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Director's Message



All of us in healthcare are undoubtedly aware that we are living in a time of transition. Economic forces are altering availability of medication, they are changing reimbursement patterns, and they are forcing us to think of new and more efficient ways of doing business. Like many other medical centers, it has been a huge year of transitions for our institution. In the past year, we have seen the loss of hundreds of positions as well as turnover in our Director of Perioperative Services, Chair of Anesthesiology, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and even the President and Chief Operating Officer. Embracing change and riding the waves of transformation are necessary for survival in this type of environment. One thing that characterizes the mind of an anesthetist is the "Plan B" mentality. Things change so quickly while anesthetizing a patient that we must always have our Plan B in mind and be ready to execute it. As much as anesthetists love control and predictability, we also thrive on the ability to rapidly and effectively manage change. I find this to be an asset when considering the inevitable changes that come in business and education. Anticipating the current state of economics in healthcare, we have been working for the past five years on preparing for these times. This past year, we have been able to stay *in front of* the change around us by implementing our largest programmatic change in 25 years when we cancelled our contract with UNCG, where the School of Nursing has been our degree-granting institution. While it was not easy to separate from our long-time university partner, it was clearly an imperative pathway to ensure not only the future success of the program, but to give us room to spread our wings and to flourish in ways we never have before. We are still in tumultuous times, but our applicant pool is larger than it has ever been, our clinical sites are expanding, and our certification rate remains extremely high. By all measures, we are headed in the right direction. In this issue, you will read about some of the new and positive changes which have been implemented this year, as well as some fond farewells to retiring long-term instructors in our program.

New Site Gives Exposure to Rural Anesthesia

We initiated a new clinical site in June at Cannon Memorial Hospital in Linville, NC. Cannon is a beautiful 25-bed critical access hospital built in 1999. It is part of the Appalachian Regional Healthcare System, which also includes Watauga Medical Center in Boone. The anesthesia department at Cannon consists of only two CRNAs- Cheryl Kirkpatrick (who was formerly a clinical instructor at Baptist Hospital), and Beverly Ramsey. Students who rotate to Cannon learn about resource management and practice issues which affect a CRNA-only



Kickoff of our newest rotation: Inaugural student Ashley Dickens, Associate Director for Clinical Education, Dr. Cliff Gonzales, Cheryl Kirkpatrick, CRNA, and Director of Anesthesia Services for Appalachian Health Services, Kevin Henson, CRNA.

practice. Students are provided apartment housing so they can be available for 24/7 call, along with their CRNA preceptor. Students keep connected to class and other program activities via video-conferencing and other electronic means. Thus far, the rotation has been extremely well-received. The student feedback has included comments such as, "I love this rotation. I never knew this world existed!"

Class of 2014 Finishes Strong

The class of 2014 wrapped up their program with a large number of accomplishments and achievements to their credit. This class completed a number of projects from staffing water stations at races, to providing meals for patient families during the holidays. This spirit of service carried over to their class gift. The class was interested in leaving behind a legacy, more than just a one-time gift. In that regard, the entire class established the Global Health Education Endowment in the name of their class. Each class member pledged to make a donation within the next two years, which would establish a \$25,000.00 endowment. This endowment will perpetually generate interest income which will be used to support students on international missions. The larger we can estab-

lish the principle investment, the more interest will be generated, so if you would like to support our ongoing mission projects, or you would like to make a gift in honor of the class of 2014, please consider donating to this fund. Your investment will support students for years to come. The class established another "first" this year related to completing their certification exam. Because the passing standard was elevated this year, the class worked particularly hard to prepare so that we could maintain our typical 96-100% first-time pass rate (which they did). In doing so, the class worked very hard over the summer and, they were poised to spring into action upon graduation. Thanks to an improved sys-

tem that NBCRNA uses to register graduates for the certification exam, exam eligibility now turns around at lightning speed. As a result, following program completion on Wednesday August 14, Josh Jarvela received his eligibility, scheduled, and passed his certification examination *before* the graduation ceremony on Sunday August 17. It was the first time ever at graduation that we were able to an-



Sarah Turner is "Queen for a Day" as she celebrates achieving her CRNA certification.

announce a graduate's name, followed by "CRNA". The entire class got right to business, with all of them successfully completing their certification examination less than one month following graduation.

Interview With Professional Role Models

The Class of 1992 is an outstanding example of the kind of professional involvement that has typically characterized our program. This class contains career military service members, *two* national student representatives, and state and national leaders (not to mention our current AANA president). We caught up with two of them for some reflection on how our program developed their leadership potential. Jerry Hogan is Assistant Professor and Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program at University of North Florida in Jacksonville, FL, and Keith Torgersen is Director of Anesthesia at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence, SC .

What are some highlights of your professional engagement throughout your career?

JH: 24 years on Active Duty in the US Air Force after graduation, including two tours in Afghanistan, original faculty member at Florida International University involved in program development and later Program Director, accreditation reviewer for the Council on Accreditation, FANA liaison to the Florida Nurse Practitioner Network, various state committees and now President of the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists, and at present I am the Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program in the School of Nursing at University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

KT: Seven years on the South Carolina Board of Nursing, South Carolina Nurses Association Advanced Nurses Practice Council, Florence Darlington Tech Nursing Advisory Board Member, Trustee, Treasurer, and State Government Relations Co-Chair for SCANA, recipient of the Helen Arndt Award for Distinguished CRNA Service in South Carolina, AANA finance committee member, Office Based Anesthesia Committee for the South Carolina Medical Association, and various positions on the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs including student representative in 1991 and later, on-site reviewer, board member, secretary, vice chair, and chair-elect of the executive committee.

How has professional engagement enhanced your career?

JH: If I had just taken a staff job and isolated myself I would have never gotten to know so many outstanding individuals in our association. I know so many Florida CRNAs I would have never met if I hadn't become so involved in our state association. The networking opportunities have been incredible. Professional engagement has helped me to grow as a leader, educator, and clinician.

KT: I have always believed you have no right to complain about things unless you are willing to step up and make a difference. I want to make a difference in all I put my hand to. I have been very passionate to grow and learn from all my service experiences.

How did your educational foundation from the nurse anesthesia program shape your attitude toward professional engagement?

JH: It was made very clear to us as nurse anesthesia students that we should be involved in professional advocacy and development. We had excellent examples and role models in both Sandy Maree-Ouellette and Nancy Bruton-Maree. Being able to give back to a profession that has been very good to me is just a part of who I am – and was fostered and developed by the professional socialization I received as a student at the NCBH School of Anesthesia.

KT: Sandy Maree always taught us to be life-long learners. She was a mentor to us - always involved at the National & International level of our profession. Sandy always upheld past leaders like Helen Vos and Ira Gunn in high esteem and talked about their influence on her.

Were there any key memorable experiences during or after school which had a particular influence on your professional development?

JH: Where do I start? I remember Sandy used to say “If there wasn't an AMA there would still be Doctors, if there wasn't an ANA there would still be Nurses, but if there wasn't an AANA there would not be Nurse Anesthetists”. That always stuck with me. There was never

(Continued on p. 7)

Global Health Education

Our global health program continues to provide outstanding learning opportunities for students, with approximately 40% of all students now



Miranda Lawrence cares for a patient in the Dominican Republic.

gaining international health experiences. This year, our global health program experienced two very important advancements in terms of funding and opportunities. You can

read on page 2 about the perpetual endowment established by the class of 2014 to provide finan-

cial support to traveling students. This year, as our students became matriculated under the School of Medicine, a new opportunity also became available in the form of a certificate program in global health. Coordinated by the Office of Global

Health, the certificate program is a 24-month curriculum which emphasizes the sociopolitical, economic, cultural, and geographic factors that have an impact on health in developing countries. Participants



Jennifer Link intubates a patient in the Dominican Republic.

in the program include students, residents, and faculty members who wish to receive more formal education in global health. A capstone project is required for the certificate, and anesthesia students can complete this as part of the regular cap-

stone requirement for their master's degree. The SRNAs participating in the certificate program attend lunch-hour sessions once a week, and they have been enjoying this value-added opportunity.

Graduation 2014

The class of 2014 graduation was held on Sunday, August 17, in a ceremony at Wait Chapel. Associate Director **Cheryl Johnson, CRNA** provided the commencement address to approximately 200 attendees. **Mathias Rupp** received the Agatha Hodgins award for outstanding academic and clinical performance, as well as commitment and dedication to the profession. **Jessica Savidge**, who organized many group service learning projects for her class was recognized with the Chal Maree award for professional advocacy. **Ashlee Zackeru**, who received the UNCG School of Nursing Leadership Award, also was recognized with the program challenge coin for a host of volunteer leadership and engagement activities. Class Representative **Heather Goodwyn** presented faculty awards and the class gift of a global health education endowment. The faculty award recipients were: CRNAs **Marty Robertson** and **Carrie Maness**, and anesthesiologists **John Reynolds** and **David Joslin**. Thanks to all who attended to support our students, and also to all of our instructors who create a positive learning environment for our students.



The class hams it up for the photographer on graduation portrait day.

Class of 2015 Accelerates Professional Activities

The class of 2015 has picked up right where the class of 2014 left off, with engagement in a variety of professional activities. At the AANA meeting, Brittany Donaghy mounted a run for the position of student representative in a campaign that garnered much attention from participants at the annual congress. At the same time, Carolyn Hartle commenced her term as the student member of the

AANA Wellness committee. Carolyn converted her own SRNA Health and Wellness Facebook page into a group page to encourage engagement of SRNAs nationwide. Her page was featured on AANA.com spotlight and also now on her own wellness page on aana.com. In addition to her own postings, Carolyn's husband maintains a blog

about being the spouse of a SRNA! This class has also taken advantage of a variety of service and professional development activities, such as participating in a Habitat for Humanity project and attending NCANA legislative day activities.



Students campaigning at the AANA annual congress garnered lots of attention, which gave them the opportunity to make many new connections.

In Memoriam

We were saddened to say goodbye to a good friend and alumna, Joann Foster in July. Joann graduated in September, 1959 and worked briefly at Baptist Hospital but spent most of her career working in Elkin, NC. Joann enjoyed remaining close to many CRNA friends and keeping up with events in the nurse anesthesia program throughout her life. This is a testament to the strong relationships formed in our intimate anesthesia community. In appre-

ciation for her anesthesia education, Joann established the *Andy, Joann Fulp and Rusel Foster Family Scholarship Fund* to support nurse anesthesia students.



Joann Foster in 1957 and visiting with program faculty in 2014

(Memorials in honor of Joann may be made to this fund).



An Institution Within the Institution

We are writing this newsletter on an auspicious date. Exactly forty-three years ago, on October 26, 1971, a 22 year-old OR nurse, the daughter of two furniture factory workers in Taylorsville, sat down with Dr. Tom Irving, Shirley Crump, Nancy Elmore, and Ms. Helen Vos to interview to become a nurse anesthesia student. Helen Vos commented that the applicant was “red-eyed and “weary” when she came for her interview, having just completed a 16-hour shift in the OR. Miss Crump wrote in her interview summary that “She is, I think, excellent anesthesia material. I vote to accept.” Well, the young Betty Chapman, now Petree, enrolled, and after administering 58 cases with ether, 12 with cyclopropane, 181 with neuroleptics, 210 with halo-



A photograph of Betty before beginning anesthesia school

thane, and almost 900 cases overall, she graduated on February 28, 1974 to begin what turned out to be 40 ½ years of service to our anesthesia department. Betty was active in the alumni association, and served on professional councils, such as the council on recertification of nurse anesthetists. At the medical center, Betty was a staff anesthetist, a lecturer, a chief, a director, and finally retired from the position of Vice President of Surgical Services for the medical center. She had reached levels of achievement and accomplishment in hospital administration never before attained by a CRNA in our institution. Throughout her career, Betty



Janie Anderson, Betty, and Dean Beamer in the OR.

tirelessly worked to promote nurse anesthesia here, even after staying on board after surviving her bout with cancer. As she leaves our institution, the legacy she leaves behind includes the Betty Petree Scholarship endowment, which will provide financial support to program students perpetually. Betty truly embodies the spirit of professionalism and engagement that we hope will characterize all of our graduates. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Betty for her service and support of the program over all these years. Her retirement will certainly leave a void in our institution. Please remember the Betty Petree scholarship fund in your giving plans. It is a wonderful way to benefit our next generation of colleagues and to honor the contributions of this wonderful representative of our profession.

Farewell to Long-Time Instructors

This fall, we had to say goodbye to a number of long-time instructors and supporters of our program. Anne Wise retired after 39 years of service, as did Dr. Pat Petrozza, Dr. Phil Scuderi, and Dr. Joe Tobin. Dr. Ray Roy agreed to hold Dr. Tobin’s position of Chair of Anesthesiology until a permanent replacement is hired, at which time he will also retire.

Biennial Alumni Association Meeting

Please join us for the biennial alumni meeting on March 7, 2015, 7:30—4:00 pm. Topics will include new anticoagulants, ultrasound for regional, and an update from AANA President, Sharon Pearce. If you would be interested in serving on the alumni board, please let us know by email at napinfo@wakehealth.edu

Alumni Updates

Our alumni are the best! If there is anything our program is known for, it is the excellent leadership development that occurs here. Our program has developed many leaders in all aspects of our profession. Although we generate only 1% of graduates in the country, we can claim 13% of AANA presidents as faculty or graduates of our program. Below are just a few examples of accomplishments and achievements of our alumni in the past year. **James Thomas** (2002) became Director of Nurse Anesthesia, following the advancement of **Betty Pe-tree** (1974) to the position of Vice President of Surgical Services at Wake Forest Baptist. **Sharon Pearce** (1992) took the reins of our professional association as she began her presidency of the AANA in September. **Jerry Hogan** (1992) began his presidency of the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists in October.

Felice Perry (2000) has been appointed chair of the NC Commission for Public Health, a part of the NC Department of Health and Human Services. Governor Pat McCrory appointed Felice, one of



Sandy Ouellette, Jerry Hogan, and Sharon Pearce at the 2014 AANA Annual Congress.

only two nurses on the 13-member commission, and the only CRNA. **Keith Penner** (2000) achieved R.N.

registration in Uganda as part of his ongoing volunteer efforts there.

Kimberly Gordon (2007) was appointed the NCANA Federal Political Director. **Jennifer Ferguson's** (2008) anesthesia teambuilding

business "Jigsaw Teambuilding" continues to flourish. Jigsaw has been invited to provide workshops for various programs' student groups, faculty groups, and lectures at professional meetings.

Bobby Jones (2010) was elected Treasurer of NCANA.

Please send your job, family, and

life updates to: napinfo@wakehealth.edu. We would like to share your news.

Professional Role Models (continued from p.3)

just a hope we would achieve greatness – it was an expectation. Having two giants of our profession so integrally involved in my professional development was a key to my success. Even as a Program Director, I could always call Sandy for advice. Many of my former students still stay in touch with me. I have modeled my teaching career after one of the best.

KT: We had such a rich clinical environment as students with the CRNA's and MDA's. I enjoyed it tremendously. We had one rotation, that I sincerely appreciated and it had such a big impact on me professionally. That rotation's environment was so negative and caustic as a student, but it gave me great perspective of the real world of practices out there and how I never want

my professional environment or practice to ever be. I have been an advocate to help break down those political barriers for CRNA's and poor learning environments for future students all along the way. I wanted to make lasting positive changes where I could. I believe I have held true to my values that were established in our program.

Nurse Anesthesia Program
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157

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Expect to see the new Wake Forest "W" logo replacing our traditional alumni association logo in many program publications.



Sharon Pearce and the Class of '92 at their first AANA meeting. You all have come a long way!



Friends and colleagues at Anne Wise's retirement party: Nancy Curll ('92), Jo Steelman (PACU), Lisa Rieker ('94), Liz Pflug ('14), and Dean Beamer ('71) (at right)



The alumni meeting will be held at Wake Forest Biotech Place. Biotech Place is one of numerous historic tobacco factories renovated in the state-of-the-art research and education center, the Wake Forest Innovation Quarter. The nurse anesthesia program plans to be relocated to the Innovation Quarter next year.

**Directions to
Wake Forest Biotech Place**

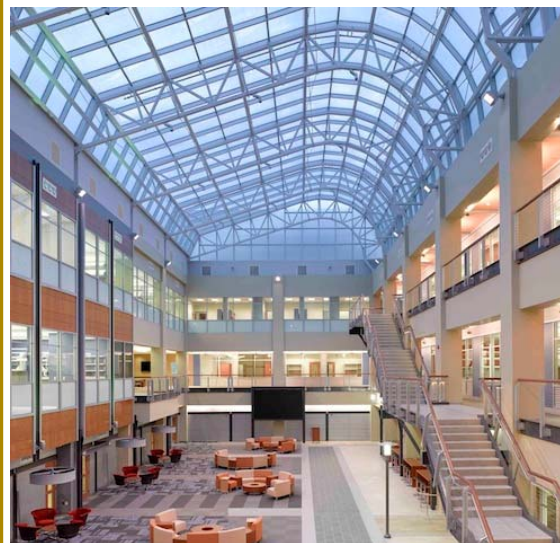
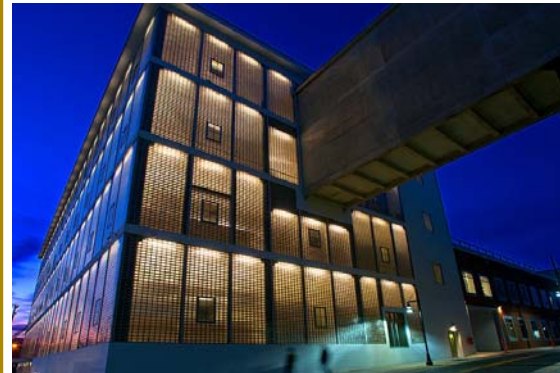
336.716.8508

FROM THE EAST

I-40 West: At the I-40/Business 40 split, keep right and follow Business 40 for approximately 15 miles. Entering the city, take exit 5D, Main Street. Turn right onto Main Street. Follow Main Street, turn right onto Sixth Street; the visitor parking lot is located on your right.

FROM THE WEST

I-40 East: After Clemmons, exit left on Business 40 exit 188 and follow Business 40 for approximately nine miles. Take exit 5D for Old Salem, veering left onto Main Street. Follow Main Street, turn right onto Sixth Street; the visitor parking lot is located on your right.



School of Anesthesia

**Alumni Association
Biennial Meeting
&
Educational Conference**

Saturday

March 7, 2015

**Wake Forest Biotech Place
575 N. Patterson Ave.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101**

Pending approval for 6 CEU's by AANA

PROGRAM

SPEAKERS

Registration Form

- 0700-0800 Registration
- 0800-0900 Welcome/Program and Recertification Updates
Michael Rieker, DNP, CRNA
- 0900-1000 Ultrasonography in Regional Anesthesia
Paul Packard, CRNA, DANP, NEA-BC
- 1000-1015 Break
- 1015-1115 New Anticoagulants & Anesthesia...All bleeding stops eventually
Angela Quader, CRNA, MSN
- 1115-1230 Lunch and Alumni Business Meeting
- 1230-1330 AANA Update
Sharon Pearce, CRNA, MSN
- 1330-1415 The Role of Multi-modal Analgesia in Modern Anesthesia Care
Rodney Nash, CRNA, DNP
- 1415-1430 Break
- 1430-1515 Intraoperative Noise and Postoperative Delirium in the Elderly
Courtney Brown, CRNA, PhD
- 1515-1545 Panel Discussion– doctoral degree pathways
- 1545-1600 Closing/Distribution CEU Certificates

Angela Quader, CRNA, MSN
Staff CRNA
Commonwealth Anesthesia Associates
Richmond, VA

Michael Rieker, DNP, CRNA, FAAN
Director
Nurse Anesthesia Program
Wake Forest Baptist Health

Paul Packard, CRNA, DNAP, NEA-BC
Director of Anesthesia
Catawba Valley Medical Center
Hickory, NC

Sharon Pearce, CRNA, MSN
President
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Courtney Brown, CRNA, PhD
Educational Innovator
Nurse Anesthesia Program
Wake Forest Baptist Health

Rodney Nash, CRNA, DNP
Staff CRNA
Forsyth Medical Center/Maya Angelou Women's
Health and Wellness Center

NAME _____

(as you wish it to appear on name tag)

ADDRESS _____

CLASS YEAR _____

AANA # _____

Meeting Registration

(includes meeting, continental breakfast & lunch for all)

Active CRNA: \$70.00 _____

Retired CRNA: \$40.00 _____

NCBH employee*
(*Fee paid by department, but please pre-register using this form)

Please make check payable to:

CRNA BIENNIAL MEETING

Or

Online payment is available at:

<http://www.wakehealth.edu/Nurse-Anesthesia-Program/> (under Quick Reference on Right)

Please Return Registration Form & payment check to:

Robin Geisel, Nurse Anesthesia Program 3PCU

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Winston Salem, NC 27157-1021

Giving Opportunities

Your gifts are tax deductible as permitted by law.

Please write a separate check (s) payable to your choice of fund(s):

- _____ Betty Petree Nurse Anesthesia Scholarship Fund (1956)
- _____ Nurse Anesthesia Annual Fund (0856)