MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

Welcome to the Spring 2013 Newsletter for the ATS Assembly on Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH). I hope you will attend the 2013 ATS International Conference in Philadelphia, May 17-22. As in years past, the conference is the venue for presenting and learning about the latest findings in respiratory health. In particular, the EOH Program Committee has put together an outstanding program that reflects the diverse interests of our members.

The efforts of many people ensured that the assembly kept moving forward during the past year. Here are a few examples:

- The year 2012 marked the second anniversary of online voting for officers, and members embraced the new approach. The number of EOH members who voted jumped from 70 in 2011 to 110 in 2012, an increase of 57%.
- We pursued a variety of activities to attract and retain early-career professionals who were looking for a home base in ATS. We held a special orientation and welcome session for new members before the 2012 Membership Meeting in San Francisco, provided support for travel to the annual conference, invited younger professionals to serve on committees and working groups, and engaged more mid- to late-career members to mentor early-career members.
- To discuss a possible name change for the assembly, members participated in an online meeting on July 10, 2012, and subsequently provided written comments online. In spring 2013, members will vote on whether to change the name to Assembly on Environmental, Occupational, and Population Health. I think this change better reflects activities in our assembly and will broaden our appeal to new members. Votes by assembly members will determine whether this proposed change is forwarded to the ATS Board of Directors. I encourage you to take part.

My interactions with other assembly chairs at ATS Board of Director meetings have made it clear that EOH provides a unique perspective on respiratory diseases that derives from our expertise in environmental, occupational, and population health. EOH members share this expertise with a wider audience by taking part in ATS advocacy efforts, such as serving on the ATS Environ-
mental Health Policy Committee and other ATS committees, and participating in meetings with Congressional staff in Washington, D.C. This spring we will ask assembly members to identify the top three issues for advocacy in environmental, occupational, and population respiratory health. In addition to communicating the results of the poll to ATS staff responsible for advocacy, we will explore forming an EOH advocacy working group that would coordinate and support activities with ATS offices in Washington and New York.

I am very grateful for the EOH members who take time from their jobs and private lives to serve on committees, sections, and working groups. In particular, I want to recognize and thank the following EOH leaders who were active in 2012-2013:

- Dr. Philip Harber (Chair) and Dr. Greg Diette (Chair Elect) guided the Program Committee as it crafted the EOH portion of the ATS Conference.
- Dr. Vinicius Antao assumed the position of Chair of the Planning Committee in 2012 and organized the review of proposals for assembly projects.
- Dr. Kanta Sircar oversaw an expansion of the EOH Web Committee, including the addition of Dr. Craig Glazer as Co-Chair.
- Dr. Chris Carlsten provided ongoing leadership of the Trainee and Early Faculty Working Group.
- Dr. Kay Kreiss took on a new position as Chair of the Nominating Committee, which ably identified candidates for assembly elections.
- Dr. Christian Sandrock continued to serve as Chair of the very active Section on Terrorism and Inhalational Disasters.
- Dr. David Mannino offered important guidance as Chair of the Working Group on Epidemiology.

Our work is made considerably easier by outstanding support from ATS staff. I especially thank Miriam Rodriguez and Bridget Nance for their assistance!

I also want to express our gratitude to the American Thoracic Society Corporate Member Program that supported Abstract Scholarship Awards for the EOH Assembly. The ATS Assembly Program Committees selected awardees based on abstracts submitted for the 2013 conference.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia in May!

The forthcoming International Conference in Philadelphia will provide diverse opportunities for professionals interested in environmental and occupational health aspects of respiratory health.

Numbers: The assembly is sponsoring 4 major symposia and cosponsoring 2 other major symposia. In addition, EOH is sponsoring 4 mini-symposia, 5 poster discussion sessions, and 5 thematic poster sessions.

Topics: The topic list is diverse and reflects the interests of the assembly. Sessions focus upon air pollution, occupational factors, genetic/genomic, mechanistic studies, diet/obesity, and toxicology. Sessions have been intention-
ally organized to incorporate multiple perspectives, and several incorporate case reports and clinically-oriented information. Preventive interventions are considered in many.

Philadelphia: On a personal note, having attended high school and medical school in that city, I can assure you it is a great place to visit. The downtown area is fairly compact, making it easy to enjoy the culture, history, and restaurants. WC Fields, the comedian known for his pejorative comments about the city, is wrong.

2014: Now is the time to begin planning for the following meeting; proposals for postgraduate courses and major symposia are due quite soon after the 2013 meeting. If you have nascent ideas, please start converting concepts into specific proposals. Also, if you have ideas or are interested in participating in the planning, please contact Greg Diette, who will chair the EOH Program Committee for the 2014 conference. Finally, we have added a new abstract category, "indoor environment" for 2014.

THANKS: The Program Committee members and the significant number of assembly members who volunteered to serve as facilitators deserve a great deal of appreciation from all of us. This year’s committee members are Isabella Annesi-Maesano, MD, PhD, DSc, Mehrdad Arjomandi, MD, Per Bakke, MD, PhD, John R. Balmes, MD, Alison K. Bauer, PhD, Hasan Bayram, MD, PhD, Chris Carlsten, MD, MPH, Daniel L. Costa, DSc, Rafael E. De La Hoz, MD, MPH, MSc, George L. Delclos, MD, MPH, Mridu Gulati, MD, Maritta S. Jaakkola, MD, Catherine Lemiere, MD, Kevin J. Mortimer, PhD, Karin A. Pacheco, MD, Edward L. Petsonk, MD, Kent E. Pinkerton, PhD, David Q. Rich, Christian E. Sandrock, MD, MPH, Takashi Sato, MD, PhD, Akshay Sood, MD, MPH, Kjell O. Toren, MD, PhD. Greg Diette was the Chair-Elect.

We hope to see you there.
### Meet The Professor Seminars

**Sunday, May 19, 2013**
- **MP406** NON-INVASIVE ACCESS TO THE HUMAN LUNG  
  12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**Monday, May 20, 2013**
- **MP506** RISK FACTORS FOR POLLEN ALLERGY  
  12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**Tuesday, May 21, 2013**
- **MP606** CURRENT STATUS OF ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASE  
  12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

### Sunrise Seminars

**Monday, May 20, 2013**
- **SS112** REAL-WORLD SPIROMETRY: AVOIDING TECHNICAL PITFALLS AND CHOOSING AN INTERPRETATION ALGORITHM  
  7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

**Tuesday, May 21, 2013**
- **SS208** NEW OCCUPATIONAL CAUSES OF DIFFUSE PARENCHYMAL LUNG DISEASES: HOW TO IDENTIFY A SENTINEL CASE  
  7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

### Mini-Symposium

**Sunday, May 19, 2013**
- **A95** OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASE FROM AGRICULTURE TO AFGHANISTAN  
  2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**Monday, May 20, 2013**
- **B95** AIR POLLUTION: FROM BENCH TO ROADSIDE  
  2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**Tuesday, May 21, 2013**
- **C15** DIET, OBESITY AND RESPIRATORY DISEASE: FROM BASIC MECHANISMS TO POPULATIONS  
  8:15 AM - 10:45 AM

### Poster Discussion Sessions

**Monday, May 20, 2013**
- **B24** TOXICOLOGIC MECHANISMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT  
  8:15 AM - 10:45 AM
- **B105** CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE CLASSIFICATION AND COURSE  
  2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
- **B106** OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINANTS OF LUNG FUNCTION  
  2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**Tuesday, May 21, 2013**
- **C105** POLLUTION EFFECTS  
  2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**Wednesday, May 22, 2013**
- **D17** IMPACT OF DIESEL AND OTHER PARTICLES  
  8:15 AM - 10:45 AM

### Thematic Poster Sessions

**Sunday, May 19, 2013**
- **A47** ASTHMA: OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS  
  8:15 AM - 4:30 PM
### Thematic Poster Sessions

#### Monday, May 20, 2013

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<th>Session Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B57</td>
<td>OPPORTUNITIES FOR PREVENTION OF COMMUNITY AND WORKPLACE DISEASE</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 4:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>B58</td>
<td>CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE AND DIET IMPACTS ON POPULATIONS AND SYSTEMS</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 4:30 PM</td>
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#### Tuesday, May 21, 2013

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<tr>
<td>C56</td>
<td>ADVANCES IN UNDERSTANDING OCCUPATIONAL RESPIRATORY EFFECTS</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 4:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>C57</td>
<td>MECHANISMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL ADVERSE EFFECTS</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 4:30 PM</td>
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### Other Sessions That Might Be Of Interest To You

#### Postgraduate Courses

#### Saturday, May 18, 2013

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<tr>
<td>PG22</td>
<td>BUILDING EFFECTIVE TEAMS AND IMPLEMENTING CHANGE: THINGS WE NEED TO KNOW AND SHOULD HAVE LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</td>
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#### Scientific Symposium

#### Sunday, May 19, 2013

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>A88</td>
<td>CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE IN NON-SMOKERS: THE TROJAN HORSE IN A GLOBAL TROY</td>
<td>2:00 PM - 4:30 PM</td>
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#### Monday, May 20, 2013

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<tr>
<td>B12</td>
<td>CAREER DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM: ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
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#### Tuesday, May 21, 2013

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<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>CASE BASED LEARNING IN CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>C87</td>
<td>SEX, STEROIDS, AND LUNG: GOOD, BAD, UGLY?</td>
<td>2:00 PM - 4:30 PM</td>
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#### Wednesday, May 22, 2013

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<tr>
<td>D3</td>
<td>ALPHA-1 ANTITRYPSIN DEFICIENCY: THE NEXT 50 YEARS</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>D8</td>
<td>THE MULTIFUNCTIONAL BASAL CELL: MORE THAN A PROGENITOR</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>D12</td>
<td>SMOKE: MANY SOURCES AND A GLOBAL THREAT TO LUNG HEALTH</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
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2012 was a busy year for the EOH Planning Committee. We have evaluated numerous project proposals and award nominations. I would like to thank the members listed below for their commitment and hard work:

Muge Akpinar-Elci, MD, MPH
Juan Celedon, MD, PhD
Kevin Cromar, PhD
Kristin Cummings, MD, MPH
Rafael de la Hoz, MD, MPH, MSc
Howard Kipen, MD, MPH
Ware Kuschner, MD
Maria Mirabelli, PhD
Luke Naeher, PhD
Germania Pinheiro, MD, MSc, PhD
Robert Ross, MD
Christian Sandrock, MD, MPH
Torben Sigsgaard, MD, PhD
Frances Silverman, PhD
David N. Weissman, MD
Paul K. Henneberger, ScD (Assembly Chair)

In addition to the 5th edition of the Jack Pepys Workshop on Work-Related Asthma (Susan Tarlo), two other new projects co-sponsored by EOH have been approved this year:

- **ATS Research Statement on Recent Advances on Tobacco Addiction and Smoking Cessation (Alexander C. White)**. This project will look at the epidemiology of tobacco addiction, identify clinically important gaps in the evidence and describe how filling these gaps may benefit patients addicted to tobacco, and develop specific recommendations and priorities for future research.

- **Chemical Inhalational Disasters: Biology of Lung Injury, Development of Novel Therapeutics, and ICU and Public Health Preparedness (Eleanor M. Summerhill)**. The workshop will provide a venue for researchers to present an overview of the current understanding of the underlying biology of inhalational lung injury, as well as recent advances in the medical management of cases attributed to specific inhalational toxins. Within this broad field, the authors plan to particularly focus on chemical agents, including chlorine gas, vesicants, phosgene, nerve agents, and biologic toxins. In addition, the workshop will discuss future directions for research and policy development.

The EOH Assembly also has 3 projects that have been approved for continuation:

- **Proceedings of the 4th Jack Pepys Workshop on Work-Related Asthma (co-authors Susan M Tarlo and Jean-Luc Malo)**. The document reports on the 2010 Workshop that addressed issues relevant to work-related asthma and other work-related airway diseases. It has passed review by the ATS Documents Editor and is awaiting final review and approval by the ATS Board of Directors.

- **ATS Statement on Spirometry in the Occupational Setting (co-chairs Susan Tarlo and Carrie Redlich, panel members John Hankinson, David Weissman, Bill Eschenbacher, Mary Townsend, Susanna von Essen, Torben Sigsgaard)**. This statement addresses aspects of spirometry that are important in the occupational setting but that were not sufficiently discussed in the ATS/ERS Statements on spirometry. The document has been (Continued on page 7)
submitted to the ATS Documents Editor for review.

- Diagnosis and Management of Beryllium Sensitization and Chronic Beryllium Disease (John Balmes). This is a statement with recommendations about how the diagnosis and management of beryllium sensitization (BeS) and chronic beryllium disease (CBD) should be approached. The document is essentially completed. The original draft and a subsequent revised draft have been externally peer-reviewed under the auspices of the ATS Documents Editor.

The ATS Executive Committee has endorsed a Position Statement on Asbestos issued by the Joint Policy Committee of the Societies of Epidemiology, through a formal peer-review process. The full text can be found at: http://www.jpc-se.org/position.htm#asbestos

Prior to the ATS Annual Conference in May, the Planning Committee will be considering nominations for several Assembly Awards (http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/eho/awards/index.php). These include the John M. Peters Award for outstanding contributions to environmental or occupational health through leadership in research, education, or public health and the Val Vallyathan Senior Faculty Award for applicants with outstanding contributions to basic and translational science in environmental or occupational respiratory diseases.

If you are interested in serving on the EOH Planning Committee, developing a new EOH Assembly Project, or revising any of the older ATS EOH Statements found at http://www.thoracic.org/statements/, please contact Vinicius Antao (vantao@cdc.gov). Assembly project applications are usually due mid-July.

**UPDATE FROM WEB DIRECTOR**

Kanta Sircar, PhD, MPH, Co-Chair, Craig S. Glazer, MD, MSPH, Co-Chair

The Environmental and Occupational Health web directors maintain and enhance the environmental and occupational health content of the ATS website (www.thoracic.org). Our focus is to facilitate interactions/communications among assembly members and provide information, especially educational materials, which could benefit the entire ATS community. This year, we were pleased to present a free webinar: "An Introduction to Climate Change and Health: How Will a Warming World Affect Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Physicians?" Over the next year, we hope to host additional webinars. If you have ideas for topics, would like to help with this project or have comments, please email us at eoh@thoracic.org. In addition, we are working on a curriculum of webinar based lectures that can be presented to Pulmonary/Critical Care Training Programs seeking to access the EOH Assembly's expertise in the training of their fellows in Occupational and Environmental Lung Disease. Look for more information to come. Other non-webinar activities include collaborating with the Section on Terrorism and Inhalational Disasters to publish a series of case vignettes on the EOH website.

We always welcome volunteers to help with content on the site, eventually we want to expand to an EOH Web Committee. Technology influences the way we communicate. Be a part of how we use these tools in environmental and occupational respiratory health! No experience is necessary - just a desire to expand our ability to communicate with members and to educate ATS on EOH activities and topics. Volunteers are needed to help edit web material and case studies as well as generating ideas on how to better connect assembly members through the use of social media, for example, or to better address our mission through multimedia content. This is a great opportunity for members to get involved in the activities of the EOH Assembly. If you have an interest in participating please e-mail your interest to eoh@thoracic.org.
ATS is always looking for ATS Monthly Clinical Case submissions. A list of current cases can be found at the thoracic.org site (http://www.thoracic.org/clinical/ats-clinical-cases/index.php) and guidelines for the clinical cases are at http://www.thoracic.org/clinical/ats-clinical-cases/guidelines-for-ats-clinical-cases-submission.php. Please email us for more information if you would like to submit a report of a case with environmental or occupational lung disease.

Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2014!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2014. 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.

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 Vinicius Antao, MD at vantao@cdc.gov.

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

The ATS Documents Development & Implementation Committee (DDIC), which sets policies for the development of Official ATS Documents, will be holding a hands-on workshop in conjunction with the ATS International Conference

What: "Document Development: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers"
When: Friday, May 17 from 12:30-4:00 PM; lunch will be served
Where: The Loews Hotel (Room: Washington C)

Attendance at this event is required for Chairs of writing committees which have received ATS support for their New or Renewal project in 2013.

Others with an interest in guideline development, or in official documents in general, are encouraged to attend as well.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and talk with the ATS Methodologist, Documents Editor, and members of the ATS DDIC - we hope to see you there!
RSVP to Jessica Wisk at jwisk@thoracic.org
Meet the Assembly Leadership before the Annual EOH Assembly Membership Meeting

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

This is your chance! We will hold a special orientation and welcome meeting for you. Members of the EOH Assembly Leadership will be there to welcome you at 4:30 PM on Monday May 20th, and help introduce you to the Assembly. This will take place 30 minutes before the start of the official Membership Meeting, in the same location: Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Franklin Hall 1 & 2 – Level 4. 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 also like to invite you to stay for the Annual EOH Assembly Membership Meeting beginning at 5:00 PM.

Nursing Contact Hours through a partnership with National Jewish Health

The ATS is pleased to announce that it has partnered with National Jewish Health to provide Nursing Contact Hours for 25 sessions. The Nursing Assembly selected sessions with content that is appropriate for and relevant to the needs of its members.

Nursing Continuing Education Contact Hours for selected sessions is provided through National Jewish Health™, a provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number, CEP 12724.

For more information please visit http://conference.thoracic.org/2013/program/nursing-contact-hours/
Forum on Collaboration

“Inclusion and Collaboration Among University, Government and Industry at the ATS: A Road Map for the Future—Principles and Practice”

MONDAY MAY 20, 2012
FROM: 12 Noon to 1:00pm
Pennsylvania Convention Center
Room 107 A-B (100 Level)

In order for the ATS to foster solutions to increasingly complex scientific and patient care challenges, a diversity of scientific and clinical approaches is required. This goal requires the ATS to provide an environment to its members that values diversity, inclusiveness, and collaboration.

To achieve these ends, our ideas need to be translated into practical action plans. This forum will offer these ideas for input and discussion from the membership. Moderated by society leaders, we will examine our differences and synergies, and try to come to some synthesis to achieve our overlapping aims. All who are interested in confronting these challenges are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion. Based on this dialogue, recommendations to ATS leadership will be made for implementation.

All ATS Members and ATS 2013 Attendees are encouraged to attend.

CHAIRS: Theodore F. Reiss, MD, MBE, Nicholas H. Hill, MD, Leonard Sicilian, MD

PANELISTS: Courtney C. Crim, MD; Joel Moss, MD, PhD; Molly Osborne, MD, PhD; Amy Simon, MD

Help Us Help You!

Have you moved, changed your title, added new skills, credentials or other information? ATS members can now update their contact information, assembly affiliations, and demographic profile quickly and easily online with the Member Profile Update form.

Keeping your profile current ensures accuracy during the ATS International Conference registration process and also helps the ATS provide you with valuable member benefits. To streamline the process, the ATS has updated and combined demographic categories, which makes it easier for you to send us pertinent information to serve you better.

The Member Profile Update form is safe and secure, and your updates will be reflected immediately in our database. Please take a minute to login and update your member record today at http://www.thoracic.org/login/ats-member-login.php?rl=https://thoracic.secure.force.com/MPU

At this same web link members can now also print their own, personalized membership certificate!
Please join us for the
Fifth Annual ATS Foundation Research Benefit on
Saturday, May 18, 7:00 pm, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
(Grand Ballroom)

Attendees will have the opportunity to mingle freely and network with colleagues while sampling a wide array of delicious offering at food stations throughout the ballroom. There will be dancing to the sounds of a Philadelphia DJ.

In addition to the talented early career investigators who will be honored, the benefit will pay tribute to Gerard M. Turino, MD, Director of the James P. Mara Center for Lung Diseases in St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine in New York City. Dr. Turino is the recipient of the 2013 Breathing for Life Award and a legend in the pulmonary world. The Breathing for Life Award is the highest honor conferred by the Foundation on an individual for philanthropy.

The continuation of unrestricted and matching research partner grants will depend on the Foundation’s ability to raise funds from ATS members like you. Thanks to your past support, the Foundation will be funding three unrestricted grants, one more than last year. To register, please use this link: https://www.xpressreg.net/register/thor053/lookup.asp. For more information, please visit: http://foundation.thoracic.org, or contact Erin Marie Nebel: EMNebel@thoracic.org