Faculty Win ASRA Pain Medicine’s Excellence in Education Award

From article by T’Ebonie Tanner originally published in the Department Blog on April 29, 2022

Vikram Bansal, MD, and Jeffery Clemmons, MD, both won the Excellence in Education Award given by the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine (ASRA Pain Medicine). Both doctors say it is humbling to have received such a prestigious award. This is a national award that recognizes physician members at the instructor or assistant professor level who have demonstrated innovation and success in education and have been attending physicians for a minimum of five years. Recipients of this award have demonstrated innovation and dedication to the delivery of knowledge in the field of regional anesthesia or pain medicine or both.

“My primary reason for working in academic medicine has always been my desire to work with residents, fellows and medical students,” Clemmons said. “Medical education has always been something that I am passionate about and, as a result, I put a lot of effort into making sure our trainees have a good experience in regional anesthesia.”

Bansal said he wants residents, fellows and medical students to feel invested in their patients and to take ownership of their care. “It is my job to foster technical, analytical and leadership skills by serving as their guide.”

When asked what they had done to win this award, Bansal and Clemmons gave credit to their trainees, saying this award would not have been possible without their dedication and enthusiasm.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Anesthesiology

This summer may be a scorcher, but that does not bring all the amazing things this department does to a standstill. From events, to accomplishments, to all our new hires, we continue to exemplify excellence in healthcare, education and research.

Three of my favorite events occurred in April and May: the Dr. James Phythyon Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric Anesthesiology, the Vanderbilt International Anesthesia Fundraiser and the Research Symposium. All were held in person this year and were great opportunities for camaraderie among department members.

The summer brings a new class of residents, as well as new chief residents. We appreciate all the hard work of the outgoing CA-3s and chief residents and look forward to seeing what the new class accomplishes.

The first of July also saw the beginning of a new fiscal year. It is always a pleasure to look back on what our department accomplished, and we look forward to what we can accomplish still. I am confident we will continue to provide quality clinical care for our community while also providing excellent education and research opportunities for members of our department.

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“My philosophy when it comes to teaching is to have tangible enthusiasm. One of the best compliments I get when working with trainees is when they tell me how much fun they had working together,” Clemmons explained. “Over the past year, I became the regional anesthesia rotation director for our residents, and I have primarily worked at a fast-paced outpatient orthopedic surgery center where trainees improve upon their regional anesthesia skills. When our trainees are there, we emphasize efficient, effective patient care in an enjoyable environment. We work hard and move fast, but we also joke, laugh and have a good time.”

Bansal said he is motivated by the patients and the ability to help them with their pain. “In this age of opioid abuse, anything we can do to reduce opioid consumption is a major win. I am also motivated by my colleagues, residents and fellows, who have a passion for regional anesthesia and want to learn more to advance the field,” Bansal expressed.

Clemmons said regional anesthesia is fun. “It is easy to work hard at something you enjoy. In addition to that, at Vanderbilt Surgery Center-Franklin, we are able to use various regional anesthesia techniques to improve patient satisfaction and increase patient throughput at the center,” Clemmons explained. “From an educational standpoint, to see our residents’ confidence grow from the beginning of the regional rotation to the end is incredibly rewarding. I am fortunate in my practice that I get to combine two of my passions — regional anesthesia and resident education — into one venue.”

It is Clemmons’s fifth year as an attending anesthesiologist. Bansal has been practicing medicine as an attending for over six years now, all at Vanderbilt.
2022 Dr. James Phythyon Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric Anesthesiology

Above: Phythyon family members, along with faculty members from the Department of Anesthesiology, pose with Grand Rounds speaker Nina Deutsch, MD. Deutsch’s presentation at the 2022 Dr. James Phythyon Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric Anesthesiology was titled “The Society for Pediatric Anesthesia WELI Program: An Initiative to Address the Gender Gap in Medicine.”

2022 Vanderbilt International Anesthesia Fundraiser

Thank you for supporting Vanderbilt International Anesthesia’s 10th Anniversary Celebration & Fundraiser!

$40,170 raised
225 attended

Multispecialty Anesthesiology won “Most Generous Division” and “Best Participation.”
2022 Research Symposium

The Bradley Smith Mentorship Award: David A. Edwards, MD, PhD

Charles Bernard Pittinger Prize - Basic Science Research: Brad Grueter, PhD

Charles Bernard Pittinger Prize - Clinical and Translational Research: Christopher Hughes, MD

Best Oral Presentation: Alexis Jameson
Best Poster Presentation: Melissa Kimlinger

Roger England Research Award for Excellence in Support of Basic and Clinical Science: Gen Li

Charles Bernard Pttinger Prize - Health Services and Informatics Research: Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil (Gen Li accepted on his behalf)

George A. Mashour, MD, PhD, presented Grand Rounds for the 2022 Research Symposium on Friday, May 6. His presentation was titled “Anesthetics as Psychedelics.”
Incoming PGY-1 Residents

Haylee Bergstrom  
Rush Medical College of Rush University Medical Center

Mikaela Biavati  
University of North Texas Health Science Center - Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Brandon Farmer  
University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Paul Francois  
Meharry Medical College

Ian Funk  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

Faith Genereaux  
University of Vermont College of Medicine

Kaylea Gunn  
City School of Medicine  
University of Missouri Kansas

Chelsea Gustafson  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

Janet Kim  
Drexel University College of Medicine

Yuri Korobchuk  
Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Hasti Mazdeyasna  
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Ryan McMahon  
University of Minnesota Medical School
Department Accomplishments

Pam Butler was interviewed as part of a new feature of the Nashville Tableau User Group (TUG) virtual meetup called the Community Spotlight. Tableau, a data visualization tool, is used in our department to share data reporting in a more visual and easily accessible format with doctors and medical students as they conduct research.

Congratulations to Holly Ende, MD, who was named the Associate Director of VAPIR.

Andrew Franklin, MD, MBA (meeting chair) and Dave Moore, MD (meeting presenter) participated in the Association of Anesthesia Clinical Directors Leadership Summit held March 25-27.

Congratulations to Brad Grueter, PhD, on his promotion from Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology to Tenured Associate Professor of Anesthesiology.

Christopher Hughes, MD, was awarded the 2021 VUMC Biomedical Science Impact Award for his New England Journal of Medicine manuscript “Dexmedetomidine or Propofol for Sedation in Mechanically Ventilated Adults with Sepsis.”

Congratulations to Mark Newton, MD, on winning the John L. Tarpley Award for commitment to care of underserved communities.

Congratulations to Kimberly Rengel, MD, who was recently named a VUMC Faculty Research Scholar.

John Shields, CRNA, DNP, has accepted the position of CRNA Manager, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology.

Camila Walters, MD, recently worked with legislators to pass a law that allows our partners in low and middle income countries to come to Tennessee to practice medicine for three month fellowships.

Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, has been named chair of Working Group 3, a group being formed by ASA/FAER/IARS’s Anesthesia Research Council to focus on artificial intelligence in anesthesia.

Congratulations to Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, on winning the Kevin B. Johnson Award for innovative approaches advancing clinical practice and/or biomedical research.

Jonathan Wanderer, MD, MPhil, presented at Epic’s XGM Conference in May.

Department Promotions

Matthew Barajas, MD, was promoted to Assistant Professor.

Amanda Dickert, DNAP, was promoted to Advanced Leader.

Alexander George, MD, was promoted to Assistant Professor.

Amanda Lorinc, MD, was promoted to Associate Professor.

Jenna Sobey, MD, was promoted to Associate Professor.
New Hires

Timothy Alford,
Administrative Assistant
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

Education and Training:
MS, Nurse Anesthesia, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2003)
BSN, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL (1996)

Fun Fact: I lived in Italy and speak Italian.

Markeshai Battle
Administrative Assistant
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

Fun Fact: I’m really a big kid at heart.

Michelle Binkley
Associate Program Manager
Multispecialty Anesthesiology

Fun Fact: I love to fish and being out in my kayak.

Sandra Bova
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
MSN, Nurse Anesthesia, Bradley University, Peoria, IL (1995)
BSN, MacMurray College, Jacksonville, IL (1986)

Fun Fact: I am the youngest of six kids, and I have six kids.
Lusine Danakian, MD
Assistant Professor
Neuroanesthesiology

Education and Training:
Residency, Anesthesiology, University of California, San Francisco, CA (2017)
MD, University of California, San Francisco, CA (2013)
Fun Fact: I was born in the former Soviet Union.

Prudhvi Budati, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology
Multispecialty Anesthesiology

Education and Training:
Residency, Anesthesiology, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX (2021)
MD, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN (2017)
Fun Fact: I only learned to speak English as a teenager.

Kelsie Bruning
Research Nurse III
Perioperative Clinical Research Institute

Education and Training:
DNP, Adult-Gero Primary Care, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL (2018)
BSN, Millikin University, Decatur, IL (2013)
Fun Fact: I enjoy running with my huskies.

Kailey Burdette, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Augusta University, Augusta, GA (2016)
Fun Fact: I am from Georgia, love good music and food, and I am super close with my two younger sisters!

Cristina Cueto
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
MS, Nurse Anesthesia, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL (2016)
BSN, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (2012)
Fun Fact: I am a new Tennessee resident from Florida by way of Michigan looking to establish our family roots in the South.
Saro Davidian  
_Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist_

**Education and Training:**
- MSN, Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia, Pasadena, CA (2000)
- BSN, California State University, Long Beach, CA (1994)

**Fun Fact:** I was born and raised in Liberia, West Africa.

Rhonda Dunn  
_Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist_

**Education and Training:**
- MS, Nurse Anesthesia, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL (2000)
- BSN, Birmingham Southern College, Birmingham, AL (1987)

**Fun Fact:** In 2014, I was fortunate enough to go on a medical mission to Ecuador where I took care of kids. I joined the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief in January 2022. I earned the Florence Nightingale Award with my bachelor’s degree in nursing. I am an Auburn fan! From 1992 to 1998, I was on the first ECMO team at the Children’s Hospital in Alabama. I love live music and concerts.

Michelle Edwards  
_Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist_

**Education and Training:**
- MS, Nurse Anesthesia, Xavier University, New Orleans, LA (1996)
- BSN, University of Louisiana Monroe, Monroe, LA (1990)

**Fun Fact:** I was born and raised in Louisiana but moved to Franklin in 2009 and now call middle Tennessee home. I enjoy running and reading, and I am also a knitter.

Mari Egan  
_Assistant in Anesthesiology_
_Perioperative Clinical Research Institute_

**Education and Training:**
- MS, Nursing Administration, Northeastern University, Boston, MA
- BSN, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

**Fun Fact:** I love to travel.
Kevin Ergina
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA (2013)
Fun Fact: I love to surf, travel and enjoy the world with my wife.

Janelle Faiman
Quality Assurance Analyst
Center for Research and Innovation in Systems Safety

Education and Training:
BA, Sociology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN (2005)
Fun Fact: I’m a certified scuba diver.

Grant Fickel, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (2017)
Fun Fact: I am a huge Ohio State Buckeye fan! I knew I wanted to be a CRNA before starting nursing school.

Robin Flick
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
MS, Nurse Anesthesia, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA (2017)
BSN, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA (2005)
Fun Fact: I like to travel. I lived in Saudi Arabia for a year and worked as a registered nurse.

Laurena Garrett
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN (2013)
Fun Fact: I played Division 1 soccer in college.
Julie Halinski, DNAP  
*Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist*

**Education and Training:**  
*DNAP, Louisiana State University Health, New Orleans, LA (2021)*  
*BSN, Louisiana State University Health, New Orleans, LA (2016)*  
**Fun Fact:** I was born and raised in New Orleans and am now moving with my family to Nashville. We love the Ole Miss Rebels!

Peyton Harbin, DNAP  
*Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist*

**Education and Training:**  
*DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)*  
*BSN, Mississippi University of Women, Columbus, MS (2014)*  
**Fun Fact:** I like to travel and spend most of my free time traveling nationally and internationally.

Robert Holden  
*Program Manager*  
*Administration*

**Education and Training:**  
*BS, Management, Iowa State University, Ames, IA (2019)*  
*BS, Marketing, Iowa State University, Ames, IA (2019)*  
**Fun Fact:** I completed virtual distance challenges in order to stay active during travel restrictions. I still do them in order to give more of a goal while jogging.

Christian Jasper  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*  
*Multispecialty Anesthesiology*

**Education and Training:**  
*BA, Communications, Theater Performance, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN (2015)*  
**Fun Fact:** I enjoy Formula 1, IndyCar, sim racing, voice acting, music and video games. Let’s strike up a conversation about any of this!

Adam Johnson, DNAP  
*Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist*

**Education and Training:**  
*DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)*  
*BSN, Samford University, Homewood, AL (2015)*  
**Fun Fact:** My favorite activity is listening to great music and taking a hike with my golden retriever, Davy.
Ashley Kamphaus, DNAP  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**Education and Training:**  
*DNAP*, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)  
*BSN*, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Scottsbluff, NE (2016)  
**Fun Fact:** I enjoy hiking, camping, mountain biking, cooking, reading, woodworking, and I am an extrovert.

Ashraf Kharrubi  
Application Developer  
Vanderbilt Anesthesiology & Perioperative Informatics Research

**Education and Training:**  
*BA*, Finance, Pace University, New York, NY (1996)  
**Fun Fact:** I enjoy hiking and traveling and am a fan of the New York Mets and Arsenal Football Club, the pride of North London.

Allison King, DNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**Education and Training:**  
*DNAP*, Nurse Anesthesia, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University, Baton Rouge, LA (2017)  
*BSN*, University of Louisiana, Lafayette, LA (2013)  
**Fun Fact:** I have two long-haired dachshunds.

Macy Kornbaum, DNAP  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**Education and Training:**  
*DNAP*, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)  
*BSN*, University of Mississippi, Jackson, MS (2015)  
**Fun Fact:** I’m from Louisiana.
Ana Lobo, MD  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Obstetric Anesthesiology*

**Education and Training:**
*Fellowship, Obstetric Anesthesiology, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Aurora, CO (1996)*  
*Residency, Anesthesiology, New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center, New York, NY (1994)*

**MD, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY (1988)**

**Fun Fact:** I am bilingual (English/Spanish). My interests include global obstetric anesthesiology and services. I am a vegetarian and an animal lover.

Geoffrey Kuzmich  
*Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist*

**Education and Training:**
*MS, Nurse Anesthesia Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD (2001)*
*BSN, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ (1994)*

**Fun Fact:** I have a Prius with 270,000 miles.

Katrine Link, DNAP  
*Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist*

**Education and Training:**
*DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)*
*BSN, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN (2012)*

**Fun Fact:** I climbed Mt Rainier and thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail.

Ana Lobo, MD  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Obstetric Anesthesiology*

**Education and Training:**
*Fellowship, Obstetric Anesthesiology, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Aurora, CO (1996)*
*Residency, Anesthesiology, New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center, New York, NY (1994)*

**MD, Weill Cornell Medical College, New York, NY (1988)**

**Fun Fact:** I am bilingual (English/Spanish). My interests include global obstetric anesthesiology and services. I am a vegetarian and an animal lover.

Lance Machado, DNAP  
*Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist*

**Education and Training:**
*DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)*
*BSN, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS (2016)*

**Fun Fact:** I am an avid tech enthusiast who enjoys building personal computers.
Fallon Margraf, DNAP  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:  
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)  
BSN, Gannon University, Erie, PA (2016)  
Fun Fact: My husband and I have a golden retriever named Stanley.

Scarlett Marshall, DO  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology  
Multispecialty Anesthesiology

Education and Training:  
Residency, Anesthesiology, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (2019)  
DO, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Greensburg, PA (2015)  
Fun Fact: I am really good at Dr. Mario.

Kelli Menz  
Associate Program Manager  
Office of the Chair & Anesthesiology Faculty Affairs Office

Education and Training:  
AAS, Fortis Institute, Nashville, TN (2019)  
Fun Fact: I am married and I have three dogs (2 labs and 1 beagle), I have an 8 year old daughter and I love to read. I’m originally from Indiana and have been in the Nashville area for 7 years.

Matthew Moore, DNP  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:  
DNP, Nurse Anesthesia, Northeastern University, Boston, MA (2019)  
BSN, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA (2015)  
Fun Fact: I spent over 10 years in industrial construction before going to nursing school with the intent to become a CRNA.

Tyler Murray  
Research Assistant I  
Research

Education and Training:  
BS, Biological Science, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ (2021)  
Fun Fact: During my time in the military, I had over 75 free-fall sky dives.
Takuro Oyama, MD, PhD
Research Fellow
Research

**Education and Training:**
*PhD*, Tokushima University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Tokushima, Japan (2020)
*Residency*, Anesthesiology, Takamatsu Red Cross Hospital, Takamatsu, Japan (2016)
*MD*, Tokushima University, Tokushima, Japan (2010)
**Fun Fact:** I was engaged in basic experiments using rabbits. I am confident in securing the route and tracheotomy of rabbits.

Matthew Patten, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**Education and Training:**
*DNAP*, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
*BSN*, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL (2015)
**Fun Fact:** I enjoy traveling with my family and friends.

Tymbra Pearce, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

**Education and Training:**
*DNAP*, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
*BSN*, Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, UT (2017)
**Fun Fact:** I have freckles in my eyes. It’s something I forget that I have but it’s one of the first things people notice about me.

Emily Riley
Senior Program Manager
Office of Anesthesiology Faculty Affairs

**Education and Training:**
*BS*, Human Development and Family Studies, Auburn University, Auburn, AL (2013)
**Fun Fact:** I am the type of morning person who usually will be up two hours before I have to be anywhere.
Trevor Robison, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology
Pediatric Anesthesiology

Education and Training:
Fellowship, Pediatric Anesthesiology, Northwestern University Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL (2010)
Residency, Anesthesiology, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL (2009)
MD, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (2005)
Fun Fact: I enjoy surfing, sailing and yoga.

Tyler Sawyer, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Harding University, Searcy, AR (2015)
Fun Fact: I played soccer in college.

Adam Soto, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology
Multispeciality Anesthesiology

Education and Training:
Fellowship, Pain Management, Walter Reed Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD
Residency, Anesthesiology, Walter Reed Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD
MD, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD
Fun Fact: I speak Spanish.

Tara Stieghan, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Columbus State University, Columbus, GA (2015)
Fun Fact: I love to travel and enjoy the great outdoors!

Kelsey Sullivan
Senior Administrative Assistant
Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine

Education and Training:
ABA, Motlow State Community College, Smyrna, TN (2020)
Fun Fact: In my free time, I like to woodburn.
T’Ebonie Tanner
Associate Communications Specialist
Office of the Chair

Education and Training:
BS, Communications, Multimedia Journalism, University of North Alabama, Florence, AL (2016)
Fun Fact: I know the names of all the U.S. presidents.

Brian Tinch, MD
Assistant Professor
Pediatric Anesthesiology

Education and Training:
Fellowship, Pediatric Anesthesia, Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA (2015)
Residency, Anesthesiology, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, MA (2014)
Fellowship, Pediatric Critical Care, Duke University, Durham, NC (2011)
Residency, Pediatrics, Duke University, Durham, NC (2007)
MD, Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon, GA (2004)
Fun Fact: I was the first person in my extended family to go to college.

Joshua Tootle
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN (2017)
Fun Fact: I am originally from coastal Georgia, and I played varsity tennis in high school.

Lucas Urbi, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL (2017)
Fun Fact: My favorite color is blue.
Matthew Vormbrock, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH (2021)
BSN, Mount St. Joseph University, Cincinnati, OH (2015)
Fun Fact: My younger sisters are twins.

Elizabeth Watkins, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, Bellarmine University, Louisville, KY (2016)
Fun Fact: I’m a yoga teacher.

Dawson Wervey
Research Assistant I
Research Division

Education and Training:
BS, Kinesiology, Nutrition, and Health, Miami University, Oxford, OH (2022)
Fun Fact: I have never tried ranch dressing.

Matthew Wilder, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)
BSN, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN (2014)
Fun Fact: I moved to Tennessee to play in the music business from 2003-2007.

Melissa Wohlers, DNAP
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

Education and Training:
DNAP, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (2022)
BSN, Marymount University, Arlington, VA (2015)
Fun Fact: I completed my first marathon at the LA Marathon in November 2021 in 4 hours and 19 minutes.
Amy Zipp  
Associate Program Manager  
Research Division/Center for Research & Innovation in Systems Safety  

**Education and Training:**  
CCMA, Medix School, Towson, MD (1994)  
**Fun Fact:** My hobby is scuba diving with sharks.

Ariel Young, DNAP  
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist  

**Education and Training:**  
DNAP, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia, Madison, TN (2021)  
BSN, University of Texas, Arlington, TX (2015)  
**Fun Fact:** My hobby is scuba diving with sharks.
Recent Publications


Department Leadership

Warren Sandberg, MD, PhD  
Chair, Department of Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center;  
Chief of Staff, Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital

Stephen Doherty, MMHC  
Department Administrator

Mark Rice, MD  
Executive Vice Chair, Department of Anesthesiology

Clayton Adams, MD  
Medical Director, Preoperative Assessment and Teaching for Children’s Hospital (PATCH)

Brian Allen, MD  
Fellowship Director, Regional Anesthesia and Acute Pain

Nathan Ashby, MD  
Director, Policy Management

Arna Banerjee, MD, MMHC, FCCM  
Assistant Vice Chair, Faculty Development Programs, Anesthesiology Faculty Affairs Office

Vikram Bansal, MD  
Director, Clinical Operations, Ambulatory Anesthesiology

Jeanette Bauchat, MD, MS  
Chief, Obstetric Anesthesiology; Medical Director, OB/GYN

Josh Billings, MD  
Director, BH Robbins Scholar Program

Eric Briggs, MD  
Medical Director, Vanderbilt Outpatient Surgery Center (FEL)

Stephen Bruehl, PhD  
Research Compliance Officer

Christopher Canlas, MD  
Chief, Ambulatory Anesthesiology

Jeffery Clemmons, MD  
Medical Director, Vanderbilt Surgery Center

Christy Crockett, MD  
Medical Director, VCH PACU
Robert Deegan, MB, ChB, BAO, PhD, FFARCSI
Director, Perioperative ECHO

Eric Delpire, PhD
Director, Basic Science Research; BH Robbins Director in Anesthesiology Research

Jerod Denton, PhD
Co-Director, BH Robbins Scholar Program

Brent Dunworth, CRNA, DNP, MBA
Chief Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist; Director, Advanced Practice, Anesthesiology

Susan Eagle, MD
Assistant Vice Chair, Faculty Development and Advancement, Anesthesiology Faculty Affairs Office; Medical Director, Adult Congenital Cardiotoracic Anesthesiology

David A. Edwards, MD, PhD
Chief, Pain Medicine

Holly Ende, MD
Fellowship Director, Obstetric Anesthesiology; Associate Director, Vanderbilt Anesthesiology & Perioperative Informatics Research (VAPIR)

Andrew Franklin, MD, MBA
Service Director, Pediatric Acute Pain

Robert Freundlich, MD, MS, MSCI
Chief, Informatics Research; Director, Vanderbilt Anesthesiology & Perioperative Informatics Research (VAPIR)

Brian Gelfand, MD
Vice Chair, Educational Affairs

Leslie Fowler, EdD
Director, Educational Development and Research

Rajnish Gupta, MD
Medical Director, Belle Meade ASC

Travis Hamilton, DO, MMHC, FASA
Director, Off Campus Anesthesia Clinical Operations

Christina Hayhurst, MD
Fellowship Director, Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine; Director, Clinical Operations, Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine

Patrick Henson, DO
Medical Director II, PACU; SICU Co-Medical Director
Jaime Llobet, MD  
Director & Coordinator, Pediatrics 
Resident Simulation Program 

Bevan Londergan, MD  
Chief, Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesiology 

Koffi Kla, MD  
Medical Director, VUAH & MCE Operating Rooms; Leader, Urology MCE Pod 

Michael Mantinan, MD  
Director, Clinical Operations, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology 

Miklos Kertai, MD, PhD  
Assistant Vice Chair, Quality and Safety; Precision Perioperative Medicine Leadership 

Meredith Kingeter, MD  
Assistant Program Director, Anesthesiology Residency Program 

Frederick W. Lombard, MBChB, FANZCA  
Assistant Vice Chair, VUAH Anesthesia Clinical Operations 

Katherine Loh, MD  
Associate Director, Faculty Recruitment 

Douglas Hester, MD  
Interim Chief, Multispecialty Anesthesiology  
Director & Coordinator, Resident Simulation Program 

Phil Leisy, MD  
Associate Director, Liver Transplant Team 

Antonio Hernandez, MD, MSCi  
Co-Medical Director, CV-ICU 

Meredith Kingeter, MD  
Assistant Program Director, Anesthesiology Residency Program 

Marcos Lopez, MD  
Associate Fellowship Director, Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine 

Amanda Lorinc, MD  
Director, Clinical Operations, Pediatric Anesthesiology 

Bevan Londergan, MD  
Chief, Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesiology 

Michael Higgins, MD, MPH  
Chair, Peer Review Committee 

Koffi Kla, MD  
Medical Director, VUAH & MCE Operating Rooms; Leader, Urology MCE Pod 

Miklos Kertai, MD, PhD  
Assistant Vice Chair, Quality and Safety; Precision Perioperative Medicine Leadership 

Christina Jelly, MD  
Co-Director, Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) 

Meredith Kingeter, MD  
Assistant Program Director, Anesthesiology Residency Program 

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Assistant Vice Chair, VUAH Anesthesia Clinical Operations 

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Associate Director, Faculty Recruitment 

Marcos Lopez, MD  
Associate Fellowship Director, Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine 

Amanda Lorinc, MD  
Director, Clinical Operations, Pediatric Anesthesiology 

Michael Mantinan, MD  
Director, Clinical Operations, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology
Britany Raymond, MD
Director, Maternal-Fetal Surgery Anesthesiology; Director, Medical Students’ Fourth-year Clerkship

Srijaya Reddy, MD, MBA
Chief, Pediatric Anesthesiology

Amy Robertson, MD
Vice Chair, Clinical Affairs

Trevor Robison, MD
Clinical Director, Pediatric Anesthesiology

Christiana Roussis, MD
Associate Director, Quality & Safety; Chair, VUMC Sedation Committee

Paul St. Jacques, MD
Patient Safety Officer

Amanda Shakal, DO
Co-Director, Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS)

Edward Sherwood, MD, PhD
Vice Chair, Research; Cornelius Vanderbilt Chair in Anesthesiology

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Medical Director, Catheter and EP Labs; Medical Director II, Liver Transplant Team

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Fellowship Director, Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology

Chris Sohey, MD
Fellowship Director, Pain Medicine

Jenna Sohey, MD
Fellowship Director, Pediatric Anesthesiology

Laura Sorabella, MD
Director, Clinical Operations, Obstetric Anesthesiology; Medical Director, OB/GYN

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Medical Director II, Orthopedic Anesthesiology Team

Brian Tinch, MD
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Chief, Veterans Affairs Anesthesiology Service
Sheena Weaver, MD  
Medical Director,  
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Liza Weavind, MBBCh, FCCM, MMHC  
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Program Director, Vanderbilt eICU;  
Associate Chief of Staff, VUH Operations Control Center

Edward Yaghmour, MD  
Assistant Vice Chair, Perioperative Medicine;  
Associate Chief, Multispecialty Anesthesiology;  
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Matt Zapf, MD  
Co-Director, Center for Evidence-Based Anesthesia (CEBA)
Department of Anesthesiology

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