Welcome to the new academic year! We are anticipating quite the year, including the search for a new dean, new bed tower planning, and continued new fellowship developments. We have just welcomed the class of 2020, and the class of 2019 has just begun in the ORs. Much change is going on in the education arena, where the ABA certification and MOCA processes are undergoing what seems to be constant change.

As for our new Dean, Dr. Andrews has announced his retirement in early 2017. I am a member of the search committee that has already formally begun the search process.

We are in the beginning phases of planning for a conversion to EPIC electronic medical records. Next year we hope to have in place our first neuro-anesthesiology fellow, with Jackie Smith, MD as our fellowship program director. Work is ongoing to develop both our critical care and obstetric fellowship programs.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Faculty Retreat focused on faculty development on August 13th.

As Socrates said on change, “The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.”

Cheers to a great summer and the exciting season of change that awaits us all!
Education Update - Pramod Chetty, MD

In the education division, we have just bid farewell to the class of 2016, and our class of 2020 is already hard at work. On June 23rd we held a graduation dinner for our residents finishing their internships at Integris Baptist Medical Center and welcomed the new interns. We recognized the graduation of our CA-3 residents with a dinner and awards ceremony, on June 25th.

The 12 new CA-1’s, which include three OU graduates, have completed their introductory course and are currently working on their immersion course.

The spring mock oral exams were conducted over weekends in April and May. The exams were proctored for 24 residents in preparation for their oral board exams in the coming year(s). Fall mock orals will be held on November 5th and December 10th.

In July, all 12 CA-1’s took the ABA Basic Part I. Many thanks go out to all who donated for the web-based preparatory course. The web-based course and the separated curriculum (WEB/THEB) with an emphasis on Basic Sciences for CA-1’s were important to our success on the Part I Exam. The recent CA-3 class and CRNAs helped immensely with giving the examinees more time for preparation.

Catching Up With Our CRNA’s - Kathryn Dooley, CRNA

Big thanks to James Hilfiger for his two years of service as Co-Chief CRNA!

Erica Buel was elected by the CRNA group to serve as Co-Chief on the adult side, and Kathryn Dooley is continuing as Co-Chief on the pediatric side.

Erica joined the department in August 2014. She works primarily at OUMC and also floats to TCH. Prior to her career in nursing, Erica worked as a muralist after studying art in Florence, Italy. Erica hopes to make a positive impact for her fellow CRNAs and patients as Co-Chief. Thank you, Erica, for your willingness to serve!
Research Review: Strategies To Improve Scholarly Activity - Pamela Roberts, MD

The talk, “Strategies to Improve Scholarly Activity” was presented at the CME conference on Friday, July 15th. The Power Point presentation shown explains some of the resources we have created and made available to you through the department in support of scholarly activity. All of the resources shown in the presentation (including a PDF of the presentation itself) are available within the “Scholarly Activities” folder in the Department’s Shared Drive.

The “Scholarly Activities” folder includes information on journal submission, department poster processes, consent for case reports, the new required software for CVs (Activity Insight), the department’s new ‘Scholarly Bulletin Board,’ and more. If you were not at the conference, please review the slides. If you were there, the presentation should continue to serve as a helpful reference you can return to as needed.

Please utilize the information contained in the presentation and the resources it directs you to, to add efficiency to your efforts and those of our support staff. Questions about the available resources can be directed to our Research Coordinators (Fahmida and Amir), our Writing Coordinator (Kate Strum), or Dr. Roberts. We hope these resources will be useful to each of you.

Staff Updates: The Only Constant Is Change - Susan VanGundy, MBA

The old adage that the only thing constant is change holds true for our staff. The department has continued to see growth, and with growth change is inevitable. One of the more recent changes to the staff has been a change in responsibilities and associated duties.

The University, The College of Medicine, and the department use a growing number of software products to manage ever increasing data. Of course, this leads to an increased need for reporting. Reports can be created in many formats, so the Dean’s Office is making an increased effort to standardize some of these reports. Our administrative office receives constant requests for reports, from multiple sources, as well as from multiple systems, including the HR and financial modules of PeopleSoft, and the GE Centricity billing system and EMR (CPA). In order to remain as efficient as possible we knew we had to make some changes if we were to take advantage of expertise among key staff members.

Dan Ridings initially joined Anesthesiology after working in Financial Services, where his main duty was reporting. It only made sense that we use this to our advantage. We moved Dan, both figuratively and physically, into more of a reporting role. Dan’s office has moved next to Lisa King’s. Dan will be working with Lisa to learn more about electronic medical records and patient billing. This will enable him to assist Lisa with billing reports. Kalin Chambless, who assists Dan, will be moving his office into this area as well.

Brandi Wilson has relocated to Dan’s old office. She is supervising the accounting staff who are responsible for payroll, accounts payable, purchasing, and scheduling.

Please be patient as we work through these changes; and remember, Dan may have been your go to person for many things these past years, but he will be redirecting your request if it falls under Brandi’s areas of responsibility. Thanks for understanding and remember, CHANGE is good, it means progress!
## Congrats And Best of Luck To Our 2016 Graduates!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chidi Achilefu</td>
<td>Private Practice, Mid-Tex Anesthesia Associates, Waco, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brent Bushman</td>
<td>Private Practice, Reno-Tahoe Anesthesia, Reno, Nevada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Aur</td>
<td>St. Johns Medical Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Chesnut</td>
<td>OU Anesthesiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Corn</td>
<td>Private Practice, San Antonio, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Egbert</td>
<td>Private Practice, Reno-Tahoe Anesthesia, Reno, Nevada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Kelsheimer</td>
<td>CardioThoracic Anesthesia Fellowship, University of Nebraska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Krause</td>
<td>Finishing his commitment with the Unites States Air Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mukadder Ozcan</td>
<td>OU Anesthesiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cara Porter</td>
<td>Private Practice, Northwest Anesthesia, Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Rowlett</td>
<td>Private Practice, Valley Anesthesia, Phoenix, Arizona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Smith</td>
<td>Pain Medicine Fellowship, OU Anesthesiology-Pain Medicine</td>
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</tbody>
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## Welcome To The Class of 2020!

![Images of Class of 2020 members]
**Congrats To Our Leadership On Their Honors!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jane C.K. Fitch, MD</th>
<th>Pamela R. Roberts, MD</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2016 Bertram W. Coffer, M.D. Excellence in Government Award</strong></td>
<td><strong>2016 Tow Humanism In Medicine Award</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Given in recognition of exemplary contributions to the medical specialty of anesthesiology, its practitioners and patients.*

“Even after her tenure as ASA President, Dr. Fitch continues to make an impact on the specialty as an advocate for patient safety,” said Erin Sullivan, M.D., chair of the Committee on Governmental Affairs. “Her tireless work on behalf of Veterans to maintain the team-based physician-led model of care in the VA has been invaluable.”

“There has never been a more exciting time to be a physician anesthesiologist,” Dr. Fitch said. “Thank you so very much for this high honor, but please know that in my heart I am accepting it on behalf of the team of giants who have gone before us and on whose shoulders we now stand.”

The Dr. Bertram "Bert" W. Coffer Excellence in Government Award is presented in memory of one of the most active and impressive leaders of the ASA. ASA honored Bert by making him the inaugural recipient of the ASA Excellence in Government Award, which is now named after him and his outstanding legacy. Each year, a physician anesthesiologist is recognized for his or her contributions to the specialty to advance ASA’s legislative, political and regulatory priorities.

*Congrats to Dr. Ed Kosik for earning another 2-year endorsement from the ASA Simulation Education Network for our department! Special Thanks to Scott Tatum and Gale Gwin who are consistently present to help make our program better and better!*

*excerpted from: [https://www.asahq.org/about-asa/newsroom/news-releases/2016/05/fitch](https://www.asahq.org/about-asa/newsroom/news-releases/2016/05/fitch)*
Catching Up With Featured Faculty Member Saima Kamal, MD

Dr. Saima Kamal joined the department a little over a year ago and has really enjoyed working with the people here at OU. She is the faculty, staff, residents, or fellows. Dr. Kamal hails from Karachi, Pakistan and is fortunate to have just returned from a visit to her hometown for a week followed by a three days in Muscat, Oman to see her brother. Dr. Kamal is a self-described explorer. In keeping with her adventurous spirit, Dr. Kamal SCUBA dived for the first time off Fahal Island, Oman on her recent trip.

In addition to active pursuits around the world and here in Oklahoma where she likes to stay fit and eat healthy, Dr. Kamal enjoys dining out at ethnic restaurants (guilty pleasure: Pakistani-style Chicken Biryani!), watching movies, reading for pleasure, and learning new things.

Dr. Kamal reports that her favorite part of being an anesthesiologist is that she gets the best of both worlds—medicine and surgery. She finds it fascinating to observe and monitor the interplay of anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, and pathology in each patient. She does note that it can be difficult when many people do not understand what the role of an anesthesiologist entails, which results in lack of acknowledgment for hard work, but she is optimistic and thinks that the culture is changing and more and more people are becoming aware of the anesthesiologist’s role as a perioperative consultant.

As Dr. Kamal is newer to the department, make some time to say hi if you haven’t yet. She is known by friends for her excellent sense of humor!

Getting To Know OUMC/OR Administrative Coordinator Danielle Summers

Danielle Summers has recently joined the department as the Administrative Coordinator at the OUMC/OR, though she has been on campus for four years. She works as the liaison between the hospital administrative staff and the anesthesiology providers. Danielle is responsible for the OR and call schedules, the CRNA Out List, as well as meeting other provider needs as they arise. Danielle was born here in OKC, but with a father in the military her family moved all around. In 2001 they returned home after a number of years in Boston to be close to family once again.

When she’s not at work staying on top of things in the OR, Danielle is busy consuming books. She has read over 700 and you’ll never find her without her Kindle. Danielle also has a penchant for baking (she may regret revealing this to us!) and has her own business called Sugar CupCakes for which she does custom work. When she’s not busy with her head in a book or her hands busy in the kitchen, Danielle enjoys spending time surrounded by her friends and family as well as going out to the movies and on spontaneous road trips.

In keeping with her favorite hobbies, Danielle says that if she wasn’t working here with us, she’d probably be editing books or running her own bakery. Spending time around all those cupcakes, she somehow still manages to list salad as her favorite food and notes that she can crochet with the best of them.
Recent Publications


Recent Publications, cont’d.


Recent Publications, cont’d.


Accepted for Publication:


## Welcome Aboard To Our New Hires

**Physicians**

- Jennifer Chesnut, MD
- Mukadder Ozcan, MD
- Joseph Sisk, MD

**Staff**

- Mary Johnson  
  (Coding)
- Lisa Liebe  
  (MA)
- Danielle Summers  
  (Administrative Coordinator OUMC/OR)
- Beverly Wilde  
  (Coding)

## Staff Members Of The Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Tiffany Carter</td>
<td>PAR Team Leader &amp; Billing Follow-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Kate Strum</td>
<td>Writing Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Mindy Holt</td>
<td>Staff Assistant-TCH/OR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Save These Dates!

**Faculty Retreat:** Aug 13th, Samis

**OSA Conference:** August 26th-28th - OKC

**DANA Conference:** Sept 24th-25th - Tulsa

**Courses:**
- ACLS/BLS: Aug 6th, Oct 15th & Dec 17th
- PALS: Nov 9th
- MOCA: Sept 24th, Nov 12th & Dec 3rd

**Contact:** Gale-Gwin@ouhsc.edu

## Tip Time!

### Cell Phones and Distraction

A recent study shows that, "cellular phone notifications alone significantly disrupted performance on an attention-demanding task, even when participants did not directly interact with a mobile device during the task. The magnitude of observed distraction effects was comparable in magnitude to those seen when users actively used a mobile phone, either for voice calls or text messaging."

Resident Graduation 2016

Congratulations to our Award Winners!

Staff of the Year: Gale Gwin
CRNA Service Award: Nancy Sweet-Fitzgibbon, CRNA
CRNA Quality Award: Jenny Schmitt, CRNA
Charles A. Carmack Award: Caroline Parrish, MD
Francis C. Kumar Education Enrichment Award: Jared Petter, MD
The Bertram E. Sears Award: Ellen Basile, DO
Chairman’s Award: Jacqueline Smith, MD
Faculty Special Recognition Award: John Carter, MD
Resident Academic Award: Aaron Llewelyn, MD
John Plewes Award: Bradley Kelsheimer, MD
SRATI 2016
Romanian Society of Anesthesia and Intensive Care Annual Meeting

Drs. Fitch and Nicolescu spoke at the meeting in Romania in June. Dr. Fitch was awarded an honorary membership in the Romanian society and Dr. Nicolescu’s talk is forthcoming in the Romanian Journal of Anesthesia and Critical Care, October 2016.

Running Around Town

Congrats to our 2016 OKC Memorial Marathon, 1/2 Marathon, and 5k Runners!

Robin Deck - Kathryn Dooley - Kelly Herbel - Andrea King - Mehmet Ozcan - Amy Pearcy - Jenny Schmitt - Kate Strum - Matthew Wilson