ASA 2010 Annual Meeting Presence Our Best Ever

In mid-October, members of the Vanderbilt Department of Anesthesiology led or participated in a record 126 oral presentations, medically challenging cases, poster presentations, problem-based learning discussions, workshops, panels and refresher courses during the American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting and other related Annual Meetings in San Diego.

During the meetings, there were at least two significant recognitions of note. Dr. Jane Easdown was elected to the Society for Education in Anesthesia (SEA) Board of Directors. Dr. Brooke Hobgood was elected to be the ASA Resident Component delegate to the American Medical Association (AMA). Please congratulate Jane and Brooke as they represent our specialty in these significant roles.

The poster presentations during the ASA Annual Meeting were awash in black and gold as posters from our VUSM faculty, residents and researchers blanketed the exhibit halls. Above, Drs. James Blair, Lindsey Tucker, Allison Greening and Letha Mathews gather in front of a poster highlighting medically challenging case presented by Dr. Tucker and Dr. Stuart McGrane.

In photo at right, Dr. Jane Easdown and Dr. Stephen Badger in front of a poster highlighting a medically challenging case. On the following pages are images from the San Diego meetings.

Many thanks for photos from ASA and related meetings provided by Drs. Jill Boyle, Jane Easdown and Matt Weinger!
Images from ASA 2010

Dr. Joseph Schlesinger, right, and his father, Dr. Joseph Schlesinger Sr.

Drs. Lindsey Tucker, Curtis Baysinger, Allison Greening and Justin Sandall at a MCC session.

Dr. Amanda Lorinc

Dr. Ryan Tomlinson

Drs. Jill Boyle and Andrey Belous

Dr. Robert Isaak

Dr. Adam King

Dr. Kevin Preece

Dr. Bret Alvis
Images from the
ASA Alumni Reception

Above, Melanie McNairy, Bart Koerner, and Dr. Sally Fortner.

At right, Estella and Dr. Gamaliel Perales.

Below, Anesthesiology residents and family members.

In photo at below right, Dr. Raj Nair with Alumni Coordinator Angela Brown.

Chairman Dr. Warren Sandberg, Elisabeth Sandberg, PhD, and former chair, Dr. Bradley Smith.
Above, Alumni Coordinator Angela Brown, at left, assists Dr. Sandberg in awarding door prizes for the night. In photo at far right, Dr. Jesse Ehrenfeld, Dr. Susan Eagle and Dr. Warren Sandberg. At immediate right, Dr. Nahel Saied and Dr. Stephanie Rasmussen.

Dr. Clifford Bowens and wife, Angela
Group Aids Haiti Relief Effort

Dr. Scott Watkins, CRNA Mariah Light, CRNA Margaret Dryden, and Dr. Laura Zeigler travelled to Haiti in September where they joined two orthopedic surgeons and one general surgeon on over 40 pediatric and adult cases. Surgeries included a middle-of-the-night C-section and a multi-level spine on an 11 year-old girl injured in the January earthquake. Below is an account by Dr. Zeigler of her experience in Haiti.

As our plane winged its way into the final descent into earthquake-torn Haiti, I peered out of the window at Port-au-Prince below. Thousands of bright blue dots covered the landscape. These were the scattered tent cities. The captain’s voice came over the loud speaker, “Ladies and gentleman, most of you on this flight have come to help Haiti. I thank you and wish you many blessings during your stay.”

Haiti continues to struggle to recover from the devastating January 12th earthquake that killed more than 300,000 people, leaving millions homeless, and the rest terrified. Nine months after the devastating earthquake, the people of Haiti are still trying to recover. Before the quake, it was already the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. Before I visited, I couldn’t imagine that you could go down from there. Now 80% of the population is unemployed, many who do work earn less than $1.25 a day, and 60% of the children eat only one meal per day. There are still piles of rubble, trash, and cinder blocks lining every street. Often, the piles have gotten so large that the streets are impassable to cars. Tent cities cover every inch of usable space, including road medians. The “house” is often made of tarps, sheets, and scraps of metal. The occupants try to survive each night as cars pass within inches, throwing dust and exhaust. They are deprived of all human dignity, bathing and bathing in view of anyone passing by. In the months following the quake, huge amounts of supplies and equipment were shipped to Haiti, but this act of humanitarianism overwhelmed the delicate balance of the hospitals that were still standing and operating. Much of this equipment will never be used, and even worse, it often hinders the treatment of patients. The boxes are stacked from floor to ceiling, often five deep, with only a narrow path between. If you aren’t lucky enough to find what you are looking for in the very top box or two, you might be forced to come up with a different plan, because there is no place to put the boxes you need to move in order to keep searching.
As I packed my bags for this trip, I thought I knew what to expect. I knew there had been an earthquake, I knew there were patients that needed my help, and I knew that I have had a blessed life. I have always had running hot water, there has always been food on the table, there has always been a table, and a roof over my head. When I stepped off the plane and into the airport, I knew I was in a little over my head. The heat was oppressive and inescapable. There were rubble piles in every direction that I looked.

And then there were the Haitian people. They sang. They laughed. They worshipped. They were grateful. GRATEFUL!! That was what hit me the hardest. Here are a people that have less than nothing, if that’s at all possible, and they greeted us with smiles, handshakes, and open arms. That was all that they had to give, but they gave it willingly and without hesitation. They learned our names, taught us their language, and welcomed us.

Many of the patients we operated on during this trip will still be there the next time I go back. Many of these patients have injuries so serious that they can’t leave hospital grounds. They and the family members that care for them live in tents on hospital grounds. The maternity ward is a large tent next to the driveway. The pediatric ward is a short cinderblock bunker across the driveway. Women do laundry in a bowl next to their tent. Children play with sticks in the dirt. Men try to do repairs as needed on the grounds.

Since I’ve been home, I have found myself more than once thinking of the people of Haiti. I wonder how are translators are doing, one of which wants to become a doctor himself one day.

I pray that the patients are healing, the city is healing, and that once again, their homes will be rebuilt.

VIA Update—Resident Rotations, Donations Continue

The core of the VIA mission continues in Kijabe, Kenya, where Dr. Mark Newton, the VIA director and a Vanderbilt pediatric anesthesiologist, leads the Kenyan Registered Nurse Anesthetist training program and guides Anesthesiology Department’s international rotation for residents.

Most recently, Resident Greg Schnepper posted a blog about his experience as he and fellow resident Humphrey Lam fulfill their international rotation. Read Dr. Schnepper’s blog for Hope Through Healing Hands at http://www.hopethroughhealinghands.org/blog

Dr. Schnepper tells of delivering donated pulse oximeters to Kenyan nurses. He writes, “One of the nurses was so excited when we dropped off the supplies, she couldn’t stop jumping up and down. It’s moments like these that make you realize how rewarding this opportunity is to be here.”

Other residents who have completed an international rotation in the 2009-2010 academic year include Liz Lee, Tracy McGrane, Kristalynne Godwin and Brian Allen.

In other exciting news, his excellency Mwai Kibaki, the President of Kenya, visited Kijabe Hospital in October to open a new OR wing which includes five new operating room areas.
It was a wild and wooly night at the hacienda of Dr. James Blair. The scene was the Vanderbilt International Anesthesia Ranch Party, and the grounds were hopping with cowboys and cowgirls itching for a ride on the mechanical bull. Many souls were tossed by the bucking Brahma, but all for a great cause. More than $15,000 was raised from the Silent and Live Auction, as well as from challenges to ride the bull.

Many thanks to all who participated, and remember you can donate to VIA online at www.supportvia.com.
Dr. James Phythyon was an Anesthesiology Department faculty member and founding member of the Pediatric Anesthesiology Division. His professional legacy is honored each year by the Phythyon Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric Anesthesiology. This important educational initiative is a vital component of our department’s Pediatric Anesthesiology and Perioperative programs.

In 2010, Dr. Shobha Malviya, Director of Pediatric Anesthesia Research & Professor of Anesthesiology at the University of Michigan Health System was the guest Phythyon lecturer. She spoke on “Pain Assessment and Management in the Cognitively Impaired Child.” Dr. Malviya also gave a resident & fellow talk during her visit, and she was honored by a reception at the home of Dr. Jay Deshpande.
At left, alumna Dr. Joanne Linn, Kent Sandidge and Marlin Sanders. Below left, alumnus Dr. Ian Burr and his wife, Wendy.

Above, Dr. Jay Deshpande catches up with alumna Dr. Joanne Linn.

At left, Chris and Dr. John Algren

Terry Jo Bichell, Dr. David Bichell, Dr. Jay Deshpande, Patti Scott, Dr. Wallace Neblett, Margaret Neblett

Alumnus Dr. Jackson Harris
The Anesthesia Monitor

Smiles from the Annual Picnic
2009-2010 Graduation Dinner & Awards

Dr. Christopher Carr hugs Critical Care Fellowship Program Director Dr. Liza Weavind.

Dr. Lan Lonergan with an award for former chairman Dr. Michael Higgins.

Dr. Lan Lonergan presents a special award to Dr. Algren.

Dr. Amanda Lorinc and Dr. Justin Sandall

Dr. Liz Lee and Dr. Algren
Dr. Jason Lane, Joyce Speer, Michelle Williams, Dr. Liz Lee, Marsha Moore.

Dr. William Costello, Callum Elias, and Sarah Costello

At left, Dr. Korie Vakey, Dr. Brooke Hobgood, Dr. Bill Furman, Wes Hobgood, Dr. Brent Campbell, Katie Campbell

Dr. Bradley Smith and his wife, Gretchen.

Dr. David Todd and his father.

Martin Lane, Laurie Lane, Dr. Jason Lane

Melissa Henson, Dr. Patrick Henson, Chuck Henson

Dr. Gozde Demiralp and Ilhan Demiralp
Dr. Warren S. Sandberg and Dr. Elisabeth Hollister Sandberg and the Department of Anesthesiology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, invite you and a guest to attend

A Holiday Celebration

Saturday, December 4, 2010, 7 p.m.
Hutton Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 1808 West End Avenue, Nashville
Please reply by November 29 to suzette.laws@vanderbilt.edu or 615-343-0612
Department of Anesthesiology
Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 8, 2010
11 a.m.-1 pm.
2701-4 TVC
Please bring a dessert to share.

You and your family are invited!

Please join us for a Holiday Open House

On: Sunday, December 19, 2010, from 1-4 pm
At: The Sandberg’s
6412 Arden Court, Brentwood, TN 37067

Reply: To Suzette Laws with number of guests attending, first and last name, age, and gender of children

By: Monday, December 06, 2010

*festive food and drink *gingerbread houses for the kids * valet parking provided
2010 Academic Awards & Recognitions

The annual Anesthesiology Department Awards Ceremony recognized top residents and faculty for the 2009-2010 academic year. Residents who received special recognition are:

Acute Pain Services
Dr. David Todd

Critical Care Medicine
Dr. Tracy McGrane

Regional Anesthesia
Dr. Jason Lane

Cardiovascular Anesthesia
Dr. Will Costello

Ambulatory Anesthesia
Dr. Scott Johnstone

Hepato-vascular Anesthesia
& OB Anesthesia
Dr. Brian Allen

Cardiothoracic & Neuroanesthesia
Dr. Sheena Howson

Multispecialty Anesthesia
Dr. Patrick Henson

Pain Medicine
& Vice Chairs’ Award for Outstanding Scholarship
Dr. Dan Lonergan

Pediatric Anesthesia
Dr. Liz Lee

Congratulations to these residents who went the extra mile during their rotations to provide excellent care for their patients and patients’ families.
Those Anesthesiology faculty receiving special recognition for the 2009-2010 academic year are:

Golden Apple Awards:

- Dr. Daniel Roke

- Dr. Raj Gupta

- Dr. Bernhard Riedel

Volker I. Striepe Award

- Dr. Douglas Hester

BE Smith Mentorship Award

- Dr. Pratik Pandharipande

2010 Research Awards

The Charles Bernard Pittinger Prize for Excellence in Basic Clinical/Translational Research was awarded to Jason Slagle, PhD, and Matt Weinger, MD, for their publication, “Effects of Intraoperative Reading on Vigilance and Workload During Anesthesia Care in an Academic Medical Center,” published in Anesthesiology in February 2009. The Charles Bernard Pittinger Prize for Excellence in Basic Science Research was awarded to Eric Delpire, PhD, for “Small-molecule Screen Identifies Inhibitors of the Neuronal K-Cl co-transporter KCC2,” published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA in March 2009.

Arna Banerjee, MD, won the award for Best Poster Presentation for her poster, “Introducing Fundamentals of Critical Care Support (FCCS) into the Undergraduate Medical Curriculum – An Innovative Pilot Curriculum Program.” Dan Lonergan, MD, won for the Best Oral Presentation Award in Research on the topic, “Targeted Discovery of a Novel Small Molecule Inhibitor of G Protein-coupled Inward Rectifier Potassium Channels.”
Items listed in the Department Update are self-reported by Division Chiefs and department members, and any omission is not intentional. Items include all activities by department members since the last published newsletter. If you have an activity or accomplishment to be listed, please email information to Jill Clendening, jill.clendening@vanderbilt.edu. You receive a monthly reminder requesting these updates.

Jerod Denton, PhD, recently gave a talk in Washington D.C. at the Ion Channel Targets meeting titled “Small-molecule inhibitors of inward rectifier potassium channels.” He also gave a talk, “ROMK as a novel diuretic target,” at the Ion Channels as Therapeutic Targets meeting in Boston.

On October 27, Dr. Jesse Ehrenfeld was an invited presenter on the topic of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender (LGBT) awareness and inclusion in medical school curricula at the Vanderbilt Medical Education Research day, a function sponsored by the Vanderbilt Office for Teaching and Learning in Medicine.

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Recent Publications


Grant News

- **Jerod Denton**, PhD, has a R21 funded. “Chemical Probes of the Astroglial Potassium Channel, Kir4.1”
- **Dr. Sarah Starr** (OB Division) has received partial salary funding for a nitrous oxide project conducted in conjunction with the nurse midwife group through the Vanderbilt Evidence-Based Practice Center.
- **Dr. Anne Miller** and her team have received an Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation/Covidien Research Award for $149,865 for their project, “Embedding safety related evidence-based protocols in routine practice.” The project will begin January 1, 2011.
Honors, Awards & Appointments

♦ **Dr. Steve Hyman** has been invited to participate in a live Webinar co-sponsored by the ASA and the journal Anesthesiology. The subject is “Job Burnout,” and it will be broadcast sometime in January.

♦ **Drs. Arna Banerjee, Jane Easdown and Matt Weinger** were honored by the Office for Teaching and Learning in Medicine (OTLM)’s Educator Development Program for their CME-credited workshop, Simulation as a Teaching Tool. They received the award due to receiving an excellent rating from workshop participants and a peer reviewer.

♦ **Jerod Denton, PhD**, has been asked to organize the Society of General Physiology’s 66th Annual Meeting at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA for 2012. The tentative title is “Integrative Membrane Transport in the Post-Genome Era.”

    He plans to pull together professionals from multiple disciplines, from genomics and proteomics to academic drug discovery for the meeting.

Above, Dr. Warren Sandberg presents Dr. Arna Banerjee with an award from the Office for Teaching and Learning in Medicine (OTLM) as OTLM Director Emil Petrusa, PhD, looks on. At right, Dr. Sandberg presents Dr. Jane Easdown with her OTLM award. Dr. Matt Weinger also was recognized, but was not present to receive his award.

Media Notes

**Dr. Jesse Ehrenfeld’s** randomized control trial of a non-invasive and continuous hemoglobin monitor received a lot of trade media attention as the result of a press release issued by Masimo about the study during the ASA Annual Meeting. The RCT was conducted in an orthopedic setting on 327 patients over a six-month period. Of the total study group, seven patients in the standard care group received blood transfusions, while only one in the SpHb group received a transfusion. The news was reported by Medical Device Daily, Medical Device Network, Medgadget.com, Medscape Medical News and DOTmed News. Ehrenfeld is working on a journal release of the study.

Personal Notes

♦ On October 9th, **Dr. Steve Hyman**, a talented concert pianist, performed at a benefit for the Nashville International Piano Competition and the Arts Council of Williamson County.

♦ **Dr. Amy Robertson** completed her Masters of Management in Health Care from Vanderbilt’s Owen Graduate School of Management.

♦ VCH CRNAs **Jill Moore, Margaret Dryden, and Christie Crotts** ran the Chicago Marathon together on October 10th.
Division News

Anesthesia Technicians

♦ Certified Anesthesia Technician Julie Kapelan received a National Award on October 16, during the ASATT Annual Meeting in San Diego. Kapelan was the recipient of the Region 3 Regional Education Award which was given in recognition of her continued dedication in sponsoring, promoting, and furthering education for Anesthesia Technicians and Technologists.

♦ Seven anesthesia technicians have recently received their certifications. They are Gary Argo, Dewayne Campbell, Paul Clary, Pam Jones, James Little, Jonathon Myers, and Jarvis Singleton.

Education News

The Anesthesiology Residency Review Committee took these actions on our ACGME accredited programs:

♦ The Anesthesiology Residency Program site visit and review resulted in “continued accreditation” with a five-year review cycle (next review October 2015)

♦ The Pain Medicine Fellowship Program received continued accreditation with a four-year review cycle (next review October 2014).

♦ The CT Anesthesia Fellowship Program was granted an expansion to three fellows per year.

Calling all Alumni!

Please send your news to share with other Vanderbilt’s alumni and faculty. News can include personal news, accomplishments and achievements. In addition, so we can always reach you with important updates and notices of upcoming events, include your current contact information, including mailing address and email address.

To view other news & events, visit www.vandydreamteam.com. We look forward to this newsletter strengthening what is already a great relationship. Send news via email to Communications/Marketing Coordinator Jill Clendening at jill.clendening@vanderbilt.edu or via mail at Department of Anesthesiology, 1211 21st Avenue South, Medical Arts Building, # 701, Nashville, Tennessee 37212. A

Angela Brown is the Department of Anesthesiology program coordinator for Alumni Affairs. Please contact Angela directly at angela.brown@vanderbilt.edu or 615-343-6236 with any questions regarding alumni activities and information.
Alumni News

Dr. Bradley E. Smith, former chair of the Department of Anesthesiology, has been appointed to be the national Chair of the Anesthesia History Association Resident Essay Contest for 2011 and 2012; has been elected Vice President of the Anesthesia History Association; and has been added to the Contributing Editorial Staff of Obstetric Anesthesia Digest.

Dr Smith continues to serve as a trustee of the Wood Library Museum of Anesthesiology and as a member of the editorial staff of Tennessee Medicine

They Never Ran Out of Gas!

The Vanderbilt Anesthesiology Department was very well represented in the Women’s Half Marathon in Nashville, sponsored by the Women’s Running magazine. Drs. Annemarie Thompson, Liza Weavind, Kristalynne Godwin, Erin Brockway and Brooke Hobgood ran the race in late September, wearing specially designed bright yellow-green shirts, complete with the Vanderbilt Anesthesiology logo encircled by the words, “Gas Girls.”