
Resident Component

March 2015

Calendar of Events

As we approach the quarter-pole of 2015, now is a good time to mark your calendars and plan ahead for the following events:

- May 4-6, 2015: [ASA Legislative Conference](#) (Washington, D.C.)
- June 6, 2015: [FAER Anesthesiology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program: Patents and Commercial Assessment Workshop](#) (ASA HQ, Schaumburg, IL)
- September 12, 2015: FAER Anesthesiology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program: [Funding Strategies & Business Plans Workshop](#) (ASA HQ, Schaumburg, IL)
- October 23-28, 2015: [ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2015 Annual Meeting](#) (San Diego, CA)

Volunteer Opportunities

[The American Medical Student Association](#) (AMSA) recently hosted its annual pre-health fair in Washington, D.C. The ASA-RC had representatives there, including ASA-RC President, Dr. Matt Gertsch, who ran an airway management workshop. The event was a great success with over 150 medical student attendees. Similar AMSA workshops will be held on April 11-12, 2015 in Gainesville, FL, as well as two workshops in the fall, likely in New York and Chicago in late October or early November. If you would be interested in volunteering at any of these workshops, please notify one of the ASA Resident Component [Governing Council](#) members.

ASA Career Center

As part of the complete redesign of the ASA website, ASA re-launched the newly redesigned [Career Center](http://careers.asahq.org/) (<http://careers.asahq.org/>) where you can post your CV that is viewable only by potential employers. There, you can also browse job listings. Note: the job postings portion is not hosted by the ASA, rather it is run by an external partner. As such, it includes not only anesthesiologist job postings but also postings for alternative anesthesia providers. Check out the other resources available on the ASA [Career Resources](#) page.

FAER Anesthesiology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Program

Have you ever had a great idea on how to solve a problem you've encountered in the clinical arena but just weren't sure what to do with it? The Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research (FAER) is offering you the opportunity to acquire the skills to make your idea a reality with a pair of workshops entitled "[Patents and Commercial Assessment Workshop](#)" and "[Funding Strategies & Business Plans](#)" over the next several months. For more information and to register, please visit <http://faer.org/events/upcoming/>.

Resident Component

Additionally, **FAER is offering three scholarships to each of the two workshops.** The scholarships include complimentary registration and up to \$500 to help cover travel expenses. For information on the scholarships and how to apply, please visit <http://faer.org/programs/resident-and-medical-student-innovation-workshop-scholarships/>. Please note that the deadline for application materials is April 15 for the June 6 workshop and July 15 for the September 12 workshop.

Applications for 2015-2016 ASA Resident Component Governing Council

The [call for nominations](#) for the 2015 ASA Resident Component (ASA-RC) Governing Council (GC) [applications](#) is now open. **The application deadline is September 18, 2015.**

Residents with 18 months or more left in residency or fellowship are eligible to run for office. Of note, the President-Elect, AMA Alternate Delegate and Junior Co-Editor are 2-year positions; this allows for one year of working closely with the senior officer before assuming full responsibilities. PGY-1, CA-1s and CA-2s are eligible, as are CA-3s pursuing a fellowship. The Secretary position is a 1-year position. For more information and to apply, please visit <http://www.asahq.org/about-asa/component-societies/asa-resident-component/get-involved/call-for-nominations>.

APSF QI Project Competition

The [Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation](#) (APSF) will be hosting a resident quality improvement project competition in the upcoming months. Each residency program across the country is encouraged to participate. Each program will determine one QI project that will represent their institution. An APSF panel will review the submissions and select the top two finalists. Each finalist will earn a financial reward as well as be honored at the ASA 2015 Annual Meeting. The competition will begin in April and the submission deadline will be June 30, 2015. Please be on the lookout for more information in communications from us as well as from your chief residents in the weeks ahead.

Resident Humanitarian Service Award

Beginning in 2015, the ASA Resident Component and ASA Committee on [Global Humanitarian Outreach](#) (GHO) will recognize one resident or fellow with the [Resident Humanitarian Service Award](#). The award recognizes one resident or fellow who has done particularly useful work in the global health field that promotes several objectives, including attracting more residents to consider global health opportunities during residency and encouraging academic departments to permit residents in their programs to do such work.

The ASA Resident Humanitarian Service Award recognizes one anesthesiology trainee who, during the course of his or her medical training, has made a significant contribution to global anesthetic care through organized humanitarian outreach activities. Awarded on a yearly

Resident Component

basis starting in 2015, eligible candidates must be a resident or fellow in anesthesiology at the time of nomination.

[Nominations](#) may be submitted by a residency or fellowship program director on the behalf of current residents or fellows. Only one nomination may be submitted by a program director per year. Nominations shall consist of a letter of support from the training program director, the candidate's CV, and a one-page description of the candidate's record of service and contribution. Up to two additional letters of recommendation may be included in the nomination materials. **This year's award deadline for nominations is June 30, 2015.**

The ASA Resident Humanitarian Service Award winner will be recognized at the ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2015 annual meeting during the ASA Resident Component House of Delegates (HOD) meeting that will be held on Sunday, October 25, as well as receive complimentary registration to the annual meeting to defray costs associated with attending. The award recipient will also receive a \$1,000 stipend and an award plaque. [Learn more](#) about this award. [Submit](#) a nomination form.

Update on the VHA Nursing Handbook

As many of you already know, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is proposing a drastic change to health care delivery policies within the agency by pushing forward the proposed [VHA Nursing Handbook](#) which would supersede current VHA anesthesia policies and require all advanced practice registered nurses, including nurse anesthetists, be licensed independent practitioners.

If implemented, this would effectively end the anesthesia care team model within the VA system and undoubtedly would have a dramatic impact on our profession moving forward. Despite opposition from Congress, Veterans Service Organizations, and medical societies, it is still expected that the VA will publish the handbook in the Federal Register, possibly as soon as the end of the spring/early summer. Once posted, the public will have approximately 30 days to make their voices heard via the public comments section of the Federal Register website. Without sufficient public comment, the handbook is likely to be implemented as currently drafted mandating solo nurse practice and would require legislative action to reverse the new policies. It is therefore imperative that we, as resident anesthesiologists, make our voices heard via the public comments section on the Federal Register website once it is posted. We must also encourage our friends and family to post their comments. This is the most important initiative facing our profession this year and we must be ready to respond to our government and emphasize the importance of physician anesthesiologist led care for the safety of our veteran patients in the VA health care system. [Learn more](#) about this most important issue and be on the look-out for future communications.

Resident Component

The National Lifebox Challenge

Pulse oximeters save lives, yet millions of people undergo surgery without this vital monitoring device. To accelerate the Lifebox mission to make surgery and anesthesia safer by equipping all operating rooms worldwide with pulse oximeters and training in oximetry and the World Health Organization (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist, the ASA Resident Component calls on all resident members to participate in the Annual [National Lifebox Challenge](#). By being a participant, you can do your part to make surgery safer across the world. The current competition runs from September 2, 2014 to September 1, 2015. [Join now!](#)

The Anesthesia Foundation – *Helping Anesthesiologists Succeed*

[The Anesthesia Foundation](#) is a nonprofit organization founded by a group of concerned anesthesiologists in 1956 to provide low interest loans to residents in anesthesiology who were in need of financial assistance. The Anesthesia Foundation can provide low interest loans up to \$7,500 to residents in financial need with easy repayment terms that commence after graduation from residency or fellowship. To learn more about this opportunity, please go to <http://www.anesthesiafoundation.org/>.

Plan to Attend the ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2015 Annual Meeting

Learn, share and engage with more than 15,000 attendees from around the world at the ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2015 annual meeting held October 24-28 in San Diego, CA. With dedicated sessions and events for residents and medical students, you'll find this meeting to be an investment in your future. Mark your calendar and visit goanesthesiology.org for more information today. Registration opens in June.

ASA Legislative Conference

[Register](#) now. The ASA Legislative Conference, the premier grassroots advocacy event for ASA members and residents, will be held May 4-6, 2015 at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C. Get the latest information about federal and state legislative, regulatory and political issues affecting anesthesiology today. Learn how to influence representatives to support ASA's legislative, political, grassroots and regulatory agenda. Register now for the [ASA Legislative Conference](#) through your [state component society](#).

AMSA Education and Career Development Opportunities

AMSA is national organization committed to representing the concerns of physicians-in-training. AMSA members are residents, practicing physicians, medical students, premedical students and interns. AMSA is committed to improving medical training and the nation's health, as well as providing clinical skills workshop volunteer opportunities for residents. Learn more about [AMSA](#).

Resident Component

Test Your Anesthesia Knowledge with ACE

Identify knowledge gaps and gain a better understanding of your areas of strength with the [Anesthesiology Continuing Education \(ACE\)](#) program. Available for \$75.

SEE the Future of Anesthesiology

Discover what is shaping the future of anesthesiology with the [Self-Education Evaluation \(SEE\)](#) program. Aggregated from more than 40 medical journals, SEE exhibits emerging issues in anesthesiology to help you see the future of anesthesiology. Available for \$75.

Interview Tips: Helpful Strategies to Aid in Your Job Search

- Show up on time; tardiness will set the wrong tone for the interview.
- Wear business professional attire unless instructed otherwise. For men, this should be a suit with a tie and women should wear slacks or a dress with a blazer.
- Make sure to bring multiple copies of your CV and a list of references to the interview.
- Prior to the interview, research the group and the facility in which you may be working. Use this research to ask specific questions.
- During your interview day, you might meet administrators and surgeons so be prepared for this meeting with your research. For example, if the hospital has a specific area of expertise, you will impress the team if you can discuss or ask questions about that specific program.
- If you are meeting for a dinner after the interview, you should continue to treat this as a part of the interview.
- Order only items on the menu that you would order if you were paying for the meal yourself. Ordering extravagant items may send the wrong message.
- If you consume alcohol, be mindful of how much you consume. **Limit** yourself to 2-3 drinks at most. If your spouse is accompanying you, they should adhere to the same rules.
- Relax and socialize. This could be a team that you potentially spend a majority of your time with – so make sure you have the right fit.
- The day after the interview, it is always nice to follow up with an email thanking the team for taking the time to meet with you and consider you for the position.

Thank You

As always, a very sincere thank you to each and every one of you for supporting our chosen specialty by being ASA Resident Component members! It is the hope of the Governing Council team that these newsletters will inspire you to take your membership to the next level, no matter what your specific area of interest happens to be. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Resident Component [Governing Council](#) if we can assist you in achieving your goals.