

ASSEMBLY ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NEWSLETTER

Edited by David Tollerud, Assembly Chair

Spring 2005

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY ON ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (EOH) CHAIR by David J. Tollerud, M.D.

Welcome to the 2005 Assembly on EOH newsletter. As I look back on my tenure as Assembly Chair, I am pleased in the ever greater inclusion of international members in all aspects of Assembly business. Assembly on EOH members have always been strong advocates for addressing international environmental health and teaching epidemiology and other important disciplines to the international community. Now we have, in a sense, institutionalized that international perspective at the Assembly level, hosting an international Assembly on EOH leadership lunch, with participation by the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and representatives from Latin America and Asia. Under the leadership of Assembly on EOH Chair-Elect Susan M. Tarlo, M.D., I expect our international collaborations to continue to grow.

As the Assembly on EOH representative to the ATS Board of Directors, it has been a great learning experience to see the organization continue to evolve in its independence and financial stability. A particularly exciting activity undertaken by the Board is the Society's Strategic Planning Process, led by David A. Schwartz, M.D. This is especially timely given our fifth anniversary as an independently incor-

porated organization and the 100th anniversary as an organization. The vision, mission and goals developed through this very inclusive process will provide the guideposts for ATS development and focus over the next five years.

The Assembly on EOH newsletter has a number of articles that will interest Assembly members. The Assembly Program Committee, led by Jane Koenig, Ph.D., has once again developed an excellent slate of offerings for the International Conference in San Diego. One particularly noteworthy event is the poster symposium in honor of Attilio D. Renzetti, Jr., M.D., an Assembly on EOH member who died in September 2004. The session will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 2005 and is titled "Advances in Occupational and Environmental Disease." For details on Dr. Renzetti's life and work, please see the obituary that Bill Rom, M.D., has provided for this newsletter.

Dr. Tarlo and the Assembly on EOH Planning Committee have been rewarded by the ever stronger financial status of the ATS, with all approved projects receiving funding for the coming year. The new "Section on

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY ON EOH Chair Cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

Terrorism and Inhalation Disasters (TID)" continues to grow, co-chaired by Mark Frampton, M.D., and Rogene Henderson, Ph.D. The enclosed article provides contact information for those interested in getting involved with Section on TID activities. Akshay Sood, M.D., has continued his excellent work as the Assembly Web Director as we seek to identify his replacement.

The Assembly has continued to be active as advocates for increased re-

search funding and for stricter clean air standards and enforcement. The ATS Washington Office staff will provide an update on advocacy activities at the Assembly on EOH Membership Meeting during the International Conference in San Diego, California. Finally, as I turn the leadership of the Assembly over to Dr. Susan Tarlo, I would like to give a special thanks (although a standing ovation would be more appropriate) to the outstanding ATS Assembly Unit staff, including Graham Nelan, Director of

ATS Assembly Programs & External Relations; Elisha Malanga, Associate Director of ATS Assembly & Research Programs; Monica Simeonova, Manager of Assembly Programs and the PAR, and Bridget Nance, Associate of Assembly Operations & Communications, for their tireless support of our Assembly activities. Remember to mark your calendars for the Assembly Membership Meeting on Monday, May 23, 2005 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in San Diego!

ATS 2005 – SAN DIEGO SESSION SPONSORED BY THE ASSEMBLY ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

POSTGRADUATE COURSE			
Friday, May 20			
PG8	NEW ISSUES AND CONTROVERSIES IN OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL LUNG DISEASE	8:00 am	4:00 pm
SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA			
Sunday, May 22			
A77	SEX AND GENDER ISSUES IN COPD AND ASTHMA	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
Monday, May 23			
B6	IMPACT OF PRENATAL AND EARLY INFANCY ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES ON INFANT HEALTH	8:15 am	11:00 am
Tuesday, May 24			
C9	INTERVENTION STUDIES IN AIR POLLUTION RESEARCH	8:15 am	11:00 am
Wednesday, May 25			
D76	HEALTH EFFECTS OF AIRBORNE PARTICULATE MATTER: SOURCES, COMPONENTS, AND RESEARCH METHODS	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
CLINICAL WORKSHOP			
Monday, May 23			
WS4	ATS WEBSITE AND THE NET-SAVVY PRACTITIONER	12:00 noon	1:30 pm
SUNRISE SEMINARS			
Monday, May 23			
SS112	BEYOND COPD AND LUNG CANCER; SMOKING RELATED INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASES	7:00 am	8:00 am
Tuesday, May 24			
SS213	SHOULD ASTHMATICS DIVE?	7:00 am	8:00 am
Wednesday, May 25			
SS314	MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF PAH: 2005 AND BEYOND	7:00 am	8:00 am

MEET THE PROFESSOR SEMINARS			
Sunday, May 22			
MP412	MYSTERY OF IMMORTAL TIME BIAS: RESURRECTING OBSERVA-	12:00 noon	1:00 pm
Tuesday, May 24			
MP612	ENDOTOXIN IN THE AIR: IS IT GOOD OR BAD FOR YOU?	12:00 noon	1:00 pm
MINI SYMPOSIA			
Monday, May 23			
B14	PM AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE: WHERE ARE WE NOW?	8:15 am	11:00 am
B85	AIR POLLUTION EFFECTS IN CHILDREN	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
Tuesday, May 24			
C85	OZONE HEALTH EFFECTS: CURRENT ISSUES	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
Wednesday, May 25			
D16	DIET AND OBESITY	8:15 am	11:00 am
D17	ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL FACTORS IN LUNG FUNCTION IMPAIRMENT	8:15 am	11:00 am
POSTER DISCUSSION SESSIONS			
Sunday, May 22			
A94	PM CONSTITUENTS AND HEALTH: DIESEL, WOOD SMOKE AND METALS	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
Monday, May 23			
B95	RISK FACTORS FOR ADULT ASTHMA	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
Tuesday, May 24			
C25	SMOKING HEALTH EFFECTS	8:15 am	11:00 am
C94	ADVANCES IN OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISEASES	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
Wednesday, May 25			
D96	GENE-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
THEMATIC POSTER SESSIONS			
Sunday, May 22			
A50	AIR POLLUTION: MECHANISMS	8:15 am	4:15 pm
Monday, May 23			
B53	OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISEASES	8:15 am	4:15 pm
Tuesday, May 24			
C42	PULMONARY TOXICOLOGY	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C43	ADULT ASTHMA: RISK FACTORS AND OUTCOMES	8:15 am	4:15 pm

OBITUARY: ATTILIO D. RENZETTI, JR., M.D.

BY WILLIAM N. ROM, MD, MPH

Attilio D. Renzetti Jr., M.D., of Salt Lake City, Utah, died in September 2004 of natural causes at the age of 83. During his term as ATS President in 1975-1976, Dr. Renzetti founded the Assembly on Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH). He was a 1944 graduate of Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City and was an

intern, resident and fellow in cardiopulmonary physiology at the legendary Bellevue Chest Service, also located in New York. With J. Burns Amberson, M.D., as his pulmonary medicine mentor, Dr. Renzetti he wrote four papers with Nobel Prize winner Andre Cournand, M.D. He was appointed Chief of the Pulmonary Division at the University of

Utah in 1961 and was promoted to Professor of Medicine in 1967. His research focused on applied respiratory physiology, occupational lung diseases and epidemiology of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). He built an outstanding pulmonary program and was respectfully called "Chief."

ASSEMBLY ON EOH PLANNING COMMITTEE NEWS

BY SUSAN M. TARLO, M.D., PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The members of the Assembly on EOH for the past year (2004 to 2005) are listed below:

David J. Tollerud, M.D.
Assembly on EOH Chair
Susan M. Tarlo, M.D.
Planning Committee Chair
Josep M. Anto, M.D.
Mark W. Frampton, M.D.
Amund Gulsvik, M.D., Ph.D.
Hillel S. Koren, Ph.D.
Stephanie London, M.D.
Benoit Nemery, M.D., Ph.D.
Kent E. Pinkerton, Ph.D.
Isabelle Romieu, M.D.
Frances S. Silverman, Ph.D.
Akshay Sood, M.D.
Susanna G. Von Essen, M.D.
Adam Wisniewski, M.D.

The past year has included a number of completed projects, ongoing projects and newly-funded projects.

a) Completed Projects: Assembly on EOH Publications in 2004

1) "Guidelines for Assessing and Managing Asthma Risk at Work, School and Recreation," published in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (AJRCCM)* in April 2004 (Volume 169, pages 873-81), was developed by members of the Assembly on Behavioral Science (BSA) and the Assembly on EOH, chaired by Eddy Bresnitz, M.D. (Subcommittee members included: William Beckett, M.D., M.P.H., Morira Chan-Yeung, M.D., Timothy Craig, D.O., Murray Gilman, M.D., Philip Harber, M.D., M.P.H., Kathleen Lindell, M.S.N., R.N., Kenneth F. Martinez, Lee Petsonk, M.D., Cynthia Rand, Ph.D., and Barbara West, Ph.D.).

2) The ATS statement on the "Diagnosis and Initial Management of Nonmalignant Diseases Related to Asbestos" was published in September 2004 in the *AJRCCM* (Volume 170, pages 691-715). It was developed by a committee chaired by Tee Guidotti, M.D., M.P.H. (subcommittee members included: Albert Miller, M.D., David Christiani, M.D., M.P.H., Gregory Wagner, M.D., John Balmes, M.D., Philip Harber, M.D., M.P.H., Carl Andrew Brodtkin, M.D., M.P.H., William Rom, M.D., M.P.H., Gunnar Hillerdal, M.D., Michael Harbut, M.D., M.P.H., Francis H.Y. Green, M.D.) A discussion of this statement has been scheduled at the ATS International Conference in San Diego, California, in May.

b) Ongoing Assembly on EOH Projects

1) The workshop on "Stress and Asthma," organized by Rosalind Wright, M.D., M.P.H., and supported by funding from the Assemblies on BSA and EOH the ATS, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the Fetzer Foundation, was held in October 2004. Additional funding support was requested and approved by the ATS for the current year to develop publications from the workshop. The described focus for the publication(s) is the methodology involved in stress measurement and research gaps relative to lung diseases in general and, more specifically, to asthma.

2) The second "Jack Pepys Workshop on Occupational Asthma" was held in May 2004 with co-support from the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the Ontario and Quebec Workers'

Compensation Systems and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (Project Chairs included Susan M. Tarlo, M.D., Jean-Luc Malo, M.D., Morira Chan-Yeung, M.D., and Benoit Nemery, M.D., Ph.D.). A document summarizing key issues and research needs in occupational asthma has been prepared and submitted to the *European Respiratory Journal (ERJ)* for review. The feasibility of the publication of selected slides and oral presentations on the ATS website is still being explored.

3) An update of the 1990 ATS statement "Health Effects of Tremolite," is being developed by a subcommittee chaired by Michael Lipsett, M.D.

4) A revision of the ATS and the NHLBI's Division of Lung Diseases Questionnaire is nearing completion. Assembly members will receive an update about the status of this revision at the EOH Assembly Meeting at the 2005 International Conference in San Diego in May.

c) Newly-funded Assembly on EOH Projects

1) "Chronic Beryllium Disease: Detection, Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention Strategies," an official ATS consensus statement, has been approved by the ATS Board of Directors. This project, led by Lisa Maier, M.D., will be funded by an unrestricted grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. The document will be developed through a series of conference calls and a meeting preceding the 2005 ATS International Conference.

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ASSEMBLY ON EOH PLANNING COMMITTEE NEWS CONT'D

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2) Adam Wisnewski, Ph.D., has received initial ATS funding to support "Consensus Workshop on Low Molecular Weight Occupational Antigens," as well as a literature review in this area. He will also explore additional sources of support for this project.

3) Akshay Sood, M.D., has obtained ATS approval and a small amount of funding to explore the practicality of "Epi-on-the-net."

New Incoming Assembly on EOH Planning Committee Chair and Assembly Meeting Date

Carrie Redlich, M.D., M.P.H., has kindly agreed to accept the position of Chair of the Assembly on EOH Planning Committee for the coming year. Suggestions for new projects or interest in ongoing projects may be directed to myself (until the ATS Conference) or to Dr. Redlich.

The Assembly on EOH Planning Committee Meeting will be held during the ATS International Conference on Monday, May 23rd from 6:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. in Edward B at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego.

FY2006 ASSEMBLY/COMMITTEE PROJECT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE!

For your information, the FY2006 (January 1-December 31, 2006) project application forms for Assembly/Committee projects are now available on the ATS website 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 Susan M. Tarlo, M.D., at susan.tarlo@utoronto.ca

The timeline for the application and review process follows:

March 2005: FY2006 forms are available

July 18, 2005: Assembly/Committee project applications are due to the ATS office. Late submissions or submissions without proper COI disclosures will not be accepted.

early-mid August 2005: 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, un-reviewed 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 2005: 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.

September 2nd 2005: 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 2005: Program Review Sub-Committee (PRS) meeting

early November 2005: 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 FY2006 budget as new items.

December: ATS Board reviews FY 2006 Budget

Please contact Elisha Malanga with any questions at tel: 212/315-8693 or email: emalanga@thoracic.org

NEW SECTION DEVELOPED IN ASSEMBLY ON EOH

The Assembly on EOH has developed the "Section on Terrorism and Inhalation Disasters (TID). This new section, which focuses on the inhalation hazards associated with terrorism and other disaster situations, has been formed based on the findings of the ATS Bioterrorism Task Force, which is chaired by Mark Frampton, M.D.

The Section on TID, which is co-chaired by Dr. Frampton and Rogene Henderson, Ph.D., (Charles Frevert, M.D., serves as Co-Chair-Elect).
Aims to:

1. Serve as link between the ATS and other professional and federal organizations interested in

terrorism and other disaster situations.

2. Serve as a resource for expert advice to funding agencies in the planning of their research agendas.

3. Serve as a source of advice for physicians and first responders on appropriate procedures following disasters.

4. Establish website to provide information on educational resources, access to members with specific expertise and information on funding opportunities in the area.

5. Suggest and organize programs to be presented at the annual ATS In-

ternational Conference on inhalation hazards associated with terrorism or other disaster situations.

We need Section members and people to fill leadership positions within the Section to achieve each of these goals. Please volunteer to work on the goal that holds the most interest for you. Interested individuals should contact Dr. Frampton via phone at (585) 275-4861 or by e-mail at mark_frampton@URMC.rochester.edu, Dr. Henderson via phone at (505) 348-9464 or by e-mail at rhenders@lrri.org; or Dr. Frevert via phone at (206) 764-2738 or by e-mail at cfrevert@u.washington.edu.

PATIENTS TO SPEAK AT FOURTEEN DESIGNATED ATS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SYMPOSIA

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at fourteen of the 2005 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia for the last three years and at nine ATS symposia at the 2004 International Conference in Orlando.

This is the second 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	SESSION TITLE	DATE/TIME
AII	B7	Severe Asthma: Advancing Our Understanding of a Distinct Phenotype	Monday, May 23 8:15 am-11:00 am
BS	A6	What are the Causes of Health Disparities in Lung Diseases and What Can We do About Them?	Sunday, May 22 8:15 am-11:00 am
CP	C3	Sarcoidosis: How to Manage the Difficult Clinical Problems	Tuesday, May 24 8:15 am-11:00 am

ASSEMBLY	SESSION	SESSION TITLE	DATE/TIME
CP	B72	The Scleroderma Lung Study: Lessons for Interstitial Lung Disease	Monday, May 23 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
CC	D74	Theory and Practice: Managing the Brain in Mechanically Ventilated Patients	Wednesday, May 25 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
EOH	A77	Sex and Gender Issues in Obstructive Lung Disease	Sunday, May 22 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
MTPI	D7	Airway Infections: Pathogenesis and Consequences	Wednesday, May 25 8:15 am-11:00 am
NRSB	B5	Tobacco Addiction and Treatment: Current and Emerging Findings from Bench to Behavior	Monday, May 23 8:15 am-11:00 am
NRSB	D77	Innovative Physiological Interventions in Pulmonary Rehabilitation	Wednesday, May 25 1:30 pm-4:15 pm
PED	D5	Respiratory Care of the Patient with Neuromuscular Weakness	Wednesday, May 25 8:15 am-11:00 am
PED	B9	New Developments and Advances in Pediatric Interstitial Lung Disease	Monday, May 23 8:15 am-11:00 am
PC	C10	Pro-Con Debates in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension	Tuesday, May 24 8:15 am-11:00 am
RCMB	C8	Targeting Lung Cancer: Novel Molecular Targets and Treatment Strategies	Tuesday, May 24 8:15 am-11:00 am
RNS	A8	Moving Toward Best Practice: Where Does the Diagnosis and Treatment Of Sleep Apnea Fit in the Care of Heart Failure?	Sunday, May 22 8:15 am-11:00 am

PAR SYMPOSIUM

The Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the fourth PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Wednesday, May 25, 2005, from 8:15-11:00 a.m. Dr. Homer Boushey and Dr. John D. Newell will Chair the PAR Symposium "Imaging the Lungs in Research and Care". The PAR is excited to present the following speakers:

Charles White, MD - "Keynote Address - New Technologies applied to an Understanding of Lung Disease"
Michael Gotway, MD - "Radiologic-Anatomic Correlations"
John Newell, MD - "Quantitative CT scanning in longitudinal studies of emphysema"
Jim Hogg, MD - "The nature of small-airway obstruction in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease"

Jonathan Goldin, MD, PhD - "Radiologic Assessment of interstitial pulmonary fibrosis"

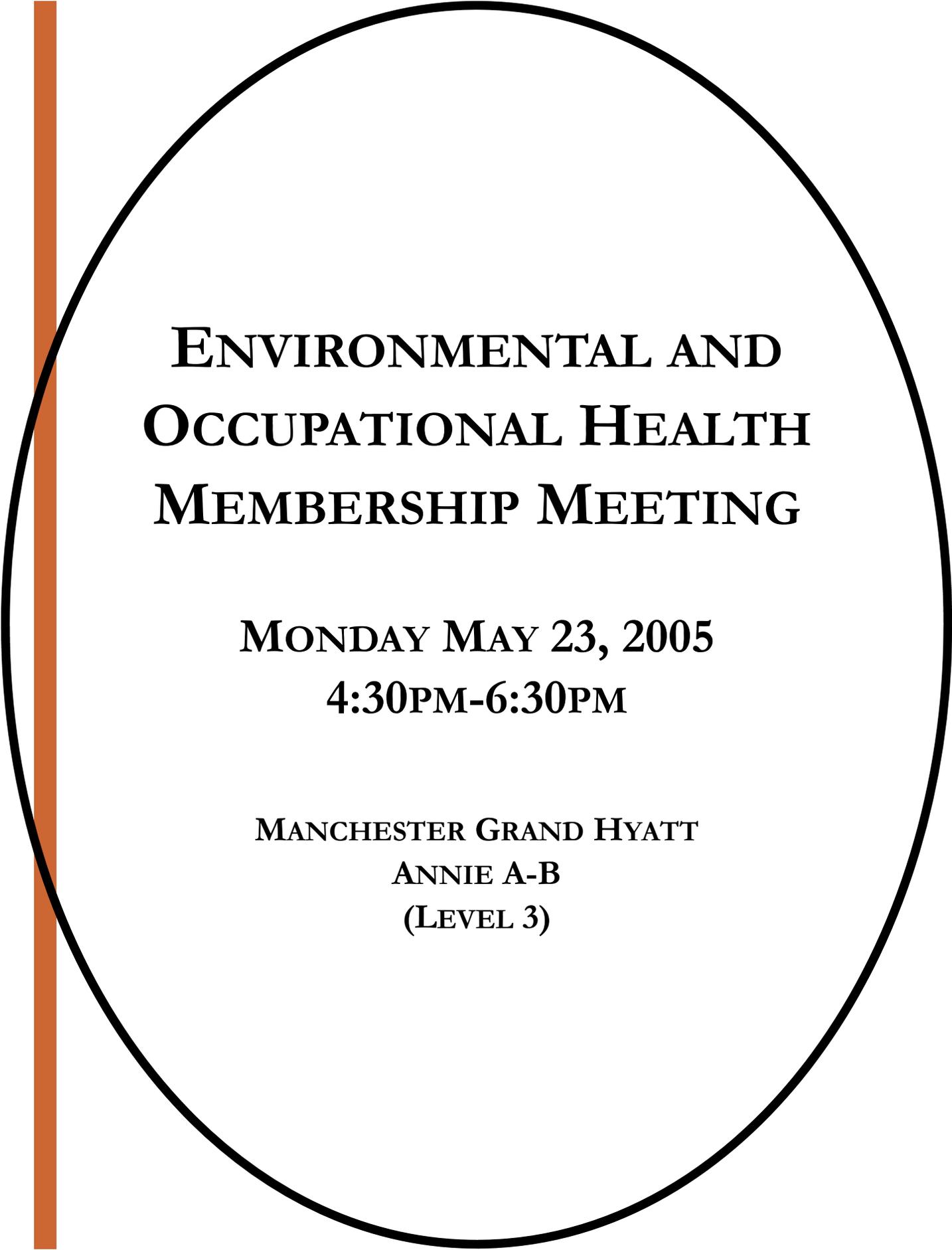
David L. Levin MD, PhD - "MR imaging of Pulmonary Blood Flow"
Eric Hoffman, PhD - "Regional Characterization of Lung Structure and Function via Micro and Multidetector CT: New Views for New Insights"

Asgar Dirksen, MD, PhD - "Repeatability of lung density measurements with low-dose CT"

Three 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 be open from Sunday, May 22 until Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at the Center Terrace of the San Diego Convention Center. 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.



**ENVIRONMENTAL AND
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**MONDAY MAY 23, 2005
4:30PM-6:30PM**

**MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT
ANNIE A-B
(LEVEL 3)**