



MTSA's mission efforts in Guyana included point-of-care ultrasound (PoCUS) workshops for anesthesia providers.

MTSA Team Conducts Specialized Training in Guyana

A team of volunteers from Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia recently spent a week training and educating a wide variety of anesthesia providers at Georgetown Public Hospital in Guyana. Led by Christian Falyar, DNP, CRNA, MTSA's Director of the Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship, and Rob Taylor, MD, anesthesiologist at Sumner Regional Medical Center, the group conducted five point-of-care ultrasound (PoCUS) workshops for 43 anesthesia providers.

The team also included MTSA graduate Lani Hensel, DNAP, CRNA, and Jonathan McGarrety, CRNA in MTSA's Pain Fellowship and Doctoral Completion programs. Hensel is the 2022 MTSA President's Medal winner for her project, "Simulation to Meet Continuing Education Needs in Low-Resource Countries: A Survey of Guyana Nurse Anesthetists." Hensel and McGarrety provided curriculum and facilitated class work with the nursing students in the anesthesia program at Georgetown.

The PoCUS workshops were attended by anesthesia nurses, physicians, residents and trainees

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"I would like to make public our gratitude to the professors who taught the ultrasound workshops."

-Dr. Fernando Ramirez Tellez, Georgetown Public Hospital, Guyana



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Continuing Education Insert
1.00 Class A CE Credits



Chris Hulin
DNP, MBA, CRNA
President

New Opportunities to Grow as a CRNA

With the New Year in full swing, Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia's faculty, staff and administration are engaged in the important work of training CRNAs and helping to ensure they have all the resources they need to be successful.

So when anesthesia providers face challenges in their career, we jump into action. Perhaps one of the most significant issues keeping CRNAs awake at night is the ever-evolving relationships with the healthcare systems in which they work. To that end, we saw a need to better equip CRNAs to handle the business side of anesthesia. As you'll see in this issue of Airways, we are thrilled to be partnering with Larry Hornsby in launching the Hornsby Business Institute at MTSA, which provides all the leadership skills a CRNA needs to handle the non-clinical intricacies of running an anesthesia service.

Another fundamental aspect of preparedness for CRNAs is ensuring rigorous educational experiences. Many in our profession have found their calling in the classroom, teaching in anesthesia programs across the globe. As a result, we developed the Nurse Anesthesia Educator Track at MTSA, a 12-month course of study that prepares students to function in this vital role.

This track prepares students for the Certified Nurse Educator Exam and is able to be completed post-masters degree while earning a Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice degree or as a certificate program without the Doctoral degree.

These new additions to MTSA's programs follow our track record with the Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship as well as regional anesthesia workshops – maintaining a commitment to advancing the CRNA profession. If your plans in 2024 include career growth, I invite you to contact us and find out which program best fits your goals!

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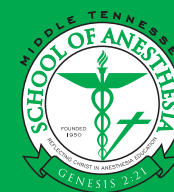
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MISSION

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia exists to provide a Christian, Seventh-day Adventist learning environment that fosters the pursuit of truth, excellence in and access to graduate nurse anesthesia education, and a life of service.

SERVICE

IN ACTION



Preparing Food for Locals in Need

MTSA faculty and staff helped with FiftyForward's Meals On Wheels program for those who may not have access to food in emergency situations. Recipients received bags with encouraging handwritten notes.



Helping Send Medical Supplies all Over the World

Students had an opportunity to volunteer with Project CURE at their warehouse in Nashville. Volunteers sorted and packaged donated medical supplies that were sent to doctors and nurses in more than 135 countries.



Packaging Meals to Go Across the Globe

Students in the 2025 Practice Doctorate cohort worked together with MTSA staff and faculty to package 25,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger which were sent to those in need across the globe.



Volunteering to Help the Underprivileged in Nashville

Volunteers went to the Bridge Ministries warehouse to help with a wide range of tasks, such as sorting new food shipments, bagging snacks for the Bridge to Kids program, sorting clothes and re-stacking pallets.

STUDENT

Standouts

MTSA SRNAs receive hands-on experience at a variety of clinical sites, but they also have the opportunity to make an impact on the patients they serve. We are pleased to share these comments received from clinical sites showcasing the skill and compassionate care of these SRNAs.



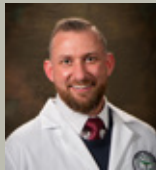
Hannah Rademacher SRNA OF THE YEAR

Congratulations for receiving the "SRNA of the Year" award at Vanderbilt University Medical Center!



Dana Morris

I want to send my appreciation to Dana. Our late shift SRNA needed to leave work for a family emergency. Dana's response to staying late and helping was, "I am here for whatever help you need." That kind of dedication, especially for a late shift, was very appreciated. Upon her graduation, I know she will be a tremendous asset to our profession. Thanks again for your great attitude.



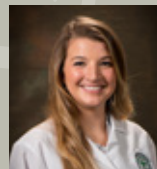
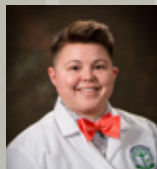
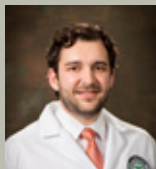
Steven Cuzzilla

I've had two experiences now where Steven had an excellent energy and did an excellent job with epidural placement. He's quick and thorough, upbeat, but also gentle and reads the energy of the room well. Having great bedside manner is absolutely key, and he hits that mark. My last client who worked with him remarked to me that she remembered how gentle and kind he was. That's huge!



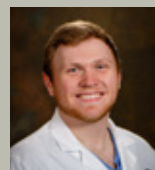
Alexa Nieman

Alexa has done a great job over the last three weeks, especially when we were doing a diaphragmatic plication that we had to crash onto CPB due to a tear in the right atrium. Alexa was a vital part in the care of our patient, and I couldn't have managed the case without her. Thank you, Alexa!



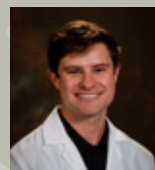
Ryan Joiner, Taylor Knight and Britney Patterson

While in a stairwell this morning, another employee fell down the stairs and hit her head. Britney, Ryan and Taylor went to her aid as she was found taking agonal breaths and barely conscious. They assisted her to the emergency room where she was promptly intubated and found to have a cerebral hemorrhage with a midline shift. Even though I'm not sure what her outcome is going to be, she would not have a chance of survival if it had not been for their quick thinking and prompt action.



Evan Sosebee

Recognizing Evan for outstanding Political Advocacy at MTSA's recent legislator visit. Evan interacted with the legislators with confidence and engaged them in a meaningful way, demonstrating professionalism and representing both the CRNA profession and MTSA positively.



Brayden Timmons

Shoutout to Brayden for changing his scheduled shift [recently]. He was scheduled from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and the 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. student had called out sick. I texted him during the 6:30 meeting and asked him if he would be willing to switch. Not only did he switch last minute, but he was all smiles and super easy going about it all. It's so helpful to have flexible students like him!

MTSA Team Conducts Specialized Training in Guyana

Continued From Cover

from across the country and covered essential point of care studies a provider could use in everyday clinical practice.

After the PoCUS workshops, the physicians in Georgetown invited Falyar and Taylor to two local hospitals where they conducted some of the studies with patients. These included gastric ultrasound scans, cardiac studies and central line insertion. In addition, the pair were able to participate in observations in the OR.

“It’s one thing to practice the studies on young healthy models and see what ‘normal’ looks like, but it’s another to perform them in a clinical setting on someone with pathology and comorbidities,” Falyar said. “We were able to go from bed to bed in the intensive care unit, talking about each patient’s diagnosis and comorbidities, which led to performing PoCUS studies that would give them the information they needed. Most of the providers had never used this technology before in their practice, and they could immediately see the benefit.”

The main focus of Taylor’s role was helping with vascular access. “That’s an area that can really help with any anesthesia provider or medical professional. Getting that access reliably with ultrasound can really make a big difference,” he said, adding that PoCUS continues to have great potential as it enters more into daily practice.

“I felt very privileged and honored to go to Guyana and participate in this project,” Taylor said. “I’ve been to Haiti with MTSA a couple times, and this was a different approach – more focused on teaching providers instead of helping patients directly. The importance of the mission to Guyana is being able to share knowledge via training and education with a medical community in another country. Chris Hulin, Lani and Jonathan were a big part of that with the classroom education and building curriculum. And Christian put together a top-notch PoCUS workshop.”

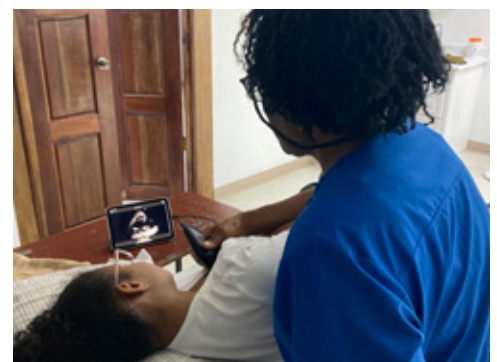
Falyar pointed out that PoCUS is a relatively new technology to

providers in Guyana and that ultrasound machines are not as readily accessible and mobile in comparison to the United States. However, he was impressed with the learners and their preparation via the online content provided beforehand.

“I’ve been a part of humanitarian missions with the military in some very austere environments. This was the first time I’ve been to Guyana and focused on providing education, as opposed to direct patient care. It’s a valuable approach when we can train providers to perform these studies and help them improve patient care on a large scale, creating a situation where it can be perpetuated. Seeing how this would help them in their practice was the most rewarding part of our work there,” Falyar added.

“I would like to make public our gratitude to the professors who taught the ultrasound workshops,” said Dr. Fernando Ramirez Tellez, head of the anesthesia department and ICU at Georgetown Public Hospital. “It was a unique opportunity to see the family of anesthesia providers from the entire nation together learning. The workshop has greatly impacted positively in the evaluation of patients. All participants have expressed to me the usefulness and positive impact of the workshop at all levels. Thank you, on behalf of the family of Guyanese anesthesia providers.”

MTSA continues seeking support for its Mission Initiatives locally and across the globe. For more information, visit mtsa.edu.



MTSA Launches



Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia has announced the launch of the Hornsby Business Institute, which will offer a personalized pathway for CRNAs to learn the business of anesthesia and gain access to expert-level leadership skills.

HBI will be led by Larry Hornsby, one of the industry's preeminent experts in the business of anesthesia, who has joined MTSA as the Institute's Director.

Hornsby Business Institute will provide content that equips CRNAs to navigate the business aspects of anesthesia with confidence, enabling them to become leaders in the field. Courses will focus on specific skills, such as financials, contracts, HR, negotiations and more. Participants will be able to earn "Digital Badges," continuing education credit, and college credit.

In addition, MTSA has identified a local MBA academic partner, which will enable students to transfer HBI credits into the MBA program for those who want to continue their academic journey.

"Across the country, many CRNAs own their own practices, providing anesthesia services to hospitals, office-based practices, surgery centers, and more," said MTSA President Chris Hulin. "One of the reasons so many have been successful as business owners is because of Larry Hornsby. His legacy and expertise are unmatched in our field. That's why we've decided to partner with him in launching the Hornsby Business Institute at MTSA."

Future plans for HBI include the development of specific pathways for entrepreneurs, corporate executives, and clinical leadership. An important element of these courses will be "coaching" calls with industry experts as well as one-on-one mentorships, providing a variety of tools to help ensure success for program participants.

"MTSA continues to lead the way when anesthesia providers face challenges in their career. HBI is another example of our commitment to providing educational content for CRNAs to help them be successful. We are thrilled to be working with Larry in

building these academic programs," Hulin added.

MTSA is planning to open enrollment for its first Hornsby Business Institute cohort later in 2024. Stay tuned for more information.

Learn more about Larry Hornsby, and read our extended conversation with him, below:

AIRWAYS: How did you get started in the business of anesthesia? Was it difficult to "break into"?

HORNSBY: When it comes to the business of anesthesia, we don't get any of that in anesthesia school. Neither do the anesthesiologists. We graduate with great clinical skills but with very limited knowledge of billing, collections and how the business side of anesthesia works. I graduated in 1985 and then a business opportunity presented itself in 1991. I was still pretty young at that point on the clinical side of things and had no expertise in the business. It was all new to me. But I started gaining experience, and I made a lot of mistakes – every mistake in the book. But I will say, I never made the same mistake twice.

AIRWAYS: How did you start sharing your knowledge of the business of anesthesia?

HORNSBY: After working for a while, people started asking me about lecturing on the business of anesthesia. It was very difficult initially because our professional organization at that point didn't offer continuing education credits for business topics, only clinical topics. So I started lecturing at universities and dinner meetings where people wanted to learn about the topic. Eventually our professional association agreed that the business of anesthesia was important enough to our profession to allow continuing education credits.

AIRWAYS: How did you build on that initial success?

HORNSBY: Along the way I met another CRNA named Juan Quintana who is also a past president of AANA. We kept bumping into each other at state and national meetings. He was lecturing on business topics as was I. So we sat down and we realized that we were never

going to be able to teach our fellow CRNAs what this is about unless we teach a real class. Soon after, we met Chris Hulin and ended up talking for several hours about the need for this educational content and the best ways to deliver it to a wider audience. That led to our video series, which we recorded and assembled into modules as an eight-week course.

AIRWAYS: What were some of the teaching methods you have used to educate CRNAs?

HORNSBY: Across the country, hospitals were working on a request-for-proposal basis if they want to replace their anesthesia group. In most cases, CRNAs didn't know how to respond. So we would take old responses to RFPs that we had done, redact the sensitive information, and use that as the basis for teaching CRNAs how to create hard-hitting proposals and helping them fill gaps in their knowledge of the business. Afterwards, we started hearing success stories from former students where they had successfully negotiated a contract and they were starting to pick up business.

AIRWAYS: What trends have you been seeing in the anesthesia field, especially in terms of the business side?

HORNSBY: We're seeing the largest shift in the history of our profession from W2 employee CRNAs to 1099 (independent contractor) arrangements. The important factor for these CRNAs is that you're running your own business, for example as an S Corp or an LLC, and you've got to manage your own invoicing and tax considerations. So those individuals in our profession immediately understand the importance of learning the business side of anesthesia.

AIRWAYS: What does it mean to you to partner with MTSA on this project?

HORNSBY: There's nothing like this in the country. I'm very humbled that MTSA decided to name this the Hornsby Business Institute. When Chris Hulin mentioned it, it kind of scared me a little bit. But I thought, if it's going to bear my name, I have to make sure it's first-class. I didn't start this career looking for a legacy. I just wanted to be a good anesthetist, and it never occurred to me that I would start, build and grow this anesthesia management company. I started at an ambulatory surgery center in Montgomery, Alabama. The business just grew and grew. I merged with another company and eventually sold the business to a venture capitalist firm, and then I became a chief operating officer for a company in Dallas. I decided to "retire," but that lasted about a week before I realized I wanted to keep working in the anesthesia

world. I want to make sure that the Institute is successful on every level. I want it to be affordable and cost effective, and I want to teach CRNAs the skills that they're going to need to be successful. This opportunity allows me to do something that I've never been able to do until now, and for that I'm very grateful.



ABOUT LARRY HORNSBY

Larry G. Hornsby, BSN, CRNA, FAANA, is a highly recognized expert in the business of anesthesia. He has owned and managed numerous health-related companies, including an anesthesia billing company,

an anesthesia management and billing consulting service, multiple anesthesia companies providing anesthesia services to hospitals, surgery centers and physician practices, an anesthesia staffing company and an anesthesia continuing education seminar company. He is currently the Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer for DPI Anesthesia, an anesthesia management company located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Hornsby is a Past-President of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) and received the organization's highest honor in 2013, the Agatha Hodgins Award for Outstanding Accomplishment. Prior to his term as president, he served on the AANA Board of Directors for four years, holding the offices of Region 7 Director, Vice President, and President-Elect, respectively. Notably, he served as Chairman of the AANA Commission on Anesthesia Economics and Reimbursement and as Chairman of the Anesthesia Payment Advisory Panel to the AANA Board of Directors. He chaired the AANA CRNA Political Action Committee for six years, as well, bringing in record-breaking contributions during his term. He also served on the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations Ambulatory Professional Technical Advisory Council for six years. Most recently, Hornsby was inducted into the inaugural class of AANA Fellows in 2021.

Prior to his AANA service, he served the Alabama Association of Nurse Anesthetists as a member of its Board of Directors, serving two terms as president and chairing several committees.

Special Events in 2023

2023 Homecoming

MTSA was pleased to welcome alumni to its 2023 Homecoming, which included poster presentations, dinner, recognition of “cherished friends,” and more.

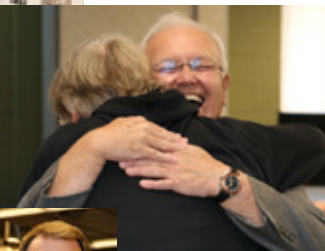
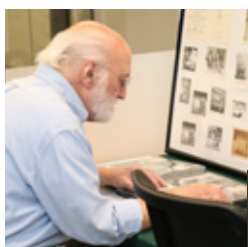
The poster session, which was offered for two CEs, showcased the finished evidence-based research projects of MTSA DNAP students. The 21 posters were displayed digitally throughout the MTSA campus.



Steve Morris ('74) shared not only his extensive collection of historical anesthesia equipment but also the fascinating stories and background of the pieces in his collection.

Steve took the time to restore two MTSA antique anesthesia machines, from dusty relics to pristine condition – now on display at the School. He also donated a third historical machine that was intended for use during the Cold War.

The “Mission Matters” slideshow enabled guests to see MTSA’s long history of service and missions.



Mr. Bernard Bowen, the School’s founder, traveled worldwide with his beloved wife, Dolly, providing anesthesia in underserved countries while sharing his faith. MTSA carries this vision of service and mission work into the present day. The slideshow displayed during the Homecoming event gave tribute to MTSA mission trips spanning seven decades.

In addition, the Alumni Committee recognized four of the many non-alumni individuals who have played critical roles in the history of MTSA: Laurance “Larry” Lancaster, EdD, ACNP (posthumously); C. William “Bill” McKee, EdD; W.O.T. “Bill” Smith, MD; and Carol Stinson.

Occasionally honoring selected non-CRNAs to become honorary MTSA

Alumni Association members has been part of the bylaws of

the MTSA Alumni Association since its inception in the early 1990s. However, this is the first time this honor has been given.



The award read as follows:

MTSA Honorary Alumni Award

In recognition of and appreciation for the exceptional commitment, loyalty, and love you have shown to MTSA, we, the MTSA Alumni, grant you Honorary Membership to the MTSA Alumni Association.

Thank you for your hard work and self-sacrifice on MTSA’s behalf.



Scan the QR code below to read the full text honoring each awardee, or visit mtsa.edu/airways and click on Issue #1, 2024.





Topgolf

MTSA teed up its inaugural Golf Tournament at Topgolf Nashville, presented by US Anesthesia Partners Tennessee, in September. Proceeds from the event supported Mission Initiatives in Peru and Guyana, where the school provides equipment and simulation training for nursing students studying to be CRNAs. Funding for medical supplies and education curricula for this program makes a lasting impact by improving patient care.

Attendees took a swing at enjoying food, networking, and tournament play – all for a great cause. Special thanks to sponsors: US Anesthesia Partners Tennessee and Sweet Dreams Anesthesia.

“Hello Summer” Grillout/Bakeoff



The School Life Committee at MTSA sponsors one event each semester for students, staff and faculty



to come together for a meal and fellowship. The 2023 summer event, “Hello Summer,” included a grillout/bakeoff contest.

Legislator Open House



Tennessee state Senator Charlane Oliver and Representative William Slater practice their intubation skills as part of MTSA's Legislator

Open House. Tennessee state legislators were invited to campus to educate them on the CRNA role and value that MTSA brings to the medical community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14 – Prospective Student Open House for Practice Doctorate Program, 12:00 p.m. (check in and lunch from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

Prospective students will have the opportunity to meet with MTSA faculty, staff, and current students to learn more about the DNAP Practice Doctorate program as well as their opportunities as an MTSA student.

May 2 – Mission & Awards Gala, Nashville City Club. More details coming soon at www.mtsa.edu/gala.

The School Life Committee and Wellness Initiative at MTSA, in collaboration with the MTSA Alumni Committee, invites interested alumni to join students for the following events throughout the year. The goal is to develop and nurture mutually beneficial relationships between alumni and current MTSA students, by sharing experiences and fostering new friendships.

Select Thursdays - Waffles and Wisdom, 8–9:30 a.m. Beginning in their fifth semester, students take one day per month away from clinical to spend the day on campus studying for the certification exam. These are stressful times for the students, and some wisdom from those who have walked in their shoes can be extremely helpful. Alumni interested in helping with “Waffles and Wisdom” on those days are invited to contact sharon.harmon@mtsa.edu.

July – Summer Picnic/Bakeoff (Date TBD)
Enjoy fellowship with students during lunch and a bakeoff contest. Guests are invited to entering their favorite recipe in the contest.

November – Service Month
Join students as they take the opportunity to give back to the community in gratitude for the blessings we share. Various opportunities throughout the month of November for volunteer service events.

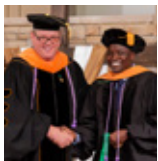


2023 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia hosted Commencement Exercises for the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Class of 2023 on Dec. 8, 2023, at the Madison Church of Christ.

The ceremony featured a keynote presentation by Dr. Ming Wang of Wang Vision Institute. In addition, graduates Brianda Garza and Jesse White offered the invocation and benediction; graduate Alexandria Boss introduced the keynote speaker; and graduate Victoria Leigh Adamson presented a musical performance, accompanied by Zach Stone.

During the ceremony, several awards were presented for special achievements:



President's Medal

MTSA President Chris Hulin presented the President's Medal to **Andrew Gould**

and **Crispus Nyambariga Ombui** for their doctoral work titled, "An Evidence-Based Toolkit for Simulation Education in Regional Anesthesia." The pair completed a literature review on the use of artificial intelligence for education of regional anesthesia. After doing an in-depth quality appraisal of the literature and learning more, they wanted to do more and decided their project needed to expand beyond artificial intelligence. They examined findings of previous works from MTSA doctoral students and decided to build on past projects. Along with the published works of

previous students' findings, they created an educational toolkit of the most effective evidence-based techniques for learning regional skills. Their work was presented at AANA Congress and has been submitted for publication.



Dr. Larry Lancaster Outstanding Nurse Educator Award

Hallie Evans, Director of the Doctorate Completion Program and Nurse Educator Track, presented the inaugural Dr. Larry Lancaster Outstanding Nurse Educator Award to **Dr. Jordan Frenz**, who graduated from the DNAP Completion program at the ceremony and is enrolled in the first nurse educator cohort. (See Dr. Frenz's article in the Continuing Education insert in this issue of *Airways*.) She created an education podcast

with her Doctoral project team on anesthesia techniques to decrease the risk of relapse for patients in recovery. In addition, she is the first postgraduate student to serve on a school committee. She actively serves on the Student Life Committee and is committed to health and wellness for students. She has also taken on the additional role as a teaching assistant and is a recipient of the Nurse Faculty Loan Program grant which provides funding for school in return for dedicating four years working as a nurse educator upon completion of the program.

Dr. Larry Lancaster was an educator at MTSA from 1998 to 2014. He was known for his rapport with students, love of teaching, and an ability to make difficult concepts easy to understand. He served as a mentor to many faculty members and received an honorary

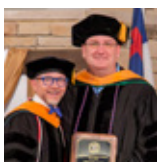
Doctorate from MTSA. He passed away in 2023, and the School established the award to honor both him and educators following in his path. The award is voted on by the Doctorate faculty.



**Acute Surgical
Pain Management
Fellowship
Outstanding**

Achievement Award

Christian Falyar, Director of the Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship, presented the MTSA Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship Outstanding Achievement Award to **Kelly Lynn Terry**. She is the chief CRNA at Christus Mother Frances Hospital in Jacksonville, TX, where she serves as the clinical coordinator for the entry to practice students at Texas Wesleyan University, mentoring them in the clinical setting. Falyar remarked that Terry's desire and interest in acute pain management led her to enroll in the Fellowship and that she possesses a quiet confidence and superior technical ability required for the practice of acute pain management. Awardees for Outstanding Achievement are selected based on their ability to contribute to clinical expertise and scholarship, advance scope of practice, and develop innovative approaches to pain management, among other achievements.



Team Spirit Award:
Rob Mathias

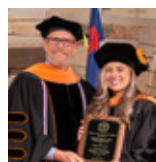
This award is voted on solely by students and given to the person in their class who has continually offered encouragement and

was always willing to lend a helpful hand.



**Bernard Bowen
Award for Academic
Excellence:** Evan
Matthew Sosebee

This award is named for the founder and first Program Director of the school of nurse anesthesia in 1950. The recipient was chosen by votes from the MTSA faculty and administration. The student selected for this award must have upheld the mission and core values of MTSA, achieved a GPA of 3.75 or higher, exhibited professionalism during interaction with classmates and academic faculty, and fostered a spirit of academic excellence beyond the expectations and degree requirements.



**Agatha Hodgins
Award for Clinical
Excellence:**
Morgan Franklin

This award is named for the founder and first president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists. Ms. Hodgins was also a strong advocate for the education of nurse anesthetists. The clinical affiliates of Vanderbilt, along with MTSA Administration, had input into the selection of the recipient for this award. The student selected for this award must have upheld the mission and core values of MTSA, achieved a GPA of 3.75 or higher, and exhibited professionalism during interaction with clinical faculty and classmates, and fostered a spirit of clinical excellence beyond the expectations and degree requirements.

CLASS OF 2023 CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Each year MTSA graduates well-exceed requirements of the National Board of Certification & Recertification for Nurse Anesthetist (NBCRNA) regarding the number of cases and procedures for clinical experiences in order for the candidate to be eligible to take the National Certification Examination.

The following statistics were derived from the information provided to the NBCRNA for certification requirements for the graduates as of Nov. 27, 2023.

ANESTHESIA CASES

NBCRNA Minimum: 600
MTSA Student Average: 906
Claire Hazlehurst: 1,144

CLINICAL TIME (HOURS)

NBCRNA Minimum: 2,000
MTSA Student Average: 2,883
Kathleen Patten: 3,308

PEDIATRIC ANESTHESIA CASES

NBCRNA Minimum: 40
MTSA Student Average: 131
Kathleen Patten: 245

OBSTETRICAL ANESTHESIA CASES

NBCRNA Minimum: 30
MTSA Student Average: 80
Chelsie Graves: 220

REGIONAL ANESTHESIA CASES

NBCRNA Minimum: 35
MTSA Student Average: 110
Spinal Average: 28 Epidural Average: 45

PERIPHERAL BLOCK CASES

NBCRNA Minimum: 10
MTSA Student Average: 32
Alexandria Boss: 168

ADVANCE AS A CRNA WITH MTSA'S Nurse Anesthesia Programs



MTSA is accepting applications for a wide range of nurse anesthesia programs to help you excel as a CRNA. Visit mtsa.edu/apply for details.

WORKSHOPS

Regional Cadaveric Workshops

Ultrasound-guided regional anesthesia cadaveric workshops at MTSA incorporate anatomic dissection, live model scanning, and procedural cadavers to provide a comprehensive overview of the regional anesthesia procedures commonly used in the management of perioperative pain. The workshops are clinically focused, and techniques learned are easily translated into a provider's daily practice.

Workshop Dates:

March 24, 2024 – Advanced Workshop **SOLD OUT**

May 5, 2024 – Essentials Workshop **SOLD OUT**

July 14, 2024 – Essentials Workshop

Sept. 8, 2024 – Essentials Workshop

Oct. 27, 2024 – Essentials Workshop

Dec. 8, 2024 – Essentials Workshop

Point-of-Care Ultrasound (PoCUS) Workshops

The Essentials Point-of-Care Ultrasound (PoCUS) Workshop is designed to introduce the participants to PoCUS studies that can be used as part of patient assessment in everyday clinical practice. Participants must complete the Essential PoCUS Online modules prior to attending the workshop. During the workshop, participants will learn to perform the studies on live models, high-fidelity simulation, and cadaveric specimens. Participants will complete a competency-based evaluation with course instructors to demonstrate proficiency.

Workshop Dates:

May 6, 2024 – Essentials PoCUS Workshop

July 15, 2024 – Essentials PoCUS Workshop

Oct. 28, 2024 – Essentials PoCUS Workshop

PROGRAMS & CLASSES

DNAP Practice Doctorate Program

Application Deadline: May 31, 2024

The Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) degree is the highest practice degree in nurse anesthesia. MTSA offers the DNAP Practice Doctorate to registered nurses who have met each of the application requirements for admission. The DNAP Practice Doctorate is a full-time course of study for 36 consecutive months, on the campus of MTSA. In the third semester of the DNAP program, students will begin a rigorous clinical rotation process that offers students a vast array of clinical experiences in the peri-anesthesia setting. These clinical rotations will allow students to learn and sharpen their anesthetic skills throughout the remainder of the program.

Regional Anesthesia Foundations Class

Application Period: May 13 - July 15, 2024

Unlock your potential in regional anesthesia with the Regional Anesthesia Foundations Class! We offer a unique opportunity for CRNAs to engage with and receive invaluable feedback from our experienced faculty prior to attending the Essential Ultrasound-Guided Regional Anesthesia Cadaveric Workshop. MTSA's Regional Anesthesia Foundations Class is a comprehensive 15-week post-graduate course designed for CRNAs seeking to broaden their scope of practice by incorporating regional anesthesia.



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PROGRAMS & CLASSES

DNAP Completion Program

EXTENDED: Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

The Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) Completion program is specifically designed with the working CRNA in mind and in an online format. All students accepted into the program must be currently licensed CRNAs. The program can be completed over two years, and applicants can choose one of two tracks: Nurse Educator or Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship.

Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship

EXTENDED: Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

As the only Fellowship of its kind for CRNAs in the United States accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA), the Acute Surgical Pain Management Fellowship is a 12-month hybrid program designed to expand a CRNA's regional anesthesia skills and provide the tools necessary for incorporating an acute pain service into their practice.

Nurse Anesthesia Educator Track

EXTENDED: Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

MTSA's Nurse Anesthesia Educator Track is a 12-month course of study that prepares students to excel in the Nurse Educator role. With so many nurse anesthetists graduating with Doctoral degrees, set yourself apart by completing education courses designed to help you stand out as an educator. This program covers all facets of higher education from teaching strategies to curriculum development.

For more information on all of MTSA's nurse anesthesia programs, visit mtsa.edu/academics.



MTSA CALENDAR*

- March 14** Prospective Student Open House for Practice Doctorate Program
- March 24** Advanced USGRA Cadaveric Workshop
- March 26** Career Fair
- May 2** 10th Annual Mission & Awards Gala
- May 5** Essentials of USGRA Cadaveric Workshop
- May 6** Essentials PoCUS Workshop
- May 31** Deadline to apply to Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice Program
- July 14** Essentials of USGRA Cadaveric Workshop
- July 15** Essentials PoCUS Workshop
- July 15** Deadline to apply to Regional Anesthesia Foundations Class
- Sept. 8** Essentials of USGRA Cadaveric Workshop
- Oct. 27** Essentials of USGRA Cadaveric Workshop
- Oct. 28** Essentials PoCUS Workshop
- Dec. 8** Essentials of USGRA Cadaveric Workshop

For additional details, visit mtsa.edu/events

**Subject to change*

Access the CE article from this issue, or any of the previous issues at www.MTSA.edu/CE

The Role of Regional Anesthesia in Treatment of Phantom Limb Pain
CE expires 7/10/2026

The Role of the Transnasal Sphenopalatine Ganglion Block in the Management of Postdural Puncture Headaches
CE expires 10/31/2025

Ultrasound Guided Fascial Plane Block for Rib Fracture Pain
CE expires 6/30/2025



MISSIONS UPDATE



MTSA's Mission Initiatives continue to support a range of efforts in Guyana and Guatemala. Students and faculty volunteered their time and traveled to these locations, providing much needed assistance.

"On behalf of MTSA, I want to thank everyone who has contributed financially to our Mission Initiatives throughout the year, whether it was at a special event or by serving the needs of those locally and around the globe," said MTSA President Chris Hulin.



Unfortunately, logistics have prevented MTSA from the planned trip to Peru this year. However, the School is continuing its relationship with the People of Peru Project and looking forward to the opening of the new operating rooms and facility.

MTSA's work in Guyana continues in partnership with the Institute of Health Science Education (a department of the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation) and the University of Guyana in advancing nurse anesthesia practice. (Read more about the efforts in Guyana in this issue's cover story.)

MISSION IN GUATEMALA

Tim Jones, the CRNA trip sponsor, said, "The Guatemala trip was a great success providing anesthetics to 81 surgical cases. MTSA's three nurse anesthesia residents, MacLean Carpenter, Caitlin Douglas and Caroline Groover, were excellent providers who stepped up to the plate providing independent anesthesia and PNBs."



"I had never been on a mission trip or even out of the country for that matter. It was such a great experience! I am so grateful that MTSA helped provide me with this opportunity that I will truly never



MTSA graduate Caitlin Douglas served on a mission trip to Guatemala. (l to r) Maclean Carpenter, Caitlin Douglas and Caroline Groover.

forget. I cannot wait to serve on more mission trips in the future, now that I am no longer a student and have become a CRNA." —MTSA graduate Caitlin Douglas

Navigating the Road Back to Student Life

By Kerrie Klein, MSN, CRNA



I want to say it was an easy decision to return to school for my Doctorate in Nurse Anesthesia

Practice (DNAP), but that would be an exaggeration of the truth. After the rigor of my anesthesia education, I decided my student career had happily ended. However, as I practiced as a CRNA, I slowly realized I had more to do...but what? What was this thing I needed to do?

I started by becoming more involved in my anesthesia department. I participated in practice groups and became a Kaiser Permanente Nurse Anesthetist Association (KPNAA) representative. I became more active in the California Nurse Anesthetists Association (CANA), and developed a passion for promoting the visibility of CRNA practice to the public. I also felt compelled to cultivate the professional image of CRNAs. I joined the National Board for Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) on the Standard Setting Panel in Chicago. I felt involved and settled in my career—I loved my practice, gave

back to the profession, and finally felt comfortable in my clinical role (we chose a challenging specialty!).

Then it happened... I was asked to lecture at my alma mater, Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia (KPSAN). At first, I scoffed at the proposition. Indeed, there were more qualified and experienced CRNAs to lecture at KPSAN. While pondering, one of my former faculty mentors contacted me and urged me to strongly consider lecturing. She told me my experience and perspective were ideal

for the lecture, and she admitted to giving the program director my name as a suggestion. After her persuasion, I nervously agreed. On the day of the presentation, I was incredibly nervous—I once sat in the seats these students occupied. I know the discerning and demanding nature of the anesthesia student.

As I began the presentation, I relaxed. I made a few jokes, and the students laughed. I explained the topic in a way

I would like to hear it as an anesthesia student—real, practical, and applicable. Being in front of the class felt natural, and I finished the lecture with a smile. A few days later, my faculty mentor told me the students had given resoundingly positive feedback. I was surprised and delighted. Just maybe there was more for me to do in my career... That week, I started looking at DNAP programs and applied to MTSA.

So here I am, about to start my second semester of the DNAP-C program at MTSA. Honestly, it has been a difficult transition back into student life. Balancing school, a demanding full-time career as a CRNA, my mental and physical health, and my family has been challenging—even more so, the technology... oh my, the technology. The DNAP-C is a strictly online program, so being technologically savvy is imperative. There were times during the first semester I was overwhelmed and anxious about the technology. However, the MTSA faculty and staff were incredibly supportive and patient. Having an all-CRNA faculty is incredibly advantageous, as I know my faculty understands the rigor and stress of

practicing anesthesia. Additionally, when conferring with faculty and staff on research and projects, their viewpoint is one of a practicing CRNA and not a pure academic.

After I finish my DNAP, I plan to teach. I am excited to share the knowledge I have gained from my preceptor CRNAs. More importantly, I feel compelled to connect with anesthesia students. I want my students to feel supported, understood, and passionate about the CRNA profession. After all, they have chosen the most satisfying, challenging, and admirable career.

“Just maybe there was more for me to do in my career...”



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MTSA invites you to join colleagues and friends for an evening of celebration and dining at the 10th Annual Mission & Awards Gala sponsored by U.S. Anesthesia Partners, benefiting MTSA's Mission Initiatives both locally and abroad. Each year, proceeds from the event fund supplies, education curricula, and other needed items for mission activities.

For more information, tickets, sponsorships, or to nominate awardees, visit mtsa.edu/gala.

MAY 2, 2024 | NASHVILLE CITY CLUB

2023 White Coat Ceremony

Each year at its White Coat Ceremony, MTSA recognizes first-year students' successful completion of the second semester of the DNAP program including skills testing and machine check off. Family and friends gathered at the Madison Campus Seventh-day Adventist Church as the Class of 2025 received their official MTSA lab coat.

