



# Respiratory Neurobiology & Sleep Assembly Newsletter

*Edited by M. Safwan Badr, MD, Assembly Chair*



## MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY ON RNS

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 and exciting developments. We are looking forward to the society's International Conference in San Francisco. 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 Richard Schwab has assembled an exciting array of scientific sessions. We will also have presentations of scientific abstract 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 a great year for researchers

and clinicians interested in Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep.

Nurturing and promoting new talent is essential to the viability and growth of science. The RNS assembly recognizes the contributions of our trainees and young colleagues. Therefore, the assembly provides travel awards to a number of trainees from North America as well as international trainees, who have submitted outstanding abstracts to the scientific meeting. In addition, the RNS assembly initiated a Young Investigator Award mechanism in 2005 to recognize investigators who hold junior faculty appointments and are making original high quality, and independent contributions to the field. The vision was for an endowed, named award to be granted in perpetuity, has been realized this year. I am pleased to announce the establishment of the James B. Skatrud young Investigator

Award. The first award will be given at the RNS assembly dinner during the international conference. I am grateful to the Sleep and Breathing Foundation and to the RNS assembly members for the generous donations that have made this award possible.

The annual assembly meeting and the RNS assembly dinner will be held on Monday May 21st. I encourage you to attend the meeting and take part in the election of new officers, and receive updates from the ATS leadership. 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 Francisco.

**Spring 2007**

### OFFICERS OF THE RNS ASSEMBLY

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

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

Program Chairman  
2006-2007: Richard J. Schwab  
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Program Chair-elect  
2006-2007: Geraldo Lorenzi-Filho  
geraldlo.lorenzi@incor.usp.br

Nominating Chairman  
2006-2007: Richard B. Berry  
sleep\_doc@msn.com

Web Directors  
2006-2007: James A. Rowley  
jrowley@med.wayne.edu

Evelyn H. Schlenker  
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## Message From the Program Chair

Richard Schwab, MD

It has been my honor to serve as the program chair (2007) and chair elect (2006) for the RNS assembly the last two years. I have received a great deal of help from many of the RNS assembly, 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 outstanding.

There is a wide range of excellent sleep topics on the program at this year's ATS meeting in San Francisco. We have put together an outstanding lineup of speakers covering a range of topics from basic neurobiology, to important clinical updates and patient oriented research. For

the first time we have two post-graduate sleep courses. We have included a number of RNS speakers in sessions that were programmed by other assemblies. In addition to our three primary sleep symposia (vascular homeostasis, upper airway imaging, multi-center international clinical trials in sleep apnea) we have symposia programmed through Pediatrics (pathophysiology of OSA) and Critical Care (sleep and mechanical ventilation). We were also able to program 4 hybrid symposia which have at least one sleep talk. The featured speakers for the mini-symposia are outstanding as are the program chairman for the poster discussion sessions. Many of you volunteered to be facilitators for the thematic poster sessions. Thus, we anticipate something for everyone at this upcoming international conference in San Francisco.

Finally, I am leaving this committee in the capable hands of Geraldo Lorenzi Filho, M.D. ([geraldlorenzi@incor.usp.br](mailto:geraldlorenzi@incor.usp.br)), who will be taking over for me as Program Chair at the May 2007 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 the minorities and those under-represented), the Young Investigator Award and other prizes for young investigators. Thus, I encourage you all to attend the ATS 2007 meeting, so we can all learn from one another and help to support the new generation of clinicians and investigators. See you in San Francisco!!

## Message from the Website Directors

Evelyn Schlenker, MD and James A. Rowley, MD

The major initiative related to the website this year was the introduction of the monthly Sleep Fragment Quiz. This feature has been designed to test knowledge of sleep study tracings and members' expertise in sleep medicine. The interactive feature includes a sleep study fragment with question(s) followed by an annotated fragment and answer(s). Fragments may illustrate abnormal events or artifacts. Even-

tually, we also hope to include hypnograms and sleep logs. Members of the assembly planning committee are contributing fragments each month. If you have an interesting fragment that should be posted, please contact James A. Rowley, MD for more information.

In addition, Drs. Schlenker and Rowley have continued the Journal Watch, a three times per year fea-

ture in which both basic science and clinically relevant articles from journals infrequently read by the assembly membership are reviewed.



## Please Consider Submitting an Assembly/Committee Project Application for Funding in FY2008

For your information, the FY2008 (January 1-December 31, 2008) project application forms for Assembly/Committee projects will be available on the ATS website ([www.thoracic.org](http://www.thoracic.org)) on May 1, 2007. There will be a link to the project submission forms on the ATS homepage.

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 Richard Schwab at [rschwab@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:rschwab@mail.med.upenn.edu).

The timeline for the application and review process follows:

- ◆ May 2007: FY2008 forms are available
- ◆ July 23, 2007: Assembly/Committee project applications are due to the ATS office. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- ◆ Early-mid August 2007: 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 1-17, 2007: 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 4, 2007: Revised proposals and all reviews from As-

semblies 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 2007: Program Review Sub-Committee (PRS) meeting.
- ◆ Early November 2007: 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 2007: ATS Board reviews FY 2008 Budget

Please contact Monica Simeonova with any questions at tel: 212/315-8696 or email: [msimeonova@thoracic.org](mailto:msimeonova@thoracic.org).

## ATS 2007 — SAN DIEGO

### Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep

#### Postgraduate Courses

##### Friday, May 18

PG11	Non-Pulmonary Sleep Medicine For The Pulmonary Physician	8:00 am	4:30 pm
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# ATS 2007 — SAN DIEGO

## Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep

Scientific Symposia			
<b><u>Sunday, May 20</u></b>			
A9	Vascular Homeostasis In Obstructive Sleep Apnea	8:15 am	11:00 am
<b><u>Monday, May 21</u></b>			
B85	Multicenter Trials In Sleep And Sleep-Disordered Breathing Around The World	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
B86	Controversies In Pulmonary And Critical Care Medicine	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
<b><u>Tuesday, May 22</u></b>			
C5	What's New In Upper Airway Imaging For Sleep Apnea?	8:15 am	11:00 am
Meet The Professor Seminars			
<b><u>Sunday, May 20</u></b>			
MP419	Controversies In The Management Of Patients With Sleep Disordered Breathing	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
<b><u>Monday, May 21</u></b>			
MP519	International Perspectives On The Diagnosis And Management Of Sleep Apnea	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
<b><u>Tuesday, May 22</u></b>			
MP618	Indications For Ambulatory Sleep Studies	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
Sunrise Seminars			
<b><u>Monday, May 21</u></b>			
SS118	18 Wheels And 40 Winks: What You Should Know About Sleep Apnea In The Commercial Driver	7:00 am	8:00 am
<b><u>Tuesday, May 22</u></b>			
SS219	Sleep, Fatigue And Medical Education	7:00 am	8:00 am
<b><u>Wednesday, May 23</u></b>			
SS319	Sleep Apnea And Cardiovascular Disease: What The Clinician Should Know	7:00 am	8:00 am
Mini-Symposia			
<b><u>Monday, May 21</u></b>			
B12	Cardiovascular Disease, Sleep Apnea And Atherosclerosis	8:15 am	11:00 am
<b><u>Tuesday, May 22</u></b>			
C91	Upper Airway Biomechanics And Function	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
C92	Effects Of Intermittent Hypoxia On The Cardiovascular System	1:30 pm	4:15 pm



## ATS 2007 — SAN DIEGO

### Sessions Sponsored by the Assembly on Respiratory Neurobiology and Sleep

#### Mini-Symposia

##### Wednesday, May 23

D12	Genetics Of Sleep Disordered Breathing	8:15 am	11:00 am
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#### Poster Discussions

##### Sunday, May 20

A27	Obesity, Weight Loss And Metabolic Function In Obstructive Sleep Apnea	8:15 am	11:00 am
A106	Pathophysiology Of Obstructive Sleep Apnea In Adults And Children: Are These Different Paradigms?	1:30 pm	4:15 pm

##### Tuesday, May 22

C24	Congestive Heart Failure, Central Sleep Apnea And Cheyne-Stokes Respiration In Patients With Sleep Disordered Breathing	8:15 am	11:00 am
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##### Wednesday, May 23

D108	Effect Of Age, Gender And Ethnicity On Upper Airway Function And Sleep Disordered Breathing	1:30 pm	4:15 pm
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#### Thematic Posters

##### Sunday, May 20

A30	Sleep Deprivation, Rls, Motor Vehicle Accidents And The Icu	8:15 am	4:15 pm
A31	Control Of Ventilation: Human And Animal Models	8:15 am	4:15 pm

##### Monday, May 21

B35	Metabolic And Cardiovascular Function In Obstructive Sleep Apnea	8:15 am	4:15 pm
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##### Tuesday, May 22

C56	Diagnosis And Clinical Consequences Of Sleep Disordered Breathing	8:15 am	4:15 pm
C57	Management Of Sleep Disordered Breathing	8:15 am	4:15 pm

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

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (ATS PAR) has selected patients to provide a patient perspective at eleven of the 2007 ATS Interna-

tional Conference Symposia. This concept has worked exceptionally well within the format of the PAR Symposia for the last five years and

at an increasing number of sessions at the 2004, 2005 and 2006 International Conferences.

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

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This is the fourth year that patient speakers will participate within the Assemblies' Symposia. The patients will make a five-minute presentation at the symposia to offer insight into their personal journeys; to address their diagnosis, treatment, and how

the disease has dramatically altered their lifestyles, family, career and relationships. They will share their insight into what patients would like physicians and researchers to know about physician/patient relationships; and the importance and rele-

vance 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
NRSG	A7	Controversies in Pulmonary Rehabilitation	Sunday, May 20 8:15-11:00 am
PED	A85	State of the Art Update: Prevention and Management of Neonatal Chronic Lung Disease (Parent's Perspective on BPD)	Sunday, May 20 1:30-4:15 pm
MTPI	A86	New Tools and New Challenges: Interferon Gamma Release Assays in the Diagnosis of TB Infection and Disease	Sunday, May 20 8:15-11:00 am
AI	A87	Improving Outcomes after Human Lung Transplantation: Insights Gained Through Translational Proteomics, Genetics and Genomics Studies	Sunday, May 20 1:30-4:15 pm
EOH	A88	The Upper Airway and the Environment	Sunday, May 20 1:30-4:15 pm
RNS	A9	Vascular Homeostasis in Obstructive Sleep Apnea	Sunday, May 20 8:15-11:00 am
AI	B8	Challenging the Current Paradigm for Treating Asthma	Monday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
PED	B9	Pathophysiology of OSAS in Children: New Questions, New Answers	Monday, May 21 8:15-11:00 am
CC	D4	Update on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Severe Sepsis	Wednesday, May 23 8:15-11:00 am
PED	D90	Current and Emerging Treatments For Cystic Fibrosis	Wednesday, May 23 1:30-4:15 pm
PC	PG9	Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis and Treatment: State of the Art 2007	Friday, May 18 8:00-4:00 pm

## ATS PAR Symposium

The ATS Public Advisory Roundtable (PAR) is pleased to announce the sixth ATS PAR Symposium to be presented at the ATS International Conference in San Francisco

on Tuesday, May 22nd from 8:15-11:00 a.m. The topic will be "Pulmonary Hypertension—Basic, Translational and Clinical" chaired by Peter D. Wagner, M.D. and Ju-

dith Simpson, RN, EdS. The program includes the following:

- Classification of Pulmonary Arte-

(Continued on page 7)



## ATS PAR Symposium

*(Continued from page 6)*

- rial Hypertension – D. B. Badesch, M.D., Denver, CO
  - Genetics of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension – C. G. Elliott, MD, Salt Lake City, UT
  - Pathogenesis of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension – L. Rubin, M.D., San Diego, CA
  - Fueled By Hope: Living with Pulmonary Hypertension – C. S. Tillman Dick Baltimore, MD
  - Current Therapies: Prostanoids, Endothelin Receptor Antagonist and Phosphodiesterase Inhibitors – R.J. Barst, MD, New York, NY
  - Stem Cell Therapy – D.J. Stewart, M.D., Toronto, Canada
  - Future Therapies: Antiproliferatives and Others – J.H. Newman, M.D., Nashville, TN
  - Our Meghan's Fight to Breathe – C. Hicks, Gig Harbor, WA
- The ATS PAR Annual Poster Session will be open from Sunday, May 20 until Tuesday, May 22, 2007 in

the Exhibit Hall of the San Francisco Moscone 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.

### ATS Public Advisory Roundtable's First Annual *Breathing Better with the ATS Forum*

May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
PARC 55 Hotel located at 55 Cyril Magnin St., San Francisco  
RSVP by: March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 by emailing [par@thoracic.org](mailto:par@thoracic.org) or call  
Karen Belgiovine at (212) 315-8640

If you have any patients in the San Francisco area, please encourage them to attend.  
They will have an opportunity to hear from and network with other patients and experts in the pulmonary community.





# RESPIRATORY NEUROBIOLOGY AND SLEEP MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MONDAY MAY 21, 2007

4:30PM-6:30PM

HILTON SAN FRANCISCO  
CONTINENTAL BALLROOM 6

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED THROUGH A GENEROUS GRANT FROM  
GILEAD SCIENCES, INC.

# RESPIRATORY NEUROBIOLOGY AND SLEEP DINNER

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER FOR THE  
RNS ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP DINNER  
TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 21ST AT 6:30 PM,  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL RNS MEMBERSHIP MEETING .

THE DINNER HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY A  
GENEROUS GRANT FROM RESPIRONICS, INC.



