As the calendar year concludes, we can reflect with pride on the Department of Anesthesiology’s accomplishments in 2016, highlighted by our particularly gratifying showing at the October ASA Annual Meeting. Our collective dedication to the guiding principles of Compassion, Creativity, Commitment and Collaboration was evident in the contributions of each individual department member this year.

In the remaining months of the 2016-17 academic year, we shall continue to pursue the departmental goals that support the foundational values of VUMC, distilled in the institutional Pillar Goals shown above - addressing People, Service, Quality, Growth & Finance, and Innovation.

Take a few moments in the coming holiday months to reflect on your own accomplishments and the collective accomplishments of the department in service to these values, and give thanks for the diverse, vital, and generous community to which we all contribute.

Faculty and Staff Recognized for Service

Service awards were presented to 54 members of the Department of Anesthesiology for 2016, representing a combined total of 710 years of service. These awards honor faculty and staff for their commitment to Vanderbilt.

The employee with the greatest longevity is Gail Mayo, a Research Nurse Specialist in the Perioperative Clinical Research Institute (pictured far right), with 30 years of service. CRNAs Robert Atwood and Amy Smith have each been with Vanderbilt for 25 years.

The longest serving faculty members are Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology in the Division of Obstetric Anesthesiology, and Raymond Johnson, Associate in the Division of Research, each with 25 years of service.

Among the staff members honored at the October All-Staff Meeting were (pictured above, left to right): Mark Stevens (10 years), Judy Lashbrook (5 years), Chris Lindsey (10 years), Susan Taylor (15 years), Kristie Lee (20 years), and Gail Mayo (30 years).
The 2016 annual meeting of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), held in October, was a showcase for the Department of Anesthesiology’s achievements. Members of the department offered over 100 academic activities - such as seminars, hands-on workshops, poster discussions, and medically challenging case presentations - at the conference. These contributions came primarily from faculty members, but our CRNAs and trainees were also very involved - this year 25 residents and 6 fellows presented at the ASA.

Not only did our department contribute significantly to this year's meeting of the primary specialty society for Anesthesiology, we also enjoyed opportunities to connect with co-workers, alumni, and colleagues from other institutions and were made proud of the honors garnered by members of the department as well. The annual alumni reception was held Sunday night, October 23rd, at the Mid-America Club on the 80th floor of the AON Center in downtown Chicago and was hosted by our department in conjunction with the anesthesiology departments of the University of North Carolina and Emory University.

Monday morning, October 24th, Dr. David Chestnut, Chief of the Division of Obstetric Anesthesiology, presented the 54th annual Emery A. Rovenstine Memorial Lecture, one of the premier events of the conference. This standing lecture, named for Emery Andrew Rovenstine who was considered a pioneer in the practice of anesthesiology, was endowed in 1962 and is presented by a prominent anesthesiologist. Dr. Chestnut's lecture, titled "On the Road to Professionalism," examines the characteristic qualities of professionalism, the concept of professionalism as a dynamic attribute that physicians must cultivate throughout their careers, and the critical role of professionalism in health care. The lecture was greeted with enthusiastic praise and transcended the boundaries of specialty - the content applies to physicians outside of anesthesiology and to non-medical professionals alike. Following the conference Dr. Chestnut presented "On the Road to Professionalism" at Anesthesiology Grand Rounds here at Vanderbilt, allowing members of our department who could not attend the ASA Annual Meeting to hear this inspirational lecture.

Also on Monday, October 24th, Dr. Mark Newton, Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology and Director of the Vanderbilt International Anesthesia program, was presented the 2016 Nicholas M. Greene Outstanding Humanitarian Contribution Award. This annual award originated in 2010 and is conferred by the Global Humanitarian Outreach (GHO) Committee of the ASA on an ASA member who demonstrates commitment to international humanitarian aid, disaster relief, or education and training in low income countries through personal sacrifice, academic contribution, or technological innovation. Dr. Newton was nominated for this award by someone outside our institution, and the nomination was enthusiastically supported by Dr. Newton's colleagues at Vanderbilt.

Residents Make an Impact at the ASA Annual Meeting
Dr. Jill Boyle’s poster, “Anesthetic outcomes following a redesign of the perioperative management of placenta percreta,” received the 3rd Society of Anaesthesiologists of Hong Kong poster prize in the Obstetric Category at the 2016 World Congress of Anaesthesiologists.

Dr. David Edwards was interviewed as part of a story on NPR about Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia’s emphasis on training students to use nerve blocks as an alternative to opioids.

Dr. Balser cited the QuizTime smartphone app in his “State of the Medical Center” address as an example of innovation in support of the institution’s focus on learning as a core competency. This app is being developed through a collaboration between the Departments of Anesthesiology (Leslie Fowler, MEd) and Radiology (Lori Deitte, MD) with the objective of improving the decision-making process of trainees.

Dr. Jane Easdown was named a Top Peer Reviewer by MedEdPORTAL Publications and the Association of American Medical Colleges, recognizing those who have completed at least three reviews and provided the most comprehensive and timely feedback.

Leslie Fowler, MEd, has been accepted by the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine as a full Portfolio Coach Advisor (1 of 10) for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Dr. Chad Greene was elected to the ASA Resident Component Governing Council as National President-Elect.

Dr. Calvin Gruss was elected to the ASA Resident Component Governing Council as National Secretary.

Callie Hanks graduated with a Master of Management in Healthcare degree from Vanderbilt University on September 24, 2016.

Dr. Stephen Harvey was named section editor for “Mind to Mind,” the creative writing section in Anesthesiology.

Dr. Antonio Hernandez has been promoted to Associate Professor of Anesthesiology.

Rachel Herrmann graduated with a Master of Management in Healthcare degree from Vanderbilt University on September 24, 2016.

Heather Jackson, MSN, APRN-BC, presented “Advocate Practice Providers in Interventional Pain Medicine: Creation of a New Role,” at the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing Region 8 Conference in Mississippi.

Dr. Camila Lyon’s poster, “Task shifting in setting of shortage of first responders in Mozambique,” received the 2nd Society of Anaesthesiologists of Hong Kong poster prize in the Education and Development category at the 2016 World Congress of Anaesthesiologists.

Dr. Matthew McEvoy visited Kenya, where he offered training to Impact Africa partners on topics such as “Team Response to Emergency Obstetric Cases.”

Dr. Matt Riess has been selected to serve on the VUMC Limited Submission Opportunity (LSO) review committee. The LSO Committee is charged with reviewing internal applications to select the most competitive for development into full applications that represent the institution in nominations for major awards (e.g., Pew, Searle, Keck Foundation).

Dr. Warren Sandberg was invited to serve on the search committee for a new Chair of Vanderbilt’s Department of Biostatistics.

Dr. Joseph Schlesinger participated in the 4th World Conference of the International Association for Music and Medicine Conference in Beijing, China, where a multidisciplinary group presented research on auditory medical alarms, integrating music education in medical education, fMRI studies for a music therapeutic approach to PTSD, utilizing music as a pharmacotherapy for pain, and tailored music prescriptions to ameliorate physician burnout. The 5th World Conference will be held in the summer of 2018 in Barcelona, Spain.

Dr. Lisa Weavind has been elected to the Medical Center Medical Board and has received a grant to study bedside monitoring from Medtronic.

Residents and Faculty Present at Tennessee Pain Society Annual Meeting

Dr. Okwuchukwu Obi presents his poster at the 2016 Tennessee Pain Society Annual Meeting.

A group of eight of our department’s residents presented posters at the annual meeting of the Tennessee Pain Society, held in Nashville, Tennessee, November 4-6, 2016.

Dr. Chad Greene’s poster, titled “A Global Perspective on Pain,” was presented at the Tennessee Pain Society Meeting.

Dr. Adam King presented Grand Rounds on the Perioperative Consult Service at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

Dr. Avinash Kumar led the Advanced Mechanical Ventilation and Difficult Airway workshop at the Neurocritical Care Society Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, where he also presented a poster titled “Myasthenic Crisis: Epidemiology, economics and outcomes.”

Dr. Avinash Kumar was appointed to the Fellowship and Education Committee for the Society of Critical Care Medicine, January 2017-January 2020.

Dr. Marcos Lopez was awarded a 2-year NIH Loan Repayment grant via the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for his study of perioperative endothelial function in the Risk of Oxygen During Cardiac Surgery (ROCS) trial. The mentor on this project is Dr. Josh Billings.

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Leadership Announcements

Dr. Kurt Dittrich has been named Interim Chief of the Division of Pain Medicine.

Dr. Alex Hughes has been named Interim Chief of the Division of Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesiology.

Dr. Jill Kilkelly has been named Interim Chief of the Division of Pediatric Anesthesiology.

Dr. Letha Mathews has been named Interim Chief of the Division of Neuro-anesthesiology.

Department Makes a Splash on Social Media

Dr. Nancy Glass (@dnancyglass) - Oct 27

gvanderbilt_anes @vanderbiltU Congrats Mark Newton Dr Chestnut’s inspiring talk was the Best Anesthesia Sermon Ever. Vanderbilt Strong!

Alexandru Visan @executivertex - Oct 24

This is not your typical talk on professionalism. Join David Chestnut now as it’s a special moment! @ASALifeline AANES16

AnesthesiologyHygiene @AnesthesYoga - Oct 24

A humble suggestion-Rovenstein lecture by Dr Chestnut- @ASALifeline must make it available online for free everyone. #AANES16

Deepak Sharma @deepak_sharma - Oct 24

AANES16! Congratulations Mark Newton for @ASALifeline #Global Heartmantraan #award. Certainly, well deserved!!!

Aml Utarfairan @AmlUtarfairan - Nov 8

Looking forward to &shak30 next week, featuring @vanderbilt_anes study on MIRA use, reversal and post-op pneumonia. #AAMedStudent

twitter

Follow us on Twitter for real-time updates: twitter.com/vanderbilt_anes

Education Program Coordinators Attend New Conference

This year’s annual meeting of the Society of Academic Anesthesiology Associates (SAAA), a conference for directors of educational programs in anesthesiology, included the first annual meeting of the newly formed component of SAAA, the Association of Anesthesiology Program Administrators and Educators (AAPAE).

Leslie Fowler, MEd, Director of Educational Development and Research, is one of the founders of the AAPAE and serves on the organization’s council for 2016-2017.

Eight of our department’s educational program coordinators, along with our Fellowship Program Coordinator, Elizabeth Hudson, had the opportunity to attend this new conference to enhance their skills in program administration, making Vanderbilt the institution with the largest cohort in attendance.

The Department of Anesthesiology has instituted a new fellowship in Perioperative Medicine, becoming one of a select few academic anesthesiology programs in the country to offer such an opportunity for prospective trainees. Applications are now being accepted for training to start in July 2017.

The term perioperative medicine describes the non-surgical care of patients from the time surgery is considered through the perioperative period and to full recovery. In the practice of perioperative medicine, many medical specialties work in concert to provide optimal outcomes for surgical patients. The medical knowledge distinct to this field includes that of surgical and anesthesia risks and complications, patient-specific risks due to co-morbid medical conditions, and methods by which to reduce risk and manage medical illness in the perioperative period.

The evidence supporting the value of best practices in perioperative medicine is rapidly expanding, and the full spectrum of this field of medicine is not covered in any core residency program. In light of this, the Department of Anesthesiology’s innovative new fellowship program is designed to place trainees at the forefront of this important area of medicine, preparing them to provide personalized precision perioperative care. For example, if postoperative mortality from cardiac causes (within 30 days of surgery) was considered as a disease entity, it would be the third leading cause of death among adults in the United States. Knowledge of how to properly assess risk and manage medical comorbidities throughout the entire perioperative period stands to make significant improvement in the highest risk patients.

Perioperative Medicine is an emerging multidisciplinary concept that healthcare reform has made an essential part of any successful perioperative enterprise. Equipping physicians with the clinical, administrative, financial, and research tools they will need to embrace this new discipline is a key part of VUMC’s perioperative strategy, and we are absolutely delighted to provide our full support to this innovative program of physician education.

Dr. Andrew Shaw, Executive Vice Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Executive Medical Director of Perioperative Services

The Perioperative Medicine Fellowship is a one-year program that will train participants to be leaders in the clinical and academic research components of their professions, teaching them the skills needed to implement and manage their own perioperative consult service upon completion. Up to four trainees will be admitted into the fellowship each year. During the fellowship program, participants can expect to gain experience in the following core rotations: Perioperative Consult Service, High-Risk Preoperative Evaluation Clinic, Echocardiography and Cardiac Implantable Electronic Device Management, Research, and a wide variety of electives.

One unique aspect of this new fellowship offering is that it is open to those who have completed an ACGME-accredited residency program in anesthesiology or in general surgery. Furthermore, faculty instructors in the program come from the VUMC Departments of Anesthesiology, Surgery, and Medicine, making this a truly cross-departmental educational effort mirroring the collaboration inherent to the concept of perioperative medicine. “Perioperative medicine is the natural destination of the increasing collaboration between the anesthesia and procedural services. This is necessary and will enable best practices to be instituted in a standardized fashion to improve patient outcomes. Through the leadership of Dr. Matthew McEwen, Vanderbilt is and will continue to be a leader in this field,” says Dr. Seth Karp, Professor and Chairmen, Department of Surgery.

To learn more about the new Perioperative Medicine Fellowship, including information on how to apply, visit the Department of Anesthesiology’s website at www.vandydreamteam.com.
## Welcome New Department Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
<th>Division</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Burdette</td>
<td>CRNA</td>
<td>Pediatric Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Canter, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Pediatric Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Carpenter, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Pain Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine Clark</td>
<td>Clinical Trials Associate, PCOR</td>
<td>Pain Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffery Cammons, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Regional Anesthesiology and Acute Pain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel Conway</td>
<td>Clinical Trials Associate, PCOR</td>
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<td>Elliot Karren, MD</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant II, Division of Anesthesiology</td>
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<td>Brandon Gish, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Pain Medicine</td>
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<td>Ashley Burdette</td>
<td>CRNA</td>
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<td>Cathy Diet, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Pain Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly Endo, MD</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Division of Obstetric Anesthesiology</td>
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<td>Joonsup Eun, PhD</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Gardner, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Pediatric Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Gerke</td>
<td>Program Coordinator, Faculty Affairs</td>
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<td>Sara Nelson</td>
<td>Research Analyst II, VAPR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indra Nikolova, MD</td>
<td>Application Developer, CRSS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lavanya Nonkala</td>
<td>Application Developer, CRSS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brooks Olson, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine</td>
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<td>Jason O’Neill, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan Patterson</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant II, Division of Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine</td>
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<td>Cathy Diet, MD</td>
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<td>Yin Guo, PhD</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Harshman, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Obstetric Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>LaKisha Horton</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant II, Division of Ambulatory Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Jakoboski, PhD</td>
<td>Senior Statistical Analyst, VAPR</td>
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<td>Harrison Johnson</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant II, VAPR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Shah</td>
<td>CRNA</td>
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<td>Mathew Samsbury, MD</td>
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<td>LeRae Stanton</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant II, Division of Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiffany Richburg, MD</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Division of Obstetric Anesthesiology</td>
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<td>Leslie Schomack, MD</td>
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<td>Essay Kiefer, MD</td>
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<td>Erich Klinworth</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Kohorst, MD</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rafal Kopanszty, DO</td>
<td>Fellow, Division of Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine</td>
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<tr>
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### Faculty Members Receive NIH Funding

Dr. Julia Bohannon has received funding from the NIH for her study titled “Enhancing Resistance to Infection after Burn Injury with TLR Agonists” (R01 GM121711-01).

This grant is aimed at identifying potential immunomodulatory strategies as a means of offering protection against infection in burn patients, through the study of toll-like receptor agonists and the signaling pathways they mediate.

This grant will serve as co-investigators on a grant that was recently approved for NIH funding for the INSIGHT-ICU study (R01 NIGMS). The PI on the grant is Dr. Mayur Patel (Trauma Surgery).

This study aims to evaluate the interaction of macro (e.g., TBI) and micro diffuse (delirium) brain injury on long term cognitive outcomes, including impact on return to employment, taking into account in-hospital factors as well as post critical illness variables such as social support resilience.

The study will also try to elucidate biomarkers and neuroimaging correlates of acute and long term brain injury in trauma patients.

The grant will cover a 5-year period of enrollment of 900 patients in this cohort and follow-up.

Dr. Pratik Pandharipande and Dr. Chris Hughes will serve as co-investigators on a grant that was recently approved for NIH funding for the INSIGHT-ICU study (R01 NIGMS). The PI on the grant is Dr. Mayur Patel (Trauma Surgery).
Recent Publications


Department Leadership

We provide uncompromising quality in clinical care, research and education. We are:

**Compassionate:** Offering exceptional perioperative care and pain management to a complex population.

**Creative:** Advancing the frontiers of science, healthcare and technology.

**Committed:** Equipping future leaders with solid education and training, both here and abroad.

**Collaborative:** Working across Vanderbilt University Medical Center and beyond to achieve measurable outcomes.

--

Warren S. Sandberg, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Anesthesiology
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Executive Committee

Brian J. Gelfand, MD
Associate Vice Chair for Educational Affairs

Matthew McEvoy, MD
Vice Chair for Educational Affairs

Mark Rice, MD
Associate Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs

Andrew Shaw, MR, FRCA, FFICM, FCCM
Executive Vice Chair, Anesthesiology

Edward Sherwood, MD, PhD
Vice Chair for Research

Matthew Weinger, MD
Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs

Stephen Doherty, MMHC
Department Administrator

Division Chiefs

David H. Chestnut, MD
Chief, Obstetric Anesthesiology

Eric Delpire, PhD
Chief, Basic Science Research

Kurt Dittrich, MD
Interim Chief, Pain Medicine

Katherine Dobie, MD
Chief, Ambulatory Anesthesiology

Brent Dunworth, CRNA, MBA
Chief CRNA

Alexander Hughes, MD
Interim Chief, Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesiology

Jill Kilkelly, MD
Interim Chief, Pediatric Anesthesiology

Letha Mathews, MBBS
Interim Chief, Neuroanesthesiology

Pratik Pandharipande, MD, MSCI
Chief, Anesthesiology-Critical Care Medicine

Masa Pretorius, MBChB, MSCI
Chief, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

Mark Rice, MD
Chief, Multispecialty Adult Anesthesiology

Ann Walia, MBBS
Chief, Veterans Affairs Anesthesiology Service

**DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY**

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