



ASA Annual Conference 2016—The Student Takeover

Christopher J. Li, M4 VTC School of Medicine, Senior Advisor of the ASA-MSC

Every year, the medical student component (MSC) of our American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) grows and evolves, building on the presence and involvement of the country's future anesthesiologists. This year, the governing council of the ASA-MSC was proud to produce for the first time since our advent, an entire day of medical student programming.

With the instrumental support and coordination of MSC mentor Dr. Basem Abdelmalak and ASA staff members Carolyn Mersching and Sloane Grubb, we were able to develop and present a panel of inspirational and informative educational sessions for the medical students arriving from all over the country and abroad. That's

right – this year's meeting attracted students from as far as Canada and Ireland.

Following up "sold-out" clinical skills workshops at both Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, medical students were enlightened to the ins and outs of loan management. From there, students filled the room for a primer on the perioperative surgical home model, a look into the life of an anesthesiologist, and an instructive session on scoring the residency of their dreams.

What followed, to no one's surprise, was the highlight of the day: the Residency and Fellowship Programs Meet and Greet. Over 500 medical students eagerly waited for the event, arriving early and

filling the hall. Upon their release, students and programs kept up a roaring buzz of conversation that energized the room and continued on for hours. We thank the nearly one hundred residency programs that donated their time, residents, and program directors for the deafening success that this year's Meet & Greet became.

Students unwound after a demanding day with this year's Medical Student Night Out, enjoying not only the stories from each other's discussions with residencies, but also celebrating with the city of Chicago over the Chicago Cubs win and entrance to the World Series for the first time in seventy-one years

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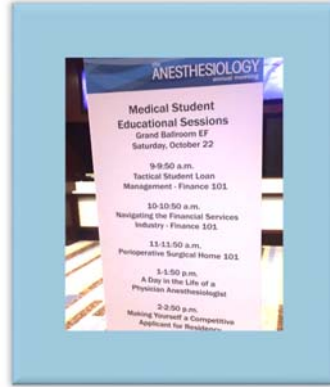
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The final day of ASA Annual 2016 for the students began with the Outstanding Student Chapter Awards, given out to those schools with anesthesia interest groups that exceeded expectations with their innovative events and strong involvement. Commendations are due to Des Moines University, Oregon Health & Science University, University of Pittsburgh, and University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for being powerful role models schools around the nation can look up to and follow.

Lastly, an exciting House of Delegates Meeting started off with elections for next year's ASA-MSC Governing Council. Not a single election went uncontested and when the dust cleared, we were left with an extraordinary set of student leaders. Congratulations to Esi Dica-dakson (Chair-Elect), Caitlin Curcuru (Secretary), Amol Utrankar (Alternate

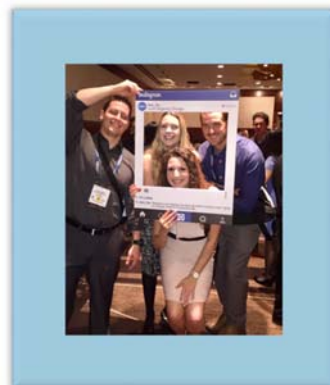
Delegate to the AMA-MSS), Michael Wentzel (Member-At-Large), and Christopher Li (Senior Advisor), our new ASA-MSC Governing Council members!

A number of speakers came to motivate our delegates that Sunday morning. I was deeply appreciative to be given the opportunity to illuminate for the group the true strength that their voice can have on legislation both at a local level with their state societies and at a national level at the ASA Legislative Summit (May 15-17, 2017 in Washington, D.C), furthering the purpose of our ASA in progressing the practice of anesthesia and protecting our future patients. Dr. David Zvara of UNC Chapel Hill then instilled a sense of awe for the practice of anesthesia into the students, quelling doubts over the future of the field and replacing it with vigor to advance the profession to undiscovered heights. Building on this, Dr.

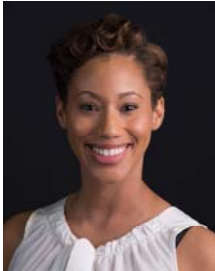
George Williams of UT Health Science Center at Houston educated us all on the history of the scope of practice conflict and the necessity of physician anesthesiologists, not just for us aspiring anesthesiologists, but also for the field of healthcare itself. He brought electricity to the room, galvanizing students to advocate for the sanctity of our profession and the safety of our patients.

At the front of a room now full of stimulated and ambitious young students, Ada Gil Jimenez, as her first act as newly anointed ASA-MSC Chair, recognized outgoing Governing Council members Ciera Ward, Mena Abdelmalak, John Crowley, Christine McLaughlin, and myself for our efforts and dedication to the ASA-MSC over the past year. And with that, the 2016 ASA-MSC Annual Meeting came to a resounding close.

See you next year – Boston is waiting!



MEET YOUR GOVERNING COUNCIL



Ada Jimenez
President

Ada Gil Jimenez is a medical student at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill and a Spelman College Alumna. Her goal as a governing council member is to increase participation and membership for the medical student component. She also wants to foster a more concrete relationship with the anesthesia interest groups around the country. The hope is to streamline the networking/mentoring process among the groups and provide a direct link for opportunities within the ASA.

Esi Dickson took a non-traditional path to medical school, having first worked as a nurse for 9 years. She received her undergraduate in nursing from UBC in Canada and was exposed to anesthesiology during her 7 years in the ICU. As a current 2nd year medical student, Esi hopes to expand student awareness of anesthesiology as the great specialty that it is by establishing a Big Sib/Little Sib program that will allow students to learn more about the specialty.



Esi Dickson
President-elect



Caitlin Curcuru
Secretary

Caitlin Curcuru is currently a 5th year medical student in the accelerated and combined six year BA/MD program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. As Secretary on the ASA Medical Student Governing Council, Caitlin plans to utilize the quarterly newsletter to promote interest and knowledge of anesthesiology. She is passionate about advocacy and will work to broaden student awareness of current legislative issues in order to initiate positive changes at local and national levels. Caitlin hopes to serve as a resource for aspiring anesthesiologists and encourages students to contact her directly at asa.mcsecretary@gmail.com with any ideas or questions

Christopher Li is a fourth year medical student at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine currently applying to residency positions in anesthesia with an interest in exploring the opportunity of fellowship in cardiac or pediatric anesthesia. As current Chair of the Medical Society of Virginia Medical Student Section he has been active in lobbying for GME funding on both a state and national level. Having previously served as Alternate and Delegate to the AMA on the ASA-MSA governing council these last two years, he has been working with MSC to improve the medical student experience within the ASA and help secure our future as physicians by advocating for the profession of anesthesiology on Capitol Hill. As Senior Advisor for the next year, Chris is looking forward helping students interested in anesthesia succeed in achieving their goals both clinically and in organized medicine.



Christopher Li
Senior Advisor



Michael Wentzel
Member-at-Large

Michael Wentzel is a 3rd year medical student at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. Before attending medical school, he spent 14 years working as a nurse with experiences ranging from being an Air Force nursing officer in the CV-ICU to working as a civilian hospital supervisor of a trauma center in Phoenix, Arizona. Michael was a student nurse anesthetist, but ended up withdrawing to pursue a medical education and obtain a greater depth of knowledge and anesthesia practice.

Bryant Loosle is a 3rd year medical student at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Involvement in the ASA and great mentors have helped Bryant to find his dream job as a Physician Anesthesiologist. Bryant hopes to spread the message of the ASA and bring more medical students into the profession. In his spare time he loves spending time with his wife, Amanda and son, Davis.



Bryant Loosle
Alternate



Billy Tran
AMA Delegate

Billy Tran is a fourth year medical student at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. As a part of the ASA Governing Council, Billy hopes to build awareness about of anesthesiologist in the patient experience and advocate for the field. He plans to use his experience with the AMA will allow him to be a strong voice for the ASA and further establish the anesthesia platform on the national level.

Amol Utrankar is a third year medical student at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, in Nashville, Tennessee. Originally from Edison, New Jersey, Amol completed his undergraduate studies at Rice University, where he received a B.A. in Economics, with a minor in Sociology. Amol is leader of the Anesthesiology Interest Group at Vanderbilt, as well as chair of the Student Technology Committee. Beyond anesthesiology, his interests are in health information technology, medical education, and health policy.



Amol Utrankar
AMA Alternate

MEDICAL STUDENT COMPONENT LEADERSHIP

DELEGATES: THE ROLE OF AN ASA DELEGATE IS TO SERVE AS A MEDICAL STUDENT LIASON BETWEEN THEIR SCHOOL AND THE ASA MSC. DELEGATES HAVE VOTING PRIVILEGES ON ISSUES PRESENTED AT THE ASA MSC HOUSE OF DELEGATES ANNUAL MEETING WHICH TAKES PLACE AT THE ASA ANNUAL MEETING

DELEGATE TERMS RUN FROM JULY 1ST-JUNE 30TH OF EACH YEAR

APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND HERE:

[HTTPS://ASAHQ.ORG/ABOUT-ASA/COMPONENT-SOCIETIES/ASA-MEDICAL-STUDENT-COMPONENT](https://asaHQ.org/about-asa/component-societies/asa-medical-student-component)

OUTSTANDING ANESTHESIA INTEREST GROUP AWARD

This award is presented annually to those AIGs that show an exceptional level of participation, enthusiasm, program quality, professionalism and involvement in their university community, and at the ANESTHESIOLOGY® annual meeting.

Selection criteria include:

- AIG membership
- Outstanding participation by AIG members and faculty
- Number of meetings and events
- Variety of activities, including career guidance, community outreach, departmental activities and social events
- Participation in local, regional and national anesthesiology programs (National conference, FAER scholars, etc.)

2015-2016 OUTSTANDING ANESTHESIA INTEREST AWARD RECIPIENTS

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine



The Anesthesiology Interest Group (AIG) at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine is highly interested in benefiting students by providing them opportunities to become engaged in anesthesiology and explore the field as a career option. We strive to interest as many students as possible in the field by providing events to learn more about the field and

engage with faculty. To accomplish this, we regularly keep in touch with interested students through email and group sites to let students know about new opportunities and upcoming events. Not only do we provide information about the field of anesthesiology, we also engage students by having informal meetings and social events with residents and faculty so that they can learn more about the daily lives of anesthesiologists. Notable AIG initiatives include an interview workshop for MS4s with residency program leadership, a regional anesthesia mini-elective for preclinical students and funding for students to attend ASA and participate in the Difficult Airway Workshop.

Des Moines University

Des Moines University's (DMU) Anesthesiology Club is honored to be chosen as one of the recipients of this year's *Outstanding AIG Student Chapter Award* and is proud to be key part in furthering the education of future anesthesiologists. The Anesthesiology Club offers sessions to all students enrolled at DMU and has recently shifted their focus to offering "hands-on" learning experiences with workshops and simulations. This year we offered workshops on regional nerve blocks using ultrasound; common anesthesia procedures such as intubation, central lines, and epidural/spinal anesthetics using DMU's simulation and surgical lab; and computer-based simulations to explain concepts of induction, maintenance and emergent situations. Members also have the opportunity to connect with local and national anesthesiologists through continuous involvement with Iowa's Anesthesiology Society and the ASA. DMU routinely has delegate representation at the national meeting and is making strides to connect more with state level societies each year through meeting attendance. We have also prided ourselves on engaging the community by providing senior citizens information about pain management at DMU's annual health fair.



Oregon Health and Science University



Under the leadership of Kyle Robinson, Linda Wang, David Steinhardt, and Esi Dickson, OHSU's Anesthesiology Interest Group (AIG) has served as a robust student organization and won the AIG Outstanding

Student Chapter award earlier this year. By collaborating with the Acute Care College and Emergency Medicine Interest Group, OHSU AIG hosted events such as suturing, ultrasound, and airway management workshops, peer-to-peer mentoring, and many other activities. The chapter's plan for 2017 is to increase student awareness of the specialty by expanding the Big Sib/Little Sib program, which provides students with mentorship and shadowing opportunities from OHSU anesthesia residents. The OHSU AIG will also increase its global health involvement by partnering with Lifebox, a charity devoted to providing safer surgical and anesthesia care in low-resource countries.

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

The AIG here at UTHSCSA is one of the most active interest groups on campus. Each year we strive to reach out to the new medical students as they start their medical journey and show them what the field of Anesthesiology is all about. Each year we hold monthly meetings where staff Anesthesiologists from various sub-specialties will come and talk about what a day in the life looks like for them. We also host hands on workshops where our members get to practice many common procedures such as intubation, IV access and central line placement. Lastly we have established a wonderful shadowing program in which first and second year students are paired with anesthesia residents and get to experience the OR first hand. We are honored to have been selected for this award and look forward to continued success within our school and beyond.

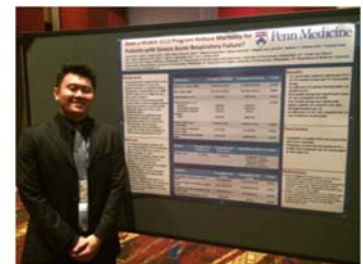


MEDICAL STUDENT ANESTHESIA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



THE MEDICAL STUDENT ANESTHESIA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP SUMMER PROGRAM PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH A CHALLENGING AND REWARDING EXPERIENCE THAT EXPOSES THEM TO THE OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE MEDICAL FIELD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY AND

The Foundation for Anesthesia Research and Education (FAER) program helped deepen my love for the field of anesthesiology. My summer experience at University of Pennsylvania working with my mentor, Dr. Jacob Gutsche, and interaction with the whole Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care have not only taught me to think like a scientist but also how to bring the science back into the clinical setting. As a second year medical student at Drexel University College of Medicine, I could only dream of the opportunities that the FAER program offered such as giving an oral presentation of my research in front of established anesthesiologists and other medical students interested in anesthesiology. For anyone interested in the specialty, the FAER program is a family that supports and cultivates our journey as we help further advance the field of anesthesiology together.



Cornel Chiu pictured above presenting his poster at the ASA National Conference

OPPORTUNITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Medical students who participate in the summer anesthesia research fellowship can expect:

- Eight weeks of focused research related to anesthesia.
- A dedicated mentor who will provide guidance and training in research techniques and scientific methods.
- The opportunity to make a scientific poster presentation at the American Society of Anesthesiologists annual meeting, during the FAER MSARF Symposium.
- A \$400 per week student stipend, ASA student membership dues, plus additional funds to help cover the costs of travel to the ASA meeting.

Application Deadline: January 31st 2017

<http://faer.org/programs/msarf-summer-program/>



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- **Caitlin Curcuru**
Secretary
- **Christopher Li**
Senior Advisor
- **Michael Wentzel**
Member-at-Large
- **Billy Tran**
AMA Delegate
- **Amol Utrankar**
AMA Alternate Delegate
- **Bryant Loosle**
Alternate

Dear ASA MSC Component,

It is an honor to serve as Secretary and Editor of the ASA MSC newsletter for the 2016-2017 term. My fellow council members and I are dedicated to increasing medical student participation in ASA and providing up-to-date resources for those pursuing careers in anesthesiology.

This newsletter highlights the opportunities available to medical students in attendance at the ASA national conference. Students can increase their knowledge and clinical skills by attending the many educational seminar and hands on workshops. It is also a great opportunity for students to network with other medical students, residents, and physicians!

The ASA Medical Student Component Governing Council welcomes your questions, comments, and concerns as we work together to broaden awareness and promote interest and knowledge of anesthesiology.

Feel free to contact me directly at asa.mscsecretary@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Caitlin Curcuru

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED?

CONTRIBUTE TO THE MSC NEWSLETTER

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WRITING AN ARTICLE
FOR THE UPCOMING MSC NEWSLETTER, PLEASE
CONTACT ASA.MSCSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM