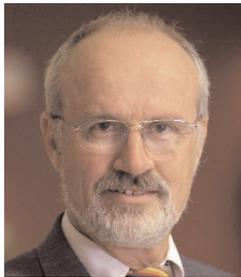


## The Guest Editors



U. Costabel



M. Drent

Ulrich Costabel is Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Pneumology and Allergology at the Ruhrlandklinik, Essen, Germany. After receiving his MD *magna cum laude* at the University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany, he completed his residency and fellowship in internal and chest medicine under Professor Heinrich Matthys. He is Vice President of the World Association of Sarcoidosis and Other Granulomatous Disorders (WASOG) and organised the World Congress on Sarcoidosis in Essen in 1997. He has also been Chairman of the European Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL) Group since 1998. Ulrich Costabel has been actively involved with the European Respiratory Society (ERS) since its inception. At present, he is Head of the Clinical Assembly and a member of the Executive Committee of the ERS. Since 1990, he has served on the Editorial Board of the European Respiratory Journal, first as an Associate Editor, then as an Assistant Chief Editor, and from 1994–1999 as the Chief Editor. He is now Editor of the German journal *Pneumologie* and also on the board of *Sarcoidosis*, *Seminars in Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, and *Current Opinion in Pulmonary Medicine*, amongst others. Ulrich Costabel is the recipient of several awards and is the author of numerous scientific papers and chapters, and has edited several books.

Marjolein Drent is an associate professor at the Dept of Respiratory Medicine of the University Hospital Maastricht, Maastricht, The Netherlands. In 1993, she completed her thesis entitled "Diagnostic value of bronchoalveolar lavage in interstitial lung diseases". She has been involved with the European BAL Group since 1990 and is chair of ERS Assembly Diffuse Parenchymal Lung Diseases. She is a member of the executive committee of the WASOG, of the American Thoracic Society section on "Terrorism and inhalation disasters" on behalf of the ERS, of the medical advice board of the Dutch Sarcoidosis Society, as well as the Dutch Pulmonary Fibrosis Society. She is acting as an adjunct senior scientist of the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. Furthermore, she is a member of the editorial board of *Sarcoidosis*, *Vasculitis and Diffuse Lung Diseases* and *Current Opinion in Pulmonary Medicine*. She is a reviewer of many international journals and has co-authored over 100 papers and book chapters. She supervises research into inflammation focussing on interstitial lung diseases (ILD), including occupational- and environmental-related disorders. She is the founder and manager of the sarcoidosis management team and ILD management centre, University Hospital Maastricht.