

UMKC MSA NEWS

Your Second Dose
Fall 2008

UMKC MSA at the AAAA



Lance Carter, assistant program director, (left) and three charter class students discuss strategy before the Jeopardy match with the four other MSA programs. The Jeopardy tournament is the Anesthesiologist Assistant's version of the Super-bowl. The program is extremely proud of our placement in this tournament.

The charter class along with the Program's Director, Assistant Director, and Medical Director attended the American Academy of Anesthesiologists annual meeting, April 17-21, in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Highlights of the trip included, a message from the American Society Anesthesiologists incoming President, Dr. Roger Moore, tying for second place in the Jeopardy

competition between the other programs, interesting conferences, a rainy golf tournament to benefit the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF) and relaxing in some much deserved southern sunshine.

These students fared very well in the Jeopardy tournament as most other programs were in their third semester, and UMKC students were in their third

month! We hope to build on this for this next year's first year students, and strive for the trophy. All hope to attend the next conference, April 19-22, 2009 in Clearwater, FL.

In addition to the AAAA the students also attended the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists annual meeting in St. Louis earlier in April. There the students attended conferences and met with anesthesiologists from across the state.

Missouri Anesthesiologist Honored

At the AAAA meeting in Hilton Head, South Carolina, Dr. Jim Gibbons was awarded the Physician Service Award from the American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants. Dr. Gibbons was the President of the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists in 2002-2003, and worked tirelessly for AA licensure in Missouri. He is currently the chair of the Committee on Anesthesiologist Assistants for the Missouri Society of Anesthe-

siologists. Dr. Gibbons and Western Anesthesiology Associates take students for clinical rotations from nearly every AA program and have hired five AAs that currently are practicing with them in St. Louis.

In addition Dr. Gibbons and his wife Rita, have shown enormous hospitality to AA students. Showing them the "Show Me" state is a great place to work and live. Thank you Dr. Gibbons for all your work and support!



Dr. Jim Gibbons (right) receives his award from the incoming AAAA President, Pete Kalusyk AA-C (left).

A NEW ADVENTURE MSA Student Update

By: Arthur Misquez, MSA Year 1, Student representative to the AAAA

Anesthesiologist Assistant as a career choice... In the beginning of this endeavor, I never imagined such a career would enable a healthcare provider to care for patients in such a capacity. I knew after discovering the concept of an Anesthesiologist Assistant that it was the right career choice.

After moving here from Minnesota in January 2008, to start the Master of Science in Anesthesia program at the University of Missouri Kansas City, I realized what a great and challenging career choice I had made. At first it seemed as if I had ventured into uncharted territory, but as I will testify, we all have had the experience of gaining new per-

spectives as we have grown and transitioned from one role to another. I started the program with a minor understanding of anesthesia principles. After, the first couple of weeks, I was in shock with how much depth and understanding was involved with each patient. During the first couple of months, the program gave me a rich and multi-faceted experience in providing health care to patients from all walks of life.

The classroom has become a whole different realm for me. Before, the teachers and students alike preached the importance of learning, but it was implicitly obvious that the most important concern was grades. Our clinical

instructors genuinely believe that patient care is the most important objective, and deeply encourage us to collaborate with each other and make use of all resources that we may find. However, I believe that the most important concepts that I have espoused in being independent of my preceptors, deal with being a part of the anesthesia care team. The school's faculty and staff are conscious about keeping all of the student's attention focused on this philosophy.

Becoming an Anesthesiologist Assistant has changed my life; furthermore, I believe that my growth as an Anesthesiologist Assistant will continue as I work hard to become an integral member of the anesthesia care team. In that role I would



expect to continue learning about providing quality health care equally to all individuals - a principle that is one of my paramount beliefs. As well, I look forward to both the professional and personal growth that will come from being an active member of the American Academy of Anesthesiologists Assistants, and a part of the community we serve.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Since our last publication some exciting things have happened for both the students and faculty at the UMKC MSA program.

Lance (Assistant Program Director) and Caetie Carter, welcomed their third child, Mason Maverek, into their home on May 27, 2008. He is much loved by his big brother, Anderson, and big sister, Lacy.

Caleb Hopkins (MSA-Year 1) married Erin Hillman on April 26, 2008. The couple is excited to announce that they are expecting their first child this October.

The program is also proud to announce a new faculty member at the level of clinical instructor, Mr. Ty Townsend. Ty is a Case Western Reserve graduate and has been working with the students since the start of the program. He is cur-

rently employed at Liberty Hospital. Ty boasts the claim of being the first AA in the state of Missouri. Ty's years of experience are a great asset to the program.

If you have some exciting news, both personal and professional, please let us know. Submissions for the next publication are due by February 28, 2009 and can be sent to the program director.

WANTED: DEDICATION TO THE FUTURE

Are you interested in helping promote and clinically train mid-level anesthesia providers that are dedicated to the education of the Anesthesia Care Team? The UMKC MSA program

is looking for both teaching and private hospitals, whose anesthesia groups are willing to clinically instruct both first and second year students. If you are interested, please

contact the program director at 816-235-1953 or by e-mail guthriem@umkc.edu. What better way to give back your profession than to teach the future of it!!



JOBLINE



Interested in hiring AA's? Want free advertisement? Please send the name of your hospital or group, contact information, and other items you would like included to the program assistant and your add will be published in our newsletter and made available in a job opportunity folder in the program's office.

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MSA Upcoming Events

The Fall is an exciting time for the program as we begin our next round of interviews. We will have three interview sessions with 5-6 applicants interviewed in each session. You will be introduced to the 2009 matriculating class in your third dose from the MSA program. Also, look for

our updated academic statistics in our next newsletter.

The Program and Assistant Program Director will be attending a free conference by the Human Patient Simulation Network (HPSN) on October 4, 2008 at the Johnson County Community College. If you

are interested in attending go to http://www.meti.com/hpsn_regionalmeeting.htm

Also, in October, the Program Director will attend the American Society of Anesthesiologists annual meeting in Orlando, FL.