Greetings to all KU Program alumni and students! The 2016 class started on May 28th and represents the second cohort of DNP students. This group has successfully completed a busy summer semester with courses in anatomy and chemistry/physics. I am sure all of us remember how difficult that first semester proved to be and wish them well as they begin fall courses, including basics of anesthesia with high fidelity simulator sessions and shadowing anesthesia providers at KU Hospital. The 2013 class graduated on May 19th and everyone has passed boards and found employment! Congratulations to this wonderful group of alumni and please take a closer look at their picture on page two. The 2015 class is in the midst of their full time advanced beginner clinical year at KU Hospital and is also the first cohort matriculating through the DNP curriculum and doing a great job with the new courses.

The Program welcomed a new CRNA faculty member in July: Lauryn Rametta is a 2013 graduate of the Program. Lauryn is working primarily with senior students on CTS rotations at KU Hospital and will be teaching part of an advanced theory on line course this fall. She plans to begin working towards a post-masters clinical doctorate program as soon as possible. After 19 years of service to the Program, Christita Weber has retired and we all wish her well!

Paul Hertel will become the president of KANA in October. Please join me in congratulating Paul, thanking him for his service to our profession, and wishing him a successful year! Paul and I just returned from the AANA Annual Meeting in Las Vegas and had a great week. Two senior students, Kevin Deao and Jonathan Sperry, also attended the meeting and have an article on page five.

The most noteworthy Program news has to be Paul Bennett’s successful dissertation defense and awarding of a PhD in Nursing in May! Paul’s dissertation, Effects of Intravenous Coenzyme Q10 with Fluid Resuscitation Following Hemorrhagic Shock, and degree represents six years of diligent work and study and the accomplishment cannot be overstated! Congratulations Paul!! The Annual Program and Alumni KU Football Tailgate will be held on September 21st prior to the KU-Louisiana Tech game, time TBA. Please join us for this fun family event- food and drinks provided for all Program alumni!

Donna Nyght, CRNA, DNP
Farewell to the class of 2013

The class of 2013 participated in commencement exercises and celebrated their accomplishments May 17-19th. Festivities included the Hooding Ceremony, a reception at Californos, the School of Health Professions Recognition Ceremony and the “walk down the hill” in Lawrence. The 20 graduates have obtained jobs in the states of Kansas, Missouri, and New Mexico.

Congratulations:

Amanda Galyardt, SRNA who will graduate in 2014, was the recipient of the George DeVane scholarship again this year!

2010 graduate Dustin Bozwell and his wife Karen welcomed a new baby girl, Brinley Nicole Bozwell, on April 20th, 2013.

Remembrances:

Ryan Dryer, Class of 2005, passed away on June 5, 2013, of an apparent heart attack. Ryan was born May 15, 1976, in Mesa, Arizona and spent his childhood in Germany, Nebraska, and Utah due to his father’s Air Force career. He earned a BSN from Weber State University College of Nursing, and then worked as an RN at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City prior to attending the Nurse Anesthesia program at KU, where he earned his MS. Ryan remained in Kansas City for a year before moving his family to Pleasant Grove, Utah, where he was employed by Lone Peak Anesthesia Group. Ryan is survived by his wife, Mindy, and children Elizabeth and Luke.

Alumni News:

We want to have a regular column in the newsletter featuring alumni accomplishments. But we need your help in collecting those accomplishments. Please send us any professional achievements such as articles published, awards received, new degrees earned, involvement in professional organizations like the AANA or state affiliates, job promotions like chief CRNA, participation on mission trips, etc. We also want personal news, like weddings and babies. Please send your information to na@kumc.edu or post it on Facebook on the KU Nurse Anesthesia page.
Mission trip to Guatemala:

For the fourth consecutive year, The University of Kansas Nurse Anesthesia Education Program has worked closely with Medical Missions Foundation and participated in the annual trip to Antigua, Guatemala, June 15 – 23, 2013. Participants included Dr. Donna Nyght, CRNA and Department Chair, Dr. Paul Bennetts, CRNA and Director of Research, Kellie Simecek, Senior SRNA, and Laura Donnell, Senior SRNA. Dr. Terry Chaffee, staff anesthesiologist, served as the head of the anesthesiology team. Nick Shields, 2013 Program graduate, joined the group and performed in his first cases as a newly licensed CRNA!

The majority of volunteers on the mission trip were affiliated with The University of Kansas Medical Center, but there were also team members from North Kansas City Hospital, Children’s Mercy Hospital, Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Cerner Corporation, and Tulsa, Oklahoma. Urologists and ENT surgeons performed 95 cases during the week. The audiology team treated 174 patients and distributed 139 hearing aids.

After traveling on Saturday, Sunday was devoted to preoperative clinic evaluations for all surgical cases. Almost every patient scheduled for surgery was evaluated by the surgical team and anesthesia providers, and then told which day of the week to come for the operation. Many patients traveled hundreds of miles and had to stay in Antigua, at times on the street due to lack of finances.

The anesthesia team adapted to less than ideal conditions: equipment problems, language barriers, and lack of supplies were safety concerns. The surgeries were similar to those in the United States, but the patients and the environment were unique. As Senior SRNAs, we are grateful to Medical Missions Foundation for this incredible opportunity.

Kellie Simecek and Laura Donnell

Focus on Alumni: Fundraising for Endowment:

Merchandise: Nurse Anesthesia Student Organization is currently selling KU Nurse Anesthesia products. These products consist of: tumblers, t-shirts, and scrubs caps. Our newest product is a black fleece jacket with the KU Nurse Anesthesia logo on the front and a Jayhawk on the back right shoulder.

KU Basketball: After selling over 90 raffle tickets and grossing over $400, we are proud to announce that Dr. Jackson-Orthopedic Surgeon, was the winner of the KU men’s basketball that was signed by the 2013 team and Bill Self!
AANA Mid-Year Assembly:
The AANA Mid-Year Assembly was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia, April 14-17, 2013. AANA board members announced that the turn-out for this April’s conference was a record high for overall participants and for number of SRNA participants. Sunday morning began with an early-bird coffee and registration. Our first speaker was Amy Showalter, MSA, who began our conference with a presentation on how to engage in grassroots advocacy. Following, Chris Jennings and Earl Pomeroy spoke to the group about how healthcare policy is made. They focused on the nonlinear processes that shape healthcare policy that affects CRNAs. Speaker Mark McClellan, MD, discussed healthcare reform. Frank J. Purcell, BS, concluded the morning session with a presentation on CRNA health policy issues to focus on during our legislative visits: CRNA pain care as it relates to state scope of practice, promotion of nondiscrimination, drug shortages, and Title 8 funding for anesthesia workforce development. The afternoon session began with a presentation from Kate Fry, BA, Frank J. Purcell, BS, and Christine S. Zambricki, CRNA, DNAP, FAAN, titled, “the worst things that can happen to a CRNA on Capitol Hill and How to turn them to your advantage.” The AANA Education Committee ended the Sunday session with a hearing on the proposed standards practice doctorate.
The AANA-PAC event took place Sunday night. Participants enjoyed an 80’s themed, evening boat cruise on the Washington Channel in Potomac River.
On Monday April 15, we had the opportunity to meet candidates running for national office. Even though we cannot vote as student members of AANA it was a great opportunity to speak with candidates and learn about their platforms. We especially enjoyed speaking with those from the region
The candidates running for national office were able to take the podium discussing their backgrounds and why they deserve your vote. We learned that voting turnout for the AANA national offices has historically been low. We encourage everyone to vote this year. The 2014 slate of candidates were well spoken, experienced, and have a lot to offer the organization.
Thank you again for the support of KANA. We learned a lot from this national meeting and look forward to sharing our experience with our fellow students.

Amanda Galyardt and Emily Gray

Annual Picnic to Welcome Class of 2016:
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 1st. The picnic allows the incoming class the opportunity to socialize with faculty and meet students from the various classes.
AANA Annual Meeting

Pictured: Kevin Deao, Keenan Thompson (MC of the Saturday night Live Event) and Jonathan Sperry

Jonathan Sperry and Kevin Deao, senior SRNAs at the University of Kansas, attended the AANA Annual Meeting in Las Vegas in August. This was our first time attending the national meeting for our profession. The experience was enlightening, because we were able to see so many anesthesia colleagues passionate about the profession for which we are the future. Our presence at this conference gave us a new and positive perspective of the AANA. We attended the opening ceremonies, numerous lectures, a business meeting that contained contentious debate, the exhibit hall, the AANA foundation dinner, and the annual banquet. In addition, there were also student specific events such as the student luncheon and the college bowl. The college bowl allowed students from programs across the country to compete against each other and CRNAs in an academic anesthesia competition. We appreciate the way the AANA creates a positive environment for students.

The opening ceremonies were quite an event that included a Beatles cover band - this musical entertainment showed a fun side of the AANA. The business meeting was quite eventful on Sunday morning. It was a great example of how the AANA gives a voice to all of its members. There was one topic that came down to less than five votes to pass. Members were allowed to not only vote, but were also given the opportunity to address the board and the members of the AANA. The region 4 breakout session was a great way to see what issues surrounding state organizations are currently facing. By sharing information, KANA has insight into potential issues that we may face as Kansas CRNAs. We would like to thank KANA for providing us with tickets to the foundation dinner. We had a great time watching the excellent SRNA and CRNA talent. It was a great opportunity to create a professional network with the individuals from the AANA who go to great strides to make this organization so wonderful.

CLINICAL AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT:
Golden Valley Memorial Hospital

Golden Valley Memorial Hospital in Clinton, MO is currently one of our affiliate sites for rural anesthesia. This site provides senior level SRNAs the opportunity to participate in the management of patients presenting for a wide variety of procedures. Some of these procedures include: the opportunity for administration of peripheral nerve blocks for orthopedic cases, spinal anesthetics and epidurals for OB labor and caesarean sections, general cases, ENT, pediatrics, OB-GYN, central line placement, as well as anesthesia for cardioversions and G.I. Lab. Golden Valley Memorial is currently home to three KU Alumni: Ryan Eyberg, Chief CRNA, Robert Fisher, CRNA, and Jeff Spitler, CRNA.

Faculty In The Spotlight: Lauryn Rametta

Lauryn Rametta, CRNA, is a recent graduate from the KU Nurse Anesthesia program and is returning as a clinical and didactic instructor. Clinically, she will be working primarily with senior students during their cardiac rotation. She is also co-teaching Advanced Theory in Anesthesia II this fall. Lauryn received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Kansas State University while completing her prerequisites for nursing school. She then received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Saint Luke’s College, Kansas City, Missouri. She received her Master’s in Nurse Anesthesia from the University of Kansas where she received the George G. DeVane Clinical Excellence Award. She currently lives in Kansas with her husband, their dog that sleeps all day, and their cat that protects the house. In her free time Lauryn loves traveling, running (or, more accurately, shuffling at a somewhat reasonable pace), and spending time with family and friends. Lauryn is excited to be teaching and to begin this new chapter in her career here at KU.
UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Alumni Tailgate KU vs. Louisiana Tech**
  - September 21, 2013, on the hill in Lawrence, Kansas
  - Tailgate/game time to be announced

- **63rd Annual KU Postgraduate Symposium on Anesthesiology**
  - KU Nurse Anesthesia department sponsors a lunch at the Symposium each year for Program alumni
  - April 11-13, 2014, at the InterContinental Hotel Kansas City at the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri
  - [http://www.continuinged.ku.edu/kumc/anesthesiology/](http://www.continuinged.ku.edu/kumc/anesthesiology/)

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 **$19,148**. 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](http://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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