://foundation.thoracic.org/web/ats-research-program-dinner.html>

or call (212) 315-6822 for more information.

PULMONARY CIRCULATION ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY MAY 18TH 4:30-6:30 PM
MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT SAN DIEGO
ELIZABETH BALLROOM F (SECOND LEVEL)