



ANESTHESIA CIRCUIT

cir-cuit (sər-kət) *n.* a two-way communication path between points.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Can you believe it? Another year is upon us! Though the time flies, it is wonderful to catch up with the Barry family through the Anesthesia Circuit. We have some exciting news to share and thank all who have contributed. Keep sending your updates!

As we begin a new year, we focus on the Barry University mission: transformative education where learning leads to knowledge and truth, reflection leads to informed action, and a commitment to social justice leads to collaborative service. Throughout 2013, we have had the privilege of seeing many Barry members living the mission and we continue to find new ways to do so as we embark on 2014.

The master's Class of 2016 is beginning in January with a total of 72 students! They are bright and eager to learn. As they begin this journey, we look forward to doing what we do best: educating great nurses to be competent, well-respected CRNAs. The DNP Class of 2015 began in August 2013 with a total of 16 students, our largest class thus far! Their first on-campus session was in August, an overview of which you'll

find on Page 4. I am already impressed by their knowledge and contributions.

I am thrilled to announce two recent achievements by Rosann Spiegel, our Associate Director of Didactic Education. She recently completed her DNAP degree at Virginia Commonwealth University with a special emphasis on patient safety and crisis resource management in anesthesia practice. She was also installed as the Vice President of the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists (FANA) in October. We are all very proud and I commend her for her hard work and dedication to anesthesia practice.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a blessed start to 2014! I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Tony Umadhay, PhD, CRNA



**Alumni Newsletter of the
Anesthesiology Program
at Barry University
December 2013
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AANA MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING REFLECTION

By Amy Hacker, Class of 2014



Attending the annual meeting was an invaluable experience! It was inspiring to be surrounded by so many other students, CRNAs, leaders and educators from all over the country. During the presentation of the awards to outstanding CRNAs, I felt inspired to be not a passive, “just doing my job” CRNA, but someone who makes a difference in the nurse anesthesia profession.

After attending several meetings of our professional organizations, both state and national, I have found that they are not only an excellent place to learn, but also provide an opportunity for people who don't live close to each other to be able to come together to socialize and network. It was great to get to spend time with the other Barry students (some of them I had not seen since orientation) and to share and compare our experiences thus far. It was also an opportunity to see CRNAs that I met at FANA meetings and the mid-year assembly. I was told that the anesthesia community is small and tight-knit and I am learning this to be true and the importance of knowing others in the profession.

It was a great experience to attend the lectures of our own esteemed professor, Dr. Ronald Dick. Even though I had already seen many of the slides in pharmacology class, it was an excellent way to refresh my memory and re-learn some concepts I had forgotten in the months since. The college bowl was another opportunity to show school pride since one of our own classmates was among the contestants. That experience really brought us all together and continued afterwards with the alumni gathering where I was able to spend some one on one time with our program director, professors, and other students.

One of my most memorable experiences came about because I was fortunate to have a banquet ticket donated to me by a CRNA who was unable to attend. Somehow I was seated at the Florida President's table, which was a privilege and honor. I unexpectedly found myself sitting among the most prominent CRNA leaders of our state and I couldn't help but imagine myself as one of them someday, but sitting among them as a colleague, not a student. This is why attending the annual meeting, especially as a student, is so important. It allows us to be immersed in our new profession and its leaders and provides a sense of community. This sense of community and focus of purpose, I believe, is a key reason why we have such a strong and effective national organization in the AANA and why CRNA practice continues to grow to allow the fullest scope of practice of our education.

FANA ANNUAL MEETING



Alex Oliu (Class of 2006) and FANA President Jorge Valdes



Rosann Spiegel, DNAP, JD, CRNA at her installation as Vice President of FANA



Rebecca Lee, DNP, CRNA and FANA President Jorge Valdes



Our group of Barry University SRNAs



Carolyn Kaercher, External Relations Coordinator, at our exhibit booth

In October 2013 a collection of Barry faculty, staff and students gathered for the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists (FANA) Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. We had a great time reconnecting with old friends and making new ones! After attending the sessions during the day, which ranged from current trends in anesthesia economics to the Affordable Care Act, some even found time to visit the Disney theme parks. The

highlight was watching our very own Dr. Rosann Spiegel be installed as the new Vice President of FANA. More of this story is on page 8.

For our students, it was an opportunity to discover the professional world they will soon be a part of and build connections. Perhaps among them is a future FANA president or vice president? They have the potential!



From the Boardwalk at the Disney Yacht Club Resort

BARRY UNIVERSITY WELCOMES THE DNP CLASS OF 2015

In August, we welcomed 16 new students to our DNP with Specialization in Anesthesia Class of 2015. We are excited to see their potential and new ideas. Orientation Weekend was in August, which concluded with a Welcome Reception. Below are some pictures from the weekend!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

MARGARET FORD, PHARM.D, MS, CRNA

This issue's Alumni Spotlight is on Dr. Margaret Ford, PharmD, CRNA. Margaret was born in Chicago, IL, and graduated from Barry University's Anesthesiology program in 2001 after completing her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of Florida. She has been practicing for 12 years.

Margaret currently practices at Shands Hospital, a tertiary care university hospital in Gainesville, FL. Most of her patients are ASA 3 and 4 with multiple comorbidities. She specializes in pediatric anesthesia and the majority of her cases are pediatric with an emphasis on congenital heart disease. The remainder of her time is spent on a variety of adult anesthesia cases: trauma, vascular, neuro, ENT, orthopedics, plastics and general surgery.

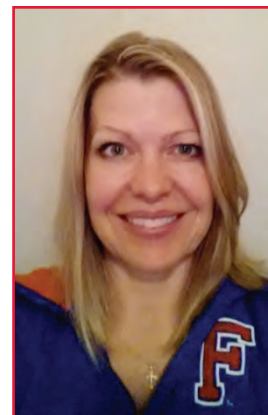
Margaret's compassion for others and her type-A personality are what she feels make her a successful CRNA. Her favorite part about her job is the constant opportunity for a new challenge. "I can come to work and learn something new every day," she stated. "As CRNA's, we are called to deliver the best anesthetic to every patient, each and every time. No two cases are exactly the same. I like to utilize my critical thinking skills and decision making

ability to deliver the best anesthetic for my patients." She also enjoys helping patients and their loved ones through difficult and stressful procedures.

Margaret has also served with the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) as a member of the Infection Control Taskforce. While on the Taskforce, she was responsible for updating existing infection control guidelines and creating a practice document supported by scientific evidence.

Their document has since been adopted by the AANA and is used for infection control standards and practices.

Margaret currently resides in Gainesville, FL and enjoys Cross Fit, traveling and cooking. She also serves as a clinical coordinator and instructor for Barry University's SRNAs in Gainesville. She is a shining example of the Barry Mission and we are proud to call her our alumna.



TRIVIA



Each year, Barry University invites our SRNAs to attend the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists (FANA) Annual Meeting and sponsors their trip. This year, how many Barry SRNAs attended the Annual Meeting? (The answer is on page 7!)

- a. 13 b. 23 c. 53 d. 103**



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For more information, contact Carolyn Kaercher at 305-899-3246 or ckaercher@barry.edu.

Visit us at www.barry.edu/anesthesiology/dnp

CONGRATS TO THE GOIZUETA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER

Mitchell Reynolds, Class of 2015, recently won the Goizueta Foundation Scholarship Award with his article below. Congratulations, Mitchell!

The Affordable Care Act has created an environment where many healthcare providers are scrambling to adapt. While these providers are trying to find their place in this new system, nurse anesthetists should be motivated with the idea of a challenge that their profession is well suited to handle. This heightened interest in cost containment in healthcare has brought about a situation where the country's goals for healthcare and the goals of nurse anesthetists are equal. Providing quality and cost effective anesthesia care has been a priority for nurse anesthetists for over 120 years (AANA, 2010). Unlike other healthcare providers, the goal of nurse anesthetists should not be to change in order to meet new expectations, but to continue to improve upon the level of quality they have always brought to the table while promoting the valuable role they play in healthcare.

As the government looks at anesthesia as a part of the big picture of healthcare costs, the value of nurse anesthetists should be extremely obvious. After researching the cost effectiveness of anesthesia providers, Hogan, Seifert, Moore, and Simonson (2010) found not only that CRNAs working independently were the most cost effective care model, but that it was the only care model able to function without a subsidy during a low demand scenario. This study provides an excellent example of how instrumental nurse anesthetists can be in the effort to reduce healthcare costs.

With all of the discussion regarding the cost of healthcare it can be easy to forget that nobody wants to sacrifice quality in order to cut costs. Fortunately, this dilemma is another area where nurse anesthetists can provide assistance. In another landmark study by Dulisee and Cromwell (2010), it was found that there was no difference in patient outcomes between nurse anesthetists working alone and those working under the supervision of an anesthesiologist. This helps to highlight the fact that not only can nurse anesthetists provide anesthesia care in the most cost effective manner, but also that they can do it while maintaining the same quality of care. Nurse anesthetists have proven their ability

to provide high quality care in a cost effective manner by providing the majority of anesthesiatics to patients in rural area hospitals (AANA, 2013). Without CRNAs, these hospitals would find it extremely challenging and likely financially burdensome to obtain anesthesia services.

In regards to healthcare reform, the future for nurse anesthesia is a time for continued promotion of the profession and spreading the word about how CRNAs can contribute to a solution for the healthcare crisis. There is no longer any reason for CRNAs to be "the best kept secret in healthcare" (AANA, 1999). Spreading the word about the profession is something that can be accomplished on all levels including national organizations, state organizations, and individual CRNAs. Advocacy for the profession and continued growth needs to become a top priority. Patients and health care facilities have a choice in who delivers their anesthetic care and should be aware of all the reasons to choose a nurse anesthetist. While maintaining the quality and safety of the last 120 years, CRNAs can become instrumental in educating patients, communities, and their colleagues about the valuable role we play in the emerging healthcare landscape (AANA, 2010). As a profession, continued promotion should focus on the quality of education, historical safety, and economical service CRNAs provide to the world of healthcare.

It is no longer enough for the public to simply know who we are and what we do. Hospitals, surgical centers and patients alike should also be aware of the high quality anesthesia care and economical value that comes with choosing a nurse anesthetist.





College of Health Sciences

congratulates

Dr. Tony Umadhay, CRNA

on winning the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Florida International University's Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Anesthesiology Program Director Dr. Tony Umadhay was selected by the dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Florida International University (FIU) as an Outstanding Alumnus of the nursing program. He was recognized for this honor on October 19 at the "Nightingala"

celebrating the 30th anniversary of the nursing program, at FIU. Umadhay was chosen for this award because of his demonstrated achievements in nursing practice, education, policy, and research and community service.



ROSANN SPIEGEL EARNS DNAP DEGREE AND INSTALLED AS FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Rosann Spiegel JD, DNAP, CRNA, earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNAP) degree from Virginia Commonwealth University earlier this year and was recently installed as Vice President of the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists (FANA).

Dr. Spiegel, an assistant professor of Anesthesiology and assistant program director of Didactic Education for the Anesthesiology Program at Barry, has been a CRNA and a member of FANA since 1986 and has been a member of the Florida Bar since 2005. She currently serves on the FANA Government Relations Committee and is the FANA representative for the Leadership Action Team of the Florida Action Coalition.

In addition, she teaches anesthesiology as an adjunct assistant professor for the School of Podiatric Medicine at Barry and she engages in clinical practice as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) for the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine.

The DNAP program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs and focuses on improving patient safety and nurse anesthesia practice. For her DNAP Capstone Project, Dr. Spiegel developed a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree curriculum for entry into nurse anesthesia practice, which will serve as the foundation for the new, entry-level DNP in Anesthesiology curriculum at Barry.

Dr. Spiegel is a licensed attorney and is admitted to the practice of law in the State of Florida and the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. She earned a Juris Doctor degree, magna cum laude, from Florida International University in 2004 and served as an Assistant Public Defender for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida until 2006. Prior to joining the faculty at Barry, Dr. Spiegel's law practice focused primarily on representing the insured in disability insurance disputes. She joined the Barry faculty in January 2011.

ORLANDO BLOOD DRIVE HOSTED BY CLASS OF 2015

Last Sunday, Orlando Class of 2015 students (Luisa Binkley, David Camacho, Jennifer Bixler, & Tiffany Hatchcock) volunteered in a Blood Pressure Screening and Blood Drive at St. Margaret Mary's Church. The community service initiative was facilitated by Steve, David & Michelle Hodge. Michelle is the Parish Nurse at St. Margaret Mary.

This is what Michelle had to say: "Thank you for allowing your students to join us for our community outreach. The students provided 38 screenings that consisted of BP, medications and lifestyle modifications (i.e., diet and exercise). The blood mobile had 28 donors who successfully participated. The professionalism of these students was impeccable!!"

Our anesthesiology students are living up to the Barry mission!



CAROLYN KAERCHER JOINS BARRY ANESTHESIOLOGY TEAM

The Anesthesiology program welcomed Carolyn Kaercher to the team as External Relations Coordinator in July 2013. Carolyn has been with Barry University since April 2011 and previously served

as Admissions & Marketing Coordinator in the Health Sciences Admissions office. She will be assuming Jocelyn Goulet's role in the wake of his retirement. We are happy to have Carolyn join us!



ANESTHESIA CIRCUIT

Alumni Newsletter of the Anesthesiology Program at Barry University

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ANSWER TO TRIVIA: C.

Answer: 53



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*Best wishes for a happy new year
filled with health, happiness, and success*