STEP UP
Fuel the Future of Anesthesiology Research
Annual Report 2020
STEP UP
Fuel the Future of Anesthesiology Research
Dear FAER Supporter,

I am immensely proud of FAER’s work in 2020, all the more so in the face of the myriad challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most importantly, FAER offered no-cost extensions to our grantees to accommodate the year’s challenges and drew from reserves to increase the number of grants funded. As part of our efforts to expand funding opportunities, 2020 marked another year of collaboration with the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) on the co-sponsored FAER-ABA Research in Education Grant, the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) on the co-sponsored APSF-FAER Mentored Research Training Grant, and the Society of Academic Associations of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine (SAAAPM) on co-funding an approved FAER grant. Additionally, late 2020 marked the kick-off of promotions for a collaboration with the American Heart Association (AHA), co-sponsoring the first AHA-FAER Career Development Award. In the summer of 2020, the Medical Student Anesthesia Research Fellowship (MSARF) was converted to a virtual format, supporting 48 future anesthesiologists to overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants.

As I write this, we are delighted that MSARF students are back in person for summer 2021. These accomplishments were all made possible through your generous investment in FAER and, by extension, anesthesiology and research as a whole. On behalf of FAER, my fellow anesthesiologists, our future physician-scientists, and the patients we serve, allow me to express my heartfelt thanks. As you read through this Annual Report, I hope you enjoy learning more about the successes FAER achieved thanks to your support in 2020.

I would also like to especially thank the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), FAER’s founding supporter. The ASA’s yearly contribution to FAER is a testament to the value research represents and their dedication to the continued growth of our specialty.

Warm regards,
Harriet W. Hopf, MD, FUHM, FASA
Chair, FAER Board of Directors

I’ve seen many scientific leaders and innovators pass through FAER’s doors and was thrilled to see this trend continue in 2020. The importance of supporting our future physician-scientists in anesthesiology can’t be overstated. I am so pleased with ASA’s commitment to FAER’s work in this regard. On that note, I’d like to thank all those who donated to FAER in 2020. The generosity shown in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic has been truly moving, and your support for FAER’s mission is incredibly appreciated by ASA, our members, and staff. Together, we can ensure anesthesiology remains a beacon of scientific discovery through research. ASA is proud to support FAER’s work as we walk together into the future.

Best wishes,
Beverly K. Philip, MD, FACA, FASA
President, American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA)
Since 1986, FAER has supported high-quality research to foster the development of early career physician-scientists in anesthesiology. By offering a range of grants, **FAER is transforming the field of anesthesiology by funding the research of talented investigators.** Grants include: Mentored Research Training Grants (MRTG) which help anesthesiologists develop the skills, preliminary data for subsequent grant applications, and research publications needed to become independent investigators; Research Fellowship Grants (REG) for residents to obtain training in research techniques and scientific methods; Research in Education Grants (REG) focused on the development of innovative education techniques; and Transition to Independence Grants (TIG) to help junior faculty transition from mentored to independent research.

FAER-funded anesthesiologists have built on their successes, continuing the evolution of medicine through their work. FAER awarded 13 grants in 2020. We celebrate our 2020 grantees and their projects below.

### FAER 2020 Grant Recipients

**Mentored Research Training Grants**

**Christina S. Boncyk, MD**  
*Spring*  
*The Impact of Increased Prescribing on ICU Survivors*  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
*Primary Mentor:* Christopher G. Hughes, MD, MSc  
*Secondary Mentor:* Pratik P. Pandharipande, MD, MSCI  
*Co-funded by the Society of Academic Associations of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine (SAAAPM)*

**Nicholas J. Douville, MD, PhD**  
*Spring*  
*Integrating Genetics and Electronic Health Records to Predict Myocardial Injury after Noncardiac Surgery*  
University of Michigan  
*Primary Mentor:* Sachin Kheterpal, MD, MBA  
*Secondary Mentor:* Cristen Willer, PhD  
*Tertiary Mentor:* Daniel J. Clauw, MD

**Lei Gao, MBBS**  
*Spring*  
*Circadian/Sleep Disturbance and Systemic Inflammation in the Development of Delirium*  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
*Primary Mentor:* Kun Hu, PhD  
*Secondary Mentor:* Oluwaseun Johnson-Akeju, MD

**Gregory A. Chinn, MD, PhD**  
*Fall*  
*Physiologic and Cellular Mechanisms of Neonatal GABA Mediated Neurotoxicity*  
University of California, San Francisco  
*Primary Mentor:* Jeffrey Sall, MD, PhD  
*Secondary Mentor:* Mark Schumacher, MD, PhD

**Daniel C. Cook, MD**  
*Fall*  
*How Local Anesthetics Disrupt Intracellular Calcium Stores and the Impact on Synaptic Function and Neurotoxicity*  
Weill Medical College of Cornell University  
*Primary Mentor:* Timothy A. Ryan, PhD  
*Secondary Mentor:* Hugh C. Hemmings, MD, PhD

**Bradley A. Fritz, MD**  
*Fall*  
*Machine Learning to Enhance Prediction of Postoperative Death and Acute Kidney Injury by Anesthesiology Clinicians*  
Washington University School of Medicine  
*Primary Mentor:* Michael S. Avidan, MB, ChB  
*Secondary Mentor:* Joanna Abraham, PhD
Eellan Sivanesan, MD  
**Spring**  
*Spinal Cord Stimulation for the Attenuation of Chemotherapy Induced Painful Neuropathy and Increased Chemotherapeutic Efficacy*  
Johns Hopkins University  
**Primary Mentor:** Yun Guan, MD, PhD  
**Secondary Mentor:** Srinivasa N. Raja, MD  
**Tertiary Mentor:** Lei Zheng, MD, PhD

Mitra Heshmati, MD, PhD  
**Fall**  
*Dissecting Midbrain Connectivity in Anesthetic Emergence*  
University of Washington  
**Primary Mentor:** Michael Bruchas, PhD

Kelly Michaeelsen, MD, PhD  
**Spring**  
*Automated Assessment of Drug Administration in the Operating Room with Smart Eyewear Technology*  
University of Washington  
**Primary Mentor:** Shyam Gollakota, PhD  
**Secondary Mentor:** T. Andrew Bowdle, MD, PhD, FASE

Kathryn R. Rosenblatt, MD, MHS  
**Fall**  
*Defining Cerebral Autoregulation-Guided Therapeutic Targets in Sepsis*  
Johns Hopkins University  
**Primary Mentor:** Paul A. Nyquist, MD, MPH  
**Secondary Mentor:** Charles H. Brown, MD, MHS  
**Tertiary Mentor:** Wei Chao, MD, PhD

Emily J. MacKay, DO, MSHP  
**Fall**  
*Transesophageal Echocardiography in Cardiac Surgery: Impact of Advanced Cardiac Imaging on Clinical Outcomes*  
University of Pennsylvania Medical Center  
**Primary Mentor:** Peter W. Groeneveld, MD, MS  
**Secondary Mentor:** Mark D. Neuman, MD, MS  
**Tertiary Mentor:** Nimesh D. Desai, MD, PhD

APSF-FAER Mentored Research Training Grant

Timothy G. Gaulton, MD, MSc  
**Spring**  
*Mapping the Epidemiology of Perioperative Driving Safety and Behavior*  
University of Pennsylvania Medical Center  
**Primary Mentor:** Mark D. Neuman, MD, MSc

FAER-ABA Research in Education Grant

Julie L. Huffmyer, MD  
**Spring**  
*The Impact of MOCA Minute Questions on ASPIRE Performance: A Cluster Randomized Trial*  
University of Virginia  
**Primary Mentor:** Edward C. Nemergut, MD
From FAER to Federally Funded

FAER congratulates our former grantees who received National Institutes of Health (NIH) K awards in 2020. These awards included basic science career development (K08) and patient-oriented career development (K23). NIH awards, like FAER’s own awards, ensure the continued growth of both anesthesiology as a specialty as well as its practitioners. The physician-scientists listed below exemplify a commitment to this growth that FAER looks for and strives to foster in our grantees. We look forward to seeing the important work these individuals conduct through the NIH’s funding.

FAER Grant Information

NIH K08 AWARDEES

Thomas T. Joseph, MD, PhD
University of Pennsylvania
Efficient prediction of transmembrane binding sites for anesthetic ligands
2018 MRTG

Peter D. Yim, MD
Columbia University Health Sciences
Mechanisms and Modulation of Opsin 3 Mediated Airway Smooth Muscle Relaxation
2017 Mrtg

Julie K. Freed, MD, PhD
Medical College of Wisconsin
Novel Role of Sphingolipids in Maintaining Vascular Homeostasis
2017 MRTG

Jennifer A. Danielsson, MD
Columbia University Health Sciences
Antagonism of the Calcium-Activated Chloride Channel TMEM16A: Beneficial Therapeutic Effects on Airway Epithelium and Smooth Muscle
2014 MRTG

Gene T. Yocum, MD
Columbia University Health Sciences
GABA Receptor-Mediated Modulation of Lung Inflammation
2015 MRTG

Brittney Williams, MD
University of Maryland Baltimore
Role of miRNA-TLR7 signaling in platelet activation and dysfunction in sepsis
2019 MRTG

NIH K23 AWARDEES

Loren E. Smith, MD, PhD
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Perioperative high-density lipoproteins and postoperative AKI
2017 MRTG

Gunisha Kaur, MD, MA
Weill Medical College of Cornell Univ
Chronic Pain Diagnosis and Treatment in Torture Survivors
2016 REG

Dr. Peter Yim in the lab, and Dr. Julie Freed at ANESTHESIOLOGY 2019.
With the aim to expand the scientific talent in academic anesthesiology, FAER offers fellowships to medical students who have an interest in research and anesthesiology. FAER’s Medical Student Anesthesia Research Fellowship (MSARF) provides funding to support medical students for a summer program focused on anesthesiology research, training in scientific methods and techniques, and learning how to incorporate research into a medical career.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, FAER made the difficult decision to cancel on-site research for medical students and reimagine how to support their interest in research and anesthesiology with a virtual summer program. The virtual series included panel presentations on anesthesia and anesthesia research, a journal club on recent literature, and the opportunity to connect with a mentor in small groups. Each aspect of the program was facilitated by physician-scientists who were selected as mentors through the MSARF application process in the fall of 2019. All have a history of mentoring medical students in research and were ideal mentors for the 2020 participants. Thankfully, these mentors were able to step up in a very uncertain time to make this virtual program a success.

At ANESTHESIOLOGY 2020, FAER was able to hold the FAER/eSAS: A Day for New Researchers virtually. These sessions included exploring different paths to research, practical advice about how to get started, some of the benefits of doing research (i.e., loan repayment programs, national/international meetings and collaborations), and how to navigate the challenges that inevitably rise along the way. These sessions were well received with high attendance.

Despite many things coming to a near halt in 2020, some of the MSARF students went above and beyond and were able to find alternative research opportunities. The Association of University Anesthesiologists (AUA) were kind enough to offer these students a venue to present their research at their annual meeting in the spring of 2021. Students were able to present their posters to a group virtually and engage in meaningful discussions around their work.

Anesthesia research laboratories once again hosted medical students over the summer of 2021. However, the experience gained and content developed in the summer of 2020 provided the basis for FAER to offer future MSARF students some centralized, collaborative programming to facilitate networking and understanding of the future of anesthesiology research. The recorded presentations will form the core of new content on the FAER website that will provide education on anesthesia research to a broader audience.
In a year of travel restrictions, long hours, and uncertainty, FAER and ASA were able to work together to still hold ANESTHESIOLOGY 2020 virtually. During this meeting, FAER garnered more individual attendance at their diversity panel and Helrich lectures. Educational sessions were again held for our Day for New Researchers event by members of eSAS and the Academy of Research Mentors. These sessions were highly attended by our MSARF students and positively received by all attendees. Even our donors stepped up to help FAER and we were able to raise more funds during the virtual meeting than we have in the past. Thank you all for helping to make the meeting a success and we look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego at ANESTHESIOLOGY 2021 and our special new Friends of FAER reception.
### 2020 Grant Recipients and Program Participants by State

#### MSARF Participants
- California: 1
- Florida: 1
- Georgia: 3
- Illinois: 3
- Indiana: 2
- Louisiana: 2
- Maine: 2
- Maryland: 1
- Massachusetts: 1
- Michigan: 2
- Missouri: 2
- New Hampshire: 1
- New Jersey: 4
- New York: 6
- Ohio: 3
- Pennsylvania: 2
- Rhode Island: 2
- Texas: 3
- Utah: 2
- Virginia: 2

#### Grant Recipients
- California: 1
- Maryland: 2
- Massachusetts: 1
- Michigan: 1
- Missouri: 1
- New York: 1
- Pennsylvania: 2
- Tennessee: 1
- Virginia: 1
- Washington: 2

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Dr. Gregory Chinn in the lab.
The FAER-Helrich Research Lecture recognizes outstanding scholarship by a scientist and is part of FAER’s ongoing effort to encourage early career anesthesiologists and trainees to consider careers in research and teaching. While neural system complexity grows, the Darwinian imperative of approach that which is good, avoid that which is bad is embedded in the neurologic organization of all organisms from single cell to mammal. This polarity remains encoded in neurologic systems that underlie the construct of affect and such affect colors our perceptions of the world, whether driven by tissue injury or a learned association with life stress, making selective regulation of affect driven by injury versus learned associations (sight sound smell) a challenge if the target is the systems underlying affect.

The FAER Mentoring Excellence in Research Award honors those individuals who, through their activities as mentors, have contributed importantly to the development and advancement of academic anesthesiologists in the area of research, and have promoted the activities of mentoring among others in the specialty, increasing academic activity in research and enhancing research success in academic anesthesiology. FAER was delighted to recognize Lee A. Fleisher, MD, as the 2020 Mentoring Excellence in Research Award recipient.

As a testament to the quality of his mentorship in health science, Dr. Fleisher has directly mentored 12 physician-scientists, some of whom have continued on to receive NIH funding. Dr. Fleisher has remained heavily invested in the future of science in anesthesiology, having served on the FAER Academy of Research Mentors in Anesthesiology since 2010.

“My own career has been transformed by Lee’s long-term commitment to me as a mentor, his strong advocacy for my personal and professional growth as his mentee, his thoughtful counsel and guidance with regard to my career and academic development, and his generosity in providing resources and networking opportunities that have enabled my successes in research.”
Mark D. Neuman, MD, MSc
University of Pennsylvania

“In his multiple career, academic, and personal mentorship discussions with me, Lee always put my interests and goals foremost and was always happy for my successes. As my career developed and my needs changed, Lee’s mentorship adapted to my new goals. Lee has been an excellent role model of what a dedicated mentor should look like and I have incorporated many aspects of his mentorship style into my own. Even at this relatively late stage in my career, I know I can contact Lee at any time for any issue.”
Christopher L. Wu, MD
Weill Cornell Medicine

“It is my great good fortune to have worked with Lee over the past decade, and he has made our field stronger through his formal and informal mentorship of a generation of investigators.”
Max B. Kelz, MD, PhD
University of Pennsylvania
Thank you for your support for FAER in 2020. By supporting anesthesiology research and scientific discovery, you have made possible life-enhancing advances in medicine and improvements in patient care. You have enabled talented anesthesiologists pursuing new knowledge to transform our specialty and our hospitals, and most importantly, to improve lives.

This report recognizes donations made between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020. Great effort was made to include all contributors in this report and to ensure the accuracy of names and titles. If we have erred, please accept our apologies, and let us know at FAER@faer.org, so we may make corrections in the future.

NOTE: Individual contributors with a (+) have supported FAER for 10 or more consecutive years (2011-2020).

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“Jeanine Wiener-Kronish is not only a wonderful clinician, researcher, and administrator but also a valued and trusted mentor and role model, particularly to women in anesthesia and research. I want to honor her and all she has given to our specialty.”
Rebecca A. Aslakson, MD, PhD, in honor of Dr. Jeanine Wiener-Kronish

“Paul Barash had faith in me from the first day we met in medical school. He saw something that I did not at the time, and sponsored me from an early stage. I hope I can pass the baton over the course of my career. Thank you, Paul.”
Jorge A. Galvez, MD, in honor of Dr. Paul G. Barash

“I want to thank Dr. Paul R. Hickey for being such a great mentor during my pediatric anesthesia fellowship year and such a stalwart supporter throughout my career. I wish him good health and great happiness.”
Corrie Anderson, MD, and Virginia E. Williams II in honor of Dr. Paul R. Hickey
Honoring Alison Cole

Alison Cole, PhD, played a crucial role in the research careers of countless physician-scientists in anesthesiology during her tenure as program officer with the National Institutes of Health (NIH). To commemorate her retirement in December 2019 and honor all that she has done for anesthesiology and its investigators, FAER began a fundraising campaign in honor of Dr. Cole in 2020. To follow is a list of all donors who contributed to the Alison Cole campaign in 2020.

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Alastair and Margaret Wood, MBChB, FACA, FRCA, in memory of Drs. M. Lawrence Berman and Bradley Smith

In March of 2020, many joined FAER in mourning the passing of Dr. Alan Sessler, an original founder of FAER and pillar of the anesthesiology community. Below is a list of those who chose to donate to FAER in memory of Dr. Sessler.

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“To me as to many others, Alan was the embodiment of FAER – he lived FAER’s mission, worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that FAER thrived, and thoroughly enjoyed meeting the students, residents, fellows, and faculty FAER was supporting and had supported.”

James C. Eisenach, MD, FAER President
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Jianren Mao, MD
James D. Marks, MD, PhD
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Eckehard A. Stuth, MD
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Financials

Fiscal Year 2020 Highlights

REVENUE

- American Society of Anesthesiologists $2,000,000
- Corporate $86,892
- Other Societies $129,500
- Component Societies $48,620
- Individuals $394,633
- Practice Groups $26,300
- Foundations $48,588
- Schools $398,950

$3,130,783

EXPENSES

- Program Services $2,497,364.00
- Fundraising $155,357.00
- Management & General $381,220.00

$3,033,941

Statement of Financial Position (as of December 31, 2020)

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<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>Liabilities</td>
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<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>Total Assets</td>
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