WFSA Quarterly Update

Berend Mets, M.B., Ph.D., FRCA, Chair
ASA Committee on Global Humanitarian Outreach

Fund A Fellow Program

The World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA) coordinates and supports more than 50 “fellowship” programs across the world. Fellowships are designed to train physician anesthetists to develop special skills in pediatric, obstetric or ICU care, allowing them to return to their country of origin to then teach these skills to local providers. Often hosted by neighboring countries so that regional practices are adopted, the WFSA runs these programs to improve the perioperative care of patients through education. Funding to support this program is sorely needed, and so the WFSA has started a “Fund A Fellow” campaign to support these fellowships around the world. We are seeking industry as well as individual support to sponsor such fellowships, which can cost as little as $4,000 and up to $16,000 for an entire year.

We are reaching out to individuals to donate as much as they can to support a part of a fellowship in this most worthy initiative to fund the next generation of leaders in anesthesiology. Dr. Christopher Chanda, a Zambian, is a shining example. A former WFSA pediatrics fellow at the University of Nairobi Hospital, Kenya, in 2014-15, he has been appointed Head of Anaesthesia at the Ministry of Health in Zambia. Dr. Chanda has been quoted as saying he is probably one of the very few physicians trained in pediatric anesthesia in the whole country. This appointment at the Ministry of Health is a great step forward for the anesthesia profession in Zambia and beyond. WFSA and ASA congratulate Dr. Chanda on this tremendous achievement. Please join us in helping to “Fund A Fellow” at wfsahqs.charitycheckout.com.

SAFE-T Campaign Update

The Safe Anaesthesia for Everybody—Today (SAFE-T) campaign was launched at the World Congress of Anaesthesiologists in Hong Kong in 2016. This campaign spearheads the launch of the SAFE-T consortium, which brings together anesthesiology national societies, industry and patient-focused organizations, connecting them with the WFSA’s global network to develop programs to enhance safer anesthesiology practice worldwide.

The WFSA is proud to announce the first SAFE-T Summit to be held in partnership with the Anaesthesia Section of the Royal Society of Medicine (RSM), which will take place at the RSM’s world renowned venue, 1 Wimpole Street, London.
This first-ever SAFE-T Summit aims to position anesthesiology at the front and center of the perioperative patient safety agenda. It brings together leaders in anesthesiology and perioperative medicine with other members of the surgical team, alongside related industry and NGOs. The one-day event supports the advancement of anesthesia care and patient safety around the globe. The summit includes lectures from world-renowned speakers, panels made up of multidisciplinary anesthesia and patient safety stakeholders as well as working groups and discussion forums. It is hoped the summit will provide recommendations on building and measuring anesthesia workforce capacity and safety.

The SAFE-T campaign was also developed to allow individual physician anesthesiologists such as yourself to join the WFSA SAFE-T Network, connecting directly with hundreds of thousands of anesthesiologists around the globe. Please help unite with all physician anesthesiologists by signing up – for free – at www.wfsahq.org/get-involved/safe-t in a first step to help enhance patient safety worldwide.

ASA is a prominent and proud member of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists, and the federation is all the better for the good offices of ASA member involvement. Please get involved by signing up to the SAFE-T campaign.

Royal Society of Medicine/WFSA
SAFE-T Summit 2018
April 13, 2018
1 Wimpole Street, London

Finally, the WFSA annual review report is available at www.wfsahq.org/about-us/reports.