

ASA-RC NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2017



*The Official Newsletter of the
ASA Resident Component*

Pictured at left – Resident
Participation at ASA Legislative
Conference in Washington,
D.C.

ASA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE PERSPECTIVE

Erica Adkins, CA-2, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

I've always had a very slight interest in politics, meaning I try to keep up with the daily headlines and know enough about the leaders and their stances on the main issues to make educated decisions and have a casual conversation, but I've never put the television on CSPAN or listened to NPR by choice. When I was approached to attend the ASA Legislative Conference, I was certainly excited for the opportunity to go to DC but a little apprehensive about "representing our program and field" in our nation's capital. Fortunately all that apprehension was quickly dispelled as I met fellow residents and anesthesiologists from across the country. These physicians were at varying levels of political involvement and all welcoming and friendly. I quickly realized there wasn't a test portion of the trip, only the chance to learn about the issues and to share opinions and ideas to help ensure the future of our career and the safety of our patients.

First thing on the agenda was to brush up on political science basics at the

Federal and State Advocacy 101 workshop, which I found incredibly helpful considering I hadn't thought about the three branches of government and law making process since high school. Then, over the course of two days we covered updates on MACRA, the opioid crisis, Health Care Reform, Safe Care for Veterans and much more. I was able to see first hand how much the ASAPAC does for our profession by lobbying on our behalves on both sides of the aisle.

The third day was show time. After hours spent learning about the issues, we had the opportunity to "walk the hill" and meet with our state representatives and discuss our stances. One issue that the Tennessee Society of Anesthesiologists wanted to prioritize was the opioid crisis, as this epidemic has affected a staggering number of Tennessee residents. Although this is a grim subject and our group was met with some difficult questions on how to best approach this problem, we were also able to share with our representatives the changes we are making in our daily practice to help

prevent further addiction and abuse. We were also able to thank all of them for their support of the Safe VA Care Initiative that ensures physician-led anesthesia care for Veterans and ask for their continued support on this matter.

During residency I've found it's easy to get caught up in working or studying and ignore the issues facing our profession. Excuses run through my head such as, "I'm still in training" or "someone more informed/educated/interested is lobbying for us" but what this meeting taught me is that you don't have to be a political guru in order to advocate for yourself. The best people to advocate for the field of anesthesiology, are obviously anesthesiologists.

I probably still won't turn on CSPAN over Netflix, but I will stay involved in advocacy and I would encourage everyone to do the same.

American Society of
Anesthesiologists®



AMA ASA Update Corner:

This past June, the AMA delegation was involved in discussions on several proposals in line with recent ASA policy priorities. One of these key issues was the support of reasonable out of network payment coverage and opposition to “surprise billing” of patients for unexpected coverage gaps due to shrinking health insurance networks. The ASA spoke on this issue and the AMA House of Delegates passed major new policy supporting these goals. The delegation was also a key voice on the issue of opioid abuse as a public health threat and supported policy for increased public education and safe disposal options. Along with our colleagues in pain medicine, the ASA also supported policy for improved interoperability and increased physician access to Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs. Particularly of interest to our Residents and Fellows, the ASA supported new AMA policy that would require all healthcare providers to fully disclose their credentials. As advanced practice nursing, nurse anesthetist, and other health professions fields move towards “Doctorate” level degrees, this policy would help reduce patient confusion and ensure that patients are aware of which member of their healthcare team is a physician.

Matt McNelley, M.D

Alternate Delegate to the AMA

(pictured above providing an airway workshop for medical student attendees) at the AMA Annual Meeting)



Applications Due September 1, 2017 2017-2018 Resident Component Governing Council

Residents with 18 months or more left in residency or fellowship are encouraged to [apply](#) for a governing council officer position. Of note, the President-Elect, Alternate Delegate to the AMA Resident and Fellow Section, 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-1's and CA-2's are eligible, as are CA-3's pursuing a fellowship. The Secretary position is a 1-year position. We encourage you to review the [description and duties of each position](#) before applying.

Candidates must submit an [application](#), a one-page summary of qualifications and platform statement, a CV (as a Word document), and a letter from the candidate's anesthesia residency program director **no later than September 1, 2017**. The Junior Co-Editor candidate must also submit a 500- to 700-word writing sample on a topic of his or her choice.

Please note the candidate's residency program director should provide a strong letter of support. The program director's letter should clearly state the resident will have ample protected time to prepare for and attend all of the meetings and perform the responsibilities of each respective office.

National LifeBox Challenge is here!

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. The 2017 Lifebox Challenge is underway and we encourage you to participate.

To learn more, please visit the [ASA Charitable Foundation website](#).

This nationwide competition among residency programs to sponsor Lifebox pulse oximeters takes place between February 1 and September 1, 2017. By being a participant, you can do your part to make surgery safer across the world.

Anesthesia History Association
2018 C. Ronald Stephen, M.D. Anesthesia History Essay
Contest and the Raymond C. Roy, M.D. and Cornelia
Roy Prize

Deadline for submissions is December 31, 2017.

Open to all physicians or medical students who create the essay during residency, fellowship or medical school. Raymond C. Roy, M.D. and Cornelia G. Roy have provided a prize of \$1000 for the winner.

The winner will be offered the opportunity to present a condensation of the winning essay orally at the Spring Meeting of AHA at Chico Hot Springs Resort, Paradise Valley, Montana, April 12 to 14, 2018. Travel funds are not available from AHA, but registration at the meeting and the annual banquet admission are gratis to the winner and one guest.

Entries can be on any topic related to the history of anesthesiology, pain medicine or critical care, and must be less than 2500 words in length. Formatting and submission information can be found below on this website. Entries must be received by Dr. Rosenbloom before 12:00PM 12/31/2017 at her email address below. Winning essays must be submitted to the Journal of Anesthesia History (JAH) and will be considered for, but are not guaranteed publication in JAH.

Direct all correspondence to Julia M. Rosenbloom, M.D.,
 email: jmrosenbloom@mgh.harvard.edu
www.ahahq.org



Write for the ASA Monitor

We are accepting submissions for the "Resident Review" section of the ASA Monitor. If you are interested in writing an article, please submit the following:

- Topic or possible title of article, and
- Sample paragraph

Potential authors do not need to submit the entire piece, although we will accept full articles as well. Editors of the ASA-RC are happy to help edit and develop ideas if needed. Please visit the ASA website to view the most recently published articles and get a sense of what is published.

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APSF Committee on Education and Training Announces the 2017

APSF RESIDENT QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (RQI) RECOGNITION AWARD

Program submissions will consist of a video prepared by anesthesia residents describing their Quality Improvement project



For submission instructions go to: www.apsf.org
 (Announcements, 2017 APSF Resident Quality Improvement (QI) Recognition Program)
 Submission deadline is August 31, 2017 (11:59 EDT)

Winners will be announced at the October 2017 Annual Meeting of
 the American Society of Anesthesiologists

Advocacy for our patients and our profession is one of the core responsibilities of anesthesiologists

- 1) Contribute to ASAPAC (www.asahq.org, click the "ASAPAC" box)
- 2) Once you have contributed, encourage your co-residents to do the same and get your program to 100%!

A unified, well-supported PAC can make a powerful impact in policy decisions. This is about our patients and your future. Together we can shatter the previous record of residency programs with 100% participation and send a powerful message that anesthesiology residents are engaged and serious about the future of our specialty. Let's go

Boston

The city where
modern
anesthesiology
was born

Exclusive Residents & Fellows Programming

- Take your knowledge to the next level by engaging with leaders in the specialty
- Discuss topics such as financial wellness and debt management
- Gain insights about the business side of anesthesiology such as practice management and the care team model/scope of practice
- Participate in an interactive oral board prep session
- Meet with colleagues from coast to coast to share successes and challenges!

Fun things to do in Boston

- Take a stroll through the Boston Public Garden
- Explore the four-story, 200,000-gallon giant ocean tank at the New England Aquarium
- Visit the extraordinary Museum of Fine Arts
- Walk or run the Freedom Trail – a 2.5-mile route that leads you to 16 historical sites
- Learn about the history of anesthesia by visiting the Ether Dome at Massachusetts General Hospital
- Explore MIT and Harvard University

ASA Resident & Fellow members register at no charge.



Want to book a fun get together with colleagues? Find unique interactive activities, happy hours and dinners for groups of 10+. Explore the options at kapow.com/anes17.

Will you be there?

Register now
goanesthesiology.org

ANESTHESIOLOGY 2017
BOSTON OCTOBER 21-25

American Society of
Anesthesiologists®

Contact your ASA Resident Component Governing Council

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