Greetings from the Department of Anesthesiology.

The Department continues to grow its ranks to accommodate additional needs in the operating rooms and in non-OR anesthesia (NORA) areas such as the endoscopy suites, cardiac catheterization areas, and others. You may have noticed NORA case volume increase in your own practice, perhaps to your dismay. In fact, a new national organization, Sonoria, was recently created to identify better strategies to more closely manage NORA locations. In Gainesville, we are also building a new UF Health Heart & Vascular Hospital with 216 beds and 20 operating rooms. Within these new towers, the hospital will also feature multiple hybrid operating rooms with the capability of adapting to rapidly changing medical technology (e.g., TAVR, TEVAR, and EVAR) and MRI-equipped neurosurgical ORs. The demand for pain medicine also continues to increase and give our providers a busy professional life. For these reasons, you may have noticed the faculty recruiting outreach by the Department to alumni and also in national advertising. If you identify a faculty candidate, please steer them to our faculty search committee chair, Dr. Nik Gravenstein (ngravenstein@anest.ufl.edu) or our faculty recruitment coordinator, Britney Vidal (bvidal@anest.ufl.edu). The faculty who recently joined us are noted in this newsletter. Within our resident cadre, the Department matched a full class of new residents last spring and we have provided some detail on these future anesthesiologists on subsequent pages. A new challenge to the residents is the ABA BASIC EXAM that (continued on next page)
FEATURED

MOCA 2.0
What’s going on with MOCA?
By: Christina E. Carey

The Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology (MOCA) simulation sessions have taken off with full effect at the University of Florida Center for Safety, Simulation & Advanced Learning Technologies (CSSALT). To date, there have already been seven MOCA sessions held with participants from as far away as Arizona and Utah. The 1-day MOCA courses satisfy a requirement of the MOCA program that encourages lifelong learning. Each session includes eight participants who are taken through eight scenarios. Each scenario is handled by a pair of attendees; one as a primary responder and the other as support. The participants experience two scenarios: one as primary provider “hot seat” and the other as a supporter. The “hot seat” is where the primary provider is tasked with leading the response to a simulated medical scenario. The attendees not handling the scenario watch the session in real time in the adjoining room via video and an audio link. MOCA sessions are approved for 6 hours of continuing medical education (CME) credit.

One of the goals for MOCA sessions is to explore process improvement opportunities for individual practitioners and their practices. As an incidental local benefit when conducting sessions, the Department of Anesthesiology found opportunities of their own to improve. For example, we now store intralipid, a rescue solution for local anesthetic toxicity, in the operating room rather than more remotely. We also added special adapters to all the anesthesia machines that make it easier to give supplemental oxygen at less than 100%, most importantly, no more than 30% when there is an on-patient fire risk associated with a particular procedure and supplemental oxygen is administered.

In May, Drs. Gravenstein and Lampotang travelled to the American Society of Anesthesiology headquarters in Schaumburg, IL, to attend a MOCA 2.0 meeting and share experiences with other endorsed MOCA centers.

The MOCA sessions and the CSSALT lab have now moved from the Communicore building to a brand new location in the George T. Harrell, MD, Medical Education Building. This state-of-the-art facility is located on the north edge of the UF Health Science Center campus on Newell Drive across from the Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute. The building was named after the college’s founding dean, who pioneered the expansion of the UF Health Science Center in the 1950s. The fourth floor of the building is where CSSALT will call home; students will practice hundreds of simulated health care scenarios that will prepare them for high-risk situations.

We would also like to welcome our new Simulation Engineer, Tony DeStephens.

For inquiries about the date, time, and location of the next MOCA simulation session, please visit simulation.health.ufl.edu/CSSALT/index.php, email MOCA@anest.ufl.edu, or call Faith Hawks at 352-273-6782 or 352-273-6779.
Congratulations Drs. Arrant and Rabai!

On your recognition by the American Board of Anesthesiology for your outstanding performance on the ABA Basic Examination. Both doctors scored in the top 10% of all candidates nationwide on the exam.

Congratulations on an outstanding job!

Congratulations to our CA-2 Class!

It is with great pleasure and pride that we announce that our CA-2 class had a 100% pass rate on the ABA BASIC Examination. Congratulations to all of our residents who completed this first step in the staged examination system for Board Certification in Anesthesiology!

Outstanding Job!

The Gulf Atlantic Anesthesia Resident’s Research Conference

By: Christina E. Carey

The Gulf Atlantic Anesthesia Resident’s Research Conference (GAARRC) took place May 1-3, 2015, in San Juan, Puerto Rico at the Intercontinental San Juan Resort. GAARRC is an annual meeting that encourages and creates an opportunity for anesthesia residents and professionals to take part in concurrent educational sessions as well as networking opportunities of interest to members of the anesthesia community. This professional meeting is devoted to presentations by resident physicians from anesthesiology programs based in the southeastern region of the United States. After participating in various educational activities, the learners become more confident in presenting scientific information, gaining information on the latest techniques in the field of anesthesiology, networking with anesthesia professionals, and many other interesting career-guided opportunities.

Anesthesia Interest Group

By: Christina E. Carey

The University of Florida Anesthesia Interest Group (AIG) is striving for greatness and expansion this academic year!

UF's AIG was created to increase awareness among students in the medical field while promoting interest in anesthesiology for UF College of Medicine. "I want the students to be competitive and to excel so they will be able to choose which residency program they get into. I am hoping it is our department they want to be a part of," said AIG faculty advisor, Dr. Josh Sappenfield.

Drs. Peggy White and Joshua Sappenfield have been working with the AIG for 2 years now. Although they are somewhat new to this group, they have several exciting opportunities in store for their students. This year, they have advocated for an AIG officer to represent our school nationally as an ASA Medical Student Component Society Delegate. That student will then represent UF among other universities nationally at the ASA annual meeting in San Diego. AIG members are also encouraged to become involved in research projects that they will finish during medical school; they are invited to attend departmental events, such as the football tailgating and golf tournaments throughout the school year; and they will be encouraged to shadow faculty members in the operating rooms. They will also be able to see patients as long as they have their UF student ID. AIG officers are motivated to take on projects and otherwise become involved, leading them to national recognition.

UF's AIG first meeting was held on August 20th with guest speaker Dr. Brian Gelfand. He discussed how he originally started as a surgeon and what led him to become an anesthesiologist. Drs. Thompson, Kiley, White, Euliano, and Li also discussed anesthesia-related topics in the meeting. AIG meetings are held every other month.

For inquiries about AIG meetings and how to get involved, please visit http://anest.ufl.edu/education/clerkship-programs/ or email JSappenfield@anest.ufl.edu.
Let’s Welcome Our New Residents!

It’s that time of year again…our halls have filled up with the new faces of incoming interns and residents. As we strive to fulfill one of our important missions, that of education, we seek out the best and brightest to come to UF and become part of the Gator Nation to learn from our great clinicians and faculty. Please welcome them to our community and take some time to get to know them. As a starting point, here is some background information:

**2015 Incoming PGY1/Interns**

Name: **Samantha Arzillo, MD**
Hometown: Cooper City, FL
Undergrad: University of Florida, Biology
Medical School: University of Miami, Miami

Academics/Hobbies: Samantha has had many volunteer experiences, including helping run The Lotus House Clinic, which provides healthcare to underprivileged women. She has multiple publications in the area of craniofacial surgery and aesthetics. Samantha previously worked as a receptionist/legal assistant in a law office. Her hobbies include flag football, guitar, dancing, obstacle racing, and spending time with her father.

Name: **Lucas “Lee” Bannister, MD**
Undergrad: Georgia Institute of Technology, Materials Science and Engineering, Summa Cum Laude
Medical School: Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta

Interests/Unique Characteristics: Lee served as Vice President of Product Development for NOK Medical, where he collaborated with the Founder/CEO on medical device innovations. He also volunteered for Project Open Hand, preparing and delivering meals for homeless and elderly Atlanta residents. Lee worked with Emory University anesthesia faculty, conducting electrophysiology experiments on GABA receptors.

Hobbies: Golf (GT club team and Future Collegiate World Tour), fitness, travel, and spending time with his wife and daughter.

Name: **Rhae Battles, MD**
Undergrad: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Molecular and Cellular Biology
Medical School: Meharry Medical College, Nashville

Interests/Unique Characteristics: Rhae has a strong interest in global health care after a recent volunteer experience mission trip to Guyana. She is a mentor for TALKS Mentoring, where she mentored three young girls in an elementary school near her college campus. Hobbies/Interests: Volunteering, reading, playing trombone and piano, shopping, running, cooking, and hiking with her dog.

Name: **James Brown, DO**
Hometown: Draper, UT
Undergrad: University of Utah, Psychology
Medical School: Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine, Glendale

Interests/Hobbies: James participated as a volunteer medical examiner at Hopefest Operations for the homeless. He worked as a biochemistry tutor as well as a full-time anatomy teaching assistant. His research involves the effects of thalidomide on the developing chicken fetus. James enjoys running half marathons, including a marathon in 2009, Ragnar in 2014, swimming, hiking, rock climbing, ultimate Frisbee, volleyball, and racquetball.

Name: **Aneel Deshmukh, MD**
Hometown: Johnson City, TN
Undergrad: East Tennessee State University, Philosophy
Medical School: East Tennessee State University, Johnson City

Interests/Unique Characteristics: Aneel serves as an editorial writer for a kickboxing website. He previously worked in a human simulator lab with an anesthesiology focus and he has done many oral presentations on multiculturalism. His interests include scuba diving, kickboxing, film, and philosophy.

Name: **Dalya Elhady, MD**
Home Town: Clifton, VA
Undergrad: George Mason University, Biology and Biotechnology, with a minor in Chemistry
Medical School: George Washington University, Washington, DC

Interests/Hobbies: Dalya was a co-founder and co-president of The Personalized Medicine and Genomics Interest Group. She also worked as a biology and chemistry teacher in the Fairfax County Public School system. Dalya's research experience includes areas of education such as “Evaluating the impact of a multidisciplinary approach to teaching mobile healthcare.” Her interests include her family, cooking/baking, gardening, and running.

Name: **Joel Goodman, DO**
Hometown: Santa Ana, CA
Undergrad: Brigham Young University, Biology and Chemistry
Medical School: Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine, Glendale

Interests/Unique Characteristics: Joel participated in Hurricane Katrina and Rita relief efforts. He performed research to determine the role of different ion channel genes in the mechanism of the volatile anesthetic, halothane, in Drosophila melanogaster and gave a presentation at the 2014 ASA, titled “Comparison of Mechanism of Action Isoflurane vs. Halothane.” Joel’s hobbies include spending time with family, composing music, surfing, and tennis.
2015 INCOMING PGY1 INTERNS (continued)

Name: Tyler Haskell, DO  
Hometown: Bountiful, UT  
Undergrad: University of Utah, Business Management  
Medical School: Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Des Moines  
Interests/Unique Characteristics: Tyler served as a teaching assistant in courses for younger students on physical diagnosis and osteopathic manipulative medicine. He is married and has two daughters. His hobbies include basketball, football, fishing, running, camping, rock climbing, hiking, wake boarding, snowboarding, architecture, and real estate. Tyler spent two years in Concepción, Chile, as a missionary and Eagle Scout.

Name: Jason Howard, DO  
Hometown: Kirksville, MO  
Undergrad: Brigham Young University, Provo, UT  
Medical School: A.T. Still University, Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville  
Interests/Unique Characteristics: Jason was president of his medical school’s Anesthesia Interest Group. He previously owned a direct sales cable business. His research was in the area of pain transmission in rat spinal cords. Jason’s interests include running, sports, hunting, and camping.

Name: Christopher Maxwell, MD  
Hometown: Bradenton, FL  
Undergrad: University of Florida, Biochemistry  
Medical School: University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville  
Interests/Hobbies: Chris volunteered at Camp Boggy Creek, a camp for children with disabilities. He was the President of the UF Rowing Team and has gained leadership skills via The United States Air Force, where he serves as a Second. His interests include intramural sports, Gator football and basketball, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and clay (skeet) shooting.

Name: Clint McDaniel, MD  
Hometown: Orlando, FL  
Undergrad: University of Florida, Business Administration  
Medical School: Marshall University, Huntington, WV  
Interests/Hobbies: Clint was the President of the Anesthesia Interest Group at Huntington. He was a high school lacrosse coach, leading the team to the state championship game. Clint volunteered for the national Let’s Get Moving program to fight childhood obesity and has held leadership roles in the student section of the AMA, including as Vice-Chair of Community Service for a five-state region. He has served several times as a camp counselor at Florida Diabetes Camp. Clint has performed research measuring over 1700 cadaver knees. His hobbies include lacrosse, reading, road trips, golf, surfing, camping, and boating.

Name: Megan Yu, MD  
Undergrad: Emory University  
Medical School: Medical College of Georgia Regents University, Augusta  
Interests/Hobbies: Megan taught 8th grade Science and Spanish classes to gifted students in underserved Atlanta. She also tutored and mentored organic chemistry students. She was involved in several research projects involving stressors. She enjoys competitive distance running, baking, Spanish language and culture, reading traveling, Buddhism, reggae music, and spending time with friends and family.

2015 Incoming CA1s/Second Year Residents

Name: Sindhu Nimma, MD  
Hometown: Louisville, KY  
Undergrad: University of Kentucky, Premed/Biology  
Medical School: Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta  
Interests/Hobbies: Sindhu participated in the Anesthesia Interest Group at the University of Kentucky, specifically as airway workshop coordinator. She was also involved in a medical mission trip to Hyderabad, India. Sindhu also collaborated with students from the College of Pharmacy at UK to develop a migraine management protocol. Her interests include Bollywood dancing, facial expression and landscape photography, tennis, and ethnic cooking.

Name: Kevin Olsen, MD  
Undergrad: University of Florida, Nuclear Engineering Science  
Medical School: Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta  
Interests/Hobbies: Kevin co-founded NOK Medical to explore ideas for medical devices and mobile applications. In doing so, he ultimately led a team of Georgia Tech engineering students to create a prototype mobile vital sign and diagnostic system for use in developing nations. Kevin has worked with Dr. Lamportang in undergraduate research, testing anesthesia residents on use of the FDA machine pre-use check list before and after receiving training on a Virtual Anesthesia Machine simulation developed at UF. Hobbies/Interests: Ice hockey, politics, international affairs, economics, and college football. Kevin was the leading scorer of the Atlanta Amateur Hockey League.

Name: Joe Lagrew, MD  
Dr. Lagrew obtained a BS in biochemistry from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, and finished his medical degree at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in 2010. Since that time, he completed an intern year at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. He is currently a Senior Medical Officer aboard the United States Navy USS Somerset.

Currently, his research involves working to complete data entry and statistical analysis comparing infection rates and catheter culture results of femoral nerve catheter placement with and without antibiotic-impregnated biopatches for acute pain control after total knee arthroplasty. His current hobbies include gardening and long distance running.
2015 Incoming CA1s/Second Year Residents continued

Name: **Joe Siebenaler, MD**

Dr. Joe Siebenaler is a proud member of the United States Navy/United States Marine Corps. He previously served as Battalion Surgeon during Operation Enduring Freedom as physician to 1,400 Marines of the Third Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion in the Helmand Province in Afghanistan. Joseph obtained his undergraduate degree in biomedical science from Marquette University in Milwaukee, and completed his medical degree at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He completed a year of general surgical training at the Navy Medical Center in San Diego. He has researched and presented posters on lipoxygenase eicosanoids. His hobbies are Cross Fit, running, hunting, and fishing.

Name: **Major Patricia Nwajuaku, MD**

Dr. Nwajuaku is a proud member of the United States Air Force. She graduated from UCLA Medical School after earning an MPH Fellowship from Columbia University. Trish completed her intern year in the Air Force and was then called to active duty. She enjoys international travel, volunteering, and philanthropic endeavors. She has pursued music as a hobby and has recorded as a background vocalist. Trish enjoys sports, particularly tennis and volleyball.

Name: **Leon Anijar, MD**

Dr. Anijar was awarded his BS degree in neuroscience from Emory. He matriculated to the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine. His research endeavors have included both biomechanical and basic science experiments and retrospective clinical reviews. Leon enjoys reading, exercising, cooking, rock climbing, and the art of storytelling.

Name: **Brendan Inouye, MD**

Dr. Inouye hails from the sunny city of Honolulu, Hawaii. He traveled inland to earn a degree in biomedical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, but went back home to the University of Hawaii for medical school. He has already begun his research career and has done an oral presentation, three posters, and has been named in five other publications. Brendan plays volleyball and loves to cook.

Name: **Scott Michael Wasilko, MD**

Dr. Wasilko received his undergraduate degree from Bucknell University and his medical degree from the University of Vermont College of Medicine. He remained in Burlington for the beginning of his residency at the University of Vermont Medical Center. Scott has conducted research on surgical site infections in patients with type III open fractures. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, hunting, fishing, skiing, drawing, and playing guitar.

Name: **Carolyn Whitman, MD**

Dr. Witman graduated from Wake Forest Medical School in 2014. She completed her undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina, receiving a BA in psychology, with a minor in neuroscience, summa cum laude in 2010. Carolyn loves mountain biking and raced for her college club team in her senior year. In general, she loves the outdoors and enjoys many different adventure sports; she recently began learning to surf. Carolyn is also a rower and participated on her high school crew team for four years. She has played the flute for many years, but more recently picked up the tenor saxophone.

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

This year, we celebrated the hard work and excellence of an exceptional class with a beautiful commencement ceremony in 2015. Along with family and friends, the Department of Anesthesiology came together to send off our graduating residents with all the pomp and circumstance they deserved. In the spirit of growing the Gator Nation and keeping in touch, here is a list (on next page) of where you can find everyone going forward:
College of Medicine: 2015 Celebration of Research

By: Christina E. Carey

The University of Florida College of Medicine Celebration of Research is an annual poster event showcasing the qualities of our research program. This year, for the first time, combined faculty and student research posters were presented. This event is a helpful reminder for others to appreciate the breadth, quality, and merit of the science conducted within the College of Medicine. It also reminds us that it is through discovery and research that we improve the quality of human life as well as advancing the College of Medicine and the University of Florida.

The Celebration of Research took place on February 9, 2015, at the Stephen C. O’Connell Center. Students and faculty presented more than 460 research posters that were arranged into 11 categories; the Department of Anesthesiology had 30 posters in the competition. Medical students, who are mostly part of the Medical Students Research Program, presented approximately 90 posters.

The Medical Students Research Program is a 10-week individual research program for students between their first and second years of medical school at UF. Students work alongside faculty from the Health Science Center and present their results in a poster at the end of their second year at the Medical Student Research Day, which was part of the Celebration of Research poster session this year.

This year’s poster presentation displayed the improvement UF is gaining in funding through the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The UF College of Medicine increased its NIH funding for the fifth consecutive year in 2014, during a time when gathering research funding was challenging for institutes across the United States. In 2009, the college’s funding totaled $61.6 million. Since then, the college has added $26.3 million more research dollars, totaling an NIH budget of $88 million. The Department of Anesthesiology received $1.3 million from the NIH in 2014. This increase in funding occurred at the same time the NIH’s budget plateaued. The quality of research that drew this level of attention from the NIH showed in the poster session at the O’Connell Center.

The Department of Anesthesiology had two winners in the competition:

In the category of Basic Science, Andrew Lampert won for his poster entitled “Prostaglandin E2 EP2 receptor deletion attenuates intracerebral hemorrhage-induced brain injury and improves functional recovery.”

In the category of Clinical Science, Nicholas Wright won for his poster entitled “Is acute pain medicine ready for Markov?”
The Celebration of Research week continued with short discussions given by Stephanie Karst, PhD, an associate professor in the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, who discussed how the norovirus interacts with the body, and Clayton Mathews, PhD, the Sebastian Family Professor for Diabetes Research in the Department of Pathology, Immunology, and Laboratory Medicine, who spoke about ways to better understand type 1 diabetes. The week ended with a keynote speaker Ennio A. Chiocca, MD, PhD, who spoke about oncolytic viruses as a therapy for brain tumors. Dr. Chiocca is Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and Co-Director of the Institute for Neurosciences at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

The Celebration of Research Day was a great success. We would like to thank everyone who actively participated in and supported this event. We were pleased to have our distinguished keynote speaker, Carlos Mantilla, MD, PhD, Professor of Anesthesiology and Physiology from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Dr. Mantilla gave an amazing speech about the “Neurotrophin Regulation of Diaphragm Muscle Function in Health and Disease” at the Hilton Hotel following an afternoon of fascinating poster and oral presentations in the Academic Research Building Founder’s Gallery. Abdullah Ahmad, PhD, won this year’s Jerome H. Modell, MD, Research Award, which was selected by our invited speaker. Dr. Ahmad’s research was based on the “Efficacy of clinically tested laropiprant in minimizing brain injury following intracerebral hemorrhage.” Faculty members also judged and awarded three winners for the best poster presentations:

- **First Place winner**, Dr. Bo Ma, won $500 for his poster presentation based on the activation of the prostaglandin E2 EP1 receptor promoting microglial phagocytosis though CD36 receptor recycling.
- **Second Place winner**, Ms. Allison Choi, won $250 for her poster presentation about pre-surgical brain integrity on baseline and intraoperative cerebral oxygenation during total knee arthroplasty surgery.
- **Third Place winner**, Mr. David Lizdas, won $100 for his poster presentation based on cross-sectional literacy and the use of an ultrasound skills trainer.

The Anesthesiology Celebration of Research provides an opportunity for those affiliated with Anesthesiology to share exciting and innovative research that they conducted over the last year, their ideas for future research projects, and their collaborations. It is also an informative, collegial day that encourages interactions and collaborations with other scientists and clinicians.

We would like to extend a special thank you to our chair, Tim Morey, MD, for his generous support. We would also like to thank Dr. Mantilla, our extended members of the Office of Research, our faculty judges, and everyone else who assisted and made this such a successful event.

Blue Ridge Rankings

Congratulations are due to our department!

The Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research, a North Carolina-based bio-sciences and health care nonprofit, provides a national ranking of total research grants awarded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Florida is always highly ranked, and has consistently improved its ranking over the past four years.

In 2011, we ranked 31st; in 2012, we ranked 29th; in 2013, we ranked 27th; and last year, in 2014, we ranked 26th out of 50! We are steadily making our way to the top of the research pack thanks to our dedicated team of faculty researchers and their support staff. Sylvain Doré, PhD, Professor of Anesthesiology, Neurology, Psychiatry, and Neuroscience, ranked 31st out of 231 principal investigators, with $757,483 in NIH funding in 2014. Independent assessments like Blue Ridge’s provide a useful, though not definitive, measurement of how our department fits into the nation’s overall research picture.
The Tallahassee Neurological Foundation was formed in March 1970. Dr. Bryan Robinson was born in Thomasville, Georgia, in 1929. He was educated at Davidson College, received his MD from Emory University, and interned at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, New York. He did his postgraduate training at Stanford and then returned to Emory to do research with implantation of electrodes in the brain at the Yerkes Primate Center before going into private practice.

Dr. Frank Davis was born in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1935, raised in Atlanta, and received his MD and neurosurgical training at Tulane University in New Orleans, before entering private practice.

In 1972, the computerized axial tomogram (CAT scan, later, CT scan) was being developed in England. Dr. Robinson recognized the value of such a scanner and had the foresight to form a non-profit foundation for the purpose of bringing a CT scanner to Tallahassee. This was at a time when there were only two CT machines in the United States; one at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and the other at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

The Tallahassee Neurological Foundation was formed in December 1972 for the purpose of supporting education and research in neurology and neurosurgery. Dr. Robinson convinced 100 people to contribute $1,000 each, akin to $5,000 in today’s dollars. He even applied for a $3,000 grant from the National Institute of Health for a Neurology Library, which is now housed on the 4th floor of Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH).

Dr. Robinson was the chairman of the foundation from 1973 until his untimely death in 1979. Dr. Davis was chairman from 1979 until 1995. Dr. Fred Vroom has been chairman from 1995 to the present.

The foundation has a startling list of accomplishments from its inception through the present; $852,000 has gone to education and research:

- $427,000 has financed research for 234 PhD candidates in neuroscience, including medical students & postgraduates in medicine doing research in neurology or neurosurgery
- $350,000 for the CT machine gifted to TMH
- $50,000 for a neurosurgical laser for the TMH neurosurgical operating room
- $20,000 for an operating microscope for the TMH neurosurgical operating room
- $105,000 for: the 1st grant to the University of North Carolina in 1975; equipping the Neurology Library at TMH; a grant to the Ronald McDonald House for parents to be close to sick children; joining the Neuroscience Center to aid their work supporting groups in Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy, headache, and stroke; a Think First Program to prevent brain and spinal cord injuries youth; educational conferences with TMH, County Medical Society and Florida State University; and contributions to the Neuroscience Center, the Neurology 4th floor nurses, the Neurology-Neurosurgery Intensive Care Unit nurses, the Emergency Department nurses and Nursing Administration, and all at TMH, including assisting 120 nurses in furthering their education.

One hundred percent of the contributions and funds go to education and research in the neurosciences. Zero funds went to Dr. Robinson, his family, or to any board member.

The Tallahassee Healthcare Foundation (TMH Foundation) donates the expense of managing the endowment. In 1998, the foundation merged with the TMH Foundation so this work will continue in perpetuity.

To read more about the foundation and apply for grants, please visit: http://www.tmh.org/services/neuroscience/bryan-robinson-endowment

Seminar Series with Terrie V.

Terrie Vasilopoulos, PhD, joined the Department of Anesthesiology in Spring 2014. She is an Assistant Professor in Anesthesiology and Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation, as well as the Department of Anesthesiology’s Statistical Consultant. One of her teaching goals has been to increase education in research and statistical methods for faculty and housestaff. Starting in October 2014, Dr. Vasilopoulos organized a new bimonthly research seminar titled “Fundamentals of Medical Research” for all department members. This series
covered a variety of topics important to the development and conduct of clinical research projects, including developing research questions, study design, and choosing the appropriate statistical test. Overall, this series' goal was to increase research literacy throughout the department. Dr. Vasilopoulos continues to evaluate the best approaches to teaching statistics and research methods, recently leading a week-long research “boot camp” for residents in August.

For inquiries about the seminar series, please contact Dr. Terrie Vasilopoulos at TVasilopoulos@anest.ufl.edu.

The Department of Anesthesiology is a Publishing House!

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the faculty and staff of the Department of Anesthesiology, we, as a department, published 92 peer-reviewed journal articles and 70 books and/or book chapters in the past fiscal year. This is a fantastic amount of study design, research, grant proposal and processing, writing, and journal submission, and it shows a great collaborative effort among a talented group of medical researchers, clinicians, administrators, and staff.

Peer-Reviewed Publications for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015


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RESEARCH (continued)

Role of the limbic-hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis and gamma-aminobutyric acid type A receptor-mediated excitation in the developmental central and systemic effects of neonatal anesthetics.

More than 1 in 4 children are exposed to general anesthesia in their first year of life. Despite safety concerns raised in animal experiments and supported by human epidemiological studies, the mechanisms and spectrum of neonatal anesthesia-induced developmental abnormalities are poorly understood.

This study is designed to investigate the developmental effects of sevoflurane (SEVO), the most widely used anesthetic in pediatric anesthesia, whose polyvalent actions include enhancement of gamma-aminobutyric acid type A receptor (GABAAR) activity, propofol (PF), the most frequently used intravenous anesthetic with a selective GABAAR-mediated action, and etomidate (ET), an anesthetic with a GABAergic mechanism of action similar to PF that, in contrast to PF, disrupts the adrenal synthesis of corticosteroids. The sex- and age-dependent effects of these anesthetics will be assessed by exposing Sprague-Dawley rats to anesthesia at postnatal days (P) 4, 5, or 6 (P4-P6) and P17, P18, or P19 (P17-P19).

Based on our experimental findings and data in the literature, we hypothesize that: 1) anesthetic-enhanced sustained limbic-hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (LHPA) axis activity and GABAergic excitation (the sustainability is achieved due to a positive feedback loop between the two systems) play a critical role in the subsequent long-term, gender-dependent endocrine and neurobehavioral abnormalities; 2) stressful experiences later in life exacerbate the abnormalities programmed earlier by neonatal exposure to general anesthesia, even if the exposure to anesthesia is not long enough to induce prominent abnormalities by itself; and 3) negative modulators of the LHPA axis activity, and/or Na+-K+-2Cl- cotransporter inhibition, alleviate the observed developmental effects of the anesthetics.

The specific aims are as follows: Aim 1. Determine the developmental endocrine and neurobehavioral effects of neonatal exposure to SEVO, PF, and ET and their modulation by anesthesia duration and subsequent stress exposure. Aim 2. Determine the mechanisms of anesthetic-induced alterations in the LHPA axis and excitatory GABAergic activities that contribute to the gender- and age-dependent developmental abnormalities. Aim 3. Determine the therapeutic effects of normalization of anesthetic-augmented LHPA axis activity and GABAAR-mediated excitation at the time of anesthesia. The long-term goal is to develop translational strategies to study and mitigate adverse effects of neonatal anesthesia in humans.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Congratulations!

Gregory M. Janelle
Please join us in welcoming Dr. Gregory M. Janelle as our new Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs.

Dr. Janelle took over the duties of this position, held by the esteemed Dr. Michael M. Mahla, on April 7, 2015. Greg received his BA and MD from Boston University School of Medicine and did a rotation in cardiac anesthesia at Massachusetts General Hospital. He did a rotation in Hyperbaric Medicine in Australia, as well. He came to the University of Florida in 1994 for his internship in medicine and critical care and his residency in anesthesiology. Greg holds clinical subspecialties in critical care and cardiovascular anesthesia, and completed his fellowship in cardiovascular anesthesiology. He is also very involved in NASA, having completed the Physician Certification Course for the Space Shuttle Program and being a member of the Medical Support Team on many missions.

Dr. Janelle began as an Assistant Professor in 1999, and has served as the Department’s Chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology since 2002. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2006. His duties as the new Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs include managing the clinical operations and anesthesia providers for the main operation rooms, the FSC, the CSC, and all NORA areas; overseeing all NORA areas throughout the hospital with the assistance of the NORA service chief; working with Core and Fellowship Program Directors to ensure appropriate assignments for residents and fellows; overseeing the anesthesia preoperative evaluation with the assistance of the medical director; mentoring clinical faculty members; training new service chiefs; with the assistance of the relevant service chief, overseeing the operations of the Divisions of Critical Care Medicine and Pain Medicine; producing, with the assistance of the scheduling manager, the Clinical Assignment Schedule; chairing the Service Chief’s Meeting; serving on the Departmental Executive Committee; dealing with personnel issues and being an advocate for all personnel; working with Department PDQs to ensure quality and safety issues are addressed; working with the AOD to prioritize cases and make daily OR assignments; and in the absence of the Chair, functioning as Acting Chair of the Department.

We are confident the Greg will excel in all of his given duties, as he has done in his entire education and career at UF. We look forward to working with him and growing as a team. We ask you to help us welcome him in his new role to the department!
New Anesthesiology Faculty 2014-2015

Arturo Torres, MD
Please join us in welcoming Dr. Arturo Torres to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Torres, currently a Naval board-certified anesthesiologist, joined us in April as an OPS physician, and came to us from the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. Torres earned his BA from the University of South Florida and his MD from the University of Pittsburgh Medical School. He completed a general surgery internship at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego before moving onto his anesthesia residency, with his last year as Chief Resident. In 2006, he earned a scholarship to spend three months in Italy on a transplant rotation, and he has won various other academic awards and honors. His research interests include goal-directed intraoperative fluid administration utilizing FloTrac. Dr. Torres also takes a special interest in giving back to the community and has taken trips to Mexico and Honduras to provide medical care and develop health policy. He will be with us until he completes his military commitment in February and his future plans include a CCM fellowship here in March 2016.

Basma Mohamed, MD
Please join us in welcoming Dr. Basma Mohamed to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Mohamed joined us on July 1, 2015 as an Assistant Professor, and comes to us from our very own Anesthesiology residency program. Dr. Mohamed is originally from Alexandria, Egypt where she received her MBChB degree. She received training in managing clinical anesthesia for surgical patients in several departments like Orthopedic Anesthesia, General Surgery, and the Post Anesthesia Care Unit. In Egypt, she practiced at Rural Health Clinic, Ministry of Health where she cared for a diverse group of patients with emphasis on infectious diseases, women health, and preventive medicine. Dr. Mohamed is board certified in internal medicine and is very active in many professional organizations.

Cole Dooley, MD
Please join us in welcoming Dr. Fred Cole Dooley to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Dooley returns to the “Gator Nation” family as an Assistant Professor. He comes to us from the University of Arkansas Medical School where he completed a fellowship in Pediatric Anesthesia. Dr. Dooley completed his Residency in Anesthesiology at the University of Florida. He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria, Illinois. Dr. Dooley was an Emergency Department Technician I at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center and a Health Services Instructor for the American Red Cross. He has won many awards such as “Resident of the Month” from the University of Florida and the University of Illinois at Chicago Alumni Association Student Leadership Award.

David Corda, MD
Please join us in welcoming Dr. David Corda to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Corda joined us on April 1, 2015 as an Assistant Professor, and comes to us from the Florida Hospital Waterman in Tavares, Florida, where he was the director of cardiothoracic anesthesia. Dr. Corda, who is originally from Hollywood, Florida, earned his BA from the University of Pennsylvania. He came back “home” to earn his MD from the University of Florida, where he also completed his internship in pediatrics and his residency in anesthesiology, where he specialized in cardiac anesthesia in the last six months of his CA-3 year. He is board certified in anesthesiology and advanced perioperative transesophageal echocardiography, and is MOCA certified.

Fernando Zayas-Bazan, MD
Please join us in welcoming Dr. Fernando Zayas-Bazan to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Bazan joined us on July 13, 2015 as an Assistant Professor, and comes to us from a Pediatric Anesthesiology Fellowship at Wolfson Children’s Hospital/Nemours Children’s Clinic and the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL. Dr. Bazan earned his Bachelor’s in biology from the University of Miami; he then went to Barry University to earn his Master’s in Biomedical Sciences. He earned his M.D. at the Universidad Central del Caribe in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. Dr. Bazan has also published scholarly articles and abstracts.

Jack Hagan, MD
Please join us in welcoming Dr. Jack Hagan to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Hagan joined us on June 8, 2015 as an Assistant Professor, and comes to us from the Naval Hospital Beaufort in Beaufort, South Carolina, where he served as the Department Head of Anesthesiology. Dr. Hagan is returning to the Gator Nation where he received his Bachelor of Science in Microbiology. He earned his MD from Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Maryland. He trained and interned at the Navy Medical Center in San Diego, California, as well as the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in Pensacola. He is board-certified in Anesthesiology and holds a medical license in both Florida and Minnesota. He also has certifications in advanced cardiac life support and advanced trauma and life support.

Resident at Maine Medical Center. He became a resident in Anesthesiology in 2004 at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School, again becoming Chief Resident. His fellowship in cardiothoracic anesthesia was also completed at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School. Brian became the Associate Program Director of Education at UF in 2012, and was promoted to Program Director in 2013. He is also the Chief of the Intensivist Service Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. Brian has held many and various administrative positions over his years in academic medicine, from his work at Nassau University Medical Center, to Brigham and Women’s Hospital, to here at UF. This cumulative experience makes him an excellent choice as our new Associate Chair for Education and we are excited to watch and help him develop our education mission.
Mike Cometa, MD

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Michael Cometa to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Cometa joined us on August 31, 2015 as an Assistant Professor and comes to us from Bellingham Anesthesia Associates, P.S., in Bellingham, Washington, where he was a Staff Anesthesiologist. Dr. Cometa originally attended University of Florida, where he completed his Bachelor of Science degree with honors in Food Science and Human Nutrition. He then studied at Loma Linda University School of Medicine to earn his medical degree. He interned in internal medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina and completed his residency back at UF in Anesthesiology. Dr. Cometa is medically licensed in both Washington and Florida, including being certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology.

Renard Sessions, MD

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Renard Sessions to the Department of Anesthesiology. Dr. Sessions returned to the “Gator Nation” family on August 3, 2015 as an Associate Professor and Assistant Chair of Finance. He comes to us from in San Antonio, Texas, where he was the Finance Committee Chair. Dr. Sessions earned his BSc and MD from the University of Florida, where he also completed his residency in anesthesiology. Dr. Sessions joined the United States Air Force and was their Deputy Chief of Medical Staff at the Yokota Air Force Base in Japan; he also served as the team Chief of the Critical Care Air Transport Team at Wilford Hall Medical Center in Lackland Air Force Base.

Rene Przkora, MD, PhD, MMS

Dr. Rene Przkora joined the University of Florida faculty as an Associate Professor in Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine in 2014. He is the fellowship director of the multidisciplinary pain medicine fellowship program of the University of Florida. Before arriving at UF, Dr. Przkora spent time at the University of Texas Medical Branch as assistant professor in anesthesiology and pain medicine as well as the assistant director of the pain medicine fellowship and the education director of the Patient Simulation Center. In 1999, Dr. Przkora received a medical degree from the University of Wurzburg in Germany. He then went on to obtain a PhD in 2000 from the University of Bonn in Germany. He received training in general and orthopedic surgery in Germany. In 2006, Dr. Przkora finished a 2-year post-doctoral research fellowship at the University of Texas Medical Branch. He arrived at the University of Florida in 2006 and completed his residency in anesthesiology in 2010. Dr. Przkora was a fellow in pain medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University, Boston, and graduated in 2011. He finished his post-doctoral training by receiving a certificate in business administration from the American Society of Anesthesiology. Dr. Przkora is board certified in pain medicine and anesthesiology. Dr. Przkora is a junior editor for the American Board of Anesthesiology and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Anesthesiology with additional certification in Pediatric Anesthesiology and Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology (MOCA). He is also medically licensed in Arkansas, Ohio, Texas, and Kentucky.

Yuri Zasmiovich, MD

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Yuri Zasmiovich, who started as an acute pain medicine fellow, to the Department of Anesthesiology and now is an Assistant Professor beginning July 1, 2015! Dr. Zasmiovich completed his anesthesiology residency at the University of Florida and was named Chief Resident in 2013. Some of his current research interests include: “Transferable training in thoracic epidural and paravertebral blocks using an advanced mixed-reality simulator” and “The diagnostic validity of laser-Doppler flowmetry, transmittance tissue oximetry, and invasive pressure monitoring in chronic exertional compartment syndrome — which one wins the gold?” He is a reviewer for the Journal of Pain Medicine and holds memberships in several professional societies.

Bon Voyage, Friends

This year our department had the unfortunate job of saying goodbye to many good friends and dedicated physicians. We sent them on their journeys to new places and exciting adventures with our warmest wishes for success and the hopes that they won’t forget us as they forge ahead and carry on the great name of UF Anesthesiology.

If you would like to keep up with any of the doctors who moved on, here’s where you can find them:

- Mark Rice, MD: Vanderbilt, Nashville
- Mike Mahla, MD: Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia
- Sno White, MD: Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia
- Joy Allee, MD: Brandon Anesthesia Associates, Tampa
- Ettore Crimi, MD: Harvard, Boston
- Robert Timmerman, MD: Greenville Health, South Carolina
- Mary Herman, MD: Geisinger Health, Pennsylvania
Congratulations to our Department’s Customer Service Award Winners!

Congratulations to Drs. Joshua Sappenfield, Edward Delorey, Todd Everett Jones, Kiki Nin and Lateef Opabola. They have each won an Outstanding Customer Service Award. The awards were presented at a luncheon on February 20th. Congratulations again on providing Outstanding Customer Service to your patients!

Patient Safety Campaign
By: Christina E. Carey

Associate Chair for Clinical Affairs, Dr. Gregory Janelle, has begun an initiative to take action and create change at the UF Health Shands Hospital. The simple “You Can Talk to Me” campaign is a communication-targeted movement dedicated to patients and their safety. Medical errors and miscommunication in the hospital is a problem in the medical industry. We are all aware that preventable medical errors take place on a daily basis, and many have their roots in miscommunication or during transfers of care. Our department currently uses the Patient Safety Record (PSR) system. Because PSRs are written without any contact at the point-of-care, they often come as a surprise to medical professionals at a time remote from the incident. “I have personally had the opportunity to review multiple PSRs that are written about violations of policies that do not exist or are poorly understood by the author,” said Dr. Janelle. “These incidents can be avoided through personal communication at the point of care. The main goal is for patient safety incidents to become identifiable and then reported.”

“You Can Talk to Me” campaign is so important to the growth of UF Health Shands Hospital. “Dr. Janelle’s vision is to simply enhance open communication with the aid of the PSR system. The purpose of the You Can Talk To Me patient safety campaign is to encourage anyone involved in patient management who feels that someone is practicing against policy to be empowered to report the incident immediately and in person, independent of whether a written PSR is the outcome.

Intraoperatively, during timeouts, and at every transfer of care, we want our health care team to feel compelled to add the statement: “If anyone identifies something that puts patient safety at risk, I want you to know that you can talk to me!” With the advent of this campaign, we hope to have fewer medical errors and to increase the quality of experience and safety that each patient receives.

We thank Dr. Morey and our OR leadership for their support of this project, as well as everyone who participates in the campaign. For inquiries about about the patient safety campaign, please email gjanelle@anest.ufl.edu.

Support the Gravensteins Scholars Program
Join the Department of Anesthesiology faculty and alumni in supporting medical education and research. At this time, our philanthropic focus is on completing the Gravenstein Scholars Program endowment. The Gravenstein Scholars Program, named in honor of the Gravenstein family members who have contributed so significantly to anesthesiology at the University of Florida, was established to accomplish the following:
1. To increase the number of anesthesiology residents at the University of Florida who choose academic careers.
2. To increase the research productivity and contributions of anesthesiology residents.
3. To prepare anesthesiology residents to conduct productive, independent research.

To contribute, you can donate online at goo.gl/REUsok

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