

Volume 12, Issue 2  
Fall 2023

# Buzzard Business



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# Greetings!

Happy Fall!

First, exciting news, our DNAP students won the 3 Minute Thesis Competition at the University Level! One group will be moving on to Regionals. We are very proud of them! Fall is the time of year for senior SEE preparation and part of the countdown to the NCE which the graduating seniors will take in the summer. The graduating class of 2023 all passed within 28 days of graduation! That is a new first for our program. We are so proud of their accomplishment and wish them well as they embark on their paths as CRNAs.

Our freshmen are almost finished with their second semester –an immersion in anesthesia! The juniors are knee deep in clinical and Advanced Anesthesia Principles. Seniors are working on RFP's in the Business of Anesthesia and finishing their scholarly work. Everyone, including faculty are looking forward to a break for the holidays along with some turkey and pumpkin pie.

Our post masters CRNA group is doing well, several will be graduating in December. Graduation is December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Interviews for Spring admission are currently underway.

A few college changes to share. After being in charge of the School of Nursing for the past almost 4 years, a full time School of Nursing Director has been hired (yeah!), and I am back to my first love, anesthesia. It was a great learning experience. I loved the undergrad nursing students – their enthusiasm, energy, and thirst for learning along with faculty that really care! Another change, the College will be

moving from 13 Departments to 5 Colleges which should be accomplished by next summer: School of Anesthesia, School of Nursing, School of Mental Health and the final two are still in naming discussions.

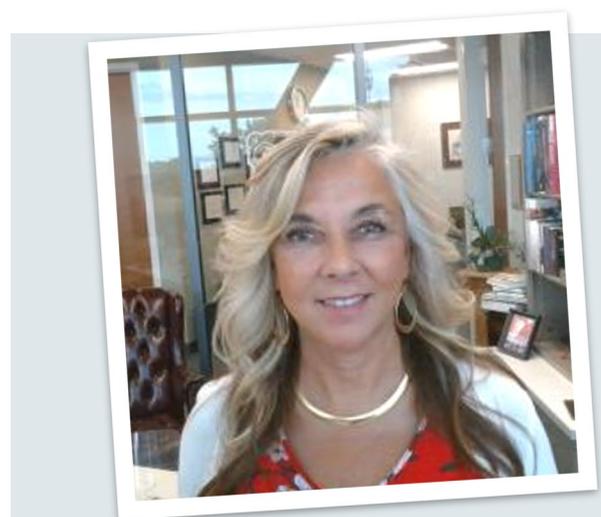
We currently have a faculty position open, looking for the right fit to come and mold the minds of our anesthesia future. Dr. Skibiski is retiring, and her shoes will be hard to fill!

As we prepare to pause for a holiday of Thanksgiving, I want to say that I am thankful for each one of you. Thank you for your hard work, what you give back and what you give to your patients. We are blessed beyond measure, and to whom much is given, much is expected. I challenge you to do a random act of kindness today. Stop and enjoy the beautiful leaves before they all fall, and then catch a snowflake on your tongue!

Celebrate your art! Happy Holidays!

Respectfully,

*Monika*



Program Director, Dr. Monika Feeney

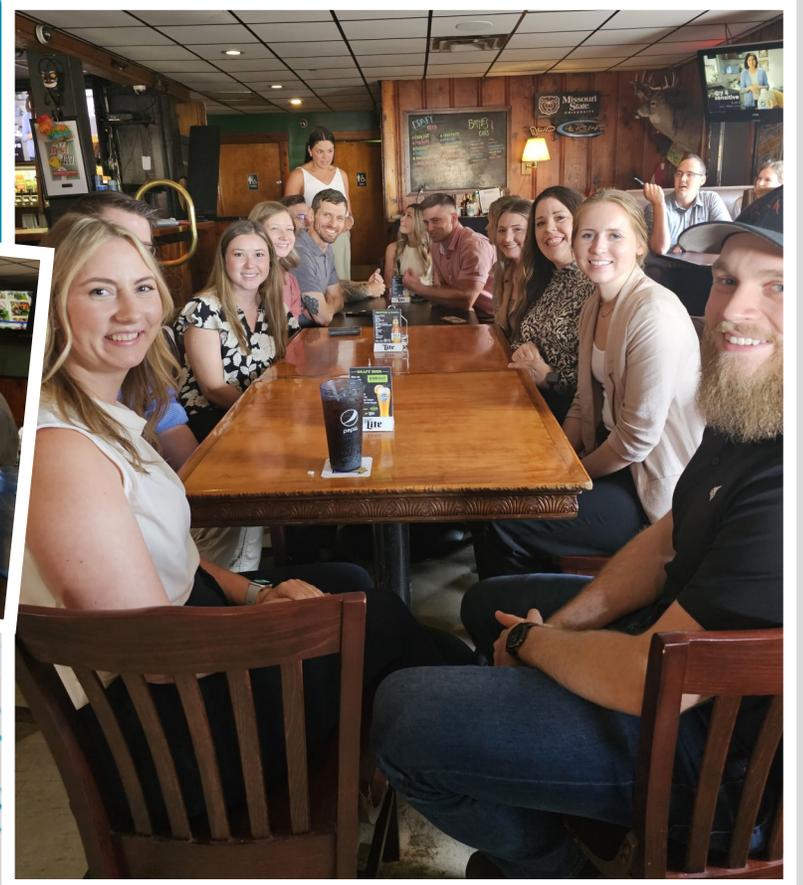
# Student Spot

## *School of Anesthesia Students Host Tailgate at MSU Homecoming 2023*



# Student Spot

*Welcome New Freshmen!*



# Student Spot

## *Students Attend Annual Congress*

### SEATTLE



## *Student Awarded Wellness Scholarship for Climbing Fireman's Schlog*



*Sydney Melugin*, a MSU School of Anesthesia senior was awarded a \$1000 wellness scholarship for completing the climb challenge on Fireman's Schlog, in Orifino, Idaho.

Local firemen have a race once a year to see who can make this grueling climb. The elevation is 2,370 feet. The trail is 0.85 miles and is basically straight uphill. (Wendy Russell, clinical site coordinator, pictured left and Sydney Melugin, pictured right.)

# Student Spot

## *Students Attend MOANA St. Louis*



# Student Spot

## *Special Thanks*

These School of Anesthesia Graduate Assistants helped in the McQuery College of Health and Human Services Simulation lab.



## Clinical Site Coordinator Spotlight:

Dr. Juston D. Evenson

Freeman Health System Joplin, MO



**Where and when did you graduate from Medical school?** Saint Louis University School of Medicine 2001; Completed Residency in Anesthesia from Saint Louis University Hospital 2005

**How long have you been a site coordinator?** Since July 2022

**What do you like best about having students?** The opportunity to motivate students into perpetual learners, and their excitement and confidence that comes with under-

standing and solving problems.  
**What is a strong attribute you bring to the table in teaching students?** A focus on self-improvement.

**What are some of your favorite things to teach students?** Regional anesthesia techniques.

**What do you enjoy in your spare time?** With 9 children, family keeps me very busy.

# Student Spot

## Senior Anesthesia Students Win First and Second Place at the Graduate College 3 Minute Thesis Competition



# Student Spotlight

## Sunyang Lee, Senior



### **-Year at MSU School of Anesthesia**

My name is Sunyang Lee, but everybody calls me Sunny. I am a Senior in the School of Anesthesia Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice program and will graduate in May 2024.

### **-Hometown**

I was born in Seoul, South Korea, but I moved around a lot during childhood because of my father's job. I grew up in multiple different cities in Korea and also lived in Bangkok, Thailand, and Kaohsiung, Taiwan, for about a total of 5 years when I was young. Even though I moved a lot, I have great memories of each city and cannot pick my favorite.

After graduating high school in Korea, I moved to Springfield, Missouri, to become a nurse and lived here since. Springfield is the city I have lived in the longest, so I consider Springfield my US hometown.

### **-Where did you graduate from Nursing School, and in what area have you worked since?**

I graduated with an Associate of Science degree in Nursing in 2015 from Southwest Baptist University (SBU) School of Nursing, Springfield, Missouri campus. Post-graduation, I started my nursing career as a medical-surgical floor nurse at Cox Health, learned how to prioritize patients' needs based on their conditions, and became profi-

cient at time management and performing nursing skills. I learned a lot during the first year and a half, but realized that I wanted to be able to do more for my patients by learning more skills and using more critical thinking. After much consideration, I decided to transfer to Neuro-Trauma Intensive Care Unit (NTICU) and further

expand my abilities. In NTICU, I learned how to care for patients who have suffered trauma, stroke, and many other chronic medical issues. With the variety of critical patients in NTICU, I received a lot of experience and diversified my nursing capabilities. I worked there until March 2021 and returned to school to the MSU DNAP program in the Summer of 2021.

### **-Why did you decide to become a CRNA?**

I had zero intention of returning to school after completing my BSN degree because I felt like I'd been in school too long and wanted to enjoy my life. However, as time passed, I realized I enjoy learning and being challenged. With my experience in the ICU, I became more involved with patients who came out of the OR (Operating Room) and became very interested in what CRNAs do for patients under anesthesia. With this new interest, I decided to shadow a CRNA, and it was an eye-opening experience. I couldn't be more fascinated with what CRNAs do. After some contemplation, I concluded that I wanted to do this for the rest of my career. It was hard for me to believe, but I wanted to go back to school to learn more how to play a significant role in alleviating patients' pain during and even after surgeries.

### **-Was there anyone instrumental in your decision to become a CRNA?**

I have a sister-in-law who just graduated from the program this May and works as a CRNA in Phoenix, AZ. I have known her for a long time and consider her one of my best friends. She has been one of the most amazing supporters I have had in my life. She explained everything about being a CRNA when I started being interested and guided me in my decision to pursue anesthesia. And, of course, my husband has been the greatest supporter in my decision to become a CRNA. My husband has always told me that I could return to school if I wanted for anything, even before I knew I wanted to. He used to say that he would support me completely and that we could overcome any challenges. I knew my husband would support my decision, but there was so much to consider before committing because it is almost impossible to work for three years of nurse anesthesia school. With me having a type A personality, I needed to have a plan for every little detail. Saying so, my husband and I had countless discussions over a long period and finally decided to apply for school! I am grateful that we took time to think before making a decision and that I have such amazing people around me.

### **-What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I am a homebody, so I mostly spend my spare time indoors. I like listening to music, watching Netflix, and being a couch potato ;) I also enjoy taking naps if I feel tired. I could be more active, but I like to work out at least twice a week. I do not have much spare time, but I make the most out of it to refresh and focus back on school!

# Job Posting: MSU School of Anesthesia Assistant Professor-9 or 12 month appt

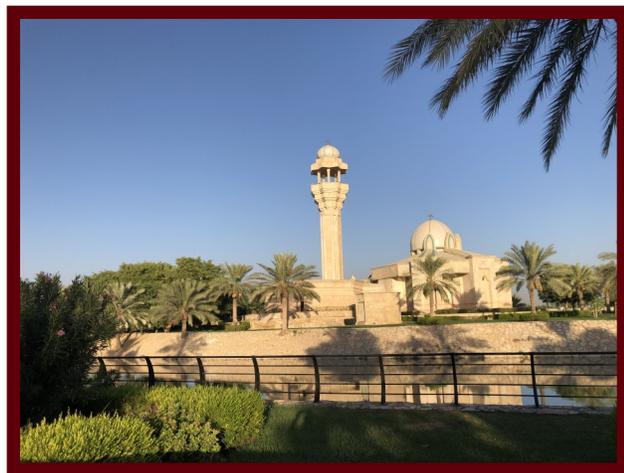
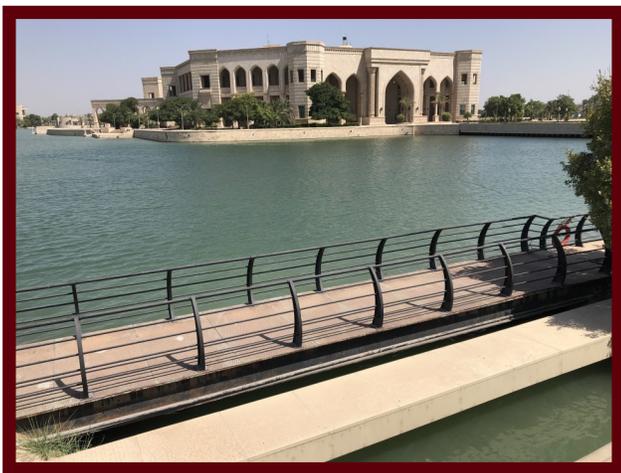


This position is a tenure track position with responsibilities to teach anesthesia classes; both basic and advanced, as well as anesthesia related classes as needed by the anesthesia department. This position will assist with student research in anesthesia, serve as Scholarly Work committee member and provide appropriate service, direction and guidance to graduate students working on their DNAP projects. The responsibilities for this position will include some or all of the following: teaching, student advising, research and creative activities, service and cooperative extension, and administrative responsibilities, and directing of student capstone research related to anesthesia. Responsibilities may include involvement in off-campus, evening or weekend duties, as well as student recruitment, retention, and placement efforts. Reports directly to the Program Director. The candidate must possess a current unencumbered advanced practice license of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist (CRNA), a clinical doctorate or PhD, experience teaching anesthesia, and advising student scholarly work projects. The candidate should have 3 years of related anesthesia work experience within a medical facility and the ability to meet the requirements for retention, promotion, and tenure in accordance with the Faculty Handbook.

For more information about this position check out the job posting online at: <https://jobs.missouristate.edu/postings/71831>

## Looking for Work Abroad?

The American University of Iraq-Bagdad is looking for a CRNA to help set up a new Anesthesia program. Dr. David Claborn, recently retired as the Director of the Master of Public Health program at Missouri State University. He now works as the Associate Dean of the College of Healthcare Technologies for the American University of Iraq-Bagdad. The college he is working with is in the early stages of setting up an Anesthesia program. This program is seeking a recent CRNA graduate or other CRNA who wants a little adventure and would consider working on a safe, cloistered compound at the American University of Iraq-Bagdad. The campus is essentially a collection of palaces that belonged to Saddam Hussein prior to the war in 2003. For more information, contact: David Claborn at [david.claborn@auib.edu.iq](mailto:david.claborn@auib.edu.iq).



## Important Dates



November 18<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Break (No Classes/Offices Closed 22-26) No clinical rotations

Nov 27<sup>th</sup>- Senior SIM testing

November 27<sup>th</sup>– Senior Apex test (Exam III)

December 4<sup>th</sup>-Seniors SIM testing

December 7<sup>th</sup> –Last Day of Class & Clinical Rotations

December 8<sup>th</sup>-Dead Day

December 8<sup>th</sup>-Jan 8<sup>th</sup>- Clinical Rotation Break

December 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> -Finals week

December 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> - Junior SIM testing

December 15<sup>th</sup> –Graduation

December 21<sup>st</sup>-Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> –Winter Break (No Classes/Offices Closed)

January 9<sup>th</sup> - New Clinical Site Rotations begin

January 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>-Valley Anesthesia Review (Seniors have no clinical Fri 1-12-2024)

January 16<sup>th</sup> – Spring Classes Begin



### Clinical Site Coordinator Spotlight

Correction: In the Spring 2023 Buzzard Business, Dr. John Field was listed as Dr. David Field.

## Stay Social



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Please send any stories, pictures, alumni updates, and special event information to [Mary Kate Cherry](#), Communications Specialist.