



DEAR **SLEEP 2009** MEETING ATTENDEE:

Welcome to **SLEEP 2009**, 23rd Annual Meeting of the Associated Professional Sleep Societies, LLC (APSS), a joint venture of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) and the Sleep Research Society (SRS). This year's meeting provides you with access to the latest advances in the fields of sleep research and sleep medicine while also allowing ample time for you to network with colleagues old and new.

Held at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in downtown Seattle, Washington, **SLEEP 2009** begins June 6–7 with a full slate of postgraduate courses. Twelve courses—provided in both half-day and full-day formats—have been developed to review in-depth information on specific topics of interest to sleep professionals and are presented by leaders in the field.

The **SLEEP 2009** scientific program follows, kicking off on June 8 with the plenary session featuring a keynote address by Howard P. Roffwarg, MD, entitled “Participation of REM Sleep in the Development of the Brain: Starting Hypothesis, Unfolding Data, Current Perspective.” The remainder of the 3½-day scientific program contains the latest findings in sleep medicine, sleep research and related fields through a variety of session formats including invited lectures, symposia, clinical workshops, discussion groups, meet the professor sessions and the new lunch and learn: pro/con debate series, features two experts debating a hot topic over lunch. A record number – 1,307 – abstracts are being presented at the meeting. 148 are being presented in an oral presentation format, and the remainder presented in a poster format. Each of these options provides you with the opportunity to learn about the topics of greatest interest to you in the formats that best suit you. The APSS Program Committee has made every effort to minimize content overlap among concurrent sessions.

Also make plans to attend the following special events that will be held throughout the meeting. More information on each of these events can be found within this program:

- The annual membership meetings of the SRS and AASM will provide members with the opportunity to learn about the societies' latest initiatives and how to get involved.
- Industry Supported Events will be held in the evenings following the first two days of the scientific program.

With changes and developments occurring in sleep research and medicine every day, it is important that clinicians and researchers are provided the opportunity to meet, interact and share their experiences and discuss the issues of greatest importance to the field. It is the hope of the APSS Program Committee that you enjoy your experience at **SLEEP 2009** and are able to both renew and initiate relationships with colleagues from around the world who share your interests. Through these relationships, we can mold the future of sleep. Enjoy the meeting.

Sincerely,

Michael Sateia, MD
Chair, APSS Program Committee