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RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION  
ASSEMBLY NEWSLETTER  
EDITED BY ANDREW J. HALAYKO, PhD

SPRING 2011



## Message from the Assembly Chairman

Andrew J Halayko, PhD

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

RSF Program Committee	3
RSF Planning Committee	4
Assembly/Committee Project Application FY2012	4
RSF Membership Meeting and Dinner	5
Third Annual ATS Foundation Research Dinner	6
<i>The American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology</i>	6
RSF ATS 2011 Denver Sessions	7-8

For a guy located in the heart of the Canadian prairies, being faced with pulling together the Spring Newsletter for the Assembly is positive milestone, as it means a long winter's end is nearing but it also provides a forum to reflect on work completed by the Assembly Executive since ATS 2010.

The coming of Spring means that the annual international conference is just around the corner, and its difficult to dissociate the two events for many of us. We are eagerly anticipating the 2011 ATS International Conference, which will be held May 13-18 in Denver. The preliminary program is available on the ATS Meeting website, and if you have not yet done so, you can register on line anytime. As always the RSF Assembly will be well represented both by the number of abstracts programmed by our members, but also by members whose work is being highlighted in Post Graduate Courses, Scientific Symposia, Meet the Professor Lectures and Sunrise Seminars. All the credit for a terrific program must go to our **Programming Committee** lead by its Chair, Tom Murphy, and Chair-Elect Jason Bates. Thanks also to the committee members who have given of their time, intellect and creativity in developing a panel of compelling sessions. Please refer to Dr. Murphy's Programming Committee Report at the end of this newsletter for specific details of the 2011 program.

As a complement to the ATS Conference, RSF members have also been very active in the past year in developing and submitting Project Proposals. As many of you know in 2009 RSF developed a "living" survey that now resides on the RSF Website – this provides a mechanism to suggest and assess new ideas for projects, as well as providing insight regarding the interests of our membership as individuals develop projects and seek constructive input from the **Planning Committee** which his Chaired by Dr. Bill Gerthoffer. After ATS ceased funding new Projects for 1-year (2009-10), we witnessed a resurgence of applications this year and this kept the members of the Planning Committee busy as they read, rated and provided constructive feedback on over 10 applications. I am pleased to confirm two RSF sponsored projects were funded in 2010 – these are listed in Dr. Gerthoffer's Planning Committee Report. The

(Continued on page 2)

## Message from the Assembly Chairman

*(Continued from page 1)*

Planning Committee is currently assessing nominations made for our Assembly's most prestigious honors: the Ann Woolcock Memorial Award (for an outstanding young investigator) and the Joseph R. Rodarte Memorial Award (for lifetime research achievement).

Another important committee is the **Nominating Committee**, which was graciously Chaired this year by Dr. Charlie Irvin, and included its elected members: Dr. Blanca Camoretti-Mercado and Anne Marie Lauzon. First, I'd like to give my thanks for their diligent and effective work in coming up with an outstanding slate of candidates for election to key assembly positions. Members who have graciously agreed to stand for election include: Assembly Chair: Robert Brown, PhD and Connie Hsia, PhD; Programming Chair: Guido Musch, MD and Leigh Ann Callahan, MD; Nominating Committee: Steven An, PhD; Reinoud Gogens, PhD, and Gil Allen, MD. **NOTE:** For 2011 the election procedure has changed markedly to meet logistic issues faced by ATS. Thus, voting will be done in advance of the ATS Conference and results announced at the RSF Assembly Business meeting to be held Monday May 16 – please check the ATS Website for voting procedures!

***New this year*** – growing emphasis is placed on making the ATS and its Assemblies more effective as vehicles for young investigators and clinicians to participate in Society activities and to ensure the ATS offers effective programs for career development. Thus, I am pleased to confirm that in 2011 RSF has formed a **Members in Training and Transition (MITT) Working Group** that will be Chaired by Dr. YS Prakash and includes six members spanning career development stages. The committee is charged with developing activities to enhance the experience for young investigators, and to promote young investigators as working members of RSF committees. In this regard please note that *the RSF Assembly will host its first pre-business meeting* (Monday May 16, at 4:30 pm at the Embassy Suites Hotel in the Crystal Ballroom Salon C) during which interested young (and not-so-young) members can come and meet Executive Committee members and learn one-on-one how the assembly works and how to get more involved. Look for other activities such as a web-based RSF journal club to emerge in the coming year through the work of the MITT Working Group. Thanks to Dr. Gil Allen, our RSF Web Director, who will be an active member of this group and instrumental in seeing clever ideas put into action on our RSF Website – keep checking back in as Gil makes things happen on the website.

As always a great way to learn about the assembly, meet peers, socialize, be entertained, and connect with Assembly membership is to attend the RSF business meeting at the International Conference & come to our annual RSF dinner! In 2011 we will feature Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald from Animal Planet's Emergency Vets as our dinner speaker – trust me, he will give a one-of-a-kind presentation that will leave you tantalized by physiology whilst wiping away tears of laughter. On a more somber note I can also confirm that Dr. Jim Hogg will give a tribute to Dr. Peter Macklem who passed away February 11, 2011. Our dinner is also the forum during which we present the Ann Woolcock Memorial Award and the Joseph R. Rodarte Memorial Award. New this year will be the Stuart J Hirst Memorial Abstract Award that will be given to a trainee with the abstract top ranked by the Programming Committee in the areas of airway biology and physiology.

The Assembly actively solicits donations for the RSF Assembly via the ATS website for funds that we use to directly support participation and acknowledgement of young investigators by providing dinner vouchers, and monetary and travel awards for highest ranked abstracts in RSF abstract categories.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Message from the Assembly Chairman

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*I want to finish off by thanking the members of the RSF Executive Committee who have met on multiple occasions by teleconference in the past year, as well as the dedicated members of all of our committees. The ATS and its assemblies are driven by grassroots effort and without the volunteered effort of all involved there would be no fuel in the tank!*

Wishing you a great 2011 and hoping to see you in Denver. I am honored to Chair the RSF Assembly and welcome suggestions and comment from all members at all times.

## RSF Program Committee

Chair, Thomas M. Murphy, MD

This was a year of transition to a more collaborative approach with the other ATS assemblies in programming sessions to represent the enormous breadth and scientific diversity of our Assembly. RSF was primarily responsible for 5 Scientific Symposia, 6 Minisymposia, 7 Poster Discussions, 12 Thematic Poster Discussion sessions, one Post-Graduate course (a Physiology Master Class on Hemodynamic Assessment), two clinical translational Meet the Professor seminars (COPD and ILD) and two Sunrise Seminars. Our overall contribution was much greater than this, however, because of the resurgence of a spirit of collegiality, so that we co-sponsored with real input into much larger number of sessions in each category. In addition we had specific roles in developing the Scientific Breakthroughs of the Year in Tissue Bioengineering, and because I chaired the Late Breaking Abstracts subcommittee, RSF developed one additional Minisymposium on Asthma and two additional Poster Discussions on COPD & Pulmonary Hypertension and Pulmonary Infections.

Several of the RSF-sponsored presentations will be especially prominent and pertinent to the entire ATS membership. What the Clinical and Translational Award Consortium Can Do for You is a featured presentation on Monday morning May 16 on networking approaches to clinical translational research. The Scientific Symposium entitled Quantitative Thoracic Imaging, the Past, the Present and the Future on Tuesday morning May 17 is a memorial tribute to the late Robert Rogers MD, who was a long-time innovator in a number of areas of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and a prominent member of our Assembly.

I believe that we in our Assembly and the ATS as a whole have produced some very strong, diverse and appealing programming, and our role in refining approaches to future meetings has been prominent. I would very much like to thank the 32 member of the RSF Program Committee, who devoted much time to ranking abstracts and proposing specific sessions that were approved with enthusiasm. I would especially like to thank Chair-Elect Jason Bates, PhD, who dedicated long hours on top of long hours to getting the programming refined and ready and showed that he understands both the needs of the Assembly and all of the pathways to successful programming, which I believe will be apparent at the meeting in San Francisco in 2012. It has been a genuine honor to be your Program Chair. I think this meeting will be special and I hope to see each of you in Denver.

## **RSF Planning Committee**

Chair, William T Gerthoffer, PhD

I am pleased to report the Planning Committee includes 15 members representing institutions in North America, Australia and Europe. The members deserve our thanks for their devotion and enthusiasm in planning some of the Assembly's most important functions.

One of our important duties is to solicit nominations for the Joseph R. Rodarte Award for Scientific Excellence and the Ann Woolcock Memorial Award for a young investigator in asthma research. We are soliciting nominations for the 2011 awards and anticipate a strong field again this year. Please note the nominations for the Rodarte award can carry over to the next year, and that we ask the nominators to update the letter of nomination.

This past year the Assembly was once again able to recommend Assembly Projects for funding by ATS after a brief hiatus. The Planning Committee considered eight applications for sponsorship or co-sponsorship by the RSF Assembly. We are pleased that four projects sponsored by the RSF were approved for funding. The project titles and project Chairs are:

- ◆ ATS / ERS Guidelines for Bronchoprovocation Challenge Testing (Dr. Bruce Culver)
- ◆ Evaluation of Respiratory Mechanics and Function in the Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (Dr. Margaret Rosenfeld)
- ◆ Guidelines for Proper Quantification of Structural Changes in Mouse Models of Emphysema (Dr. Wayne Mitzner)
- ◆ Revised ATS/ERS Statement on Pulmonary Rehabilitation (Dr. Richard ZuWallack), secondary sponsorship

As always the Planning Committee hopes you will join us for a relaxing evening at the RSF dinner. We hope to have an entertaining speaker who can successfully follow Dr. Mitzner's engaging presentation on Da Vinci presented last May at the 2010 conference. Please encourage fellows and students to attend. Maybe the boss can buy them a nice dinner for all their hard work!

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Gerthoffer

### **Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2012!**

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2012. All interested applicants should begin developing their ideas for Assembly/Committee Project Applications. Applications will be available on the ATS website at [www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org) beginning in June. Please consider submitting an application for an Assembly/Committee project. If you have a suggestion for a project application and you need assistance, please contact your Assembly Planning Committee Chair at William Thomas Gerthoffer, PhD at [wgerthoffer@usouthal.edu](mailto:wgerthoffer@usouthal.edu)

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto:mrodriguez@thoracic.org).



RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION  
ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY MAY 16TH 5:00PM-7:00PM  
EMBASSY SUITES THIRD FLOOR  
CRYSTAL BALLROOM  
SALON C



RESPIRATORY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION  
ASSEMBLY DINNER

MONDAY MAY 16TH 7:00PM-10:00PM  
EMBASSY SUITES THIRD FLOOR  
CRYSTAL BALLROOM  
SALONS A & B



**Please join us for  
the Third Annual ATS Foundation Research Dinner  
on Saturday, May 14, 7:00 pm, at the Hyatt Regency Denver.**

This year's exciting dinner includes a video paying tribute to the Colorado scientists and clinicians whose groundbreaking discoveries and revolutionary treatments have shaped how pulmonary medicine is practiced today. The evening also honors Louis S. Libby, MD, executive vice president and chief medical officer of The Oregon Clinic, and this year's recipient of the "Breathing for Life" award. The dinner also features entertainment.

For the foreseeable future, the continuation of unrestricted and research partner grants will depend largely on the Foundation's ability to raise funds from ATS members like you. Our dinner goal in 2011 is to raise \$200,000 for two unrestricted research grants. Please help us achieve that goal by joining us in Denver. To register, please use this link: <https://www.xpressreg.net/register/thor051/foundation/start.asp>. Or, you may also visit the Foundation Web site: <http://foundation.thoracic.org>. For more information, contact Lydia Neumann: [Lneumann@thoracic.org](mailto:Lneumann@thoracic.org).



***The American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology* has  
become an electronic-only publication and will no longer appear in print.**

The ATS came to this decision as part of its efforts to extend the reach of the *AJRCMB*, take advantage of opportunities for the use of four-color and creative presentation and become more electronically interactive and environmentally responsible. This change, the ATS believes, can also enhance the journal's national and international exposure.

Becoming an electronic-only journal does not change anything related to article submissions or reviews. All editorial policies, processes and content remains unchanged.

The March 2011 issue of the *AJRCMB* is now posted online at <http://ajrcmb.atsjournals.org>. Subsequent issues of the journal will be posted by the beginning of each month and can be found at this same address.

You may also choose to have an electronic table of contents emailed to you each month. To sign up, please visit [www.thoracic.org/journals/index.php](http://www.thoracic.org/journals/index.php) and click on "e-TOC" under the journal.



## ATS 2011—DENVER

### Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function

Session Code	Session Title	Sess Time Begin	Sess Time End
<b><i>Robert L. Johnson Memorial Session</i></b>			
<b>Wednesday, May 18, 2011</b>			
D19	EXERCISE ADAPTATION WITH GROWTH AND CHRONIC ILLNESS	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b><i>Scientific Symposium</i></b>			
<b>Sunday, May 15, 2011</b>			
A89	EPITHELIAL-MESENCHYMAL CROSSTALK: A MATRIX FOR LUNG REMODELING	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 16, 2011</b>			
B12	WHAT THE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE AWARD CONSORTIUM CAN DO FOR YOU!	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
B85	THE ROLE OF THE AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE IN THE ORIGIN AND PERSISTENCE OF ASTHMA	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2011</b>			
C85	MECHANISMS AND ADVANCES IN THERAPY OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
C9	QUANTITATIVE THORACIC IMAGING, THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE FUTURE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b><i>Meet The Professor Seminars</i></b>			
<b>Sunday, May 15, 2011</b>			
MP417	THE DYNAMICS OF RECRUITMENT AND DERECRUITMENT IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Monday, May 16, 2011</b>			
MP518	IDIOPATHIC PULMONARY FIBROSIS (IPF): STAGING AND MANAGEMENT	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2011</b>			
MP616	THE PHYSIOLOGY AND THE PROGRESSIVE NATURE OF EMPHYSEMA	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
MP615	CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE: STAGING AND MANAGEMENT	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b><i>Sunrise Seminar</i></b>			
<b>Monday, May 16, 2011</b>			
SS115	PULMONARY REHABILITATION: SCIENCE AND PRACTICE	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2011</b>			
SS214	QUANTITATIVE PULMONARY FIBROTIC RETICULAR PATTERN AS IMAGING BIOMARKER IN TREATMENT EFFICACY IN SCLERODERMA/IPF	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
SS215	BAD COP? BARRESTIN REGULATION OF BETA 2 ADRENOCEPTORS IN ASTHMA	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 18, 2011</b>			
SS316	OBESITY AND ASTHMA: EPIDEMIOLOGY, POTENTIAL MECHANISMS, AND THERAPEUTIC STRATEGIES	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b><i>Mini-Symposium</i></b>			
<b>Sunday, May 15, 2011</b>			
A98	COMPUTATIONAL MODELS OF THE LUNG: WHAT DO THEY GIVE US?	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 16, 2011</b>			
B98	NOVEL APPROACHES TO LUNG IMAGING	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2011</b>			
C18	NOVEL MECHANISMS DRIVING AIRWAY REMODELING IN ASTHMA	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C97	AIRWAY GOVERNANCE: THE AXIS OF AIRWAY MYOCYTES, MYOFIBROBLASTS AND EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX IN ASTHMATIC AND COPD REMODELING	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 18, 2011</b>			
D99	ASSESSMENT OF LUNG INJURY AND INFLAMMATION	2:00 PM	4:30 PM

## ATS 2011—DENVER

### Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Respiratory Structure and Function

Session Code	Session Title	Sess Time Begin	Sess Time End
<b>Poster Discussion Session</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 15, 2011</b>			
A30	NOVEL MECHANISMS OF AIRWAY SMOOTH MUSCLE CONTRACTION AND RELAXATION: ARE THESE THERAPEUTICALLY TARGETABLE?	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
A108	HOW USEFUL ARE ANIMAL MODELS OF LUNG DISEASE?	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 16, 2011</b>			
B110	NOVEL MECHANISMS OF ACUTE LUNG INJURY AND REPAIR	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2011</b>			
C29	INTENSIVE CARE UNIT-ACQUIRED WEAKNESS: UNDERSTANDING WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE SHOULD GO	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
C110	COUGH AND AIRWAY RESPONSIVENESS: CO-MORBIDITIES	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Wednesday, May 18, 2011</b>			
D28	PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF EMPHYSEMA	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
D107	ADVANCES IN THE CLINICAL ASSESSMENT OF LUNG FUNCTION	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<b>Thematic Poster Sessions</b>			
<b>Sunday, May 15, 2011</b>			
A70	PATHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF ALTERED RESPIRATORY MUSCLE FUNCTION	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A71	LUNG GROWTH IN HEALTH AND DISEASE	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
A72	ADVANCES IN NON-INVASIVE PULMONARY FUNCTION TECHNOLOGY AND OUTCOMES ANALYSIS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 16, 2011</b>			
B68	PULMONARY VENTILATION DYNAMICS: NOVEL MODELS, IMAGES AND THEORIES	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B69	NOVEL INSIGHTS INTO AIRWAY INFLAMMATION AND REMODELING IN ASTHMA AND COPD	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B70	PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF OBESITY	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
B71	CRAZY MUSCLES: AIRWAY AND LYMPHATIC SMOOTH MUSCLE AND LYMPHANGIOLEIOMYOMATOSIS (LAM)	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2011</b>			
C71	NOVEL MEASUREMENTS OF AIRWAY FUNCTION AND THEIR PATHOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C72	CARDIOPULMONARY STRESSORS: EXERCISE, HYPOXIA AND ALTITUDE: NEW INSIGHTS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C73	LUNG IMAGING: NOVEL METHODOLOGIES AND QUALITY CONTROL	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C74	ACUTE LUNG INJURY: DIVERSE NOVEL INSIGHTS	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
<b>Postgraduate Course</b>			
<b>Friday, May 13, 2011</b>			
PG14	PHYSIOLOGY MASTER CLASS: HEMODYNAMIC ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT	8:00 AM	4:00 PM