Request for Comments from the Anesthesiology Community

Proposed 2006 Simulation Initiative from the ASA Committee on Outreach Education's Workgroup on Simulation Education

The American Society of Anesthesiologists, through the efforts of its Workgroup on Simulation Education, has begun the initiative to provide ASA-sponsored, high quality continuing education in simulation across the nation. Originally described in the September 2005 issue of the *ASA NEWSLETTER*, "Innovation and the Future of Continuing Medical Education" (http://www.asahq.org/Newsletters/2005/09-05/olympio09_05.html) and again in the January 2006 issue, "Simulation Saturday on March 11 to Introduce a New ASA-Sponsored Educational Opportunity" (http://www.asahq.org/Newsletters/2006/01-06/ruskin1_06.html), the initiative has already collated more than 1,350 responses to its membership survey. The results of that survey are now available at http://www.asahq.org/MemberPollSimulationStats111605.pdf indicating that 80% of respondents were interested in participating in simulation-based CME, and that 89% would be persuaded to attend if the facility was conveniently located nearby.

The Workgroup also created the Simulation Registry, located at http://simulation.asahq.org/search/, describing some 26 simulation centers and resources for simulation education products. Members are encouraged use this link to determine what simulation opportunities exist in their area, or on the Web. ASA further advertised its simulation initiative through its promotional program, "Simulation Saturday" conducted gratis on March 11, 2006, at 16 sites around the country.

Now, we are most interested in your feedback regarding the Workgroup's attached proposal, "ASA Approval of Anesthesiology Simulation Programs," recently presented to the ASA Executive and Scientific Councils at the spring interim meeting of the Board of Directors. It is likely that some version of this proposal will be recommended for Board action at the August 2006 meeting, and therefore could be considered by the October 2006 House of Delegates.

In order to hear and consider the voice of the anesthesiology community, this document http://www.asahq.org/ASASimWhitePaper031506.pdf is presented to you for comment. Please read the White Paper and complete the linked Response Survey, suggesting how ASA might develop the best possible program for future CME and ABA-MOCA requirements. Thank you very much for your time and interest. If you have additional questions, please contact either Ellen Bateman, Ph.D., at ASA Executive Office e.bateman@asahq.org or Michael A. Olympio, M.D., Chair of the Workgroup molympio@wfubmc.edu. Thank you very much.