



“We are the future”

Fourth Annual Sand and Surf Anesthesia Symposium, March 9-12 2017

Florida nursing anesthesia programs lead the way

University of North Florida

This year, student nurse anesthetists from Jacksonville will travel to Salzburg, Austria where they will gain new understanding of European health care and anesthesia. They will attend lectures and complete a tour of Paracelsus Medical



University in Salzburg, and will participate in an enlightening clinical rotation through Salzburg County Hospital. UNF has an extended academic relationship with the anesthesia community in

Austria, and enjoys reciprocating their generosity by accepting Austrian students and sharing the culture of medicine here in the United States.

Florida State University

Situated on the shore of the Grand Lagoon in Panama City Florida, FSU Panama City is northwest Florida's sole nurse anesthesia program. Each year FSU enrolls 20-24 nurses to complete the 28-month course. While in this grueling program students have very little free time, but there are those who go above and beyond and with a spirit of giving and donate their time and energy to the welfare of others. Jennifer Prisella, a FSU senior about to graduate with her masters, joined Dr. Mancao



and the Philippines Association of Physicians on a mission trip to the town of Bogu, north of Cebu City in the Philippines. While there Prisella and the two other anesthetists performed anesthesia and sedation for 40 major surgeries with only two

anesthesia machines, one operating room and three operating tables. Due to lack of time and space the team would perform up to three surgeries at a time in the one operating room, many days operating from sun up and well into the night. The patients would travel from miles around and wait for days, just for the opportunity to be seen and possibly have their surgery performed.

The dedication and compassion that Jennifer Prisella brings to the nurse anesthesia profession has not only benefit FSU and Florida but has also touched the lives of those around the world.



Florida International University

Clifford Burdick has represented FIU well as a political ambassador for his '17 cohort. Last year he attended the mid-year assembly for AANA and was moved by what he heard:

“There were three main areas of focus for this year's visit to Capitol Hill: veteran's access to high quality care, anesthesia funding in rural hospitals, and Title 8 funding for nursing education.”

As we know, despite veterans waiting for exorbitant amounts of time for surgery, the VA made a final ruling that CRNAs will be exempt from all other advanced practice nurses with regards to independent practice. We must stand together to continue this battle and protect our profession.

University of Miami

An exciting University of Miami endeavor is the fall opening of one of the nation's first five story education-based simulation hospital. This highly-anticipated simulation hospital will be equipped with four OR's, an Emergency Department with an ambulance bay, and three different skills-simulation labs giving anesthesia students the unique opportunity to train with state of the art equipment in order to manage real-life anesthesia crises in an interdisciplinary manner. A 300-seat auditorium is located at the center of the facility, where our

future leaders in nursing and medicine will meet for courses, seminars, and disaster-preparedness classes.

University of South Florida

The USF SRNAs celebrated CRNA week by educating their college of nursing on what we consider to be the best career in healthcare. What is known as “healthcare’s best kept secret” poses an exciting future for ambitious nurses all over the country.



Adventist University

In December, the SRNAs at Adventist University threw their annual Christmas party for the residents at Primrose Center, a center for special needs adults of Orlando. This year, the party included arts and crafts for the residents, a dance floor, and pictures with Santa. This year’s party was a huge success, with over 50 residents in attendance. Funds are raised throughout the school year, and it has become a beloved tradition. Also, 22 out of 23 students plan to attend CRNA day in Tallahassee, way to go!

Current Issues

On December 14, 2016 The VA published a final rule granting full practice authority to all APRNs, *except CRNAs*, thanks to the ASA insisting on the “lack of safety” in allowing CRNAs to practice unsupervised. The ASA praised their decision, stating that the nation’s veterans deserve better care than “just nurses” can provide. Such a statement is particularly offensive as hundreds of nurse anesthetists are in fact veterans themselves, and many times practiced independently during active duty! This insult to CRNAs everywhere has provoked practitioners and their friends and family to send letters to the VA making a case for the veterans waiting in long lines for surgery, and for the expert anesthetists that deserve to practice with autonomy.

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In December of 2016, Governor Rick Scott signed a bill allowing all ARNPs including CRNAs to prescribe controlled substances. A 3-hour course is mandatory for all practitioners.

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Important dates to remember:

- FANA 2017 CRNA day, March 28: Tallahassee, FL
- Mid-Year Assembly, April 5-9: Washington DC
- Nurse Anesthesia Annual Congress, Sept. 8-12: Seattle, WA
- FANA 2017 Annual Meeting, Oct. 27-29: Tampa FL

College Bowl:

This jeopardy- style game will test your knowledge of anesthesia! Date TBD!