



SLEEPY TIMES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 DECEMBER 2007

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR -SCOTT REEVES, MD, MBA

As Cathy and I were dancing Friday night at the departmental holiday party, it was difficult not to reflect upon the year. The theme for 2007 has to be one of GROWTH. Looking around the room were many new faces. The size of the residency, faculty, CRNAs, anesthesia technicians and support staff all increased this year. These new members brought significant diversity to the department which allowed us to try new ideas and anesthesia methods. The educational and professional development offerings of the department also expanded through the development of our grand rounds series and medical simulation training. In addition to the energy our new members bring to the department, we are also very blessed with a stable core group of experienced faculty and CRNAs. Many of those senior faculty were hired during John Mahaffey's term as chairman which spanned more than 35 years. In honor of Dr. Mahaffey a million dollar endowed chair has been formed in his name. The final phase of our fund raising effort for this endowment will be completed in early 2008. Also, we can look forward to the New Year and the opening of Ashley River Tower and the growth of surgical services at both the University Hospital and Rutledge Tower. Just as in 2007, recruitment and development will remain a significant priority.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Messages from the Departmental leaders*
- *Departmental Information*
- *Endowed Chair*
- *Excellence*

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR -BRENDA DORMAN, MBA

Happy Holidays . . . The holiday season is upon us and even though security has been much better since we installed the card readers, we have already experienced a theft in the department. Please take extra care in keeping your valuables safe during this time. Report any suspicious activity to MUSC security (2-4196) and let us know so we can alert others in the department. I wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.



THANK YOU LINDA DANCY, CRNA

Everyone is thrilled for Linda Dancy and her upcoming official retirement from MUSC Anesthesia Department after 33 years of dedicated service. She will be missed!

A reception was held on Thursday December 06 to celebrate the many wonderful years Linda has spent with us at MUSC. We look forward to her continued presence and would like to thank her for all of her hard work!



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ASHLEY RIVER TOWER (ART)

Practitioner Open House

Sunday, January 6, 2007

1:00-4:00pm

Come and see first hand our new facility



Wendy Ewing, CRNA

MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE ANESTHETISTS

2007 has been a year of change for the CRNAs. Jodie Weber, the new Chief, has implemented many changes in policies, procedures, and staffing. She has been very busy recruiting new staff for both the University Hospital and ART. As a result, we have welcomed several new staff members this year. Four new graduates joined us in January; Regan Weston, Nathan Kuper, Karen Motley and Amy King are great additions to the department. The last several months have seen many new faces. Susan Hearne, Donna Embrey and Candace Jaruzel joined us in the spring. Candice volunteered to take the student coordination job and is doing great.

Since August, we've welcomed Melissa Paladino, Ray White, Mike Dushanko, Ellen Hansen, Michelle Rosecrans, and Terry Satterfield. This month we will welcome back Christine Michaud. She graduated from this program and is returning to us from Florida. With all these new people, please take a moment to introduce yourself, so we will all feel more comfortable working together the first few times. Sadly, we also said good-bye to some great folks. We miss and wish the best to Mary Leavery, Jo Reid, Martha Smith, Gina Speziani-Elie and Cheryle Williams.

Laurie Uebelhoer was invited to go to the ASA meeting in San Francisco in October to present a Propofol Tolerance Study she had worked on with Dr. Overdyk. Congratulations to her for a great job. In closing, all the CRNAs wish everyone a Happy New Year!

-Wendy Ewing



Fred Guidry, MD

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHAIR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As of the end of November, the current opening date for ART will be February 4th. Various inspections are scheduled for the preceding weeks; so this seems like a solid date at this time.

There will be a mock day on January 15th with the involved nurses, surgeons, CRNAs and anesthesiologists to run through scenarios and ensure that all systems work as expected. In addition, there will be orientations to the facility and the new anesthesia machines that will be in ART.

The current plan is to run seven of the nine operating rooms at ART with the adult cardiac, GI general surgery (including bariatric), vascular and thoracic surgical services. There will be a few ORs closed in the Main but overall this will represent a marked increase in overall operating room capacity. Everyone is hopeful that this increased capacity will decrease the elective and urgent cases that are currently being done at night and on Saturday in the Main ORs. These closed rooms at Main and ART will be gradually opened as the surgical volumes increase.

In addition to the seven ORs, there will be three NORA sites at ART – two DDC and one Heart & Vascular. Dr. Harvey and I are in conversations with the NORA users to adapt them to the block concepts that are used for scheduling in the operating rooms.

Drs. Abernathy, Cain, Field, Guidry, Marica, Payne, and Torres will have offices in ART and will usually be assigned to ART cases but will be in the Main ORs some days and some attendings usually in Main will be assigned to ART. Daily assignments will be made at the usual 12:30 scheduling conference but in the future it will involve all three institutions – University Hospital, Rutledge Tower and ART. Please send me your suggestions about how we can smooth the transition into this beautiful new facility.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE CT FELLOWSHIP

As I write my first Sleepy Times submission, Thanksgiving approaches. This time of year we reflect on all the things that are fortunate in our lives. Maybe it's too easy, but I will say it anyway, "thank you." Each of you, support staff, residents, CRNAs, attendings and anesthesia techs make our little world of CT anesthesiology an enjoyable place to spend the day (and sometimes night). You work hard and continue to have the patients' best interests at heart, and it shows. The success of several recent initiatives is a direct result of your efforts.

To help reduce central line related infection, on October 1 we introduced new procedures for central line insertions. We now have a hand scrub, gown and gloves and a full body drape. The techs have been very helpful in making mayo stands available and the OR nurses have helped to educate us on how to drape them without contamination. Data is not yet available on how this has helped our CVL infection rate (too early) but I am confident that the extra steps are worth it. Thanks for supporting these initiatives.

Many of you have taken advantage of the TEE service both in the OR and in the ICU. This service will not change after the adult CT group relocates to ART. Two fully upgraded TEE machines will remain at University Hospital and many certified staff members are available to assist when the case calls for an echo.

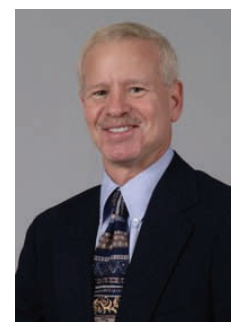
Probe damage continues to be a problem but with the help of the anesthesia techs we have implemented a new system described as follows: (1) after the patient is asleep and has had the central line inserted, the TEE probe will be brought into the OR; (2) once the case is finished, remove the TEE probe and hand it directly to a tech or return it to the workroom; and (3) please remember not to leave the probe in the room. It is our goal that with the Department's participation, these simple steps should minimize the probe damage. I am proud to work with such a fine group of individuals. Each of you make MUSC an exciting place to be. I appreciate all of your efforts.



Jake Abernathy, MD

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

Dr. Alpert has spent more than 2 decades at MUSC promoting patient safety and excellence in care. Many of you know him for his hard work with the call schedule and countless hours he spends ensuring that everyone is scheduled fairly. Most of you may not know that Dr. Alpert has his own room (952E) which was donated in his name by a grateful patient. Dr. Alpert has again been selected for 'Best Doctors in America' for 2007-2008, and has been selected each year since the program began. When he is not here at MUSC, Dr. Alpert enjoys traveling and spotting birds in unique habitats in addition to countless other hobbies. If you should ever need research on electronics, Dr. Alpert is your go to guy. He is married to Frances and they have 3 children. Saying that he is a fan of Clemson would be an understatement-Go Tigers!



Cal Alpert, MD

ADMINISTRATIVE HIGHLIGHT

Many of you have had the pleasure of meeting, Suzanne Long, our new Residency Program Coordinator. When asked about her new position, she stated "I am enjoying getting to know the residents and appreciates all the support." Suzanne grew up in Raleigh, NC and completed both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at East Carolina University. She recently moved to Charleston and is enjoying life on the Peninsula. In her free time, Suzanne enjoys cooking, socializing with friends, and lots of outdoor activities including skiing, boating, and jogging. She is looking forward to spending time with her family during the upcoming holiday season.



Suzanne Long, MA

MESSAGE FROM THE TECHS

Hello Everyone. We would like to use this month to try and address a few issues that are causing confusion in the OR. The specific area that we are hoping to standardize includes the various abbreviations for different equipment. Examples include twitch monitor which most of the Techs associate with "nerve simulator." Being specific also really helps our Techs with things such as types of central lines (lumen and specific size), as well as specific sizes for femoral lines. We are also having a hard time keeping track of our equipment. Numerous orders in the past few months have not translated into a surplus, even though we should have one. Please, if you take a patient somewhere, bring the equipment back. Our short supplies are increasing wait times and delaying everyone in the OR. We look forward to working with you and streamlining the nomenclature. As always, the Techs are in your corner.



Jim Braunsdorf

AMBULATORY ANESTHESIA NEWS



Rutledge Tower

Happy Holidays for the Ambulatory Anesthesia staff in Rutledge Tower. We feel like we have just received our first gift of the season with the opening of new OR 8 (our old anesthesia workroom) after months of planning and anticipation. This OR will provide much needed OR space for a variety of services. Construction is due to commence immediately on room PC2 and PC1 which ultimately will be combined into one, much larger, OR room.

We are happy to welcome our new addition to our anesthesia family, Shimmikka Brave. Shimmikka is our afternoon anesthesia tech. Warm welcomes to Alice Michaux, Chris Keto and Phil Ridgley, CRNAs who joined RT's Anesthesia staff this past year. As of October, we also have three additional full time permanent employees, Deb Feller, Robin Buchanan and Peggy Kittredge. Welcome to all. Everyone is thrilled for Linda Dancy and her upcoming official retirement from MUSC Anesthesia Department after 33 years of dedicated service. She will be missed!

We want to extend our condolences to Kate Wendorf in the death of her mother.

May everyone have a safe and blessed holiday season.

-RT Anesthesia

MESSAGE FROM THE RESEARCH STAFF



Heather Beeson, RN, ND

Happy Holidays everyone! 2008 will be a busy time in the research office. Dr. Haynes, Dr. Overdyk, Dr. McEvoy, Dr. Reeves and Dr. Torres all have current and/or upcoming research projects. You may see us in the ORs, preop clinic, PACU and periphery collecting data. Everyone has been great about accommodating us, and we really appreciate it. There are a couple of studies we could use everyone's help with: Dr. Haynes has an upcoming clinical trial sponsored by Schering Plough. The purpose of the trial is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a new oral medication, rolapitant, in the prevention of nausea and vomiting. The efficacy of rolapitant will be compared to that of ondansetron and placebo. We are hoping to enroll 12 female patients undergoing open abdominal surgeries. We'd appreciate everyone's help in identifying potential participants. As with all anesthesia clinical trials, there are strict procedures to be followed in the perioperative period. We will provide you with information about these procedures if you have a patient that has been enrolled in the study. Dr. McEvoy has an ongoing study evaluating the use of low dose vasopressin for renal protection during liver transplantation. If you know of a patient that will be undergoing a liver transplant, please contact Dr. McEvoy or the research staff, so we can speak to the patient about study participation.

Thanks!

-Haley, Heather, and Marian

AWAKE?

Charleston, SC (PRWEB) December 6, 2007 -- Professor of Anesthesiology Orin Guidry, MD, from the Medical University of South Carolina was featured in a recent USA Today article discussing the growing concern of anesthesia awareness occurring with the release of the new film *Awake* starring Hayden Christensen and Jessica Alba, where a patient experiences consciousness during surgery.

Intraoperative awareness occurs when a patient becomes conscious but remains paralyzed during an operation. "It is a variety of sensations, all the way from a fleeting recall of something that might have happened in the beginning or the end of the operation progressing in severity all the way to the horrible experience that's portrayed in the movie," Guidry said in a recent MUSC video interview on anesthesia awareness. Although studies show that instances of anesthetic awareness occur in only 0.1% of procedures, Guidry says that anesthesiologists should try to do all they can to prevent any occurrence of this condition.

Dr. Guidry would like to use medical expertise and safety precautions to bring the number of awareness instances down. "I don't think we can absolutely prevent it, but we can decrease its incidence," he said. Doctors and surgeons at MUSC often use "level of consciousness" monitors during procedures requiring anesthesia. These monitors give doctors a guide to the depth of anesthesia that the patient is experiencing. For patients who have a fear of general anesthesia after viewing *Awake*, Guidry also suggests a meeting with an anesthesiologist to discuss the procedure and prescriptions the patient is currently on. The doctor also recommends that the patient has a very frank and honest discussion about use of recreational drugs or alcohol, as they can inhibit the anesthesia.

Guidry joined the faculty of MUSC in 2007 and is the former President of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and American Board of Anesthesiology. He is currently the director of the American Board of Medical Specialties and the Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research. Please visit www.musc.edu/anesthesia for a video interview.

HOLIDAY PARTY



The department's annual Holiday Party was celebrated on November 30 at the Citadel Beach House on the Isle of Palms. The food was great, the conversation lively and the dancing interesting. Shelly and David Warters provided a warm

and fun live performance. Several local merchants provided gifts for our raffle including several nights at local hotels, an IPOD shuffle, and an assortment of wines and beers. Once Emily Nanfito took over the music selection, the dance floor became the place to be. Glenda Ross did an excellent job planning this annual event. A few pictures are provided with additional ones on our web page.

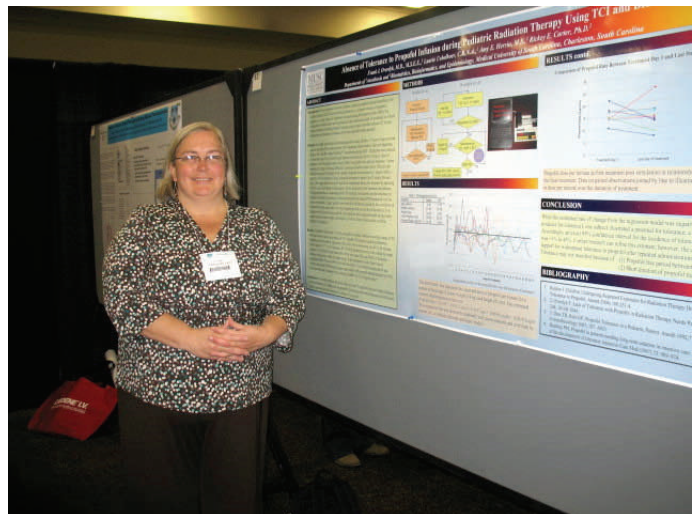


Entertainment



Great Food

ASA PRESENTATIONS



Laura Uebelhoer Presenting at ASA

**DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIA
& PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE**

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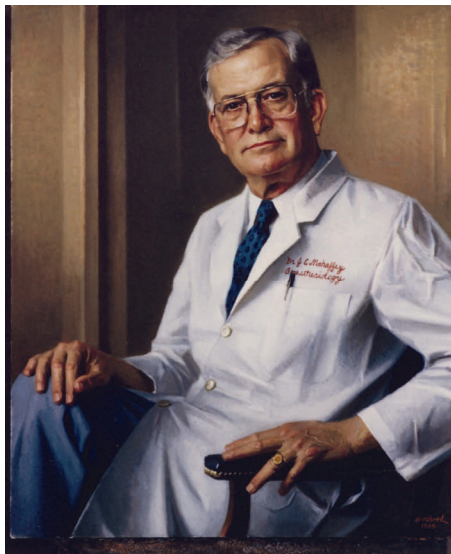
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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT

HTTP://
[CLINICALDEPARTMENTS.MUSC.EDU/
 ANESTHESIA](http://CLINICALDEPARTMENTS.MUSC.EDU/ANESTHESIA)

Future Events

Grand Rounds 12/11
(Endocrine)
 Executive Committee 12/11 4:00pm
 Prospective Resident Interviews 12/14
 Prospective Faculty 12/17
 Department Research Meeting 12/18 6:30am
 Grand Rounds 12/18
(Resident Only Administrative Time)
 Faculty Meeting 12/18 4:00pm
January
 Grand Rounds 01/08
(Interventional Cardiology)
 Education Committee 01/08 3:00pm



John E. Mahaffey, M.D.


Standards of Behavior

We, as part of MUSC, are committed to providing EXCELLENCE in patient care, teaching and research in an environment that is RESPECTFUL of others, ADAPTIVE to change, and ACCOUNTABLE for outcomes.

Individually, we pledge to practice these standards of behavior for the benefit of our colleagues and betterment of MUSC.

In a recent exercise, both the Faculty and Administrative staff recognized the following standard of behavior as being very important. This standard of behavior falls under RESPECT, and is something that each of us should focus on.



Please read the following as the identified standard.

"I will keep all interactions positive by not engaging in negative behaviors such as gossiping, backstabbing, nonverbal negative insinuations, undermining, withholding, infighting and arrogance."

**THE JOHN E. MAHAFFEY, M.D.
 ENDOWED CHAIR**

It is my pleasure to introduce the final phase of the John E. Mahaffey, M.D. endowed chair in Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine. A celebration of Dr. Mahaffey's life and accomplishments is being planned for early 2008. Please carefully consider what you can contribute to this worthy effort.

—Scott Reeves, M.D., MBA

Established in 1949, the Medical University of South Carolina's Department of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine is today considered one of the most desirable and sought-after anesthesiology training programs in the country. Much of the department's reputation has come through the vision and leadership of John E. Mahaffey, M.D., its chairman for almost 35 years.

A 1954 graduate of the Medical College of South Carolina, Dr. Mahaffey returned to MUSC in 1958 as instructor of anesthesiology, and one year later was named acting chairman. In 1964 he was appointed professor and chairman of anesthesiology.

During his tenure as chairman, Dr. Mahaffey led the department through a period of growth, both in size and stature. In addition to expanding the anesthesiology program at MUSC, Dr. Mahaffey advanced the field through his service as the president of the South Carolina Society of Anesthesiologists and on the board of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, as well as several state and national committees of scientific and educational organizations.

In recognition of his contributions to the field of anesthesiology and to promote continued growth, MUSC and Dr. Mahaffey's colleagues would now like to recognize him with the highest award a university can bestow upon a faculty member: An endowed chair, named in his honor. Please visit www.musc.edu/anesthesia for more information