

Spring 2006



# RNS Assembly Newsletter

Edited by M. Safwan Badr, MD, Assembly Chairman

## Message from the Assembly Chair

**M. Safwan Badr, MD, Associate Chairman, Department of Internal Medicine, Professor and Chief, Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine**

Dear Colleagues,  
I am pleased to have this opportunity to update you on the activities of our Assembly. We have had a very active year filled with new events. We are looking forward to the Society's International Conference in San Diego. If you have not registered yet for the Conference, it's still not too late to do so. We promise you a very exciting program.

The RNS Program Committee, chaired by Atul Malhotra has assembled an exciting array of scientific sessions. There will be 3 major symposia programmed by RNS including one entitled "Sleep apnea pathogenesis: the various pieces", one called

"Unraveling Sleep mechanisms using Rodent Models" and one entitled "Sleep, Breathing and Metabolic Function". In addition, we have a number of major symposia which we have co-sponsored with other assemblies including one related to Pediatric Sleep Apnea, one related to Obesity in Clinical Practice and one regarding the Genetics of Respiratory Disease. We will also have presentations of scientific abstracts in thematic poster sessions, poster discussion sessions, and mini-symposia. Finally, there will be a number of noon time workshops, meet the professor sessions, sunrise sessions, evening post graduate sessions and post graduate courses. We believe

that in total, this year will be our best for researchers and clinicians interested in Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep.

The annual assembly meeting will be held on Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. I encourage you to attend the meeting and take part in the election of new officers, receive updates from the ATS leadership and attend the announcement of the young investigator award as well the Trainee Travel Awards. This meeting is your forum to bring any other issues you wish to discuss with the whole assembly.

Look forward to seeing you in San Diego.

## Message from the Program Chair

**Atul Malhotra, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School**

It has been my honor to serve as the program chair (2005-2006) and chair elect (2004-2005) for the RNS assembly over the past few years. I have received a lot of help from those around me, including all of the members of the Program Committee, roughly 50% of which includes international members. Through the help of our international colleagues, we have continued to solicit

abstracts from around the world yielding a substantial increase in number of abstracts from prior years. The quality of our abstracts remains excellent.

We have put together an excellent line up of speakers covering a range of topics from the most basic neurobiology to important clinical observations and human physiology. In addition, we have included a

number of RNS speakers in sessions that were programmed by other assemblies. For example, the Clinical Problems assembly has scheduled a session on the Clinical Management of Obesity which should definitely interest our members. In addition, the RCMB has scheduled a session on the genetics of respiratory disease, which will include

(Continued on page 2)

### Officers of the RNS Assembly

**Assembly Chairman**  
2005-2007: Safwan M. Badr  
sbadr@med.wayne.edu

**Planning Chairman**  
2005-2007: Estelle B. Gauda  
egauda@jhmi.edu

**Program Chairman**  
2005-2006: Atul Malhotra  
amalhotra@partners.org

**Program Chair-elect**  
2005-2006: Richard J. Schwab  
rschwab@mail.med.upenn.edu

**Nominating Chairman**  
2005-2006: Patrick J. Strollo  
strollopj@upmc.edu

**Web Directors**  
2005-2006: James A. Rowley  
jrowley@med.wayne.edu

2005-2006: Evelyn H. Schlenker  
eschlenk@usd.edu

### Inside this issue:

Assembly Dinner at ATS 2006	2
In Memoriam	2
ATS 2006—San Diego Sessions Assembly on Respiratory Neurobiol- ogy and Sleep	2-4
Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2007!	4
PAR	5-6
Documents Forum	6
RNS Assembly Mem- bership Meeting	6

## Message from the Program Chair Cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

topics and speakers of direct interest to RNS members. As well, we will have our usual line-up of major symposia, mini-symposia, poster discussion sessions, thematic poster sessions, industry-sponsored evening seminars, and post-graduate courses, covering the full range of clinical and research topics. Thus, we anticipate something for everyone at this upcoming international conference in San Diego.

Finally, I am leaving this committee in the capable hands of Richard Schwab, MD (rschwab@mail.med.upenn.edu), who will be taking over for me as Program Chair at the May 2006 meeting. Please let us know if you have ideas for future symposia or ways to improve the ATS sessions. This year, we have succeeded in obtaining funding for a number of awards to be provided to the best abstracts, travel awards (including

some designated for minorities and those under-represented), the Young Investigator Award and other prizes for young investigators. Thus, I encourage you all to attend the ATS 2006 meeting, so we can all learn from one another and help to support the new generation of clinicians and investigators.

## RNS Assembly Dinner at ATS 2006

In conjunction with the 2006 ATS International Conference in San Diego, CA, you are invited to attend the Annual Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep (RNS) Assembly Dinner. The event will be held Monday, May 22nd at 6:30 pm, immediately following the annual RNS Assembly Membership Meeting.

The dinner will be held at the Manchester Ballroom B (Level 2) at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel located at One Market Place. The hotel is within easy walking distance of the San Diego Convention Center.

The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:30 pm followed by a buffet dinner and a presentation by Sean Drummond, Ph.D from University of California, San Diego who has graciously agreed to be our guest speaker and will talk about functional brain imaging and sleep. The title of his presentation will be

"Functional MRI investigations of cognitive performance in experimental sleep deprivation and obstructive sleep apnea: similarities and differences"

The total cost for the evening's activities is only \$35 per person. This includes appetizers, wine and non-alcoholic beverages, dinner and all taxes and gratuities. The ticket price has been substantially subsidized through the generosity of Respiroics, Inc. and the Sleep Research Association. Please reserve your ticket by sending a Registration Form to the ATS office. Tickets are limited and reservations will be accepted only as long as tickets are available. You can download the registration for at <http://www.thoracic.org/sections/about-ats/assemblies/rns/news/pages/assembly-dinner-at-ats-2006.html>.

We expect the dinner to attract a lively mix of basic scientists and clinical spe-

cialists. This will be an excellent opportunity for trainees - both fellows and graduate students - to get acquainted with Assembly members in an informal setting. We hope that you will join us for this delightful evening and look forward to seeing you there.

The dinner will follow the RNS Assembly General Membership meeting held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel, Randle Ballroom B (Fourth Level), on Monday, May 22nd from 4:30-6:30pm. The Assembly meeting is an excellent opportunity to network and get an update on assembly activities and meet the young recipients of ATS-RNS sponsored travel awards. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and the dinner.

Sincerely,  
David Gozal, MD  
Organizer, RNS Dinner

## In Memoriam

James B. Skatrud, MD, professor of Medicine, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin died on Sunday February 26, 2006 from lung cancer. Dr.

Skatrud was a distinguished scientist, a fine physician, and an outstanding teacher. Above all, he was a wonderful human and a great friend. Jim made

immense contributions to the science of respiratory physiology and to fields of pulmonary and sleep medicine. Jim will be missed but never forgotten.

## ATS 2006 – San Diego Sessions Assembly On Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep

Postgraduate Course			
Saturday, May 20			
PG21	Management Of Commonly Encountered Sleep Disorders: Controversies And Consensus	8:00 am	4:00 pm

## ATS 2006 – San Diego Sessions

### Assembly On Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep Cont'd

#### Scientific Symposia

##### Sunday, May 21

A5	Sleep Apnea Pathogenesis: The Various Pieces	8:15 am	11:00 am
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##### Tuesday, May 23

C9	Unraveling OSA Pathophysiology Using Rodent Models	8:15 am	11:00 am
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##### Wednesday, May 24

D76	Sleep, Breathing And Metabolic Function	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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#### Evening Postgraduate Seminar

##### Tuesday, May 23

E15	Insomnia In The Cardiopulmonary Patient	7:00 pm	9:00 pm
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#### Clinical Workshop

##### Sunday, May 21

WS2	New Perspectives On Dyspnea Mechanisms And Management: Discussion Of 2005 International Symposium	12:00 pm	1:30 pm
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#### Meet The Professor Seminars

##### Sunday, May 21

MP419	Controversies In Sleep Apnea	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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##### Monday, May 22

MP518	Driving And Obstructive Sleep Apnea	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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##### Tuesday, May 23

MP619	Cardiovascular Morbidity In Osa, Is It Real?	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
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#### Sunrise Seminars

##### Monday, May 22

SS119	Lung Volume In Sleep Apnea: Are There Clinical Implications?	7:00 am	8:00 am
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##### Tuesday, May 23

SS219	Consequences Of Sleep Disordered Breathing In Patients With Congestive Heart Failure	7:00 am	8:00 am
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##### Wednesday, May 24

SS318	Screening For Obstructive Sleep Apnea In High Risk Populations	7:00 am	8:00 am
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#### Mini Symposia

##### Sunday, May 21

A87	Sleep Disordered Breathing: Role Of Intermittent Hypoxia	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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##### Tuesday, May 23

C88	The Link Between Sleep And Metabolic Disorders	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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C89	The Role Of Pharyngeal Mechanics In Apnea Pathogenesis In Adults And Children	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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##### Wednesday, May 24

D18	Cardiac Biomarkers And Sleep Apnea	8:15 am	11:00 am
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## ATS 2006 – San Diego Sessions

### Assembly On Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep Cont'd

<b>Poster Discussion Sessions</b>			
<b><u>Monday, May 22</u></b>			
B28	Mechanisms Underlying Obstructive And Central Apnea	8:15 am	11:00 am
B99	Sleep And The Heart: From Biomarkers To Outcomes	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
<b><u>Tuesday, May 23</u></b>			
C28	Evaluation Of Sleep And Breathing: Diagnostic Considerations	8:15 am	11:00 am
<b><u>Wednesday, May 24</u></b>			
D98	Improving The Management Of Sleep Apnea	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
<b>Thematic Poster Sessions</b>			
<b><u>Sunday, May 21</u></b>			
A137	Advances In Control Of Ventilation And Metabolism: Bench To Bedside	8:15 am	4:15 pm
<b><u>Monday, May 22</u></b>			
B127	Sleep Issues In Clinical Practice In Adults And Children	8:15 am	4:15 pm
<b><u>Tuesday, May 23</u></b>			
C145	Sleep In Special Populations: Clinical And Epidemiological Considerations	8:15 am	4:15 pm

## Please Consider Submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2007

For your information, the FY2007 (January 1-December 31, 2007) project application forms for Assembly/Committee projects will be available on the ATS website in April 2006 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 Estelle B. Gauda at [egauda@jhmi.edu](mailto:egauda@jhmi.edu)

The timeline for the application and review process follows:

April 2006: FY2007 forms are available

July 25, 2006: Assembly/Committee project applications are due to the ATS office. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Early-mid August 2006: 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 1-18, 2006: 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 6, 2006: 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 2006: Program Review Sub-Committee (PRS) meeting

Early November 2006: 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 FY2007 budget as new items.

December 2006: ATS Board reviews FY 2007 Budget.

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

## Patients to Speak at Sixteen Designated ATS International Conference Symposia

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

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at sixteen of the 2006 ATS International Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia for the last four years and at over 25 ATS symposia at the

2004 and 2005 International Conferences.

This is the third 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, fam-

ily, 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 CODE	TITLE	DATE/TIME
All	B7	Genotypic and Phenotypic Predictors of Response to Asthma Therapy: What do NHLBI Clinical Research Studies Tell Us?	Monday, May 22 8:15-11:00 am
BS	A7	Respiratory Lung Health and the Family: The Influence of Family on Adherence, Disease Management, and Health Outcomes	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
BS	D9	Community Involvement in Pulmonary and Critical Care Research: What, Why and How?	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
CP	A2	Novel Outcomes for Novel Therapies in COPD	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
CP	D2	Update in the Diagnosis and Management of Pulmonary Vasculitis	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
CC	B74	Genetic Influences on the Susceptibility To and Outcome of Critical Illness	Monday, May 22 1:30-4:15 pm
CC	C7	Clinical Studies in the Pediatric ICU: Update From the Pediatric Acute Lung Injury and Sepsis Investigator's (PALISI) Network	Tuesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
MTPI	C6	Diagnosis and Management of Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections – The New ATS Guidelines	Tuesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
NRSG	A8	Critical Care of the Geriatric Patient	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
NRSG	B6	Biobehavioral Considerations in Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation	Monday, May 22 8:15-11:00 am
PED	A9	Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia: Not Just the Other Inherited Lung Disease	Sunday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
PC	D75	Taking the Next Step, Improving Outcomes in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension	Wednesday, May 24 1:30-4:15 pm
RCMB	B77	Evolving Concepts of Stem Cells and Lung Repair	Monday, May 22 1:30-4:15 pm
RCMB	D7	New Developments in the Genetics of Respiratory Disorders	Wednesday, May 24 8:15-11:00 am
RNS	D76	Sleep, Breathing and Metabolic Function	Wednesday, May 24 1:30-4:15 pm
RSF	A79	Impact of Smoking on Lung Function: Therapeutic Implications and Biological Mechanisms	Sunday, May 21 1:30-4:15 pm

## ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) Symposium and Poster Session

### ATS PAR Symposium

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the fifth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Diego on Monday, May 22nd from 8:15-11:00 a.m. The topic will be

"COPD and Co-morbidities: Treating the Whole Patient" chaired by Sharon I. S. Rounds, M.D and John W. Walsh. The program includes the following:

- COPD As A Systemic Condition - S. I. S. Rounds, M.D., Providence, RI

- Panel: Experience of Patients With COPD And Co-Morbidities - J. W. Walsh, Miami, FL

(Continued on page 6)

## ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) Symposium and Poster Session Cont'd

(Continued from page 5)

- COPD and Cardiovascular Disease - D. D. Sin, M.D., Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Obesity, Wasting and BODE Index - B. R. Celli, M.D., Boston, MA
- Skeletal Muscle Function in COPD - P. D. Wagner, M.D., La Jolla, CA
- COPD and Endocrine Issues: Diabetes - E. N. Schachter, M.D., New York, NY

- Depression and Anxiety In COPD Patients - J.R. Curtis, M.D., M.P.H., Seattle, WA
- Session Summary - S. I. Rennard, M.D., Omaha, NE

### ATS PAR Poster Session

The ATS PAR Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 21 until Wednesday, May 24, 2006 at the Center Terrace of the San Diego Conven-

tion 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.

## Documents Forum at 2006 International Conference

On Sunday, May 21 from 7-9 PM, the Documents Editor, Holger Schunemann, MD and Documents Staff Judy Corn will lead a forum on Official Documents: what they are, how they're developed, and how they're peer reviewed, approved and disseminated. New Board-approved policy guidelines for document development and their impact on the Society will also be addressed. All Assembly leadership, current writing committee members, as well as individuals interested in serving on writing committees in the future are urged to attend this informative session. Participants will receive a packet of highly cited ATS documents and procedural guidelines.

ATS Documents Forum  
Sunday, May 21, from 7-9 PM  
Randle Ballroom A/B  
Manchester Grand Hyatt

## Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep Assembly Membership Meeting

**MONDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> 4:30-6:30 PM**  
**MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT**  
**RANDLE B (LEVEL 4)**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED**