Welcome to the Spring newsletter from the Assembly on Environmental and Occupational Health. I look forward to seeing you all at the 2010 ATS International Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana on May 14-19, 2010. The conference promises to be filled with great science, fun social activities, and the fabulous food and culture of New Orleans. In particular, the EOH Program Committee has put together a phenomenal series of sessions, including postgraduate courses, poster sessions, and mini-symposia, that will present the latest science focused on environmental and occupational health.

I wanted to share with you my two main initiatives that have been the focus of my first year as Chair of the EOH Assembly. The first initiative builds upon the work initiated by Dr. Kent Pinkerton during his tenure as EOH Assembly Chair – to enhance the recruitment of fellows and junior faculty into our assembly. To achieve this goal, I have constituted a ‘Working Group on Early Faculty and Fellows’ to develop a strategic plan for how our assembly can be most responsive to the needs of fellows and junior faculty. The goal is to recruit greater numbers of early career members and get them involved in the leadership of the Assembly. These goals are critical to our continued growth and success as an assembly.

The second initiative is to increase the prominence of epidemiology in our assembly. Although many of the respiratory epidemiologists in the ATS belong to the EOH Assembly, there is no formal recognition of this fact. I have appointed Dr. David Mannino to Chair a ‘Working Group on Respiratory Epidemiology’ to study how the EOH Assembly can more explicitly incorporate epidemiology into its mission.

I wanted to take the opportunity to thank the EOH Assembly leadership who are working so hard on behalf of all of us. Dr. Fernando Holguin (Chair) and Dr. Marc Schenker (Chair Elect) have been spearheading the Program Committee to ensure a terrific program at the ATS meeting. Gratitude to Dr. Stephanie London for her leadership on the
Message from Assembly Chair

(Continued from page 1)

Planning Committee, Drs. Kanta Sircar and Phil Harbor for leading the Website, Dr. Mannino for chairing the Nominating Committee, and Dr. Lewis Rubinson for leading the Section on Terrorism and Inhalational Disasters. I want to also thank all of the members of these committees for the work they have contributed to our assembly. And of course a heartfelt thanks to Miriam Rodriguez, our ATS staff, who keeps us running smoothly!

We would like to thank the American Thoracic Society Corporate Member Program, The National Emphysema Foundation Honoring Claude Lenfant, MD, ATS PAR Members, Sleep Group Solutions and Apnex Medical for providing Travel Awards. ATS Assembly Program Committees selected awardees based on the abstracts submitted to the 2010 International Conference.

See you in New Orleans - Laissez les bon temps roulez!

Planning Committee Report

Stephanie London, MD Chair

EOH Planning Committee members for the 2009-2010 year are listed below:

Stephanie London, MD (Planning Committee Chair)
Mark D. Eisner, MD, MPH (Assembly Chair)
Juan C. Celedon, MD, DrPH
Terry Gordon, PhD
Philip Harber, MD, MPH
Marrita S. Jaakkola, MD, PhD
Catherine LeMiere, MD
Kent E. Pinkerton, PhD
Carrie E. Redlich, MD, MPH
Isabelle Romieu, MD, MPH, ScD
Debra J. Romberger, MD
Torben Sigsgaard, MD, PhD
Akshay Sood, MD, PhD
Susan M. Tarlo, MD
David N. Weissman, MD (Incoming Planning Committee Chair)

A key function of the Planning Committee’s is to help develop ATS EOH Assembly Statements and Position Papers, which typically ensue from ATS-funded Assembly projects.

This was a challenging year for all the Assembly Planning Committees. ATS suspended NEW projects for 2010. However, we were fortunate that one outstanding new project that did not require funds in 2010 was approved and our high quality existing projects were renewed.

New Project

4th Jack Pepys Workshop on Work-Related Asthma (Chair – Susan Tarlo). No funds were requested for FY2010. The aim of this project is to convene a one day workshop in Toronto, immediately before the 2010
Planning Committee Report

(Continued from page 2)

ATS annual meeting in New Orleans, to focus on prevention of work related asthma (funding secured from Ontario and Quebec Workers’ Compensation Systems with further support possible from AllerGen, a Network of centres of excellence in allergy in Canada). ATS will endorse this workshop. A secondary aim to explore, with a subgroup of the invited participants, the approach to developing a useful document as a Statement on Prevention of Work-related Asthma.

Renewed projects

Spirometry in the Occupational Setting (Project Chairs – Susan Tarlo and Carrie Redlich. This project will develop an ATS Statement of recommendations for PFTs in the occupational setting.

Work-Exacerbated Asthma (Project Chair - Paul Henneberger)

The goal of this ATS Project, supported by the ATS and the CDC / NIOSH, is to review and synthesize the literature on work-exacerbated asthma (WEA), identify research and clinical needs, and increase awareness of WEA. The statement is very far along.

Updating the 1996 ATS Statement: "Respiratory Protection Guidelines" (Project Chair – David Weissman). ATS issued guidelines on respiratory protection in 1996. The current project is necessary because, since then, much has changed. Regulations cited in the statement are now obsolete. Respiratory protection terminology and practices have changed. A new class of FDA-approved respirators for use in public emergencies, such as pandemic influenza, has been developed. This project will update the statement.

Respiratory Impairment and Disability (Project Chair – Phil Harber)

Assessing respiratory impairment, occupational respiratory disability, and occupational ability are significant from the clinical, public health, socioeconomic, and regulatory/legal perspectives. The ATS has previously addressed these areas in three statements.

In United States, the AMA Guidelines for the Assessment of Permanent Impairment (“The Guides”) are widely used. While there have been periodic revisions of the Guides, the general approach has not changed in decades. The project will systematically examine the conceptual basis for assessing the impairment (loss of function), disability (the impact upon work/life activities), and residual ability.

Diagnosis and Management of Beryllium Sensitization and Chronic Beryllium Disease (Project Chair – John Balmes).

This goal of this project, jointly supported by the ATS, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the CDC / NIOSH, is to establish consensus among a panel of international experts regarding criteria for the diagnosis, clinical evaluation, management and prevention of beryllium sensitization (BeS) and chronic beryllium disease (CBD). The consensus findings and recommendations will be published as an ATS Policy statement.

Novel Risk Factors and the Global Burden of Non-smoking COPD (Project Chair – Mark Eisner ). The goal of this project is to develop an ATS statement that will evaluate the contribution of non-traditional risk factors

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Planning Committee Report

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**Postgraduate Courses**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, May 14, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PG6</td>
<td>PRACTICAL APPROACH TO OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL LUNG DISEASE: A CASE-BASED DISCUSSION</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, May 15, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PG22</td>
<td>GENE-BY-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS ON LUNG DISEASE</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 3:45 PM</td>
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### ATS 2010 – New Orleans
Sessions Sponsored by the
Assembly on Environmental and Occupational Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Symposia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, May 16, 2010</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10</td>
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<tr>
<td>A91</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, May 17, 2010</strong></td>
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<td>B85</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, May 18, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>C87</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 19, 2010</strong></td>
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<th>Meet the Professor Seminars</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, May 16, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>MP411</td>
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<th>Sunrise Seminars</th>
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<td><strong>Monday, May 17, 2010</strong></td>
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<td>SS110</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, May 19, 2010</strong></td>
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<td>SS309</td>
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<td>C96</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 19, 2010</strong></td>
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<td>D17</td>
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Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2011!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2011. 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 beginning in May.

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 David N. Weissman at DWeissman@cdc.gov.

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

Patients to Speak At Thirteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at thirteen symposia at the 2010 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 2009.

This is the seventh 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,
Patients to Speak At Thirteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

(Continued from page 7)
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSEMBLY</th>
<th>SESSION CODE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>DATE/TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AII/RCMB</td>
<td>A9</td>
<td>COPD: A Disease Of Accelerated Aging?</td>
<td>Sunday 5/16/10 8:15-8:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>AII</td>
<td>A12</td>
<td>Severe Asthma: The Last 10 Years And Moving Forward</td>
<td>Sunday, 5/16/10 8:15-8:20 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>AII/RCMB</td>
<td>A87</td>
<td>Mucus Plugs For 2010: Update On Mucus In Airway Homeostasis And Disease</td>
<td>Sunday, 5/16/10 1:40-1:45 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTPI/AII/RCMB</td>
<td>B7</td>
<td>Keeping The Immunosupressed Well: Clinical Infectious Challenges In Emerging Immunosupressed Hosts</td>
<td>Monday, 5/17/10 8:15-8:20 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSF/RCMB/AII/CP</td>
<td>B9</td>
<td>New Frontiers In Asthma Therapy</td>
<td>Monday, 5/17/10 8:15-8:20 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP/RCMB</td>
<td>B83</td>
<td>The Influence Of Histology And Molecular Analysis On Treatment Of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: &quot;Tailored Therapy&quot;</td>
<td>Monday, 5/17/10 1:30-1:35 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRN/CP</td>
<td>B86</td>
<td>Should We Treat Asymptomatic Obstructive Sleep Apnea Patients?</td>
<td>Monday, 5/17/10 3:30-3:35 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP/PR</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>Seven Questions Every COPD Patient Wants Answered</td>
<td>Tuesday, 5/18/10 8:15-8:20 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP/BS/PED</td>
<td>C10</td>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis: Bench, Bedside, And Beyond</td>
<td>Tuesday, 5/18/10 8:20-8:25 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP/AII</td>
<td>C82</td>
<td>Six Questions Regarding Sarcoidosis</td>
<td>Tuesday, 5/18/10 3:05-3:10 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>CP/NUR/PED</td>
<td>C85</td>
<td>How Well Do Patients Use Respiratory Inhalers, Nebulizers, And Other Devices? It's More Important Than You Might Think</td>
<td>Tuesday, 5/18/10 1:30-1:35 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAR</td>
<td>D12</td>
<td>Cells in Lung Injury and Repair of the Lung: Scientific and Translational Importance (PAR SYMPOSIUM)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 5/19/10 9:55 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP/NUR/RSF</td>
<td>D6</td>
<td>Pulmonary Rehabilitation In Chronic Respiratory Diseases Other Than COPD</td>
<td>Wednesday 8/19/10 8:30-8:35 am</td>
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**ATS PAR Symposium**

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the ninth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in New Orleans on **Wednesday, May 19, 2010 8:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.** The topic of the symposium is **“Cells in Lung Injury and Repair of the Lung: Scientific and Translational Importance”** and it will be jointly chaired by Jo Rae Wright, PhD, Michael Matthay, MD, and Teresa Barnes. The program includes the following:

- Michael A. Matthay, MD - Cell-Based Therapy For Lung Injury
- Bernard. Lo, MD - Ethical And Policy Issues Regarding Cell-Based Therapies: Anticipating and Addressing Potential Obstacles to Scientific and Clinical Innovation
- Jahar Bhattacharya, MD, PhD - Reversal of Lung Inflammation By Mesenchymal Stem Cells
- Landon S. King, MD - Role of Lymphocytes In Mediating Recovery From Acute Lung Injury
- Mark R. Looney, MD - Role of Neutrophils And Platelets In Mediating Acute Lung Injury
- Danielle Benich - LAM Patient Perspective
- Duncan J. Stewart, MD - Future Cell-Based Therapies

**ATS PAR Poster Session**

The ATS PAR Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 16 – Tuesday, May 18 2010 in the Exhibit Hall of the Ernest N Morial Convention Center 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.

---

**Breathing Better with the ATS Forum**

The American Thoracic Society Public Advisory Roundtable celebrating **2010: Year of the Lung** is pleased to invite you to our fourth annual patient forum

This is a forum at which patients will have the unique opportunity to network and learn more about their disease.

**SATURDAY MAY 15, 2010**

**FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

**Hilton New Orleans Riverside**

Two Poydras Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

(Grand Salon A, 1st Level)

You’ll have an opportunity to hear from patients and experts in the pulmonary community and network with them afterwards. The event will be held in conjunction with the ATS International Conference.

Hors d’oeuvres will be provided at the meeting.

This year’s discussions will focus on Lung and Environmental Health issues, and panelists include:

- William Martin II, MD
- Michael Busk, MD, MPH
- Kenneth Paris, MD, MPH
- David Schwartz, MD
- Leon Zoller

PLEASE RSVP BY EMAIL TO cwhite@thoracic.org

NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2010

For further questions please contact Courtney L. White at (212) 315-8640.
SEARCH ANNOUNCEMENT

The American Thoracic Society has opened the search for the Editor of its peer-reviewed publication, the Proceedings of the American Thoracic Society (PATS), succeeding Alan R. Leff, M.D., who has been serving as Editor since the inception of the journal in 2004.

PATS publishes reviews of clinical or basic science commonly resulting from conferences or workshops organized or sponsored by the ATS and/or other organizations to provide a better understanding of diseases within respiratory, critical care medicine, and sleep. Publication is episodic.

It is anticipated that the Editor will be named in 2011 for a five-year term, but will not assume responsibility until March 2012. This timeline will allow the newly selected Editor to train with Dr. Leff for one year to ensure a smooth transition. The Search Committee is seeking candidates who are in a field relevant to lung health, critical care medicine, and/or sleep who have editorial experience.

Letters of interest, including a statement of plans for the Editorship, and curriculum vitae should be submitted by May 3, 2010 to:

Jeffrey Glassroth, M.D.
Chairman, PATS Editor Search Committee
American Thoracic Society
61 Broadway, 4th floor
New York, NY 10006-2755
212-315-6441
E-mail: jglassroth@northwestern.edu
Please cc Diane Gern, ATS Publisher on all emails: dgern@thoracic.org

ATS DOCUMENTS UPDATE

1. Reminder to all Document Developers—We have launched submission of official ATS documents through the manuscript central website that the Society uses for all journal submissions. All official ATS documents must be submitted through this website http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/atsdocs

2. We are pleased to announce that ATS has hired a new methodologist, Jan Brozek, MD, PhD. Dr. Brozek is based at McMaster University in Canada, and as the Society's methodologist, will provide expert consultation to Document Developers. Our Documents Editor, Dr. Holger Schunemann and Dr. Brozek will both be attending the Conference in New Orleans this year and will be visiting with many Document Developers to answer methods-related questions.

For further information about document development, visit the document development area of the ATS Website at http://www.thoracic.org/statements/document-development/index.php

or contact Judy Corn at jcorn@thoracic.org
2010 Guidelines Forum and Hands-on Workshop:
What’s new in document and guideline development?

All ATS members are invited to attend a free, hands-on guideline workshop conducted by the ATS Documents Editor, Holger J. Schunemann, MD, PhD, and the new ATS Methodologist, Jan Brozek, MD, PhD, to be held:

Sunday, May 16, 2009
6:45-9:45 pm
Versailles Ballroom, Third Level
Hilton New Orleans Riverside
2 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70140
Tel: (504) 561-0500 | 1-800-HILTONS

Refreshments and a light dinner will be served.

The Foundation of the American Thoracic Society
Help Us Help the World Breathe
Research • Education • Training

SAVE THE DATE

WHAT
Second Annual ATS Research Dinner

WHEN
Saturday, May 15, 2010

WHERE
Marriott New Orleans
For more information
Call (212) 315-6464

The Foundation of the ATS wishes to thank this year’s Dinner Benefactor
Genentech/Novartis
**MEET THE ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP BEFORE THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

Do you often wonder how the ATS really works? Would you like to have more networking opportunities at the International Conference in New Orleans?

This is your chance! We plan on holding a special orientation and welcome meeting for you. Members of the Assembly Leadership will be there to welcome you at 4:00 pm (30 minutes before the start of the official meeting) and help introduce you to the Assembly. We will be there to address any questions you might have regarding the EOH Assembly and how you can become more involved in assembly activities and committees. We look forward to meeting you. In addition to the Orientation we would like to also invite you to the annual EOH Assembly Meeting taking beginning at 4:30 PM at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel. the meeting will take place in EOH room.

**ASSEMBLY ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

*Mona**day, May 17th 4:30PM-6:30PM*

**Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel**

*Grand Ballroom D*

*First (Street) Level*