Greetings to all KU Nurse Anesthesia Program alumni and current students! We have great news to share: the entry level clinical doctorate has been approved by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) effective May 25, 2012! The first clinical doctorate cohort of 24 students began the program on May 29, 2012, and will graduate with a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in May 2015. This means that the MS degree will phase out after the 2014 class graduates. The program’s DNP will be awarded through the KU School of Nursing but the program will remain as a full department in the School of Health Professions. This is a bit confusing but the cooperation between the School of Nursing and our department has been outstanding and the COA accreditation went smoothly.

The DNP curriculum is 36 months in length and program prerequisites have not changed. DNP nurse anesthesia students will have additional didactic content required to meet the DNP Essentials. In comparison to the masters curriculum, the clinical doctorate SRNAs have courses in policy, epidemiology, statistics, evidence based practice, informatics, and leadership. All Capstone Projects will be individual rather than accomplished by a group. The curriculum had to be adjusted to fit in the additional course requirements, necessitating a delay for the DNP students’ transition into full time clinical from April 1st to May 1st during the third semester. The clinical doctorate is considered a terminal degree and I am very proud that our department moved forward with efficient planning and implementation of the DNP curriculum. At present time there are 112 nurse anesthesia programs and only 11 have been approved for entry level clinical doctorate: I am very proud that our program is in the first 10% of programs to offer an entry level clinical doctorate.

Congratulations to the 22 graduates from the class of 2012! This class can boast that it had 100% retention and a very high first time NCE pass rate of 95%! The 2013 students have moved on to senior year clinical affiliations and specialty rotations such as OB, rural sites, and CTS. The 2014 students are now well acclimated to clinical training at KU Hospital and are happy to no longer be the first year students.

KU Hospital continues to expand, especially for OR and anesthesia services. Those of you that attended the program five years or more ago will be astounded to learn that the number of staff CRNAs is over 40! I cannot even give you an exact number because new names pop up constantly and KU Hospital just purchased a small (19 inpatient bed) facility in Overland Park and retained some of the anesthesia staff. On any given day, the majority of ORs and anesthesia travel rooms are staffed by CRNAs and the average number of OR cases (excluding travel sites such as GI and IR) exceed 100. KU Hospital is winning awards and the Cancer Center just received NCI designation, so it is an exciting time to be associated with KUMC and KU Hospital. Please visit the kumed.com website for all of the latest hospital and university information.

All alumni are invited to the program tailgate on September 8th when the Jayhawks take on Rice. Game time is 2:30 PM so the tailgate will begin around 11:30 AM. Please come and visit with our current students and faculty as you enjoy the beautiful Lawrence campus!

Thanks to Alyson Algrim and Erica Floodman for putting this newsletter together!

Donna Nyght, CRNA, DNP
Remembering Dean Crist

The KU Nurse Anesthesia family lost a great friend and advocate when Dean Crist passed away in May due to pancreatic cancer. Dean taught most of us how to use and trouble shoot the anesthesia machine and helped us with every technical aspect of anesthesia equipment while we were assigned to clinical at KU Hospital. Almost every nurse anesthesia alumnus from the KU Program will remember his kindness, smile, and willingness to help at all times. The following is an excerpt from his obituary:

R. Dean Crist, 56, Gladstone, MO, passed away Thursday, May 24, 2012. Dean was born November 16, 1955 in Butler, MO and was a graduate of Missouri Western University. He worked for the University of Kansas Hospital for 34 years, and was a member of the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation. He was active at St. Patrick Catholic Church where he was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Dean possessed a wonderful smile, had a twinkle in his eyes, and a great sense of humor. He loved his family and his University of Kansas Hospital family. If you care to donate in his honor, the family suggests the University of Kansas Cancer Center (make checks payable to KU Endowment) c/o Gift Processing Department, KU Endowment.

The Program would like to donate per the family’s request to the KU Cancer Center. Please mail donations to Nurse Anesthesia Education, 2026 Delp, MS 2020, 3901 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, KS 66160. We will assemble any contributions from our alumni and current faculty and students and deliver them as a group.

Welcome class of 2015: Annual Department Picnic

This year the picnic took place on a beautiful spring day at Shawnee Mission Park on June 2nd. The 2015 class consists of 24 students who will graduate in May 2015. The 4th annual picnic was another successful event welcoming the new students and families. Faculty and students from the 2013 and 2014 classes enjoyed a great meal while getting to know the new arrivals.

Annual KU Nurse Anesthesia Tailgate

The annual program and alumni tailgate will be held on September 8, 2012, on the hill in Lawrence, KS. The KU Jayhawks will be playing the Rice University Owls at 2:30 PM and the tailgate will begin at 11:30 AM. The department will furnish hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, and all the condiments. Current students and faculty are asked to bring a side dish and extra drinks for alumni. All students, faculty, alumni, and family members are invited: help the Program make this the largest attendance for the tailgate to date!
Congratulations to the graduating class of 2012!!

Bottom row (left to right): Joy Taylor, Heather Fenton-Garner, Asfaw Getaw, Andrew Sledge, Lawton Hicks

Middle row: Roxane Henrici, Stephanie White, Patrick Davidson, Gregory Hart, Nahason Ayunga, Travis Birchem, Cole Hughes, Alexander Tindall, Conor Mulcahy

Top row: Tendai Manyau, Meredith Playford, Lesley Tongish, Andrea Lamb, Laura Stallbaumer, Lindsey Jordan, Krystal Schelp, Robert Devadhas,

Phi Kappa Phi initiates: Travis Birchem, Patrick Davidson, Roxane Henrici, Lindsey Jordan, Stephanie White

Scholarships and Awards
George Devane Excellence Award: Patrick Davidson and Stephanie White
SHP Dean’s Scholarship: Roxane Henrici
George Devane Endowed Scholarship: Andrew Sledge

The 2012 graduates secured jobs as listed:

University of Kansas Hospital: Heather Fenton-Garner, Roxane Henrici, Lawton Hicks, Andrea Lamb, Meredith Playford, Alexander Tindall, Krystal Schelp, Lesley Tongish
Kansas City area: Travis Birchem, Joy Taylor, Laura Stallbaumer, Stephanie White
Wichita: Lindsey Jordan
Leavenworth: Conor Mulcahy
Joplin: Gregory Hart, Cole Hughes
Nebraska: Patrick Davidson
Ohio: Tendai Manyau
Oklahoma: Robert Devadhas, Asfaw Getaw, Andrew Sledge
Texas: Nahason Ayunga
Medical Mission Trip in Guatemala

The Department of Nurse Anesthesia Education again participated in the Medical Mission Foundation trip to Antigua, Guatemala. Donna Nyght, CRNA and Department Chair, participated along with senior SRNAs Alissa van Meeteren and Mark Candelaria. Dr. Terry Chaffee and Dr. Grace Shih, both staff anesthesiologists at KU Hospital, were also part of the anesthesia team.

Sixty-three volunteers spent June 17th thru June 23rd working at Las Obras Hospital or conducting audiology and family practice clinics in the Antigua area. The family practice clinic most commonly treated musculoskeletal pain, eczema, viruses and bacterial infections, worms, and parasites.

During the mission there were 93 surgeries performed, including tonsillectomies, adenoidectomies, tymanoplasties, myringotomy tubes, ethmoidectomies, endoscopic sinus procedures, transurethral prostate resections, and hydrocelectomies. The OR team set a new record for number of surgeries completed in one day at the hospital, exceeding the previous by 15 surgeries! There were over 200 patients seen in the hospital clinic and 272 more seen in village clinics. Audiology teams saw 161 patients, and fitted 101 hearing aids, with many now able to hear for the first time!

As participants of the mission, we found the experience unique and extremely rewarding. A greater appreciation for the available resources and awareness of conservation techniques was gained. Exposure to different facility practices provides students with a broader knowledge base for future practice and adaptation to different environments. This mission also served to provide structure for future trips from the University of Kansas Nurse Anesthesia Education Department. This experience was remarkable; the opportunity to help others in need far exceeds the knowledge and experience gained as student nurse anesthetists. Submitted by Alissa van Meeteren & Mark Candelaria

KUNASA March Madness Fundraiser

KU athletics generously donated a basketball signed by the 2011-12 men’s team, including Coach Bill Self, to the Nurse Anesthesia Education Department. The Jayhawks made it to the Final Four, losing to Kentucky in the National Championship game. The fundraiser was held within the surgery department and the School of Health Professions. Tickets were sold by the class of 2013 for approximately 3 weeks during the March Madness tournament. Tim Kistner was the lucky winner and the fundraiser successfully raised $476 for KUNASA!

Written By: Alissa VanMeeteren

Karen Spartan, Academic Affairs Coordinator, drawing the WINNING TICKET!
Clinical Affiliate Site Spotlight:

Fort Riley Military Base: Irwin Army Community Hospital

Fort Riley Irwin Community Hospital is located near Junction City in Kansas. It is a full service Army hospital with a 44 bed inpatient capacity, including 16 obstetric beds. Approximately half of the senior KU nurse anesthesia students rotate through this clinical location for obstetrics each year, and students average 30-45 OB cases per month. David Hart, CRNA, serves as clinical site coordinator.

A new hospital is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2014. Cost is estimated to be around $404 million and will 170,000 square feet larger than the current hospital. The inpatient capacity will remain unchanged with 44 beds, but the emergency room will add urgent care capabilities and an eye center will also be built. Three hundred additional employees will be needed to accommodate the expanded services.

Faculty In The Spotlight:

Chris Morrisey, CRNA, is currently a staff CRNA employed by Midwest Anesthesia Associates at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. He joined the KU Nurse Anesthesia Department as an adjunct faculty instructor and teaches Advanced Chemistry and Physics of Anesthesia. Chris double majored in Biology and Chemistry from Luther College in 2004, graduated in 2006 with a BSN from Rockhurst University/Research College of Nursing, and completed a MS in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of Kansas in 2011. He is currently a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Kansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Sigma Theta Tau International, and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. He was a recipient of the 2011 George DeVane Excellence Award and the 2010 School of Health Professions Scholarship of Excellence Award. Chris and wife Colleen have two adorable girls; Reghan (19 months old) and Avery (4 months old).
UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Alumni/Program Tailgate: KU vs. RICE
◊ September 8, 2012, on the hill in Lawrence
◊ Tailgate Time: 11:30/Game Time: 2:30

Kansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists Fall Meeting
◊ October 27 & 28th. Hotel at OldTown
◊ 830 East First Street, Wichita, Kansas, 67202

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 $6,800. 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!

KU Nurse Anesthesia Education
Mail Stop 2020
3901 Rainbow Boulevard
Kansas City, KS 66160