

# PC Assembly Newsletter



We help the world breathe  
PULMONARY • CRITICAL CARE • SLEEP

American Thoracic Society

Summer 2009

## Message from the Assembly Chair

Mark Gillespie, Ph.D.

Please accept my warm greetings – no play on words intended, despite my location along the very-hot Gulf Coast – as a prelude to my first newsletter as chairperson of the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly. We plan to issue newsletters on a quarterly basis, with the intent to keep you up-to-date about activities of the Assembly. As you may know, our Assembly holds monthly “leadership conference calls”, wherein the chairs of our various committees (e.g., Planning, Program, Nominating committees, past Assembly Chairs, and others) “meet” by phone to discuss current and forthcoming events. Here is what is going on:

- **The Grover Conference:** Be on the alert for a “Call for Proposals” for Grover conference organizers and topics for the 2010 meeting. As many of you know, the Grover Conference is the world’s longest running meeting devoted exclusively to the pulmonary circulation. Suggested topics are screened by the Assembly Planning Committee, with the topic of the forthcoming meeting selected by the leadership committee. More information at <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/about-ats/assemblies/pc/grover-conference/index.html>
- **The Journal Club:** The ever-popular PC Assembly Journal Club will start-up again soon. Rachel Damico, of Johns Hopkins, is our new J-Club editor-in-chief, and she has planned an exciting selection of papers and guest editors. The newer/younger members of the PC Assembly will find the J-Club to be a great experience and an opportunity to interact with colleagues with a variety of backgrounds.
- **Assembly financial business:** Our single largest annual expense – the reception before the Assembly business meeting held at the annual ATS International Conference – has traditionally been sponsored by various pharmaceutical industries. However, the industry “code-of-conduct” has been revised, and one of the key outcomes appears to be a stark change in the criteria for obtaining industrial support of meetings. We are unsure at this time whether our business meeting will be eligible for industrial support. If it is not, this will entail some creative financing on all of our parts if we are to

## Officers of the Assembly on Pulmonary Circulation

Assembly Chairman  
2009-2011: Mark Gillespie  
mgillesp@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Planning Chairman  
2008-2010: Troy Stevens  
tstevens@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Program Chairman  
2009-2010: Karen Fagan  
kfagan@usouthal.edu

Program Chair-elect  
2009-2010: Nicholas Morrell  
nwm23@cam.ac.uk

Nominating Chair  
2009-2010: Ivan McMurtry  
ifmcmurtry@usouthal.edu

Web Director  
2009-2010: Diego Alvarez  
dalvarez@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

## Inside this issue:

<i>Grover Conference</i>	1
<i>Assembly Financial Business</i>	1
<i>PC Assembly Leadership</i>	1
<i>PC Assembly Leadership Award and Grover Prize</i>	1-2
<i>2010 ATS International Conference in New Orleans</i>	2

## Message from the Assembly Chair Cont'd

retain the exceptional social environment that has come to typify the PC Assembly business meeting. Stay tuned, as we explore our options.

- The PC Assembly Leadership Award and Grover Prize: In case some of you were not at the recent PC Assembly business meeting (at the ATS Conference in San Diego), I wanted to publicly recognize this year's winners of our Leadership Award and Grover Prize. The Leadership Award went to Dr. Ev Sinnett of the NIH's Center for Scientific Review. Ev, as many of you know, has been a Scientific Review Officer managing NIH study sections for many years, particularly those involving the lung and pulmonary circulation. He was selected from a list of many extraordinarily well-qualified candidates because of the tireless, efficient, and low-key way in which he assures that grants in our field of interest get the most fair and thorough review possible. The Grover Prize, awarded for outstanding contributions to research on the effects of high altitude/hypoxia on the pulmonary circulation, went to Dr. Bob Johnson of UT Southwestern. Bob, who is a compatriot of Dr. Grover and published multiple papers with him, was recognized for his seminal work on the effects of high altitude on lung maturation.
- The 2010 ATS International Conference in New Orleans: A long-standing Assembly goal is to increase the impact and visibility of pulmonary circulation-related topics at the annual ATS meeting. Towards this end, be on the alert for an important announcement from Karen Fagan and Nick Morrell, our Assembly Program chair and chair-elect, respectively, for information on how you can direct your abstract submissions to PC Assembly topics.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the PC Assembly officers with your ideas, comments, or concerns. Our e-mail addresses can be found on the PC Assembly web site at <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/about-ats/assemblies/pc/officers-and-committees.cfm>

Best wishes to you all for a safe, enjoyable, and productive summer,

Mark

---