

UMKC MSA NEWS

Your First Dose
Spring 2008

CHARTER CLASS: Off and Running

The charter class of four students started January 14, 2008. After a one day orientation the students began their intense 27 months of study at the School of Medicine. All the students are from the mid-west area and excited about being part of this new program.

The first year of the program emphasizes the didactic portion of anesthesia. The curriculum includes pharmacology, anatomy, physiology, and physics taught by School of Medicine faculty. The program directors provide guidance to the faculty to ensure the goals of their courses are appropriate for the profession. Additionally, the program directors teach courses such as patient monitoring and instrumentation and anesthesia and co-existing disease to further emphasize the practice of clinical anesthesia in the academic setting.

The students are introduced to the clinical setting via simulation and a skills center



Charter Class with Program Directors (LtoR) Pam Bina, Topeka KS; Jonathan Chambers, Overland Park, KS; Lance Carter AA-C MSA, Assistant Program Director, Melanie Guthrie AA-C MSA, Program Director, Art Misqueu, Crystal MN; and Caleb Hopkins Gladstone, MO

by attending two lab sessions a week. Starting with operating room orientation and technical skill instruction and practice to actual case based simulation, students are enjoying the contemporary teaching models within the program.

The students will enter the operating room two days a week this summer with a progressive increase in days each semester. The clinical

curriculum concludes with an entire year in the operating room with a graduation requirement of 2,000 clinical hours. During this year, the students will do one month rotations in anesthesia subspecialties.

The application process for the January 2009 matriculation class is now open at our website www.med.umkc.edu/MSA with an application deadline of August 1, 2008.

SIMULATION BASED LEARNING

The use of simulation and skills labs in teaching professions that require patient care is on the rise throughout the country. The UMKC MSA program developed a skills lab in order to provide the contemporary education that students need. The anesthesia machines for the lab were donated by GE Healthcare. Additionally, lots of other anesthesia equipment and supplies were donated by local vendors.

The students enjoy not only receiving instruction on specific skills needed for the anesthesia profession, but also the hands on opportunity that the simulation lab provides. The MSA program realizes that simulation cannot replace live clinical experiences. The belief is that when the basic instruction is completed in the lab, the clinical rotations will be of a higher quality.



MSA students, Caleb Hopkins and Jonathan Chambers, learning and practicing intravenous lines in the skills center with guidance from Melanie Guthrie, AA-C, skills lab instructor.

BUILDING TOWARD THE FUTURE: MSA Student Update

By: Pam Bina MSA Student—Year 1

The Anesthesiologist Assistant (AA) program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine is now underway with the charter class that began in January 2008. Our charter class is small, with only four students, but we have all come to know each other very well in the short four months that we have been here. My classmates and I are very excited for the opportunity to not only be the inaugural class for this program, but also to be the first AA program west of the Mississippi. We are fortunate to have great supporters in the state of Missouri, in addition to many other anesthesiolo-

gists and AAs from around the country. From this support, my classmates and I realize how many people are aware of this new program, and we look forward to the responsibility of representing the AA profession in a positive manner. Although being a charter class has the potential for walking into the unknown, the faculty, as well as the students, are learning along the way. Our experiences thus far have proven to be extremely interesting, and we cannot wait for the exciting challenges that await us in the near future.

My classmates and I understand the responsibility we have as ambassadors of a

new profession within Missouri. We also understand the need to support national and local organizations that support AAs. We are all encouraged to become student members of the American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants (AAAA) and the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). Arthur Misquez, AA-S was elected by our class to be the student representative from our program to the AAAA student committee. I have been chosen to be the journalist for our class submitting articles for the AAAA and UMKC MSA program newsletters.

In April, my classmates and I are attending the Missouri

Society of Anesthesiologists conference and the AAAA conference. We are thrilled at the opportunity to be able to attend these conferences, and are eager to meet our supporters and fellow AA students from the other four AA programs. It will be an exciting time to learn about the organizations that we, as students, have joined. As we near the finish of our first semester, my classmates and I look forward to what is to come. We have learned a great deal in our didactic coursework thus far, and are enthusiastic to apply this knowledge as we begin our clinicals this summer.

UMKC School of Medicine

Master of Science in Anesthesia Program

M2-313
2411 Holmes Street
Kansas City, MO 64108

Phone: 816-235-5412
Fax: 816-235-6629
E-mail: umkc_som_msa@umkc.edu

Website:

www.med.umkc.edu/MSA

Contact Information:

Medical Director

James F. Piontek, M.D., D.A.B.A.
Phone 816-235-5412
E-mail: piontekj@umkc.edu

Program Director:

Melanie Guthrie, AA-C MSA
Phone: 816-235-1953
E-mail: guthriem@umkc.edu

Assistant Program Director:

Lance Carter, AA-C MSA
Phone: 816-235-1953
E-Mail: carterla@umkc.edu

Program Assistant:

Olga Hisle, BA
Phone: 816-235-5412
E-mail: hisleo@umkc.edu

MSA Upcoming Events

The MSA Program Directors and students will be attending the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Meeting this April 18-20, 2008, in St. Louis. The Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists are waiving the registration fee for all current AA's and AA students. The directors and students will attend educational seminars and workshops at the meeting. The MSA has generously provided UMKC

with a presentation table in the rear of their conference room. There the directors will continue educating anesthesiologists about the AA profession, encourage them to consider clinically teaching UMKC MSA students, and inspire them to hire AA's in their practice.

Additionally, April 26-30, 2008 the students and directors will attend the American Academy of Anesthesiologist

Assistants Annual Meeting in Hilton Head, South Carolina. There the program will be joining forces with Missouri Anesthesiology practices in order to help attract graduating and practicing Anesthesiology Assistants to the midwest. Also, the students will have a chance to meet with AA students from other programs and attend educational seminars designed for anesthesiologists.