



Buzzard Business

VOLUME 7 ISSUE II

FALL 2019

MSU School of Anesthesia Faculty and Students Attend the AANA Annual Congress in Chicago, IL

SCHEDULE OF CURRENT SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- Nov. 27-29, Thanks-giving Break
- Dec. 5, Last Day of Class
- Dec. 6, Dead Day
- Dec. 7 On Site Classes
- Dec. 7-12, Finals Week
- Dec. 13, Graduation
- Dec. 16-Jan. 1, Winter Break
- Jan. 10 New Cohort Interviews
- Jan. 13 Spring Classes Begin

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Program Director, Dr. Monika Feeney along with Assistant Professor, Dr. Jeanie Skibiski and twenty students represented MSU School of Anesthesia at this year's Annual Congress in Chicago, IL. Attendees were able to attend hands-on training, education sessions, interactive Q & A events and networking opportunities.

Popular sessions attended were : Jan Stewart's Memorial Wellness Lecture: My Life with Dirty John, a true story of addiction and abuse; How low can you go?, the future of opioid sparing trends and techniques; Demystifying the transition from SRNA to CRNA; Living with No Excuses, pushing beyond your limits; and the Career Fair.

Senior Student, Maggie Swafford said, "This was my first annual conference with the AANA. I had the time of my life. I laughed, I cried, I learned, and I walked...a lot! I really felt like I needed this trip mentally, physically, and emotionally. I felt rejuvenated, refreshed, and ready to finish this marathon. The saying definitely holds true, "No one said it would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it". To see so many fellow SRNA's going through the same things and CRNA's from all over the country come together to inspire each other to become the best providers we can possibly become, is nothing short of amazing!

"The AANA annual congress is an event that every student needs to attend, at least once. It was very eye-opening learning about different ways and approaches to anesthesia. Anesthesia continues to evolve and change frequently so it is important to stay up to date with new trends and medications available. I really enjoyed all of the student led activities" - Garrick Procter, Junior SRNA

Julia Merlo, a Senior SRNA had the following to say about the NBCRNA sponsored luncheon, "I really enjoyed this luncheon and felt honored to be looked at as the "future" of anesthesia".

2019 AANA Annual Congress Chicago





2019 AANA Annual Congress Chicago





Student Converts Ambulance into Mobile Home

Marcus House, originally from Bonne Terre, MO is a second-year student at Missouri State University's School of Anesthesia. Marcus moved to Cape Girardeau for his undergraduate degree where he wound up staying and teaching high school science for seven years before embarking on his career in nursing.

At the end of his first year in Anesthesia school, after receiving his location for his first clinical site Marcus drove to the area to check out housing options. With what he deemed as an unsuccessful trip, he recalls driving home feeling a little dejected when he received a text from his wife asking how the search was going. Jokingly he replied back with a simple Craigslist ad for a 1995 E350 ambulance. (Marcus will tell you he hit the jackpot with his wife.) She replied back "Babe , you gotta do what you gotta do" , not fully realizing the can of worms this would open. The next week Marcus and a few of his classmates drove to Kansas to pick up what they would later dub "The Meat Wagon".



"The initial renovation wasn't all that difficult" claims Marcus. "The beauty of starting with an ambulance as a platform, is there is already a ton of external storage and internal cabinetry. The only thing I really had to do to make it "camp-able" was build a bed and lay new flooring" Marcus converted all the lighting to LED to maximize his battery life and recently installed 300W of solar. "Getting my solar power to integrate seamlessly with the existing electrical system was a daunting endeavor, but has been worth it" says Marcus. While it's still a work in progress, his next project is a diesel parking heater, running water and a water heater.



How's Life in an ambulance?

"Full disclosure: It's not for everybody. Living in a metal box in a hospital parking lot comes with its own unique set of challenges. A hot night in the summer can be downright miserable (the power requirements for off-the-grid A/C are challenging), and I don't anticipate winter is going to be that much easier. Thankfully the hospital security has been super gracious, and I effectively have the shortest commute of anyone in my cohort. "

As a CRNA student, Marcus admits that spare time is a scarce commodity, but when he does find some, he enjoys being outdoors. Camping and backpacking with his wife and two pitbulls, Oswald & Emma Jean. "We just make the effort whenever we can to take advantage of that time, no matter how fleeting, in order to take care of ourselves and nourish the relationship with the ones we love. Because without them, none of this would be possible (or worth it)."



Mr. Healthcare 2019

Our very own, Jacob Cherry , takes home the Crown

The Association of Student Physical Therapists (ASPT) hosted the event, Mr. Healthcare 2019, at MSU.

Participants from Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, School of Nursing, and Nurse Anesthesia were able to compete in a friendly competition consisting of: talent, fashion, and trivia.

Jacob Cherry took home the victory due to his incredible fashion, his outstanding ribbon dance performance, and conquering the trivia portion of the event. I had the opportunity to ask Mr. Healthcare 2019 how he prepared for such an event; "I performed my usual warmup routine that consists of 13 jumping jacks, 3 squat thrusts, and 2 raw eggs. I checked my ribbon length to make sure it was to Olympic standard and that my shorts were upper 1/3 thigh."

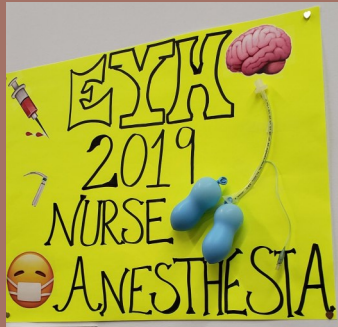
When asked if he enjoyed the event, Jacob said " I had so much fun doing this competition. I love sharing my gifts with the world! Ribbon dance is difficult. Being able to glide across that stage looking like a Majestic Sunfish was a highlight of my life!"

Jacob is originally from Ozark, MO and is in his final year of completing the DNAP program. In his spare time he enjoys hanging out with his family, playing video games and football.



Congratulations Jacob Cherry aka Mr. Healthcare 2019!



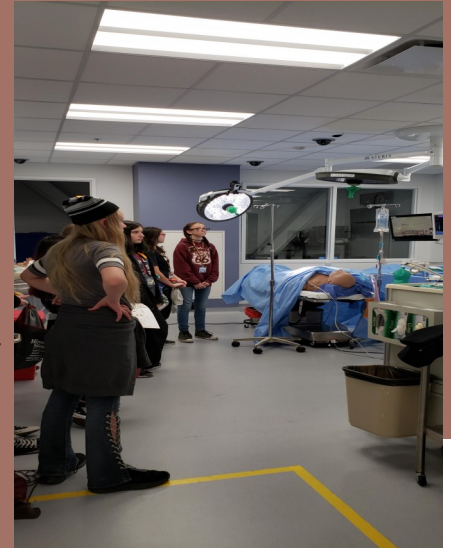


Student's Volunteer



On November 9th, School of Anesthesia students Kristina Crosby, Annie Farris and Mercy Akinwande volunteered for the Expanding Your Horizon (EYH) event hosted by the McQueary College of Health and Human Services (MCHHS). EYH is a hands-on science and health career exploration experience for young girls to encourage interest in math and science. The theme for this year was 'Weird Science'. The young girls were able to visit rooms from various healthcare specialties throughout the MCHHS college.

"For the nurse anesthesia program, students were split into two groups. In room 1, they were introduced to the setup of an Operation Room, and took turns giving manual breaths to the manikin using a face mask. In room 2, students used the ultrasound to see the difference between an artery and a vein. It was an honor being able to meet these young girls and peak their interest towards the world of Anesthesia. " - Mercy Akinwande



CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Cynthia Aurentz, Assistant Professor at MSU, teaches Graduate Studies for the School of Anesthesia, Healthcare for The School of Nursing and is program coordinator for the RNFA program. To add to her list of achievements she has recently taken on a new role as the Vice President of Communication for the Missouri Nurse Association Board of Directors.

"I have been an RN since 1991 and went from ADN, to BSN, to MSN in Nursing Education in 2013. After 28 years in Nursing I achieved the terminal degree of DNP in Leadership and Innovation from the University of Missouri (May 2018). For the past 5 years, I have been in nursing education and leadership. I am privileged and honored to teach future nurses and future advance practice nurses. During my role as an educator and program coordinator, I have learned more about the barriers that APRNs face and my goal is to be involved in policy that gives APRNs the right to practice to the full extent of their skills, knowledge, and education. I have also learned about expanded nursing roles (e.g. RNFA) and that we must advocate for legislation that give nurses the opportunity to do what they do best. Innovation in nursing is paramount to the success of healthcare and just as APRNs and other RNs should be able to use their knowledge, skills and education to improve patient outcomes; similarly, those of us in academia and leadership should be empowered to utilize our skills, knowledge, and education to improve health policy. My "baby" is now in college and I want to give back to a career and profession that I love. My desire is to help turn our "sick care" system into a true "health care" system by advancing nursing" -Dr. Aurentz



Missouri Nurse Association Publication Summer 2019

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What's New?



WELCOME to the Class of 2022

New Editor

Hello!

My name is Candice Betts and I've been with Missouri State University School of Anesthesia since April 2018. I absolutely love it here! The faculty is AMAZING and I thoroughly enjoy interacting with the students. My background is in bookkeeping and finance. I mostly handle our budgets & financials, but when the opportunity arose to take on the Buzzard Business as one of my tasks I hopped on it!



I live in Willard, MO a small farm town just northwest of Springfield, MO. I have 2 small children ages 6 and 8 and 2 bonus teenage boys. We live on a hobby farm, which basically just means I have lots of animals but do not turn a profit. We try and raise our own meat and grow our own produce. My home is my oasis, I could never run out of things to do there. I love being outdoors; planting flowers, smelling flowers, and soaking up the sun! I find great relaxation in mowing the lawn (on a rider of course).

I'm happy to be taking on this new task and getting to know a little bit more about the people who make up The School of Anesthesia. If you have something you would like to share, please contact me.

candicebetts@missouristate.edu



Curriculum Update; Dr. Beckham

Greetings MSU School of Anesthesia students and alumni!

I would like to share with you some of the exciting new curricular changes happening here at MSU. Each year, we review our didactic program and assess any changes that need to be made to improve student performance. We carefully sift through student evaluations and grades, and evaluate scores and pass rates on the National Self Evaluation Exam (SEE) and the National Certifying Exam (NCE). In addition to reporting as pass/not pass, the exams also break student scores down into 4 didactic categories. These include Basic Sciences (and pharmacology); Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology; General Principles of Anesthesia; and Anesthesia for Surgical Procedures and Special Populations. The scores obtained from the SEE can be extremely helpful in helping students know where to focus their efforts in preparing for the national board examination. Also, as graduating students take the NCE, faculty are able to evaluate scores in each of the categories and see where improvements could be focused.

One of the exciting new changes we have made in our curriculum is our ANE 721 Anesthesia Equipment and Physics class. Two years ago, faculty noticed that this was an area that could benefit from greater focus. The content required for these areas had previously been included in multiple classes. As this was an area of great interest to me, I went about developing the class and began the pilot class in the fall of 2018. The syllabus and content taught exactly follow the NBCRNA outline for the board content for this section of the NCE. This section accounts for 18% of SEE content and 15% of NCE content. The class includes an in-depth study of the anesthesia machine, gas laws, airway equipment, fire and electrical safety, and all other equipment used in anesthesia. The students have been extremely receptive and can readily see the value of spending additional time and focus on content that will match so specifically to what they need to know for clinical practice and for testing. The new class was repeated in the fall of 2019 and student reviews have been good. We are looking forward to tracking the results and determining the effectiveness as graduating students take the NCE. Always looking for ways to make sure our students remain the best!

Program Director's Corner

Dr. Monika Feeney, DNAP, MS, CRNA

Greetings and Happy Holidays!

What a semester! I keep thinking things will slow down, and instead it feels like time is going by faster!

On the entry level front for the first time we did an early interview of half of our candidates. The other half will be interviewed in January, we will be offering 24 seats. Many schools offer positions one year in advance, so we will be moving out interviews to August instead of January for next year, 2020. The applicants looked amazing – the future of anesthesia looks bright!

Our current Freshmen are wrapping up their second semester of classwork (Yeah!). Juniors now have 6 months of clinical under their belts. Seniors are preparing to take the SEE exam, with a required passing score of 420, 10 points higher than last year. Thank you to all of our clinical preceptors that invest in the future of anesthesia! We appreciate you! Many of our seniors participated in the Three Minute Thesis competition. For the first time we won not only our College competition but the UNIVERSITY competition!! Congratulations to Thomas Hardwick and Alex Illyuk they each received \$150.00 for their presentation on cuff pressures of ET tubes on the airway. Very proud of them!

On the completion front, we have added another satellite sight in Scottsdale Arizona at Mayo Scottsdale. We welcome the CRNA's that are wanting to complete their terminal degree as a DNAP. Our program is a post Masters degree with 9 online classes that can be completed in one, two or three years. We required on site time 3 times a year on a Saturday where we end 3 classes, and begin 3 more. It's a full day, and occurs in December, May and August. Feel free to let us know if you have any questions!

We are still looking for a full time faculty member to take over the Simulation lab. We were blessed with 3 new simulators this fall – Hal, Tori, and Jimmy (Adult, Baby and Pediatric) all from Gaumard. They are very lifelike and all tetherless! Jimmy's eyes even track you if you move in the room!

November 1st I was assigned additional duties as Interim Director of the School of Nursing as MSU, Both the School of Nursing Director and the BSN Director stepped down. Its been a learning curve for me, but rewarding to see the undergraduate students excitement to become a nurse – and remember the bedbath, bedpan days. I'll keep you posted!

Take time to be well! Celebrate your art! Thank you for keeping our patients safe!

Respectfully,

Monika



Kathleen's Corner

Holiday Greetings!

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Kathleen Hahn, and I have been with the Missouri State University School of Anesthesia for the past year. I have been working closely with both our entry level students and our completion level students.

We are excited to announce that for students wanting to start in the 2021 year, we will be moving our application process up! We plan to have two interview dates during the 2020 summer semester, and have all students chosen for the 2021 cohort by September. In preparation we held early interviews on Nov 8th and excepted 14 wonderful candidates for the 2020 start date. In January we will select the final 10 to complete the Class of 2023.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!







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Alumni News

We are eager to share news about our alumni. If you have information to share we would love to include it for others to know!

Email information to:

Candice Betts

candicebetts@missouristate.edu

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Gone but not forgotten ...

Janet Huston passed away in her residence on August 6, 2019.

Janet graduated from SW Missouri School of Nurse Anesthesia in 1958. She worked at St. Johns and Cox hospitals for 43 years.



**Interested in Teaching? Have your terminal degree?
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Donate to Our

Nurse Anesthetist Program Excellence Fund

Donations can be made to the Missouri State University Foundation designated for the **Nurse Anesthetist Program Excellence Fund**. The School of Anesthesia is a self-supporting program at MSU. That means our funds come from program fees, tuition, and donations.

Giving online is easy, visit:

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