Greetings from the KU Nurse Anesthesia Program faculty and staff! It is difficult to believe that fall semester is starting next week and time for our third program newsletter. Senior SRNAs Lesley Tongish and Stephanie White have done an outstanding job working on the newsletter as part of their alumni and student organization Capstone project.

Karri Arndt and I continue to work on the transition committee for entry level DNP. The entire program faculty is updating or creating classes necessary to meet the DNP Essentials. A time line for submissions to KUMC committees, the Kansas Board of Nursing, and two accrediting bodies (CCNE and COA) has been established with the goal of accepting the DNP class in June 2012. Look for more updates (and hopefully good news) in the spring 2012 newsletter.

The KU School of Allied Health is undergoing a name change and will now be the KU School of Health Professions. This name change was requested by students and will better reflect the diverse programs it houses: Nurse Anesthesia, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Audiology, Dietetics and Nutrition, Health Information Management, Respiratory Therapy, and Laboratory Sciences.

The program welcomes two new employees: Carmen Carter has been hired as office assistant and joins current office staff personnel Ruth Lee and Karen Spartan. Patrick Donnelly, CRNA, MS, class of 2008, has joined the faculty and will primarily teach CTS clinical and online advanced theory courses. Patrick will also start his DNP curriculum this fall. Carol Elliott, CRNA, PhD, is in her final year of phased retirement and has actually cut back on her work load! Dr. Marshall Andersen taught his last group of SRNAs this summer and will be truly missed as the anatomy instructor. Two School of Medicine anatomy professors have agreed to team teach the course in summer 2012.

Paul Hertel and I attended the AANA National Meeting in Boston with three KU SRNAs. The NBCRNA announced that recertification testing will be initiated in 2015 with retesting required every eight years. There is also an increase in CEU requirements from 20 to 35 per year, with 15 of the hours including end-of-activity assessments. Please visit the NBCRNA web site for more details and respond in the comment forum from September 6 through November 14.

I encourage all alumni to visit our program web site often for updates and news, www.na.kumc.edu.

Please keep in touch with us and send any news that could be included on the website or in the newsletter. The annual football tailgate is September 10th at 3 PM and I hope to see many of you in Lawrence!

Donna Nyght, CRNA, DNP
Student Spotlight:

Farewell to the class of 2011:

The class of 2011 participated in commencement exercises and celebrated their accomplishments May 20-22nd. Festivities included the Hooding Ceremony, party at Renee Kelley’s, School of Allied Health Recognition Ceremony, and “walk down the hill” in Lawrence. The 20 graduates have obtained jobs in the states of Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Colorado, Nevada, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Florida.

Students reaching out in Guatemala: Written by Joy Taylor, Senior SRNA

This year the Department of Nurse Anesthesia participated in its second annual missions trip to Antigua, Guatemala. The Department worked closely with the Medical Missions Foundation to send two SRNA students along with Donna Nyght, Department Chair, for a week long mission trip to Guatemala.

- **61 volunteers spent June 25 through July 3** in Antigua, Guatemala, with Medical Missions Foundation (MMF). The MMF volunteers provided services at Las Obras Hospital and Nuestros Ahijados Clinic. Throughout the course of the mission, 196 patients were seen in the hospital clinic at Las Obras and 171 patients were seen in the Nuestros Ahijados clinic in Jocotenango for a total of **367 patients treated**. Common diagnoses in the clinic were musculoskeletal pain, eczema, viral issues such as URI and UTI, worms, and parasites.

- **100 hearing aids** were fitted and given out by the audiology clinic, and **75 surgeries** were performed, including: tonsillectomies, tympanoplasties, ethmoidectomies, adenectomies, myringotomies, endoscopic sinus surgeries, transurethral prostate resections, hydrocelectomies, and a nephrectomy

All participants found the experience unique and extremely rewarding. The anesthesia providers gained a greater appreciation for available resources and improved their awareness of conservation techniques. Exposure to a foreign facility provides students with a broader knowledge base for future practice and adaptation to other environments. This mission also served to further the commitment for future trips within the University of Kansas Nurse Anesthesia Education Department. This experience was truly incredible, not only for the knowledge and experience gained as student nurse anesthetists, but for the opportunity to help others in need.

Pictured: Donna Nyght, CRNA, Dr. Terry Chaffee, Anesthesiologist, Asfaw Getaw, SRNA, Joe Dietrick, CRNA, and Joy Taylor, SRNA.

Pictured: Joy Taylor, SRNA, and Asfaw Getaw, SRNA.

Pictured: Asfaw Getaw, Joy Taylor, and Joe Dietrick with surgical technicians from Guatemala.
AANA Mid-Year Assembly: Washington, D.C.

Tara Brunin, SRNA, Andrea Yoder, SRNA, and Paul Hertel, CRNA, were in Washington, D.C., April 10-13, 2011, to attend the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists' (AANA) Mid-Year Assembly. This annual assembly provides an opportunity for nurse anesthesia students to develop expertise in federal legislative and regulatory issues and learn about the legislative process. Attending this event allows students to experience a part of professional practice that cannot be replicated in the classroom or clinical setting.

AANA 78th Annual Meeting: August 6-10, 2011

Students Andrew Sledge, Christine Barron and Andrea Rosewell, along with KU Faculty Paul Hertel, CRNA, MS, and KU Program Director, Donna Nyght, CRNA, DNP, had the opportunity to attend the annual American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) conference in Boston.

Highlights of the conference included review of the 50-State Strategy, changes from the NBCRNA concerning the recertification process, and the announcement of a National Virtual Lobby Day. For more information, AANA members can visit www.caretobecounted.org. The students enjoyed their week in Boston learning about the developments in anesthesia and networking with students from other programs. We hope to see you in San Francisco next year.
Annual Picnic to Welcome Class of 2014

Each year the KU Nurse Anesthesia Department hosts a picnic for all of the nurse anesthesia students and nurse anesthesia faculty members. This year, the picnic took place at Shawnee Mission Park on June 4th. The picnic is a way for the new students to meet faculty members and classmates from the various classes, and vice versa.

Pictured: NA Faculty, Shelley Barenklau, CRNA, Donna Nyght, CRNA, & Karri Arndt, CRNA

Annual KU Nurse Anesthesia Tailgate

The annual program and alumni tailgate will be held on September 10, 2011 on the hill in Lawrence, Kansas. The KU Jayhawks will be battling the Northern Illinois Huskies at 6 p.m. The tailgate will begin at 3 p.m. The department will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, and all of the fixings. We invite all students, faculty, and alumni to join us in cheering on the Jayhawks to victory!
Clinical Affiliate Site Spotlight:

Cherokee Nation WW Hastings Hospital

Cherokee Nation Hospital is located in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. W.W. Hastings Hospital is a 60-bed inpatient hospital boasting professional affiliations with the Colleges of Nursing and Optometry at Northeastern State University, the College of Pharmacy at Southwestern State University, the Schools of Nursing and Radiology at Bacone College, and partners with the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University for a variety of health care students.

Twelve nurse anesthesia students from the KU Nurse Anesthesia program rotate through the Cherokee Nation Hospital in their senior year of school for required obstetric cases. At this site, SRNAs learn how to manage the laboring patient, place spinal and epidural blocks, and perform anesthesia for cesarean sections. The anesthesia group consists of both CRNAs and anesthesiologists, all working independently without medical direction. The clinical coordinator at this facility is Bill Worthington, CRNA, and a 2006 alumni of KU’s nurse anesthesia program.

Faculty In The Spotlight:

Patrick Donnelly, CRNA, returned to his alma mater as a KU Nurse Anesthesia Department clinical and didactic instructor. Donnelly earned a BS in Biological Sciences from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He then earned his BSN from Rockhurst/Research College of Nursing. In May of 2008, Donnelly earned his Masters in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of Kansas. Donnelly is a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, the Missouri Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Sigma Theta Tau International, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Prior to joining the KU faculty, Donnelly worked as a staff CRNA at North Kansas City Hospital for three years. Donnelly will begin working towards a DNP this fall.

Shelley Barenklau, and Karri Arndt, CRNA faculty at KU, finished their Doctor of Nursing Practice in May of 2011. Congratulations to both of them!
UPCOMING EVENTS

➢ **Alumni/Program Tailgate: KU vs. Northern Illinois**
  • September 10, 2011, on the hill in Lawrence, Kansas
  • Tailgate at 3 p.m., game to follow at 6 p.m.

➢ **Kansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists Fall Meeting**
  • October 29 & 30, 2011 at The Hotel at Old Town in Wichita, Kansas

➢ **62nd Annual KU Postgraduate Symposium on Anesthesiology**
  • KU Nurse Anesthesia department sponsors a lunch at the Symposium each year for Program alumni
  • April 13-15, 2012, InterContinental Hotel Kansas City at the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri

**Alumni Scholarship Being Developed**

The KU Program is working to establish an Alumni Scholarship Fund. To have an endowed scholarship requires $30,000. The fund currently has $4,805. Once the fund has reached the goal of $30,000, alumni will be involved in establishing criteria and awarding scholarships to current students in the program.

You can donate on our alumni page, www.na.kumc.edu/alumni.html. Click on Make a Gift and indicate that the donation is for the scholarship fund. Or you can contact Peggy Person with KU Endowment at 913-588-5441 or pperson@KUEndowment.org. Thank you for your donations!

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