# **The 2018-19 ASA Resident International**

Elizabeth T. Drum, M.D., FAAP, FCPP, FASA

The ASA Committee on Global Humanitarian Outreach (GHO) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2018-2019 Resident International Anesthesia Scholarship program! This program, which started in 2015, is designed to send U.S. CA-3 anesthesiology residents to a low-resource setting for a one-month rotation. The residents are embedded within an anesthesiology department in a hospital to allow them to experience the challenges of delivering safe anesthesia in a low-resource setting, to understand what it is like to be a patient and an anesthesia provider in a lowresource setting, and to see the challenges of anesthesia education around the world. Residents work alongside local anesthesia providers, trainees and other health care providers to experience what 5 billion of the world's 7 billion inhabitants experience every day: limited access to safe surgery and safe anesthesia. The deaths that result from lack of safe surgery and safe anesthesia exceed those caused by HIV, TB and Malaria combined. After the Lancet Commission's landmark report on Global Surgery 2030, it has become widely recognized that safe surgery requires safe administration of anesthesia and that there is only a fraction of the required number of trained anesthesia providers in many countries. Education and training of anesthesia providers around the world are critical elements that are needed in order to meet current and future surgical needs.

Betelehem Asnake, M.D. Nicole Arkin, M.D. Milan Dang-Vu, M.D. Olamide Ifaturoti, M.D. Jordan Lane, M.D. Calvin Motika, M.D. William Powell, M.D., M.P.H. UC Davis Stanford Naval Medical Center University of Maryland Walter Reed University of Toledo Beth Israel



Elizabeth T. Drum, M.D., FAAP, FCPP, FASA, is an Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Attending Anesthesiologist, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and U.S. Program Director for the ASA GHO Resident International Anesthesia Scholarship Program. This year's recipients will complete their rotations at CURE Ethiopia, CURE Uganda and in Rwanda, where the ASA GHO committee has a long-term partnership with the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society International Education Foundation (CASIEF).

At the conclusion of the 2019 academic year, a total of 30 anesthesia residents will have participated in this program. Several others have also completed rotations using the ASA GHO program as a guide. What about previous recipients? We hope to have some long-term follow up, but here are a few highlights:

**Chelsea Willie, M.D. (2015-2016)** completed a Pediatric Anesthesiology fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and is now an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She spent a week in Ethiopia earlier this year and is hoping to go to Ethiopia and Zimbabwe later this year. She is involved in global anesthesia efforts within her department.

Ian Miller, M.D. (2016-2017) completed a Pediatric Anesthesiology fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He spent two weeks in Ethiopia earlier this year and plans to continue to participate in global anesthesia activities in the future.

**Colby Simmons, D.O., M.B.A.** (2016-2017) completed a Neurosurgical Anesthesiology fellowship at the University of Colorado and is now an Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology. He was the recipient of the ASA Resident Humanitarian Service Award in 2016, recipient of the ASA Emerging Leaders' Scholarship in 2017 and has made a formal proposal to start a Global Anesthesia elective for University of Colorado Department of Anesthesiology and will be the founder and director of Global Anesthesia Program at University of Colorado.

Dr. Simmons had this to say about the program:

"The ASA Global Humanitarian Outreach Resident Scholarship has been a catalyst into an academic career involving Global health and anesthesia. As a 2016 recipient of the scholarship I was given the opportunity to spend one month in Mbale, Uganda where I was immersed in the life and culture of an anesthesiologist in the developing world. The skills learned while working abroad and the challenges presented in low-income countries inspired me to push my home institution to develop a similar program. As we progress in developing our own rotation, we look to the ASA-GHO as a guide for successful implementation. The ASA-GHO and all those who contribute to its success should be proud of their

# **Anesthesia Scholarship Program**





Betelehem Asnake, M.D.



Nicole Arkin, M.D.



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accomplishment and rest well knowing that the time commitments, funds and resources allocated are changing lives for the better throughout the world."

Andrea Murray, M.D. (2017-2018) is beginning a Pediatric Anesthesiology fellowship at Stanford and is hoping to continue similar work during fellowship and beyond. Dr. Murray had this to say about her experience:

"Words are inadequate to express how grateful I am for being chosen to go to CURE Ethiopia. Dr. James Layton and Dr. Mary Bernard are my role models! They have devoted their lives to Global Health and ensuring patients have access to safe anesthesia and surgical care in Ethiopia. It was a life-changing trip! Initially, I was not as excited about having a primary teaching role, as I was about doing my own cases. However, teaching the residents and master's students became one of my favorite parts of the experience. I was so encouraged and challenged by their desire to learn and the improvements they made in my short four weeks. I spent my last week at their primary training site at Black Lion Hospital, which was enlightening and fun. The residents and master's students I taught the previous three weeks were excited to show me their O.R.s and the challenges therein. I was treated like a celebrity by them and their classmates, though I definitely did not deserve that treatment. I left feeling that I had contributed in some very

Dr. Drum in Ethiopia with two former Resident Scholars – Ian Miller, M.D. (*far right*), and Chelsea Willie, M.D. (*second from right*), with Ethiopian anesthesiologist, Dr. Tirunesh Busha.



small way to the education of the future leaders of anesthesia in Ethiopia. I cannot say enough good things about this program! I don't fully know what my future holds, but I know global health in anesthesia is a part of it."

Dr. Murray gave a grand rounds presentation to her department on Global Health and Safe Anesthesia Care, which highlighted her trip to Ethiopia. Her talk was well received by her department and prompted several donations to Lifebox and CURE International, and her presentation was shared with the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists.

Applications for the 2019-20 scholarship program will be accepted following the ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2018 annual meeting. The scholarship program allows for U.S. anesthesiology residents to spend a month in a resource-poor setting. The site for the rotation will be a CURE Hospital or a GHO-affiliated site. Residents will have the opportunity to experience the challenges of delivering safe anesthesia in a low-resource, underserved area in a developing country as well as participate in the training and education of local anesthesia providers. With appropriate planning, the resident will be eligible to receive ABA credit. Covered expenses include travel, lodging, meals, visa, vaccinations and medical insurance.

### **Resident International Anesthesia Scholarship Program 2019-2020 Application Details**

The ASA Committee on Global Humanitarian Outreach (GHO) is pleased to announce the application cycle for the 2019-2020 scholarship program for U.S. anesthesiology residents to spend a month in a resource-poor setting. The site for the rotation will be a CURE Hospital or a GHO-affiliated site. Residents will have the opportunity to experience the challenges of delivering safe anesthesia in a low-resource, underserved area in a developing country as well as participate in the training and education of local anesthesia providers. With appropriate planning, the resident will be eligible to receive ABA credit. Covered expenses include travel, lodging, meals, visa, vaccinations and medical insurance.



#### **Application requirements and details:**

- Applicants must be CA-2 residents at time of application and must have completed a pediatric anesthesia rotation, and should be CA-3 residents at the time of the rotation.
- Must be a resident in good standing in a U.S. anesthesiology residency training program.
- Application requirements include a letter of motivation, letter of support from program director, CV and one additional letter of recommendation.
- The first available month for the rotation is approximately September 2019, with start dates and rotation dates flexible based on needs of the home institution.
- Applications are due by January 31, 2019.



## Send application materials or questions to:

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