Dear Colleagues,

What an incredible year. And what an honor to have served as your president. It’s been an adventure that I could not have even imagined.

The opportunities to travel around the country, meet so many of you in your communities, hear about your practices and your patients – well, I can’t thank you enough for the experiences I’ve enjoyed over the past year. Also, ASA is fortunate to have such engaged grassroots members who rise to the occasion to combat changes that would affect patient safety.

To me, there were seven issues that stood out in 2019:

**Surprise medical bill legislation:** Through grassroots, lobbying and public relations efforts, ASA was a lead medical organization in working for a balanced solution to surprise medical bills.

**Preserving physician-led care:** We fought 12 state legislative scope of practice battles – **winning every one of them** – and defeated two state opt-out efforts, including securing the first formal governors’ opt-out denial.

**Pediatric dental sedation:** ASA promoted a safer standard of care for pediatric dental sedation and worked closely with the American Academy of Pediatrics to endorse and promulgate their guidelines.

**Physician wellness:** 2019 saw the creation of our Committee on Physician Wellbeing, through which we have representation in the National Academy of Medicine, specifically its Breaking the Culture of Silence Working Group.

**Emphasis on academics and research:** The creation of the Anesthesia Research Council (ARC) with FAER and IARS was truly a milestone event. The ARC will be the go-to resource for affecting change in our academic centers.

**Drug shortages:** ASA continued to lead a full range of initiatives to address critical drug shortages. ASA was instrumental in the crafting and introduction of new drug shortage legislation and secured key recommendations in the noteworthy FDA report on the subject.

**The opioid crisis:** We remained a key voice in the federal government’s effort to address the opioid crisis. Notably, many of our recommendations were included in the final report of the influential Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force.

There is just so much to look back on in 2019 – and so much to look forward to in 2020. I want to thank you again for all your support, trust and the opportunity to serve as your President. Despite all the other roles I have filled, this has been the high point of my career. There is no better job!

Let’s keep the ASA great!

Linda J. Mason, M.D., FASA
2019 ASA President
55,045 ASA members

Membership increased 4.7% over the last four years!

Of special note, we experienced:
- 29% increase in Anesthesia Administrator and Executive (AAE) members
- 38% increase in Anesthesiologist Assistant members

In 2019, you relied on our Membership team like never before.

11,000 phone calls answered
7,800 live chats handled

FASA

In 2019, our number of ASA Fellows increased to 900!

A Top Priority: Protecting Patients From Surprise Medical Bills

This was the defining issue for our Advocacy team in 2019. ASA was a recognized leader in efforts to address surprise medical bills in a way that protected patients while ensuring a level playing field between physicians and insurers. Your input was crucial: ASA members sent thousands of messages to Congress and held hundreds of meetings across the country. We endorsed and supported legislation based on the successful New York law, helping to generate over 100 cosponsors – the most of any House surprise medical bill legislation – while opposing harmful proposals that would cut physician payments by 15-20% and impact the vast majority of physicians who are in-network.

ASA also led a coalition of physician organizations to address the issue, coordinating grassroots efforts and lobbying to keep patients out of the middle. As part of the coalition, ASA co-hosted and was featured in a Congressional staff briefing on surprise medical bills to inform lawmakers about this critical issue.

Team 535

We began ASA Team 535 with the mission of providing all members of Congress with a key physician anesthesiologist contact. There are now over 375 members serving as a key liaison with their Senator or Representative. And our ASA Grassroots Network is stronger than ever – now with more than 10,000 members.

Another Record-breaking Year for ASAPAC

Our members’ commitment to advocacy and patient safety last year was unrivaled.

In 2019, the ASA Political Action Committee was once again the nation’s #1 physician PAC and a top health care PAC, raising $2.81 million – a new record.

• Number of contributors: 8,808
• Member participation rate: 21.9%
• Average contribution: $319.90
Success in the States: Preservation of Physician-led, Team-based Anesthesia Care

ASA’s State Affairs team reviewed more than 2,000 pieces of legislation and at least 1,000 proposed regulations to assist state component societies in protecting patient safety.

Nurse anesthetists again asked states to consider misguided legislation that would have reduced or eliminated physician involvement in anesthesia – none passed these bills!

Some state highlights in 2019:
• No new independent practice states and no new opt-out states since 2012.
• Mississippi’s governor publicly denied a request to “opt-out” of the federal supervision requirements for nurse anesthetists.
• The Texas Attorney General issued a written opinion stating nurse anesthetists do not have independent practice authority in Texas.
• The New Hampshire Board of Medicine prohibited individuals from using the term “anesthesiologist” unless they possess a medical license.
• Florida pre-filed legislation for 2020 to prevent use of the term “nurse anesthesiologist.”

Finding Solutions to Drug Shortages

Drug shortages continued to plague physicians in 2019 – and ASA remained a leader in addressing this problem, notably co-hosting and being featured in a Congressional staff briefing on drug shortages. We also:
• Collaborated with Senate offices to ensure recommendations from the ASA-hosted summit on “Drug Shortages as a Matter of National Security” were incorporated into legislation, the Mitigating Emergency Drug Shortages (MEDS) Act.
• Worked with policymakers to expedite the release of the FDA’s Drug Shortages Task Force report, which echoed ASA recommendations on addressing manufacturing quality and transparency.

ASA Recognized for Leading Efforts to Reduce Opioids and for Best Practices on Pain Management

• ASA was acknowledged by HHS for contributions to the Pain Management Best Practices Interagency Task Force; the Task Force report included ASA priorities such as recommendations around multimodal pain care and utilization of the Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH).
  • An ASA-physician member testified at a Congressional hearing about the impact of prior authorization on patient access to appropriate pain treatment.
  • ASA is represented on the National Academy of Medicine Opioid Collaborative, a public-private partnership working to address the opioid crisis.
  • We were a cosponsor of the prominent National Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse Summit 2019.

Advocating for Research

ASA continued its sponsorship of the Rally for Medical Research in September, joining a coalition of other medical specialties for a day of advocacy on Capitol Hill.
32,000 Learners Utilized ASA's 387 Online Course Offerings in 2019!
It was a great year for industry support. In June, we released “ASA Pain: Anesthesiologists Tailored Approach to Patient Safety Considerations,” supported by an independent educational grant from Opioid Analgesic REMS Program Companies (RPC). The REMS grant was presented at four state component meetings and ANESTHESIOLOGY 2019, and the program was approved by 18 state medical boards. Within three months, over 2,100 learners completed the program.

19 patient safety courses were released as a free member benefit for residents, fellows, AA students and CRNA students.

Full Suite of Anesthesia SimSTAT Modules Made Available
In 2019, ASA released two new Anesthesia SimSTAT courses, both in new virtual clinical environments – PACU and Labor & Delivery. The SimSTAT courses have been very well received, earning overwhelmingly positive reviews. Enrollment in SimSTAT courses exceeded targets by over 25% in 2019, with more than 4,000 individuals having enrolled in SimSTAT courses.

First Anesthesia Research Council (ARC) Summit
In June, academic leaders met for the first-ever ARC Summit. Representatives from ASA, the Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research, and the International Anesthesia Research Society created a vision to be the “go to” resource for advocacy and state-of-the-art review, synthesis and future recommendations in anesthesiology, perioperative and pain medicine research – truly a unifying “arc” across medicine to affect change in our academic programs.

Perioperative Surgical Home (PSH)
It was another great year for the PSH, from continued exposure of the model to major payers and government agencies, to the launch of the PSH Cases – a new online education series that looks at successful PSH implementation case studies.
To date, 44 PSH Learning Collaborative 2020 participants have launched almost 100 PSH pilots in multiple service lines, including general surgery, colorectal, orthopedic, neurosurgery and cardiac surgery.
The PSH is building momentum – look for additional PSH resources to implement in your organizations as we further share the lessons of our Learning Collaboratives in coming years.

Perioperative Brain Health Initiative (PBHI)
The PBHI is quickly becoming a national driving force in the development of solutions for postoperative delirium. In 2019, the PBHI built significant relationships with stakeholders such as AARP, the Alzheimer’s Association, American Geriatrics Society and the John A. Hartford Foundation. Further, PBHI content grew, including the development of peer-reviewed and non-peer reviewed articles, podcasts and infographics. These resources are featured on the PBHI website.
MEETINGS

ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2019

Total Registration: 12,370

Themed “The Human Side of Medicine,” ANESTHESIOLOGY 2019 featured programming that had never been seen before, including a variety of sessions focused on gender equity and wellness.

Abraham Verghese, M.D., set the tone for the meeting with his memorable talk on “Humanistic Care in the Technological Age.”

Science is the bedrock of our specialty, and it informed almost every aspect of ANESTHESIOLOGY 2019. We offered a new dedicated research track, including more than 30 academic and research sessions and events. Our new Research Central was home to featured abstracts that highlighted the best science in the specialty.

Going Global:
20% of registrants were international

- ASA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Japanese Society of Anesthesiologists, joining 12 other international societies.
- For the first time, simultaneous translation was offered in Portuguese, Spanish and Mandarin for the Opening Keynote Session, Rovenstine Lecture, Journal Symposium, and Severinghaus Lecture.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

Titled “Defining the Future,” our PRACTICE MANAGEMENT 2019 conference was once again the largest meeting of its kind, helping ASA members prepare for the challenges of evolving reimbursement and regulatory requirements, improving well-being, leadership issues and much more.

Wayne Sotile, Ph.D., a renowned expert on physician leadership development and resilience training, gave a timely keynote address on finding joy in our personal and professional lives.

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Total attendance at LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE 2019 was more than 650, with over 150 residents – both new records! Attended by a number of key congressional leaders – including House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer – LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE 2019 heightened our reputation as the leader in patient safety.

The Conference culminated with ASA members on Capitol Hill advocating for continued NIH funding for brain health research, advancing the New York model as a solution to surprise medical bills and policies that support residents, including endorsing the Resident Education Deferred Interest Act (REDI Act).

The REDI Act has more than 75 cosponsors due in part to ASA’s advocacy.
Funding Member Initiatives

Hundreds of companies provided financial support for ASA’s programs and initiatives in 2019. Through exhibits, advertising, sponsorship and education grants, our Industry Supporters contributed $7.5 million last year:

- $3.8 million exhibition revenue
- $800,000 advertising revenue
- $1.7 million unrestricted support/sponsorship revenue
- $1.2 million restricted CME education funding

A big thank you to ASA’s Industry Supporters, our most engaged and committed partners:

ANESTHESIA QUALITY INSTITUTE

In 2019, the Anesthesia Quality Institute (AQI) improved the user experience for members and their practices by expanding NACOR services, redesigning the platform and strengthening value to practices while continuing to build a richer dataset for the specialty.

- More than 25,000 clinicians used AQI’s NACOR registry services, including NACOR Basic, Benchmarking, Quality Reporting and Quality Concierge
- Over 17,500 individuals and their practices submitted MIPS data through NACOR
- ASA stewarded 5 MIPS measures, 14 QCDR measures and successfully received approval for Multimodal Pain Management to be recognized as a MIPS measure
Year-round outreach keeps ASA and its experts top of mind with the media and the public

In 2019, ASA secured 1,963 top-tier national and local consumer and trade media placements, reaching an estimated audience of 2.1 billion.


• The When Seconds Count microsite ranked #1 in Google when users search for a wide range of important phrases, including:
  • Knee surgery
  • Preparing for surgery
  • Waking up during surgery

• We received 1,854 Facebook page likes, 3,333 new Twitter followers and 2,684 new LinkedIn followers in 2019. Additionally, we increased Instagram followers by 68% and YouTube video views by 51%.

2019 was a banner year for training programs and resources that are increasingly helping anesthesiologists take leadership to the next level

• Building upon the success of our previous Executive Physician Leadership Program (EPLP) courses, we introduced EPLP II in November – to rave reviews by the inaugural participants.

• In March, we held our first-ever session at the 2019 ACHE Congress on Healthcare Leadership. It was very well-received – in fact, two more ASA sessions are scheduled for the 2020 Congress.

• At ANESTHESIOLOGY 2019 in Orlando, ASA and ACHE teamed up for an action-packed MasterClass on leadership strategy.
FINANCIAL HEALTH

2019 Operating Revenues ($ in millions)
Total $52.7

- Membership Dues
- Annual Meeting
- Continuing Education Products
- Grants and Contributions
- Other Income
- Publications and Journals
- Other Meetings

2019 Operating Expenses ($ in millions)
Total $51.9

- Education, Publications and Annual Meeting
- Advocacy, Practice, Payment, Quality and Developing Care Models
- Administrative Infrastructure (IT, Finance, HR, Facilities, Digital Product Management)
- Governance/Representation
- WLM, FAER, APSF Funding
- Marketing and Business Relations
- ASA Support for AQI Members’ Benefit
ASA Total Reserves ($ in millions)
Total $90.3

ASA Restricted and Unrestricted Reserves
2014-2019 ($ in millions)

*ASA paid $11M toward its mortgage obligation in 2019, reducing Restricted Reserves by that amount.
Dear Colleagues,
There are a number of challenges in front of us in 2020 – surprise medical billing, scope of practice, the debate over Medicare for All and the president’s Executive Order on Medicare, to name just a few. But what we have behind us is what’s really important – an unflagging commitment to the care of our patients and a strong foundation from which we can advocate for them and our specialty.

Our strategic plan is built around six pillars, but I think three will stand out in 2020:

**Advocacy:** One of the best advocacy teams in health care will lead our efforts to address the 33% problem, maximize our opportunities under value-based systems, and oversee a new media campaign aimed at educating the public about our value in medicine.

**Leadership:** There are more anesthesiologist leaders in health care than ever before, and our many excellent educational initiatives are creating even more. But it’s up to all of us at all times to demonstrate the day-to-day leadership that improves the care of our patients.

**Scientific Discovery:** We need an Apollo 11-style moonshot goal! Anesthesia research is in crisis – but we have the means to solve it. We must increase opportunities for young faculty. We must improve mentorship. We must support our colleagues who pursue knowledge that will help us all.

I want to remind you again why we went into this profession in the first place – to protect and improve the lives of our patients. We will confront each challenge ahead of us so we can devote our energies to patient care. I am so honored to be chosen as your president, and I look forward to this journey. I especially look forward to working with all of you – the 55,000-strong ASA membership – in 2020.

\[\text{Mary Dale Peterson, M.D., MSCHA, FACHE, FASA} \]
ASA President-Elect

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**MESSAGE FROM THE CEO**

Dear Members,

In his book *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap... and Others Don’t*, Jim Collins asks us to imagine an enormous, heavy flywheel spinning with unstoppable momentum. How did it get that way? From repeated, incremental pushes in the right direction.

A decade ago, ASA’s Organizational Improvement Initiative set forth a vision that has been progressively realized each year since. In 2019, we were less reliant on member dues than ever before. We created products and services that you value – our SimSTAT suite, improved ACE and SEE products, and the services of our Anesthesia Quality Institute, to name a few. Our corporate support has never been stronger.

Of course, from my perspective as CEO, all this would be impossible without our incredible staff. We’ve become an industry model for recruiting and retaining talent – for the third straight year, ASA has been recognized as one of the Best & Brightest Companies to work for in the nation.

Guided by a succession of extraordinary leaders, the momentum of 2019 becomes the momentum of 2020. I’m excited about our future, and I look forward to building upon these trends as Dr. Mason passes the presidential baton to Dr. Peterson.

\[\text{Paul Pomerantz} \]
ASA CEO
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