



# the **AnesthesiaRecord**

**AAAA**® American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants®

First Quarter 2017



# AAAA 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

**APRIL 1-4 | Hilton Downtown Hotel - Austin, TX**

# President's Message

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# Grab A Paddle, It's 2017!

## Gina Scarboro, CAA

President, AAAA®  
Chair, Association of AA Program Directors  
Program Director, South University  
Savannah, GA

For many years, I was a AAAA consumer. I paid my membership dues, accrued CMEs, and cared for patients to the best of my ability. When I graduated 18 years ago, I thought it was enough that others would get new states open and keep my profession going. What did I have to do? So I went to work, raised children and complained about surgeons, turnovers and my 401K.

**"It was exciting but it was not enough."**

Then one April, I returned to a AAAA meeting. Things in our profession were picking up speed; a new program had started, Florida was open for practice – it was exciting but it was not enough. I wanted more for my profession. There were leaders of our organization who were devoting their time and energy towards making my life better – a greater variety of job opportunities, recognition by the VA; and, I didn't even know how a bill is passed through a state legislature!

So, I started to see how things worked. I joined a committee -- the annual meeting committee. It seemed pretty easy: we helped organize the speakers, the locations, and the logistics of the annual conference. I met other CAAs from around the country; we shared our ideas and worked hard to make it a good experience for the attendees. It was rewarding, like the first time you perfectly perform a deep extubation in a heavy smoker -- **rewarding**.

Then I was hooked. I am not saying I made a difference or changed anyone's life as we can in the operating room but there is a sense of accomplishment I had not known before becoming involved. Things continue to improve: more states, more students, more practitioners. Being a CAA is such a large part of my daily life that being a part of that change had its own unpredicted reward - gratification. When a colleague who was from North Carolina was able to move closer to home and still do the job she loved, it felt good to be a small part of that possibility.

**"There is a sense of accomplishment I had not known before."**

This is the path that has allowed me the opportunity to write this newsletter article and the honor of serving as president of the AAAA in 2017. I am no one special, just a person who kept saying yes to the opportunity to become more engaged and used some of my free time to pursue something of value, the AA profession.

What I discovered through many years in this process is that all AAAA members have something of value to add to our organization. It can be as simple as teaching an AA student in the operating room to something as daunting as leading a new effort for licensure in a state where CAAs do not yet practice. But one thing is for certain, we can all do something greater when we work together. So I hope you can take the advice of this one time freeloader of the AAAA – we get farther in the rowboat when all paddles are in the water – the worst that can happen is that you get wet.

**"I am no one special,  
just a person who kept saying yes."**

I challenge you to join me in the AAAA rowboat and look forward to seeing you all in Austin!

**"All AAAA members have something  
of value to add to our organization."**



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### The Anesthesia Record

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# Calendar of Events

## April 2017

AAAA<sup>®</sup> 2017 Annual Conference Hilton Downtown Hotel April 1 - 4 | Austin, Texas

2nd Quarter AAAA<sup>®</sup> Board of Directors Meeting April 1 | Austin, Texas

## June 2017

CAA Week June 5 - 9

National CAA week is the first full week of June annually. Activities celebrate anesthesia patient safety and the nation's 1600+ Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants and student AAs who safely and cost effectively provide anesthesia to thousands of patients each year.

## July 2017

3rd Quarter AAAA<sup>®</sup> Board of Directors Meeting July 16 | Webinar

# Jeopardy Moves to Austin





AUSTIN, TEXAS



**Samantha Evankovich, CAA**

Chair, Annual Meeting Committee  
CAA, UT Health, University of Texas Department of Anesthesiology  
Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center  
Director of Didactic Education, Case Western Reserve University  
Houston, Texas

This year marks the 41st AAAA Annual Conference, to be held at the Hilton Downtown Hotel in Austin, Texas. The meeting hits close to home for me as it is in my “backyard”, a mere 175 miles from Houston. The meeting is literally down the street from the Texas State Capitol, where CAAs have been trying to gain licensure since 2007 and will move forward with licensure for a fifth time! In planning the annual conference, the AAAA sought renowned leaders in the field of anesthesiology qualified to present up-to-date research, techniques, and scope of practice changes that are pertinent to both the refinement of CAA practice and the advancement of the profession.

With the legislature in session, as well as an increasing number of states considering licensure, we need to educate all CAAs about advocacy efforts. As a result, we are happy to present a Legislative Training Session on Monday morning, April 3, with our Director of State of Affairs, Mr. Jeremy Betts. We will also privileged to once again learn from ASA President Dr. Jeff Plagenhoef what comprises professional citizenship and how to be an effective advocate for your patients and your profession. Dr. Plagenhoef will also present a lecture on Hypertension in the OR. The ASA Update will be presented by ASA CEO, Mr. Paul Pomerantz, and ASA Director of State Affairs, Mr. Jason Hansen, Esq.

**Meeting Highlights:**

- Introduction of AAAA President Gina Scarboro, CAA
- ASA Update from ASA CEO Paul Pomerantz and DSA Jason Hansen
- Advocacy and professionalism lecture by ASA President Jeff Plagenhoef
- ASA SEE and ACE courses which will allow our members to test their knowledge in real time with some of the ASA’s \_nest
- BLS, ACLS, PALS – sign up now
- Pre-conference Educational Workshop on Friday, March 31st – let us help you learn to educate better in and out of the operating room! (3 CMEs available)
- 12th Annual Jeopardy Contest, Sunday Evening
- Lecture topics include:
  - Burnout and stress
  - Pediatric difficult airway
  - Troubleshooting a failed epidural
  - Cerebrovascular neurosurgery
  - Anesthesia during disasters
  - Making the most of your Anesthesia Education

**25 CME credits offered during this Educational Activity**



# Explore Unique Attractions, Eats, and more!

## Bridgette Jagdeo, SAA

NOVA AA Program  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

### Attractions

- Explore the city with Austin Duck Adventures
- Check out Congress Avenue Bridge at sunset and watch one of the largest colonies of bats (~1.5 million) take flight. Bat season is March through October!
- Be sure to check out Austin's world-class museums such as Blanton Museum of Art, Harry Ransom Center, and Bullock Texas State History Museum
- The massive State Capitol is a 15-minute walk away
- Baylor Art Wall – located at 11th and Baylor Street

### Outdoors

- Take some steps up Mount Bonnell to check out the beautiful Austin skyline
- The Greenbelt has some nice hiking trails
- Zilker Metropolitan Park – 2 miles from the conference hotel!
- Barton Springs Pool – a year-round, 3-acre, 70-degree pool!
- Zilker Botanical Garden – Native and Exotic flowers and plants
- Rowing Dock – rentals include: kayaks, canoes, and stand-up paddle-boards
- Go for a walk or run along Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail.
- Go paddle boarding or kayaking on Lady Bird Lake and take in the Austin skyline from the water.
- Lake Travis – 45-minute drive from the hotel – offering beautiful views of the Texas Hill Country.
- Take a drive up to Hamilton Pool or go down to New Braunfels and go tubing.

### Eats

There are limitless great food options in Austin to suit any craving. But a few to start are...

#### Breakfast

- If you have never had a breakfast Taco, you will need to try one while you are here
- Head to Tacodeli for some breakfast tacos
- Kerbey Lane for pancakes
- Enjoy some coffee and bakery goods at Mozart's Coffee while sitting outside and enjoying the view of Lake Austin

#### Lunch/Dinner

- If you still haven't gotten your taco fix, check out Torchy's
- It is worth it to make the drive to Salt Lick BBQ
- If you have the patience to wait in line, Franklin BBQ is world famous
- Grab some wings and a sweet tea at Pluckers Wing Bar
- Grab a Mexican Martini at Trudy's with your Tex-Mex dinner



### Food Districts

- When the weather is nice, take a walk down South Congress, grab lunch at Hopdoddy's and check out the local shops. Be sure to save some room for the food trucks on South Congress
- If you're still hungry on South Congress, go to Home Slice Pizza and then head to Amy's Ice Cream or Hey Cupcake for some dessert. If you need something even sweeter, Gour dough's Donuts is your place
- There are several restaurants located at the Oasis where you can dine with amazing views of Lake Travis
- Also check out 6th street and Rainey Street for more excellent bars and restaurants

### Entertainment/Nightlife

- For the most intense theater experience, try Bullock Museum IMAX Theatre or iPic Theaters
- Alamo Draft House – within walking distance, dine-in theater with craft beers and food
- Austin is the live music capitol
- Grab a drink at Spiderhouse while enjoying the lights and head to 6th street, West 6th, or Rainey Street to check out the Austin nightlife
- With over 200 venues, there are a variety of options including rock, blues, jazz, hip-hop, punk or Latino
- If you're exhausted after a long day and want to treat yourself to a night in, definitely get some Tiff's Treats cookies delivered

### Travel

- Use local Taxi's or, for the tech-savvy, try using Fasten or Ride Austin Apps (Uber and Lyft are unavailable in Austin)

### Events!

- 90th Annual The Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays (March 29th – April 1st)
- Austin Urban Music Festival (March 31st -April 1st)
- Art City Austin (March 31st – April 2nd)



## 2017 AAAA Annual Meeting

April 1-4, 2017  
Downtown Hilton Austin, TX

### Friday, March 31st, 2017

- 1:00 – 5:00 p AAAPD Educational Lecture (Register Online)  
Feedback and Evaluation  
Peggy Huang, PhD  
Allison Ownby, PhD
- Team Based Learning: An Introduction and Tips for Success in the Classroom  
Darla McCarthy, PhD
- Professional Aspects of Academia for Anesthesiologist Assistants  
Shane Angus, CAA
- 5:00 – 7:00 p AAP Meeting (Invitation Only)
- 3:00 – 7:00 p Early-Bird Registration

### Saturday, April 1st, 2017

- 7:00 – 8:00 a AAAA Annual Kick Off Breakfast
- 7:00 – 8:00 a Jeopardy Rules Meeting (Jeopardy Participants Only)
- 8:00 – 9:00 a President's Address & AAAA Business Meeting  
Gina Scarboro, CAA
- 9:00 – 10:00 a ASA Update  
Mr. Paul Pomerantz, ASA CEO  
Jason Hansen, Esq., ASA Director of State Affairs
- 10:00 – 10:30 a *Break with Exhibitors*
- 10:30 – 11:30 p Hypertension in the OR  
Jeffrey Plagenhoef, MD
- 11:30 – 12:30 p Advocacy Update  
Jeffrey Plagenhoef, MD
- 12:00 – 4:00 p AAAA Board of Directors Meeting
- 12:00 – 4:00 p ARC-AA meeting (Invitation Only)
- 12:30 – 2:00 p *Lunch on your own*
- 1:00 – 2:00 p PBLD: Sickle Cell Anemia Patient Scheduled for Cath Lab for Chest Pain and Possible NSTEMI  
(Register Online)  
Caleb Hopkins, CAA  
John Ng, CAA
- 2:00 – 3:00 p Burnout: Don't Thank Me for Normal  
Joel Zivot, MD
- 3:00 – 4:00 p The ASA Self Education and Evaluation (SEE) Live Course  
Regina Fragneto, MD  
Christopher Burkle, MD
- 4:00 – 5:00 p Gaining Insight into the Mechanism of Action with Reversal of Neuromuscular Blockade  
George Williams, MD \*This educational activity is supported by an educational grant from Merck

- 5:30 – 6:30 p Student Social (Students Only)
- 5:30-6:30 p Wine Reception (Fellows Only)
- 6:00 – 7:30 p Welcome Reception with Exhibitors

**Sunday, April 2nd, 2017**

- 7:00 – 8:00 a *Breakfast with Exhibitors*
- 8:00 – 9:00 a The ASA Anesthesiology Continuing Education (ACE) Program - ACE Live Course  
Joel Johnson, MD, PhD
- 9:00 – 10:00 a Patient Handoffs – Why You Should Care  
Tanna Boyer, MD
- 9:00 – 11:00 a MOAAA (Missouri Society of Anesthesiologist Assistants) Meeting
- 9:00 -11:00 a GAAAA (Georgia Society of Anesthesiologist Assistants) Meeting
- 9:00 – 11:00 a TXAAA (Texas Society of Anesthesiologist Assistants) Meeting
- 9:00 – 11:00 a FLAAA (Florida Society of Anesthesiologist Assistants) Meeting
- 10:00 – 10:30 a *Break with Exhibitors*
- 10:30 – 11:30 a Neonatal Spinal Anesthesia – Old Techniques, New Applicants  
Tanna Boyer, MD
- 11:30 – 12:30 p Capital Punishment, Lethal Injection, and Anesthesiology  
Joel Zivot, MD
- 12:30 – 2:00 p *Lunch on your own*
- 12:30 – 2:00 p Regional Anesthesia (Register Online)  
Sponsored by NSU  
Light Lunch Provided  
  
The Role of the United Kingdom’s PA (A) in a Regional Anesthesia Block Room  
Mark Leonard PA(A)  
  
Setting Up and Delivering a PA (A) Led Vascular Access Service  
Mark Eldridge PA(A)
- 12:30 – 2:00 p Leadership Development Meeting
- 1:30 – 3:00 p Student Committee Meeting
- 2:00 – 3:00 p Analgesia for the Opioid Tolerant Patient  
Arthur Kitt, MD
- 2:00 – 4:00 p State Academies Forum
- 3:00 – 4:00 p Failed Epidural Catheter on the Labor Floor  
Nathaniel Hsu, MD
- 4:00 – 4:30 p *Break Before Jeopardy*
- 4:30 – 6:30 p Student Jeopardy and Awards
- 7:00 – 8:30 p Presidents Reception - Sponsored by the TXAAA

### Monday, April 3rd, 2017

- 8:00 – 9:00 a Difficult Airway Management: Teamwork Improves Safety and Outcome  
Carin Hagberg, MD
- 8:00 – 11:00 a AAAPD Board Meeting  
8:00 – 9:00 a - Executive Meeting (closed)  
9:00 – 11:00 a – General Business meeting
- 9:00 – 10:00 a Extubation: Planning, Strategizing, and Tailoring to Each Unique Airway  
Carin Hagberg, MD
- 10:00 – 10:30 a *Coffee Break*
- 10:00 – 12:00 p Legislative Committee Meeting
- 10:00 – 12:00 p Practice Committee Meeting
- 10:30 – 11:30 a Pain Pathways – Mechanisms and Treatment  
Arthur Kitt, MD
- 10:30 – 11:30 a Advocacy Training  
Jeremy Betts, AAAA State Affairs Director
- 11:30 – 12:30 p Vasopressor Choices in Obstetrics  
Nathaniel Hsu, MD
- 12:30 – 2:00 p *Lunch on your own*
- 1:00 – 4:00 p Membership Committee Meeting
- 1:00 – 3:00 p Finance Committee Meeting
- 2:00 – 3:00 p Making the Most of Your Anesthesia Training  
Jeffery Steiner, DO, MBA
- 3:00 – 4:00 p The Role of the Anesthesiology Team in Disaster Medicine  
Charles Cowles, Jr., MD
- 3:00 – 5:00 p Governance Committee Meeting
- 4:00 – 5:00 p Improving the Safety Culture: Take Care of Yourself and Others  
Charles Cowles, Jr., MD

### Tuesday, April 4th, 2017

- 8:00 – 9:00 a Essentials of Pediatric Trauma  
James Cain, MD
- 9:00 – 9:30 a *Coffee Break*
- 9:30 – 10:30 a Management of the Difficult Pediatric Airway  
Jeffrey Steiner, DO, MBA
- 10:30 – 11:30 a Anesthesia Considerations Posterior Spine Fusion: Dexmedetomidine in Pediatric Care  
James Cain, MD  
Each lecture time allows for a 5-10 minute Q&A session.





American Society of  
Anesthesiologists®

**ASA® Membership Matters** to your specialty

## Join A Growing Community

In collaboration with the American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants (AAAA), ASA offers a new membership category that supports the CAAs valuable role on the anesthesia care team.

- **Powerful Advocacy Support:** ASA lobbies for states not currently licensing CAAs and solves payment issues for the anesthesia team model.
- **Quality Education:** ASA's educational products and meetings provide *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* which satisfy CAA maintenance of certification and licensure at special member pricing.
- **Leading-Edge Information:** Gain access to the latest clinical research, and new developments in the specialty with ASA publications including the *Anesthesiology®* journal, *ASA Monitor®* and *ASAP*, a weekly member e-newsletter.
- **Leadership Opportunities:** Become a leader in the specialty. Anesthesiologist Assistant members are eligible to participate in any of ASA's 90+ committees.

**Join today**  
[asahq.org/join](http://asahq.org/join)



*"CAAs play an important role in providing optimal patient care as part of the physician anesthesiologist-led care team. As leaders in patient safety, ASA is dedicated to serving the best interests of patients and strongly believes CAAs support this mission. We are pleased to implement the new membership category and further develop our relationship with the AAAA."*

- Daniel J. Cole, M.D., ASA president



**Layne DiLoreto, CAA**  
Chair, AAAA Legislative Committee  
Washington, D.C.

Licensure expansion is a high priority for many AAAA members. Are you interested in passing laws permitting CAAs to practice in more states? To achieve this goal our professional organization needs passionate, active members to participate in the work of the AAAA Legislative Committee.

Participation in the legislative committee equips members with the tools necessary to inform physician anesthesiologists, legislators and almost anyone else about CAAs, what we offer to the anesthesia care team, and why we should have the oppor-

## Join leg committee, boost expansion

tunity to practice in more states. The opposition is skilled at spreading misinformation, and it is up to each of us to make sure we set the record straight. Becoming an active volunteer of the Legislative Committee will put you at the forefront of expanding the presence of CAAs to new states across the nation. CAA licensure bills have already been introduced in several states.

All of this activity, of course, requires funding to send CAAs to state capitols nationwide to actively lobby on behalf of our profession. Without the active participation and support from AAAA members on the legislative committee, our profession would be sitting idly by as physician groups introduce CAA bills on our behalf. Support from physician anesthesiologists is invaluable, but we cannot and should not rely on others to fight our battles for us. We must take every measure to ensure the

*“Becoming an active volunteer... Will put you at the forefront of expanding the presence of CAAs.”*

success of all CAA legislation by seeking physician group sponsors, lobbying effectively, dispelling anti-CAA propaganda, and showcasing the positive impact CAAs have made to our patients and healthcare overall.

To see AA licensure expansion, contribute your time to the Legislative Committee and donate annually to the Legislative Fund, which underwrites state-level lobbying activities and supports travel of AAAA experts and witnesses to testify at state legislative committee meetings across the nation. For more information on ways to participate on the Legislative Committee, contact Chair Layne DiLoreto at [layne.diloreto@gmail.com](mailto:layne.diloreto@gmail.com) or Vice-Chair Matt Ciotti at [matt.ciotti@gmail.com](mailto:matt.ciotti@gmail.com).

*“We cannot and should not rely on others to fight our battles for us.”*



**Jeremy Betts**  
Director of State Affairs

## Licensure initiatives emerge nationwide

State	Bill Number	Status
Arkansas	HB 1205	Failed in Committee
Illinois	HB 2975	Introduced into Committee
Kansas	HB 2046	Tabled
Maine	NA	Expected to be filed
Mississippi	SB 2133	Failed in Committee
Montana	HB 235	Tabled
Nevada	SB 210	First Hearing
Texas	HB 2525	Introduced into Committee

In the first quarter of 2017, all but one state legislature will be in session, with eight of those states due to finish before the first three months are complete. The AAAA is watching and working with proponents of initiatives in several states. As this busy time of the year continues, AAAA will update members with information on state-specific needs, actions and requests for information through e-Record newsletters and legislative Action Alerts.

Experience demonstrates that the passage of effective legislation in all states requires a multi-year approach. Rarely does legislation of import become law during the first year of introduction in a state legislature. The average number of years for a significant bill to pass a state legislature is three, though some bills require as many as five years of successive advocacy. Do not be surprised to see bills which do not move this year make progress next year as more

resources, education and grassroots activity are invested in the initiative.

To assure that you are getting members-only news and information, update your member profile at [www.anesthetist.org](http://www.anesthetist.org) each time personal and business contact information changes.



**Maggie Riffel, CAA**

Chair, Legislative Fund  
Kansas City, MO

## Leg Fund fuels advocacy

There's an old saying, "you can't get something for nothing." Effective advocacy boils down to two things: time and money. The bottom line is our profession can't grow if we aren't willing to invest in it. Nearly all positions in the AAAA are volunteer positions. In this day and age, everyone is on the go. So, AAAA leaders understand that many members may not have the time to devote their personal time to advocacy across the country.

But there is an effective way for every AAAA member to contribute to the national licensure initiative – give annually to the Legislative Fund. Contributions support those who can and do travel, lobby, advocate and take time away from their families and practices. The amount does not matter—it's the "thought that counts." Whether it be \$5 or \$500, do your part contribute by visiting [anesthetist.org](http://anesthetist.org) to submit a contribution. **Stake your claim in the future of our profession today!**

### 2017 Legislative Fund Contributors

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**"Give annually to the Legislative Fund."**

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Brittany McPherson  
Jaideep Mehta, MD  
Oscar Mendoza  
Lynne Mercier  
Jorja Miller  
Robert Miller  
Anna Miller  
Mishana Mogelnicki, MD  
Katie Monroe  
Andrew Moore, MD  
Michael Morykwas  
Christina Moskal  
Marie-Eloise Mulroy  
Parmeet Multani  
Caitlin Murphy  
Iman Musah  
Amanda Narducci  
Musi Nde  
Jacqueline Neagos  
Melissa Neal  
Barry Nelms  
Priya Neti  
Mark Newcomer  
Rebecca Newton  
Huy Nguyen  
Hoang Han Nguyen  
Anthony Nguyen  
Janet Nguyen





**Jana McAlister, CAA**  
Chair, Practice Management Committee  
Children's Health  
Dallas, Texas

# Practice issues: AAAA can help

“The way to get started  
is to quit talking and begin doing.”

- Walt Disney

Walt Disney's quote offers AAAA members good advice. CAAs are all too familiar with practice management issues. Noticing and grumbling about these unpleasant situations is understandable. But, history has taught our profession that waiting for practice issues to resolve on their own is like waiting for the hole in one's roof to patch itself. The effects can be devastating statewide and in short time.

“Practice issues keep us on our toes,  
but they will not stop us in our tracks.”

Practice issues present in many different forms over all AA practice states and locations. AAAA members have faced payment disparities from payers, total lack of payment from others, issues with groups not familiar with how to bill for our services and even barriers to practicing in locations by promulgated misinformation.

When faced with any obstacle to your practice, contact the practice management committee. Practice issues keep us on our toes, but they will not stop us in our tracks. These things notoriously take time and effort to resolve, but they are not impossible. AAAA must continue to address every impediment to our practice to keep doors open CAAs in current practice and those who will follow. Even though these issues can seem daunting and sometimes we simply want someone else to do all of the hard work, success will require CAAs working together to propel our profession across turbulent waters and practice hurdles.

So you might say, “where do I start?” The answer is simple: Let the AAAA Practice Committee join your fight. Begin by gathering as much information as you can about your current practice issue. Then share this problem with the practice management committee preferably by email, and we will work together toward a resolution. We cannot help unless we know your situation. Even if you only suspect a practice issue arising, please let us know what is happening in your practice locations. We also need to be watching for trends and share our knowledge with other practice locations that may be affected in similar ways.

“Let the AAAA Practice Committee  
join your fight..”

The AAAA has come a very long way since my graduation in 2000. We are growing exponentially and with this growth come challenges and growing pains. I am passionate about growing this profession and seeing it flourish, but also protecting the victories won. A plant's new branches are only as viable long-term as the health of its trunk and root system allow. As our profession grows, we must be vigilant to protect the practices we currently enjoy and from which we draw our livelihoods. As practice chair, I am determined to “do” what is necessary to safeguard our practice as certified anesthesiologist assistants and breaking through barriers we have faced for way too long.

## REPORT PRACTICE ISSUES

Access the report form at...

<https://aaaa.memberclicks.net/assets/professionalresources>



**Jennifer Stever, MMSc, CAA**

Program Faculty  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Master of Medical Science in Anesthesiology  
Atlanta, Georgia



**Christopher Wade**

Chair, AAAA Communications Committee  
Editor, *The Anesthesia Record*  
Atlanta, Georgia

## Emory students get jump on professionalism

In addition to supporting these professional organizations as members, all 71 students contributed to both the ASA PAC and AAAA Legislative Fund! The actions of the Emory students epitomize what professional citizenship is all about, taking responsibility for one's professional future. This is not only a story of astounding citizenship, but also speaks to the power of personal advocacy. It may only take one passionate leader to start a movement of advocacy. Student leaders, while respecting their fellow student's decisions, employed well-informed arguments and persistence to recruit 100% of their classmates as members and contributors.

The actions of the Emory AA students have not gone unnoticed, nor should they fail to inspire current and future CAAs from investing in our professional community. President John F. Kennedy's famous inaugural address immortalized the concept of dynamic citizenship when he boldly challenged us to "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." This profound idea delegates a portion of responsibility onto the individual, and acknowledges each individual's potential to better the group. When reflecting on all that your profession has afforded you, consider what ways you have given to your profession.

Bravo to the Emory students who have all decided to take the future of their careers into their own hands (straight out of the gate)! When we devote time and resources into something, we inherently attribute value to it. We have all invested heavily—in the form of student loans for many of us -- to obtain our careers. Are the fruits of this investment worth protecting? And if so, how? Should we rely on others entirely to safeguard our jobs, expand practice opportunities, and defend our professional interests? Have our newest members inspired you to embrace a deeper commitment to professional citizenship?

Congratulations to the 2017 and 2018 Emory AA Program student classes for achieving 100% membership in the AAAA and ASA! The students responded above and beyond to the challenge of improving professional advocacy within the program. Senior leaders quickly organized a membership drive, highlighting the recent success of the safeVAcare initiative and the AAAA's continued efforts in passing AA legislation, and resolving practice issues on multiple fronts. One by one, all Emory AA students joined the AAAA and ASA as student members.

### "Are the fruits of this investment worth protecting?"

It is important to note that student professional membership dues are not supplemented or processed by the Emory AA program, but rather, are an optional expense assumed by each student.

# Welcome New Members

## New Members in 2017

Joseph Albright, SAA  
Maryam Aminzadeh, CAA  
Kelly Anderson, SAA  
Sean Apple, SAA  
Courtney Arasi, CAA  
Todd Bowden, CAA  
Jessica Budde, CAA  
Lesli Burdick, SAA  
Mary Campbell, SAA  
Peter Cannizzaro, CAA  
Hannah Chadick, SAA  
Ellen Chadick, SAA  
Daniel Chen, CAA  
Sara Church, CAA  
Mark Copeland, CAA  
Ronald Couto, CAA  
Andrew Crider, CAA  
Lindsay Dankert, CAA  
Amanda Dattoli, CAA  
Abdul Derbas, SAA  
Jason Dipman, CAA  
Katie Drew, CAA  
Paul Durrant, SAA  
Jacob Dusselier, SAA  
Erik Eidsvik, CAA  
Lama Fernandez, CAA  
John Ferrara, CAA  
Meghan Fowler, SAA  
Jason Franco, SAA  
Donna Garber, CAA  
Cody Gaul, SAA  
Brandi Lynn Groll, CAA  
Robert Hamblin, SAA  
Erika Hayes, CAA  
Sarah Her, CAA  
Kayla Hickey, SAA

Horace Holden, Jr, CAA  
Che Hong, CAA  
Madison Howard, SAA  
Jana Huang, SAA  
Jessica Ippolito, CAA  
Kevin, Jackson, CAA  
Davin Jagnandan, CAA  
Jessica Jaworowski, CAA  
Timothy Kendig, SAA  
Kathleen King, CAA  
Branden Knose, CAA  
Alex Koch, SAA  
Karolina Lapinska, SAA  
Jason Laughlin, SAA  
Richard Le, CAA  
Scott Lin, CAA  
Cheyenne Lukstein, SAA  
Jerry Matsumura, MD  
William May, CAA  
Aaron McBurney, CAA  
Jessie McCoy, SAA  
Heather McIntyre, SAA  
William McNiece, MD  
Meagan Meyer, CAA  
Christina Moskal, SAA  
Richard Mudd, CAA  
Caitlin Murphy, SAA  
Iman Musah, SAA  
Jenelle Nadeau, CAA  
Barry Nelms, SAA  
Mark Newcomer, CAA  
John Ng, CAA  
Ansley E Otte, CAA  
Amy Patel, CAA  
Taylor Pence, CAA  
Christopher Pollio, SAA

Aileen Pott, CAA  
Stephanie Powell, SAA  
Kelli Ray, CAA  
Sarah Ross, CAA  
Christina Sams, CAA  
Todd Schulte, CAA  
Dipam Shah, SAA  
Laura Spears, SAA  
Nicholas Spreen, SAA  
Ashley Starkweather, SAA  
Megan Stern, CAA  
Vanessa Tabor, CAA  
Michelle Tanory, CAA  
Jeffrey Thomas, CAA  
Daniel Thompson, CAA  
Mark Tomsic, CAA  
Brad Troyer, SAA  
Richard Varlotta, CAA  
Storm Vaughn, SAA  
Jesse Vitich, CAA  
Nathan Weber, CAA  
Jessie Werner, SAA  
Sarah Whitfield, SAA  
Stefanie Wood, SAA  
Bradley Wright, CAA  
Alison Wright, CAA  
Brian Yeager, CAA  
Itzel Zambrano, CAA  
Igor Zhukov, MD



ATLANTA, GA - February 6, 2017, Georgia CAAs and SAAs poured into the State Capitol to promote the profession and physician-led, quality-centered patient care during "AA Day at the Capitol". Students crafted personal notes which were delivered to individual legislators' offices. Bottom right: State Senator Chuck Hufstetler, CAA.

## First Year Fellows in 2017

Catherine Allan, CAA  
Alexa Aramini, CAA  
Andrea Arango, CAA  
Erica Bamgbopa, CAA  
Warren Beck, CAA  
Jeff Bender, CAA  
Eric Bergstrom, CAA  
Tyler Bollinger, CAA  
Jenny Chekadanova, CAA  
Meng Chen, CAA  
Ronald Cole, CAA  
Robert Converse, CAA  
Luis De Carvalho Leao, CAA  
Bajinder Dhanoo, CAA  
Melanie Diaz, CAA  
Brittney Earles, CAA  
Mark Fouts, CAA  
Meghan Fuller, CAA  
Traci Gables, CAA  
Matthew Gardner, CAA  
Casey Gerry, CAA  
Victoria Goordeen, CAA  
Tara Hammann, CAA  
Stephen Hammond, CAA  
Lili Hao, CAA

Cory Hart, CAA  
Jorjetta Ilieva, CAA  
Lyndsay Joson, CAA  
Kaitlin Jurcisin, CAA  
Kaitlin Kamm, CAA  
Kanchan Kaur, CAA  
Adam Khalid, CAA  
Justin Kitson, CAA  
Stanley Lawhon, CAA  
Scott Loberg, CAA  
Sylvia Maldonado, CAA  
Ashley Manon, MMSc, CAA  
Peter McNeely, CAA  
Colleen Meffert, CAA  
Keith Menton, CAA  
Budour Mohammad, CAA  
Mary Monroe, CAA  
Emily Nairn, CAA  
Randi Neubeck, CAA  
Priscilla Patel, CAA  
Mary Randall, CAA  
Christina Romanach, CAA  
S. James Saunders, CAA  
Margaret Schessler, CAA  
Asmir Selimovic, CAA

Tatsiana Shakhmuts, CAA  
Katelyn Stahl, CAA  
Lauren Stainbrook, CAA  
Ashley Steinbach, CAA  
Andrew Thro, CAA  
Cuong Tran, CAA  
Vinh Tran, CAA  
Lkenna Uzomah, CAA  
Robert Varro, CAA  
Jeffrey Walker, CAA  
Christine Wang, CAA  
Brian Wheatley, CAA  
Blaise White, CAA  
Luke Wilkins, CAA  
Bart Williams, CAA  
Jane Zaleski, CAA



# Indiana approves new training program



**Richard Bassi, MMSc, MEd, CAA**  
Director, Anesthesiologist Assistant Program  
Indiana University School of Medicine

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE) has approved a new Master of Science in Anesthesia (MSA) degree. The graduate level program will be offered by the university through the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis.

With the ICHE's approval, Indiana University will offer the twelfth anesthesiologist assistant educational program nationwide.

The IUSM AA Program is housed on the Indiana University Health campus within walking-distance access to University Hospital, Riley Hospital for Children, Eskenazi Hospital, and Methodist Hospital.

The program will deliver twenty-eight months of intensive didactic curricula complemented by local clinical rotations through a variety of subspecialties, including pediatrics, trauma, orthopedics, regional anesthesia, neuro and OB.

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CURIOSITY  
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**SAVE THE DATE**  
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April 20 - 23 | Tradewinds Island Grand, St. Pete, FL