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# Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Editor: Richard ZuWallack, MD

## ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

**Richard L. ZuWallack, MD**  
Assembly Chair  
rzuwalla@stfranciscare.org

**Brian Carlin, MD**  
Planning Chair  
bcarlin@wpahs.org

**Chris Garvey, FNP, MSN**  
Program Chair  
chriscgarvey@dochs.org

**Mike D. Morgan, MD**  
Program Chair-elect  
mike.morgan@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

**Richard Casaburi, MD, PhD**  
Nominating Chair  
casaburi@ucla.edu

**Kathleen Ellstrom, PhD, RN, CNS**  
Website Director  
kathleen.ellstrom@med.va.gov

## ASSEMBLY CONTACT

Website:  
<http://www.thoracic.org/assemblies/pr/index.php>

Email: [pr@thoracic.org](mailto:pr@thoracic.org)

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## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

The ATS International Conference is just around the corner and I look forward to seeing you in San Francisco this May. Following in the footsteps of my predecessor and good friend, **Sue Lareau**, has been difficult since she was uncannily productive and efficient and did so many positive things behind the scenes. However, Sue has made my life easier by helping me along the way. So many thanks to Sue for her continued leadership in the PRA. This Newsletter reports on our Assembly activities over the past several months.



Richard ZuWallack, MD

## The Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Mission Statement

For your information, the following is our mission statement, which is posted on our website.

### The purposes of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly are to:

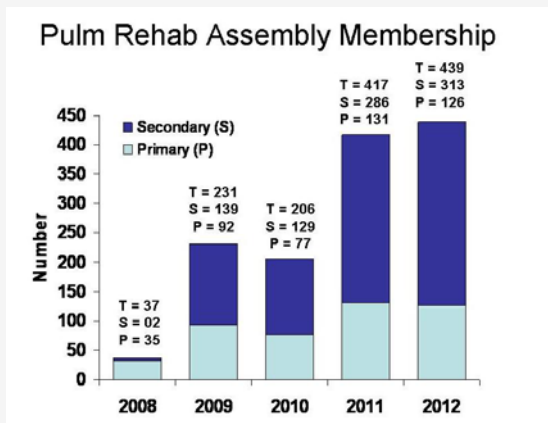
1. *evaluate the role of pulmonary rehabilitation in the context of the current health care environment,*
2. *promote education for the public and other health care providers about the scientific rationale for and clinical outcomes of pulmonary rehabilitation,*
3. *work collaboratively with other organizations such as the American Association for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, European Respiratory Society and American College of Chest Physicians to promote optimal utilization of PR worldwide, and*
4. *serve as an advocate for patients rights and care options for pulmonary rehabilitation*
5. *promote continued investigation into the scientific rationale for and clinical outcomes of pulmonary rehabilitation*

## Membership trend

The Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly (PRA) membership has stabilized after a growth spurt. The figure shows trends and numbers since 2008. These data are unofficial and based on my arithmetic skills.

(Continued on page 2)

# MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR



As you can see, primary membership now totals 126 and total (primary and secondary) membership is 439. Forty-five percent of PRA members (primary and secondary) are from outside the US in 2012. Strength is in numbers, so please urge your colleagues to join the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly, either as their Primary Assembly (preferred) or as their Secondary Assembly! Changing Assemblies can be accomplished by sending your request to [membership@thoracic.org](mailto:membership@thoracic.org). If you live outside of the US, membership fees may be considerably less e.g. \$40 for full membership. See <http://www.thoracic.org/membership/categories-and-fees.php> for an outline of fees in general and <http://www.thoracic.org/membership/resources/country-chart.pdf>.

## [Ongoing review of the literature thanks to Sally Singh and Martijn Spruit](#)

On the first week of every month you should be receiving updates on the pulmonary rehabilitation literature provided by **Sally Singh** and **Martijn Spruit**. These are extremely useful in keeping us up-to-date in the continuously-expanding field of Pulmonary Rehabilitation. There was a time (a couple of decades ago) when updates could have been sent out yearly. We are now in a growth spurt of knowledge supplied by researchers and clinicians from around the world.

## [Please come to the NEW Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly Dinner at ATS for the Pioneer Awards plus Salsa dancing!](#)

For those of you who will be attending the ATS this year in San Francisco, we will be having the our first PRA dinner on Monday May 21st from 7-10 PM at the Marriott Hotel (near the Convention Center). Put it in your calendars. This will immediately follow the PRA Membership meeting. The cost of the dinner will be \$75 for members and \$35 for in-training member. We had hoped it would be cheaper, but San Francisco is very pricey. This dinner will combine social activities with some pulmonary rehab business activities. We will announce the first three recipients of the PRA Pioneer Awards at that time. The awardees will have been chosen by the Executive Committee, based on service and accomplishment in pulmonary rehabilitation. Please come to participate in this recognition of our peers. If that is not enough to entice you, we plan to have team-building Salsa lessons given by local talent, plus Latin music, and servings of mojitos right after the awards. Don't worry: nobody else can dance the Salsa either. The mojitos will help. So not being able to dance is not an excuse. This will be a lot of fun.

## [Please support the ATS Foundation](#)

The ATS Foundation, under the leadership of Jim Donahue, was created to foster lung research. One-hundred percent of all donations to the Foundation go toward research. We are pleased to announce that one of the Foundation grant recipients this year will be Anne Holland from our Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly. Please consider

*(Continued on page 3)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY CHAIR

supporting the Foundation. This can be done through making a donation via their website and/or attending the ATS Foundation dinner in San Francisco. As a small Assembly we need to make a big splash. We can do this by having a prominent showing at the dinner. The format of the dinner has changed – it will now be organized more like a reception, although tables will be available for those who want them. The cost for in-training people will be \$100 and for ATS members it will be \$250. We in pulmonary should muster up enough people and arrive early enough to commandeer a few empty unreserved tables. Please let Sue Lareau know ([Suzanne.Lareau@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Suzanne.Lareau@ucdenver.edu)) when you sign up so we will know how many from the PRA will be attending.

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Chris Garvey, FNP, MSN, Chair, Mike Morgan, MD, Chair-Elect

On behalf of the PR Assembly, I wish to thank **Chris Garvey** and **Mike Morgan**, Chair and Chair-Elect of the PRA Program Committee, for their great efforts at putting together an excellent program for the upcoming ATS International Conference. The following is a list of the programming:

## ATS 2012 - SAN FRANCISCO Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation

Session Code	Session Title	Session Time	
<b>Post Graduate Courses</b>			
<b>Friday, May 18, 2012</b>			
PG11	NEW SCIENCE IN THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT OF THE CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE PATIENT	8:00 AM	4:00 PM
<b>Saturday, May 19, 2012</b>			
PG24	CARDIOPULMONARY EXERCISE TESTING (CPET): AN EVIDENCE AND CASE BASED UPDATE 2012	8:00 AM	4:15 PM
<b>Scientific Symposium</b>			
<b>Tuesday, May 22, 2012</b>			
B8	THE UPDATED ATS/ERS STATEMENT ON PULMONARY REHABILITATION	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Wednesday, May 23, 2012</b>			
C9	PULMONARY REHABILITATION ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF ILLNESS FOR PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE	8:15 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Meet The Professor Seminars</b>			
<b>Monday, May 21, 2012</b>			
MP514	MAINTAINING QUALITY IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Tuesday, May 22, 2012</b>			
MP614	THE MANAGEMENT OF REFRACTORY DYSPNEA IN ADVANCED COPD	12:00 PM	1:00 PM
<b>Sunrise Seminar</b>			
<b>Tuesday, May 22, 2012</b>			
SS213	PULMONARY REHABILITATION FOR THE SURGICAL PATIENT	7:00 AM	8:00 AM
<b>Mini-Symposium</b>			
<b>Monday, May 21, 2012</b>			
B97	PULMONARY REHABILITATION: THE BEST OF THE BEST	2:00 PM	4:30 PM

# ATS 2012 - SAN FRANCISCO

## Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation

<a href="#">Session Code</a>	Session Title	Session Time	
<i>Poster Discussion Session</i>			
<b>Sunday, May20, 2012</b>			
A107	ASSESSMENT, EXERCISE TRAINING AND OUTCOMES	2:00 PM	4:30 PM
<i>Thematic Poster Sessions</i>			
<b>Tuesday, May 22, 2012</b>			
C65	PERIPHERAL MUSCLE DYSFUNCTION	8:15 AM	4:30 PM
C66	INTEGRATED CARE AND PULMONARY REHABILITATION	8:15 AM	4:30 PM

## PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE

**Brian Carlin, MD, Chair**

I would like to thank **Brian Carlin**, Chair of the Planning Committee, and his committee members for helping direct the course of the Assembly during these early years. The following is a summary of Planning Committee activities by Brian:

Over the past year the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Assembly has continued with extensive efforts in completing and initiating new projects. One project has been completed involving the integration of care for patients with COPD and is currently in press. Two projects are currently underway and one project was recently approved to start. Under the direction of Chris Garvey, Sally Singh, Martin Spruit and Dick ZuWallack, the updated ATS/ERS Pulmonary Rehabilitation Statement is nearing completion. This project encompasses the work of over 46 experts in the field and is slated for completion in the upcoming months. This will include an executive summary and a larger online statement. The executive summary will be submitted to the AJRCCM for consideration of publication. The Statement will be discussed as one of the sessions at this year's ATS meeting in San Francisco and at the September 2012 ERS meeting in Vienna. The second project, an update of the ATS/ERS Official Statement on Skeletal Muscle Dysfunction in COPD, chaired by Francois Maltais is underway. This project is slated for completion later this year.

The Assembly was fortunate to have one new project on Field Tests accepted for funding this year. Under the direction of Anne Holland, an update of the ATS 6-minute walk test statement will be undertaken and will include a panel who will review the literature on not only the six minute walk tests but other tests of field activity (e.g. shuttle walk, endurance shuttle walk) as well. This project is in its initial stages and is targeted for completion within the next twelve months. All of these projects involve experts in the field from both the American Thoracic Society and the European Respiratory Society. Each project should represent a significant addition to the literature and be of great value to many of the members of our field.

I am happy to announce that **Rebecca Crouch** has accepted the position of Planning Chair for our Assembly, beginning at the May 2012 International Conference.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Richard Casaburi, MD, PhD, Chair

The Nominating Committee of the PRA consists of Richard Casaburi (chair), Carly Rochester and Claudio Donner. The Nominating Committee has proposed the following slate of people who have agreed to stand for election as Assembly officers:

<b>Assembly Chair:</b>	Roger Goldstein and Chris Garvey
<b>Program Committee Chair:</b>	Brian Carlin and Carly Rochester
<b>Nominating Committee:</b>	Mike Morgan
	Francois Maltais
	Sue Lareau
	Jean Bourbeau

Voting will be online and results will be announced at the Membership Meeting on Monday night at the International Conference.

## PULMONARY REHABILITATION MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT UPDATE

Chris Garvey, FNP, MSN

Pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) payment under the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) system has recently faced a significant financial challenge. Effective 1/1/2012, CMS has dramatically reduced reimbursement for PR services delivered to COPD patients from approximately \$63 per unit to \$37 per unit for billing code G0424 [Pulmonary Rehabilitation, including exercise (includes monitoring), one hour, per session, up to two sessions per day]. Local coverage and reimbursement for non-COPD patients has not changed. ATS, American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC), American Association of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR), and the National Association for Medical Direction of Respiratory Care (NAMDRRC) are working aggressively to analyze and address this change. Extensive analysis has revealed that the reduction in reimbursement appears to be from inadequate detail and appropriateness of PR charges submitted by many hospitals on their Medicare claims for the billing code G0424. The code is used for billing PR for moderate to severe COPD (GOLD II – IV). ATS, AARC, AACVPR, ACCP, and NAMDRRC are developing resources and strategies for improving the accuracy of the charges that are reported to Medicare so that the charges accurately reflect the complexity and depth of PR services. A toolkit is near completion from representatives of the five pulmonary organizations to give PR programs detailed information regarding payment for pulmonary rehabilitation services under Medicare. This PR reimbursement toolkit offers PR providers:

1. The detail and resources to understand and calculate all elements in an appropriate charge for PR services integral to bundled code G0424, and
2. The guidance to accurately communicate these important aspects of PR to hospital financial personnel.

The ultimate goal is that the charges submitted for PR by hospitals on Medicare claims truly reflect all the important elements (services, supplies and equipment) that occur in PR and that this accuracy is subsequently reflected in appropriate reimbursement of PR services by CMS.

There are no easy or quick fixes to this payment issue. CMS will use Medicare claims data from 2011 to develop its proposed payment rate for 2013. Therefore, it is likely that the PR community will not see a substantive adjustment to payment rates as a result of this nationwide educational effort until 2014 payment rates are announced in July, 2013. However, it is imperative that hospitals act as swiftly as possible to review and adjust their charges for G0424 so that claims data submitted to Medicare, which includes a specific column for identification of hospital charges on Medicare claims submissions (form UB-04), is accurate. Without such an adjustment to charges, the payment rate will remain a major concern.

## Patients to Speak At Seventeen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at seventeen symposia at the 2012 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposium (Session B90) for the last nine years as well as at an increasing number of sessions at ATS International Conferences from 2004 to 2011. This is the ninth 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, 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:

ASSEMBLY	CODE	SESSION TITLE	TALK DATE/TIME
AII, RCMB	A85	THE IL33/ST2 AXIS: NEW BIOLOGY AND NEW POTENTIAL TARGETS IN ASTHMA	Sunday 5/20 2:00-4:30 pm
RCMB, AII, PEDS,	A86	NEONATAL ORIGINS OF ADULT PULMONARY DISEASE	Sun 5/20 2:00-4:30 pm
PC, AII, CC	A88	MICROPARTICLES: SMALL WONDERS OR A BIG DEAL IN ACUTE LUNG INJURY AND PULMONARY HYPERTENSION?	Sun 5/20 2:00-4:30 pm
EOH, AII, CP	B5	'IDIOPATHIC' INTERSTITIAL PNEUMONIAS/PULMONARY FIBROSIS: IS 'IDIOPATHIC' TRULY 'IDIOPATHIC'?	Mon 5/21 8:15-10:45 am
MTPI, CP, PEDS	B10	NON-TUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIA UPDATE: GUIDELINES PLUS 5	Mon 5/21 8:15-10:45 am
CP, EOH	B82	THE MANY FACES OF BRONCHIOLITIS OBLITERANS: NEW INSIGHTS FROM OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE TO HUMAN TRANSPLANTATION	Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm
NUR, BSA, CP	B87	DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS WITH PATIENTS	Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm
EOH, AII, BSA	B88	WORK-EXACERBATED ASTHMA: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CLINICAL APPROACH, EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND PREVENTION	Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm
SRN, RSF	C8	NO PAIN NO GAIN; WILL UPPER-AIRWAY EXERCISE TRAINING/ELECTRICAL STIMULATION WORK FOR SLEEP APNEA?	Tue 5/22 8:15-10:45 am
PR, BSA, NUR	C9	PULMONARY REHABILITATION ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF ILLNESS FOR PATIENTS WITH COPD	Tue 5/22 8:15-10:45 am
BSA, CP	C10	IMPLEMENTING LUNG CANCER SCREENING: MOVING FROM RCTS TO THE REAL WORLD	Tue 5/22 8:15-10:45 am
CP, BSA, NUR	C82	PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY MANIFESTATIONS OF HYPERINFLATION IN COPD: PATHOGENESIS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR TREATMENT	Tue 5/22 2:00-4:30 pm
RCMB, AII	C88	LUNG CANCER STEM CELLS AND THE ROLE OF THE MICROENVIRONMENT IN LUNG CARCINOGENESIS	Tue 5/22 2:00-4:30 pm
PEDS, AII, CP	D9	CONTROVERSIES IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF SICKLE CELL LUNG DISEASE	Wed 5/23 8:15-10:45 am
AII, CP, EOH	D85	HYPERSENSITIVITY PNEUMONITIS: RECENT ADVANCES, FUTURE DIRECTIONS	Wed 5/23 2:00-4:30 pm
PC, BSA, PR	D86	IMPACT OF EXERCISE ON CARDIOPULMONARY STATUS: IMPLICATIONS FOR PULMONARY HYPERTENSION	Wed 5/23 2:00-4:30 pm
PAR, CP, MTPI	B90	(PAR SYMPOSIUM) GOING FOR THE CURE: THE MYCOBACTERIA CASE	Mon 5/21 2:00-4:30 pm

# ATS PAR Symposium

During ATS 2012, the Society's Public Advisory Roundtable will once again bring together clinicians, researchers and patients at its annual symposium on Monday, May 21, from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

This year, the program will focus on nontuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) diseases. A host of experts will discuss various research agendas, all of which are designed to identify a cure to control and reduce the burden of these environmental disorders.

"Faculty members will first talk more generally about what is needed for a disease or condition to progress toward a cure or control using mycobacterial diseases as an example," said Teresa Barnes, chair of ATS PAR and vice president of patient outreach and advocacy at the Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis, who will co-chair the symposium with ATS Immediate-Past President Dean E. Schraufnagel, MD. "Then, presenters will highlight the areas of research that are most likely to produce breakthroughs in environmental mycobacterial diseases and focus on research and its application to these disorders."

The event will begin with Ms. Barnes giving out ATS PAR's 2012 awards, which honor individuals who are committed to advancing research and clinical care in the fields of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. Next, Dr. Schraufnagel will introduce a patient speaker who will talk about NTM disease from the patient and family perspectives. Other faculty members will then focus on the importance of removing bacteria from the environment, the role of molecular methods in diagnosis and testing effective treatments.

For more information about this symposium, please visit <http://conference.thoracic.org> and search for session B90.

## Breathing Better with the ATS

*The American Thoracic Society Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to invite you to our sixth annual FREE patient forum "Breathing Better with the ATS."*

**SATURDAY MAY 19, 2012  
FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.  
San Francisco Marriott Marquis  
55 Fourth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(Room Golden Gate A, Golden Gate Level B2)**

The event will be held in conjunction with the ATS International Conference. You'll have an opportunity to hear from experts in the pulmonary community and network with them afterwards. This year's discussions will focus on quality of life and the panel includes:

Paul Wolters, MD • Jeffrey Swigris, DO • Jeffrey Golden, MD  
Molly Bourne, MD • Sally McLaughlin, RN, MSN

PLEASE RSVP BY EMAIL TO [cwhite@thoracic.org](mailto:cwhite@thoracic.org)  
**NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2012**

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

## Submit an Assembly/Committee Project Application for funding in FY2013!

We are happy to announce that ATS will once again accept NEW Assembly/Committee Projects for FY2013. 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).

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 Rebecca H. Crouch, DPT, MS, PT at [crouc003@mc.duke.edu](mailto:crouc003@mc.duke.edu).

Please contact Miriam Rodriguez with any questions at tel: 212/315-8639 or email: [mrodriguez@thoracic.org](mailto: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 18 from 12:30-4:00 PM; lunch will be served

Where: The San Francisco Marriott

**Attendance at this event is required for Chairs of writing committees which have received ATS support for their New or Renewal project in 2012.**

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](mailto:jwisk@thoracic.org)

### *Assembly on Pulmonary Rehabilitation Membership Meeting*

**MONDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>**

**5:00PM-7:00PM**

**SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL**

**YERBA BUEN SALONS 13-15**

**LOWER B2 LEVEL**



*Assembly On  
Pulmonary Rehabilitation  
Dinner*

*MONDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>*

*7:00PM-10:00PM*

*SAN FRANCISCO MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL*

*YERBA BUEN SALONS 10-12*

*LOWER B2 LEVEL*

*Help Select Future ATS Leaders: Submit Your Nominations*

The Society's Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for candidates to be elected ATS Secretary-Treasurer for 2013-2014. The successful candidate will advance through the leadership offices and serve as ATS President in 2016-2017.

The position of Secretary-Treasurer is critical for the ATS, as this individual spends three years learning about the Society's structure and leadership. They will then serve as President in the fourth year; and finally serve as immediate past in the final year as an officer.

When making a nomination, it is recommended that you consider an individual's organizational ability, leadership skills, reputation in the field, willingness to devote time to the ATS, contributions to the work of the Society's and diplomacy.

The Nominating Committee has improved the process for submitting nominations; please visit <http://www.thoracic.org/go/secretary-treasurer> to learn more about this position and to nominate a colleague or to submit a self nomination.

**Letters of Interest are due by July 31, 2012.**

**About the other ATS Journals**

*American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (AJRCCM)* continues its new initiatives, including faster review turnaround times, concise clinical reviews, an images section, the fellows recommended reading series, the redesigned cover, as well as podcast interviews and discussions.

*American Journal of Respiratory Cell and Molecular Biology (AJRCMB)*, now an online-only journal, has dramatically reduced its publag and offers free color art to members, as well as reduced rates to non-members. As a new initiative, AJRCMB will highlight in each issue one or more stellar papers written by a junior investigator.

**The American Thoracic Society is relaunching *Proceedings of the American Thoracic Society (PATS)* beginning in 2013 as a bi-monthly, online, clinician-oriented journal.**

The ATS is pleased to announce that John Hansen-Flaschen, MD, is the new Editor-in-Chief of PATS. Dr. Hansen-Flaschen is Professor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Chief of the Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Division, and Medical Director of the Penn Lung Center.

He envisions the new PATS as “a lively scholarly journal that is fully invested in ATS values of scientific inquiry and integrity and is complementary – but not qualitatively inferior – to the two ATS established journals.” The new PATS will target clinicians with current and concise reviews, original research, commentaries, education materials, and editorials. The spectrum of content will include pulmonary, critical care, sleep medicine, pediatrics, and evidence-based nursing. PATS will retain its special issues: Aspen, Transatlantic, and the Clinical Year in Review.

Please stop by the Clinician’s Center at the ATS Conference on Tuesday, May 22, from noon to 2 pm, to meet Dr. Hansen-Flaschen.

***Please join us for the Fourth Annual ATS Foundation Research Benefit on Saturday, May 19, 7:00 pm, at the Marriott Marquis San Francisco.***

In response to past attendees’ requests for maximum time to socialize at the benefit, the Foundation has redesigned the format to be as interactive and fun as possible. Attendees will have the opportunity to mingle freely and network with colleagues while sampling a wide array of San Francisco’s delicious cuisines at food stations. There will be dancing to the sounds of a San Francisco DJ.

In addition to the talented early career investigators who will be honored, the benefit will pay tribute to Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD, Chief Medical Service, University of California at San Francisco. Dr. King will be the recipient of the 2012 Breathing for Life Award, 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/thor052/foundation>. For more information, please visit: <http://foundation.thoracic.org>, or contact Lydia Neumann: [Lneumann@thoracic.org](mailto:Lneumann@thoracic.org).