

WFUBMC Nurse Anesthesia Program

Creating *Excellence* in Nurse Anesthesia

Spring/Summer 2010 newsletter

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Director's Message

As we prepare to wrap up another class, it gives me pause to consider the ongoing evolution of our program. Stu-

dents entering their summer clinical practica with a break from class work often ask me what we (faculty) do over the summer. This question intimates that we may slow down and await the start of classes in the fall. On the contrary, I chuckle, thinking about how the summer is never quite long enough to do all that we need to before the fall arrives again. Besides the usual annual clinical site visits, arrangement of the fall classes, etc., summers are filled with curricular updates, onboarding activities for new students and faculty, and other activities which are impossible to work in during the busy academic semesters. Our summer started with Lifespan Development activities as we hosted a *CRNA Review and Update* course. We are also offering two versions of the H₃A course this summer. The *Portal* version will be offered in July for students who are about to embark on their anesthesia programs, but in June we will be offering the *Gateway* version for ICU nurses/anesthesia applicants. We have also added more formal structure to our internship program this summer. We are glad to

welcome Wake Forest student Gabrielle Smith as our summer intern. Gabrielle will be earning college credit for her work with us. Once our Lifespan Development activities were in the works, Sandy Ouellette and Michael Rieker headed to The Hague for the 9th World Congress for Nurse Anesthetists. Sandy presided over the Congress as she completed her third and final term as IFNA president. Michael Rieker presented to a large audience at the Congress on the topic of global trends in childbirth methods and their anesthetic implications. Back in the states, we moved right onto preparing for a hybrid simulation day. The students will be combining an assessment in the standard patient lab with a follow-up simulation experience so that they can learn from the entire conduct of the case. Curricular changes have given us new challenges as we plan out the didactic program for the coming year, and we are preparing for the arrival of a new faculty member, who will play a key role in the program. In all, another busy summer lies ahead, but this activity marks the fact that we are an active, evolving program. We will continue to evolve and grow to assure that we are providing the best possible services to the students we serve.

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Faculty promotions

We are pleased to see our faculty grow and develop. Courtney Brown is collecting data for her Ph.D. project in the study of the effect of sound levels on the anesthetized patient. We congratulate Courtney, who assumed the position of Assistant Program Director this spring, as Paul Welty transferred to a faculty position with 100% clinical instruction duties. We are also very pleased to welcome

Joanne Donnelly, who will be joining our administrative faculty as Clinical Education Coordinator this July. Joanne has been a CRNA for 13 years and on the faculty of the North Shore University Health System Nurse Anesthesia Program for 10 years. She has been a didactic and clinical instructor as well as a clinical coordinator for North Shore. She is also working on a clinical doctorate at Vanderbilt Uni-

versity, studying patient safety in communication and hand-off procedures.



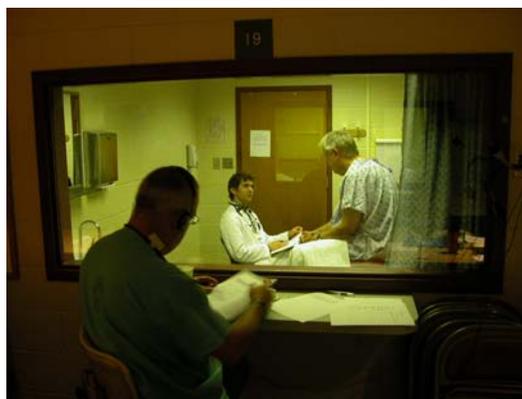
Joanne Donnelly, MS, CRNA

Curriculum Update

The Council on Accreditation recently adopted the APRN Consensus Model for Master's education, which calls for all advanced practice nurses to complete separate courses in Pharmacology, Physiology, and Patient Assessment. The intent is to standardize the content of advanced practice programs to the extent that APRN status alone may constitute the basis for things like prescriptive authority in certain states. While we disagree with the merits of disjoining content which is naturally related, we are complying with the COA mandate.

We submitted a proposal to the curriculum committee

for approval of a restructuring of the curriculum whereby our traditionally integrated content will be taught under the auspices of separate courses in the three required areas. For practical purposes, this amounts largely to a name change assigned to the same



David Dirito conducts a patient assessment while faculty member Tim Means observes behind a one-way mirror.

content, but we did have to further develop our physical assessment content in order to compose an entire 3-credit course. We will run this course this fall as a non-credit course, as a pilot of its official offering in fall, 2011 for the first time bearing university credit. The laboratory

component of this course will include our standard patient assessment (SPA) lab. In the "SPA", students can conduct physical assessments on trained patient actors, while faculty watch and listen in from a remote location. It is a wonderful asset for high-fidelity simulation of real

patient encounters in the pre-operative period.

Global Health Education

Our international outreach program continues to grow each year, providing an increasing number of students with valuable experiences as they serve on medical teams. Five students had the opportunity to travel internationally this year: Aaron Crowther, Kelly Holt, Sara Messenger, Jennifer Willard, and Jane Williams. Students continue to find this experience very enriching, and we are very appreciative of the benefactors who have donated funds in support of these experiences.

The office of Global Health is growing, and we had the opportunity to participate in a Global Health Day, an effort to raise awareness of the benefit of international studies for the students of the medical center. Three medical students and SRNA Kelly Holt talked about their experiences in international medical work to an audience of supporters of our global health initiatives and numerous faculty members who have been involved in international health projects. One important message was clear from the testimonies of the students: Global health is not about what our students take overseas; it is about what

they bring back. International experiences give students a new view of their role in the health system. They learn to break from reliance on the plethora of monitors and electronics of the modern OR, and to get back to the basics of applying nursing assessment and care to their patients. Most importantly, they are instilled with gratitude for what we have as well as compassion for those who have less. Each class is the students who make it up. The gratitude and compassion instilled in our international travelers becomes part of the experience of all the students, and supports our vision of Creating *Excellence* in Nurse Anesthesia.

We continued our involvement with the Kybele program in Ghana, which makes strides every year. Dr. Medge Owen is the 2009 recipient of the Innovation in Education award from the IARS for her work with



Dr. Rieker lectures at the nurse anesthesia program in Ghana .

Kybele. This award was presented to her at the International Anesthesia Research Society Meeting. It is an outstanding recognition of impact she is having on an international platform. In an exciting stride, Dr. Rieker's work on the Kybele project led to the initiation of a new nurse anesthesia training program there in 2009. This past January he went there to provide program evaluation and teaching. Along with Dr. Mandesa Jones (cardiac anesthesia fellow) and other members of the Kybele team, he spent time teaching the Ghanaian students. Dr. Rieker was honored to deliver the address at the students' matriculation ceremony.

Drs. Rieker and Owen are now in the planning phase of establishing a student exchange program to provide a cultural and didactic exchange between the two programs. Conversations have already begun between students here and in Ghana. The international outreach program continues to be a draw for interested applicants, with an increasing number expressing interest in our anesthesia program due to the opportunities for international involvement and learning we offer.



Lifespan Development Program

Our initiative continues to grow, as we implement means of fostering career success at all stages of the career span. H₃A: Tri-Development in Anesthesia (Portal version) was implemented last summer to get new students off and running in the busy program.

The seminar was a great success, and so we have expanded the concept to a new audience, ICU nurses who may be applying currently to anesthesia programs. The H₃A concept is to develop individuals in three critical realms: Head (academic), Heart (personal/attitudinal), and Hands (clinical skills). The Gateway version of H₃A will be offered in June. This

version is formulated for ICU nurses who may have an interest in anesthesia. It will provide learning applicable to advanced ICU nursing in areas of pharmacology and ventilator management. It will also provide guidance for those preparing to apply to anesthesia programs. Adree Williams is serving as director of the H₃A programs.

Planning for Doctoral Program Underway

As we gear up to comply with the COA mandate of offering a doctoral degree by 2025, a DNP planning committee has been laying the groundwork for a new de-

gree program. Currently, needs assessments are being performed, and we are building faculty resources and capacity for the large-

workload components, such as mentoring capstone projects. A specific timeline has not been set, but we would like to provide a doctoral degree option by 2015.

Alumni Affairs

Five students were recipients of the Ruth Holleman scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 each this year. To celebrate Ruth's birthday, scholarship recipients traveled to Apex to meet Ruth and to express their appreciation directly. We are also very appreciative of the support for the Helen Vos scholarship, which continues to grow. The Alumni board is already at work planning for the bi-ennial alumni meet-

ing which will take place next March.

Members of the alumni association board: Nancy Curll, CRNA, MSN, Chair; Lisa Rieker, CRNA, MSN, Chair-elect; Gary Ray, CRNA, MSN, Secretary; Cliff Gonzales, CRNA, MSN, Trustee; Alicia Sechrist, CRNA, MSN, Trustee; Denise Clark, CRNA, MSN, Nominating Committee; Page Foreman, CRNA, MSN, Nominating Committee.

Alumni: Stay in touch Submit your latest news and updates online. Visit www.wfubmc.edu/alumni and click on our AlumNotes form.



Scholarship recipients meet Ruth Holleman

Program Publications

2009 saw students published three times; Kristin Henderson, Elizabeth Orosz, and Katrina Hales had articles published in the *International Student Journal of Nurse Anesthesia* in December 2009, with students in our skills lab featured in a

photo on the cover. A new textbook, *Case Studies in Nurse Anesthesia* was published, with two chapters on obstetric anesthesia authored by Michael Rieker. We are also excited about the publication of a new pharmacology textbook by Richard

Ouellette and Joe Joyce with chapters written by Michael Rieker, Courtney Brown, and Sandy Ouellette. This textbook is more comprehensive than the one currently in use, and will provide a good resource for students.

Program Activities at Upcoming AANA Mtg

This year's AANA meeting will be filled with much excitement for our current students and alumni. Amy Young will be running for the student representative to the education committee, and we will look forward to supporting her campaign this summer. Laura Niday will represent the program

by participating in the college bowl competition, which is always a fun event for students and faculty. We are wishing luck to alumni Janice Izlar and Sharon Pearce as they run for positions on the AANA board of directors. As Janice finishes her term as Region 2 Director, she is now making a bid

for AANA Vice President. Sharon is running to fill Janice's position as regional director. A letter from Nancy Curll (alumni association chair) and Dr. Rieker went out to alumni in May, asking for support for our fellow alumni.

Program Faculty Attend Assembly of School Faculty Meeting

In February, program faculty (Michael Rieker, Courtney Brown, and Kristy Tyndall) attended the Assembly of School Faculty meeting in San Antonio. During a portion of the program on "Innovations in Education", Dr. Rieker gave a presentation about our unique student on boarding programs, H₃A and *Surviv-*

ing the Bubble. Courtney Brown also gave a presentation on her area of expertise: applied learning. She described the theory and philosophy behind our approach of incremental learning, where students use a progressive array of resources (task trainers, anatomic specimens, simulation lab, cadaver lab, standard pa-

tient lab, and multidisciplinary simulation training sessions) to fully assimilate understanding of all aspects of anesthesia care. Our Patient Simulation Laboratory Coordinator Ian Saunders was also a presenter at the assembly, speaking on the management aspects of a simulation facility.

Support the Nurse Anesthesia Program

Give online today at www.wfubmc.edu/onlinegift and support the *Nurse Anesthesia Annual Fund* or the *Helen P. Vos CRNA Memorial Scholarship Fund*.

Consider including the Nurse Anesthesia Program in your will or estate plan. Visit www.wfubmc.edu/giftplan for information on charitable planning, or contact John Gillon or Helen Dowling in the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1021; Phone: (336) 716-6031. You can also reach them by E-mail: jgillon@wfubmc.edu or hdowling@wfubmc.edu

Check us out on Facebook!



Class of 2010 MSN Graduation photo



Kelly Holt performs an ankle block in the Dominican Republic on her mission trip.

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