



NC Association of Nurse Anesthetists

# ANETIC

Fall / Winter ☆ Volume 64, Issue 2

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# Letter From Dave Richard, Deputy Secretary For Medical Assistance Division of Medical Assistance North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Medical Assistance



Pat McCrory  
Governor

Richard O. Brajer  
Secretary

Dave Richard  
Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance

November 16, 2015

Dear North Carolina Health Care Association:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requires that all Medicaid providers are revalidated (recredentialed) at least every five years. This is to ensure that provider enrollment information is accurate and current. The provider's credentials and qualifications will be evaluated to ensure that they meet professional requirements and are in good standing. The recredentialing process also includes a criminal background check on all owners and managing relationships associated with the provider record.

Every active NCTracks Provider must be recredentialed. However, shortly after NCTracks implementation in 2013, this process was suspended due to the backlog of pended provider managed change requests. Beginning November 2015, the recredentialing process will be reinstated.

Providers will receive a recredentialing/reverification letter, or an invitation via their NCTracks secure portal in-box or e-mail, when they are scheduled to begin the recredentialing process. This process is completed in the "Status and Management" section of the NCTracks Provider Portal under the section titled "Re-verification." A reverification application will only appear when it is time to reverify. Providers are required to pay a \$100 application fee for recredentialing/reverification.

**Recredentialing is not optional.** It is crucial that all providers who receive a recredentialing notice promptly respond and begin the recredentialing process. Providers will receive a recredentialing letter 45 days before their recredentialing due date. If the provider does not complete the recredentialing process within the allotted 45 days, payment will be suspended until the recredentialing process is completed. The provider will also receive a termination notice. If the provider does not complete the recredentialing process within thirty (30) days from payment suspension and termination notice, participation in the N.C. Medicaid and Health Choice Programs will be terminated. Providers must submit a re-enrollment application to be reinstated.

Please notify your association members of the state's intent to take action against providers that do not respond to their recredentialing notice. Information, including a link to a provider user guide with step-by-step instructions to complete the recredentialing process, is available on the NCTracks Provider Recredentialing/Reverification web page at <https://www.nctracks.nc.gov/content/public/providers/provider-recredentialing.html>. Providers in need of additional assistance may contact CSC at 800-688-6696.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Richard".

Dave Richard

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Location: 1985 Umstead Drive • Kirby Building • Raleigh, NC 27603  
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## AANA Foundation News, Nancy Curll, CRNA, MSN

This year, the AANA Foundation will be promoting a three year program entitled the “Health Service Research Campaign”. Nursing fellowships in the PhD programs at Duke and Vanderbilt Universities are being created to build a team of CRNA researchers which will analyze data related to patient safety in anesthesia. Additional information will be coming soon from the AANA Foundation concerning this exciting new campaign!

I would like to say “thank-you very much” to the 141 CRNAs, SRNAs and supporters of the AANA Foundation from North Carolina for 2014-2015. This year, CRNAs and SRNAs from North Carolina were recipients of two research grants, two SRNA scholarships, and presented an oral poster and two general poster presentations at the 2015 Annual Congress. Thank-you again to all who have supported the AANA Foundation!

Sincerely,  
Nancy Curll, CRNA, DNP  
AANA Foundation Advocate



### Recently moved?

Email NCANA with your new information at [ncana@caphill.com](mailto:ncana@caphill.com).

**Please be sure to also change your information with AANA.**

**We receive an updated database from AANA quarterly, so if you do not change your information with them, our database will revert to the old information upon our next update.**

## From the Legislature: Elections 2016

In the midst of holiday shopping there will be plenty of excitement during the month of December for those who monitor North Carolina politics. The candidate filing dates for the 2016 elections are [December 1<sup>st</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>](#). Already over a dozen legislators, some very high profile, have announced they will not seek reelection. These retirements include Senator Tom Apodaca (R-Henderson), Senator Bob Rucho (R-Mecklenburg), Rep. Skip Stam (R-Wake) and Rep. Leo Daughtry (R-Johnston).

2016 will be a huge election year in North Carolina. The President, Governor, one US Senator, the Congressional delegation and all 170 legislative seats will be on the ballot. The primary has been moved up to [March 15<sup>th</sup>](#) so North Carolina can play a more significant role in the Presidential race. Once again, North Carolina is expected to see significant campaign spending pour in from out of state.

In the midst of a busy campaign year the legislature is hoping to have a short and relatively noncontroversial session. The 2016 session will convene [on April 25<sup>th</sup>](#) and the goal is to adjourn by early July having made necessary budget adjustments, any necessary Medicaid Reform adjustments, and perhaps further tax reforms, regulatory reforms and state employee pay raises.



Have you liked our Facebook page yet?

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## An Update from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center

### **Leadership: the cornerstone of education at Wake**

If there is anything that characterizes the legacy or the spirit of our program, it is great success in mentoring students and graduates toward leadership roles. This year, Sharon Pearce became the 6th graduate of the program to hold the position of AANA President. To put this in perspective, this means that the program produces less than 1% of graduates yearly, but we are responsible for 9% of all of the AANA presidents. The program has now had more alumni become AANA president than the number of program directors it has had. This figure does not even account for the two additional AANA presidents who were faculty, but not graduates of the program. One very beneficial side-effect of this legacy is that our students have the opportunity to learn from and to be surrounded by many of these people who set an example of leadership achievement. This year at the AANA meeting, we were very happy to congratulate Whitney Benfield, who was elected student representative to the Education Committee. Whitney occupies the distinction of being our fifth student to hold that position, and the third in the past five years. At the same time, Wake Forest alumni leaders are everywhere. Bobby Jones (2011) just completed service as the NCANA treasurer, Jerry Hogan (1992) just completed his term as Florida ANA president, Keith Torgerson (1992) is serving on the Council on Accreditation, Janice Izlar (1976) was just appointed to the Georgia Board of Nursing, and Mark Haffey (2001) just began his term on the AANA Board of Directors (Special thanks to all who voted for Mark). There are undoubtedly countless other alumni who are demonstrating this leadership legacy all around the country. As of the NCANA meeting just a few weeks ago, Kim Gordon (2007) began her term as President-Elect. Kim has had a penchant for political involvement since her days as a student, and we will be looking forward to the great things she will accomplish in her presidency year in 2016-2017. Not to leave the students out, we also need to congratulate Stacy Yancey (2016), who began her term on the NCANA as a student board member this fall. Now that Sharon Pearce has completed her year as AANA president, she has set her sights on her next leadership endeavor, running for a seat in the NC House of Representatives. We are hopeful to have Sharon representing the voice of CRNA interests in the NC legislature.

### **Nurse Anesthesia Program in the Press**

We were pleased to get some good local press, following our move to the Innovation Quarter. We first put out a press release about the move and focusing on the story of senior student Chantelle Wallin, whose father worked in the RJR building in the 1970's. This was picked up by TimeWarner news, who immediately came to record an interview with Chantelle and Dr. Rieker. The following week, WXII had Dr. Rieker on their noon news program for a live interview to discuss the nurse anesthesia profession with their anchor. The week after that, Triad Today, a local interest talk show, had Dr. Rieker on also to discuss nurse anesthesia and our program. Thankfully, by October 1, we had five times the number of applicants as available student slots, and again were faced with the difficult job of sorting through the applications to determine the 60 who would get interviews for our 24 positions next year. 70 per cent of applications come from outside of North Carolina, so we are happy that our reputation spreads so widely.

### **Student Leadership**

As we gave credit above to students in formal positions of leadership, we need to make a special recognition of a woman who demonstrated quiet leadership in a time of crisis. When tropical storm Erika ravaged the island of Dominica in the end of August, it took 20 lives, many homes, and caused monumental destruction of infrastructure and property on the small island. Senior student Jeanine Christian, hailing from Dominica, wasn't going to take the devastating news of her home island sitting down. She immediately began organizing a collection drive for food, clothing, medical supplies, housewares, and money to help the residents of Dominica begin the difficult job of rebuilding their lives. Jeanine used space in the nurse anesthesia program office to collect and organize the donations. With the help of classmate Dianarose Onyango, Jeanine organized the boxes of goods to ship to Miami, where they were put on a boat, headed for a church in Dominica, from which they were distributed to residents in need. Jeanine raised nearly \$1,000.00 in cash donations to ship the items, with excess money going directly to the victims.

## An Update from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center



Jeanine Christian and classmate Dianarose Onyango are organizing some of the boxes of goods to ship to Miami, where they will be put on a boat, headed for a church in Dominica

### In Memoriam

Many North Carolinians may remember Susie Evans Kearns. Susie graduated in our class of 1966, and she passed away on October 24, 2015, following a long illness. Mrs. Kearns graduated from Morganton High School and Henry Grady Hospital School of Nursing in Atlanta, GA. She worked as a Nurse Anesthetist at Iredell Memorial Hospital, where she met her husband, Dr. Paul R. Kearns. She also worked in hospitals in Catawba and Cabarrus Counties. Susie was the lead donor to establish the Sandra Ouellette Scholarship Fund upon Sandy's retirement as program director in 2005.

### New Facility

Our new facility in the Wake Forest Innovation Quarter was completed in the nick of time this summer. We took possession of the building just one week before the beginning of the fall semester! While the upgrade has been a long time coming, it was worth every bit of the wait. The Innovation Quarter is a planned ecosystem where education and industry coexist to foster innovation and collaboration. With a mix of educational space, information technology and other industry, and healthful areas to live and play, the neighborhood is an incredible place, where our students can learn and grow. Built in the fully renovated RJR Tobacco factories, the physical structures pay homage to the main origin of economic success of Winston-Salem, while also fostering new ideas and modernization of our educational institution. Upon hearing about our move, some alumni from the 1980's said, "*That* neighborhood? That's the 'wrong side of the tracks'. We were told never to go down there." For those of you who remember the NAP headquarters in the Gray building, the Allied Health building ("closet") on Cloverdale, or the Progressive Care Building, we guarantee that you will be amazed by the ultra-modern and spacious facility that was built exactly to our own custom-design. We will capture some of it in photos in this newsletter, but please plan to visit us for the alumni meeting in March of 2017 to see it for yourself. We are very appreciative of our new association with the School of Medicine, without which we could never have brought this million dollar upgrade to the program.

### Accreditation

The program received good news in November- our COA accreditation came back with a 10-year accreditation and no progress required. Our accreditation visit was interesting this year, coming right in the midst of our transition to a Wake Forest degree (we had one UNCG class and one Wake Forest class on board at the time). We were also very busy planning for our facility move at the time of the visit. A big thanks goes out to Dr. Courtney Brown, who led the accreditation preparation.

## An Update from Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center



A showpiece of the facility is the Collaborative Classroom, which provides modular, relaxed furnishings and opportunities for innovative classroom activities to foster active, engaged learning



The simulation laboratory has independent piped gas supply and vacuum system and full audiovisual support for capture and remote sharing of activities. It was also designed with the ability to simulate failures of gas supply, power failure, and other infrastructure .



The interior design merges an industrial appearance with a modern feel.



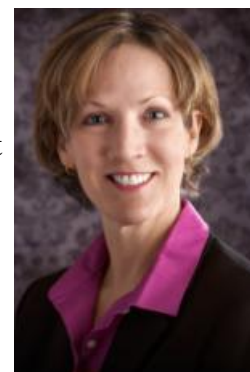
## An update from WCU Nurse Anesthesia Program

### WCU Fall Update

A quiet summer in WNC, with no major news to pass on, except of course congratulations to our graduates of May who all passed their Boards and are finally enjoying the world of paid work. Now it is the turn of our current seniors to start worrying about the eternal question....which is the best review course?!

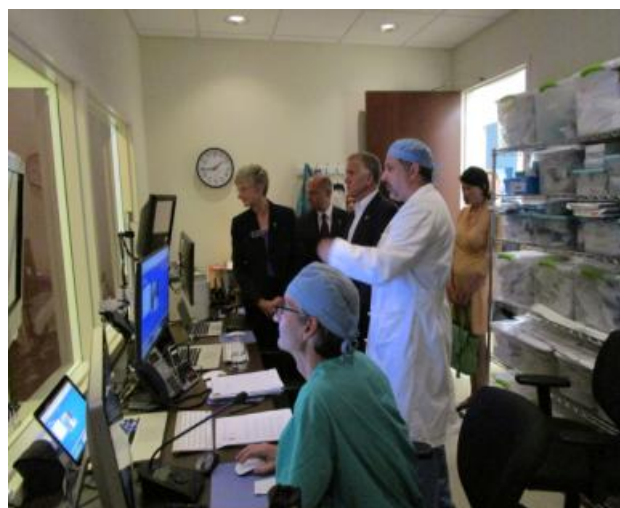
### New faculty

Although we did not want to let him go, we are proud of our former faculty member Dustin Degman, who moved to Oregon to work in an all-CRNA practice and be close to his family. Not only was this a loss for WCU, but also for North Carolina, since Dustin served as District Director, the AANA Foundation representative, Public Relations Committee Chair not to mention acting as mentor to many during his time here. You will be missed! Luckily for us, his replacement is the wonderful Cheryl Johnson, who has come home to WCU after stints in clinical practice in rural Alaska, and more recently as Director of Didactic Education at Wake Forest. She served in leadership roles within the WCU Program from 2006-9, and has over 15 years of experience in anesthesia, in education, clinical practice, and military service.



### Tillis visit

Having expressed an interest in visiting the Sim Lab, we were happy to host Senator Tillis in July of this year, and were able to demonstrate a “live” simulation showing a CRNA (working autonomously) dealing with a Malignant Hyperthermia crisis. It was a great opportunity to show the Senator not only how simulation is useful in education, but to reinforce the level of training and skill set of CRNAs in North Carolina.



### AANA Congress

In September, 4 students and 4 faculty travelled to Salt Lake City for the AANA National Congress. We enjoyed a variety of lectures on topics ranging from fluid optimization to anesthesia history, not to mention witnessing the continued debate within the organization over the relationship with the NBCRNA. Finally, and yet again, the faculty won the annual fitness challenge at the Wellness 5k run! Perhaps next year the tide will

## An update from WCU Nurse Anesthesia Program

turn in favor of youth over experience..or perhaps not..Altitude notwithstanding, we appreciated running in SLC temperatures after Orlando humidity last year.

### NCANA Annual Meeting

Despite the small matter of an incoming hurricane, 10 students and 2 faculty travelled down to Myrtle Beach attend the State Meeting. This year's agenda had a wide-ranging group of



topics, so it was disappointing that things had to be cut short by the deteriorating travel conditions. Assistant Director Ian Hewer presented on central line placement, which turned out to be the last talk of the meeting. Hopefully that will be the last time he gives a speech that is interrupted by an emergency announcement! At the PAC event, it was great to meet Gail Adcock, NP, the newly elected Representative for Wake county, hopefully one of many APN legislators to come at both local and national levels. It's great for our students to see the potential power of CRNAs with even a relatively small amount of financial and time commitment. Most disappointing part of the weekend..not getting the chance to return the Bowl trophy to it's rightful home in Asheville..! We will look forward to next year's competition on "home turf" instead.

### Sim Lab

No new equipment this year, but we continue to integrate the Sim Lab experience into the curriculum. This summer, the seniors worked on an intraoperative crisis scenario, and juniors practiced central line insertion. In the Fall, we repeated our cricothyroidotomy workshop, for some a refresher, for others a first time experience. In either case, the opportunity to practice an infrequently used skill in a safe, low-stress environment which is one of the great benefits of simulation, and we are glad to be able to offer this opportunity to our students.





### NCANA Political Action Committee Contribution

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E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to:**

**Robert L. Whitehurst, CRNA - PAC Treasurer #296 - 3650 Rogers Road - Wake Forest, NC 27587**

Questions? Contact Robert at 919-434-9350 or ncanapac@yahoo.com.

Feel free to go online to NCANA.com and donate to PAC through the website!

## Calendar of Events 2016

**February 27, 2016- District 3&4 Meeting- Great Wolf Lodge, Concord, NC**

**April 2-6, 2016- AANA Mid Year Assembly- Washington, DC**

**April 16, 2016- District 1 & 2 Meeting- Double Tree by Hilton, New Bern, NC**

**Capitol Day- TBD**

**July 23, 2016- July Board Meeting- Raleigh, NC**

**September 9-13, 2016- AANA Annual Congress, Washington DC**

**November 4-6, 2016- NCANA Annual Meeting- Renaissance Hotel, Asheville, NC**





**NC ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS**

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A dark blue background with several large, glowing, light blue snowflake-like patterns scattered across it. The snowflakes have a complex, crystalline structure.

**Have a  
Great  
Holiday  
Season!**