

Anesthesia Update



Class of 2023:

MSN class of 2023
graduated on May 6,
2023.



Class of 2024:
Final Master's
program class
graduated on May 4,
2024.

Inside this issue

Graduation 2023 & 2024.....	1
Farewell to Jerry Rupp	2
New School Logo.....	2
White Coat Ceremony.....	3
Family Day in the OR.....	4-5
Sandra Shreve Pickens	6
First Anesthesia Symposium	7

Special Points of Interest

- Patrick Mwesige, Class of 2023
- Scholarship Winners
- Faculty Accomplishments
- We want to hear from alums

Thanks for your generosity

A quick thank you for all of you who responded to our first alumni appeal letter last year. We raised \$2,600 for conference sponsorships going directly back to the SRNAs. Your charitable contributions are greatly needed and much appreciated.

*Thank
You!*

A shout-out to our new Rotation Site:

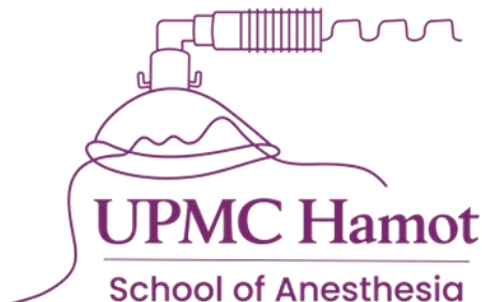
♦ **UPMC
Wellsboro**

**Looking forward to
more great clinical
experiences!**

Jerry Rupp retires from the military, clinical coordinator

After 22 years of military service, Lieutenant Colonel Jerry Rupp retired from the U.S. Army in August 2023. After that major change in his life, Jerry then decided to resign his position as clinical coordinator at the school as of April 2024 and move into a full-time role in the Anesthesia Department. After 15 years guiding students here, his presence will be missed. Shannon Markham, MSN, CRNA, and Autumn Arkwright, MSN, CRNA, have taken over as co-

clinical coordinators. Thank you, Jerry, for your dedication and service. And a sincere welcome to Shannon and Autumn.



Evolution of a Logo

While ordering t-shirts and other apparel, we decided we needed a logo. In the school “family,” we discovered a graphic designer — Jerry Rupp’s son, Alex, is one of Penn State’s Class of 2024 graphic design program graduates. Alex used guidance from his dad to create the design you see here and the logo was born.

**Alumni
Corner**

Patrick Mwesige, Class of 2023

“I want you to know that the training I got from UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia was exceptional. I was selected to lead a committee here called Intra-op Anesthesia Emergency Crisis. The head of the anesthesia department called me in the office and said it’s hard to believe I’m a new grad.”



First DNP Class Dons White Coats; Family, friends celebrate



On Saturday, August 23, 2023, the 19 SRNAs who comprise the UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia Class of 2025 accepted their white coats as they headed into their clinical roles at the school. After an introduction and remarks from Don Larmon, DNP, CRNA – the SOA’s program director – students recited an oath of dedication and accepted their white coats from School of Anesthesia instructor Kelsey Fuller, DNP, CRNA, and assistant director Rachel Wolfe, DNP, CRNA. Loved ones and preceptors looked on as the SRNAs took this new and exciting step forward.

This event, the first of its kind for the SOA, marks the students’ transition from didactic coursework to full-time clinical training. These ceremonies will now occur at the start of the fall semester for each subsequent cohort.



Bring your Family to Work Day!

OR staff demonstrated their skills to family members on March 23, 2024, in an effort to show their spouses and children what they do when they are away from home. Thanks to the SIM equipment provided in part by the School of Anesthesia, some family members chose to try their hands at direct laryngoscopy, video assisted intubations, fiberoptic manipulation and intubation.



Class of 2025 SRNAs Kaitlyn Cirrincione, Kunga Choden, Abigail Fantaski and Kevin Dale volunteered. Not pictured were Jen Love and Ashley Benedict.

**Thank you PANA
for continuing
to support our
students
through your
Mid-Year
Assembly
scholarships.**

2024 Annual Anesthesia
Symposium



**Register for the
2nd Annual UPMC
Hamot School of
Anesthesia
Symposium on
September 14,
2024**

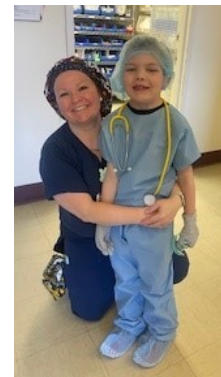
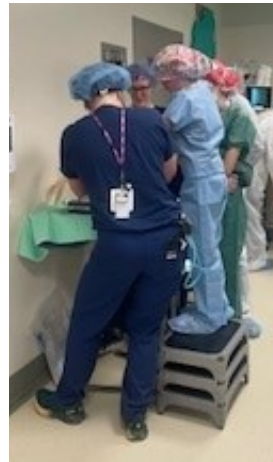


Clinical faculty member, Alyssa Kimmy, demonstrates direct laryngoscopy.



Abby Fantaski, Class of 2025, shows fiberoptic manipulation.

Bring your Family to Work Day!



UPMC Clinical Coordinator Autumn Arkwright and her son.



Left: Jen Love demonstrating direct laryngoscopy.

Below: Kaitlyn Cirrincione demonstrates fiberoptic intubation.



Clinical faculty Katelyn Fuller and her kids.

Faculty Accomplishments

Kelsey Fuller, DNP, CRNA

- ◆ Kelsey earned her DNP in December 2023 from Gannon University
- ◆ DNP project: "Standardized Post-Operative Hand-off Report for Anesthesia staff."



Rachel A. Wolfe, DNP, CRNA

- ◆ Rachel earned her Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN) in December 2023.
- ◆ Recognition at the Nursing Symposium for Perioperative Training Support.
- ◆ Rachel was elected to the PANA Board.

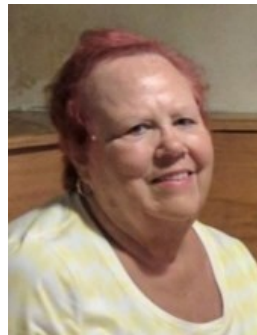
Outstanding Clinical Instructor Award

- ◆ 2023 — Eric Bernstein, MD
- ◆ 2024 — Nicole Dragoone, MSN, CRNA

Joseph H. Carter, MD, Award

- ◆ 2023 — Kathleen Bindeman, MSN, CRNA
- ◆ 2024 — Eric Divell, MSN, CRNA

How the Sandra Shreve-Pickens Fund Came Into Existence



Back in the early 1980s, a fund was established at the Hamot Credit Union for the School's use. Alums would regularly donate money to this fund and eventually there was a substantial amount in the fund.

Since Sandra's name was on the account, as an authorized user, but she didn't want to be audited for not claiming any earned interest on the account, the school decided to turn it into a

trust fund. The School wanted to name it after an alumna and Sandra was not only very involved in the school but had been an active CRNA at Hamot the longest, so the fund was named after her.

Shortly after that, in 1983, a donor by the name of Doug Fuller donated to the fund but was very upset that no one had informed him of her passing. Since she had not passed away, it became quite the joke for Sandra!

Sandra Shreve-Pickens did pass away on Oct. 8, 2021, at the age of 78. She had retired from Hamot Medical Center in 2000 as the chief nurse anesthetist and retired fully in 2007.

Her legacy continues in the fund named after her which continues to award scholarships which enable student nurse anesthetists to attend regional and national conferences as well as helping to buy needed equipment for the School's Simulation Lab.

To give in Sandra's name, feel free to go to www.hamothelthoundation.org and select the Sandra Shreve Pickens Anesthesia Fund from the drop-down menu. Or you can use the QR code provided here. Thank you for any support you can provide.



THANK YOU TO OUR SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS



EQUITABLE
ADVISORS



North American
Partners in
Anesthesia®

Anesthesia symposium elicits rave reviews

On Sept. 16, 2023, UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia hosted its first Anesthesia Symposium at the Bayfront Convention Center. Approximately 125 attendees enjoyed delicious food, drinks, and lectures from national and international speakers. Topics included a range of the newest in gene therapy to congenital heart disease to current business and political aspects of anesthesia. Attendees were able to earn 10 CMEs in one day while enjoying catching up with new



and old friends during breaks and lunch. They also celebrated the long history of the School of Anesthesia and honored the dedication of Valerie Hoover after 26 years of service. "We received rave reviews from attendees on the food, drinks, speakers, and beautiful location and accommodations," said Rachel Wolfe, the director of the symposium.



One of the fun side events was the silent auction. Many local businesses and friends of the school donated items to be auctioned. These items included Kate Spade purses, jewelry, artwork, a weekend getaway, restaurant gift cards, and tickets to Erie's celebrated local theatre. "We are incredibly grateful to all who sponsored the event and could not have done it without their help," said Wolfe.

All proceeds from the symposium and silent auction are used to support the next year's Symposium and scholarships for the SRNAs to attend the AANA Annual Congress. The school is now planning

for the next symposium on Sept. 14, once again at the Bayfront Convention Center. The school intends to make this an annual event.



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia SRNAs on winning scholarships from the [Stephen Anderson CRNA Professorial Endowment Fund](#) (provides funding for scholarship support of the CRNA program) and the [Sandra Shreve Pickens Anesthesia Fund](#) (to support the education of CRNA students through scholarships and to support research activities and equipment).

2023 — Kaitlyn Cirrincione & Zachary Wigton

2024 — Vanessa Stenulis & Chelsea Marterella

Mid-Year Assembly SRNA Attendees Sponsored by AANA Communication Committee Resident Mentoring Program

2022— Katie Lowe

2024 — Naudya Yanno

PANA Scholarship

2022 — Megan (Malay) Vidro & Roderick Thomas

2023 — Emily Quail & Kaitlin Renkewith

2024 — Ashley Benedict & Jennifer Love

School of Anesthesia Scholarship Winners

2022 — Ashley Alex

2024 — Kaitlyn Cirrincione

[Donate | Hamot Health Foundation](#)

Please select the **Stephen Anderson** or **Sandra Shreve Pickens** funds for your donation.



UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia Faculty

Donald E. Larmon, DNP, CRNA
Director

Rachel A. Wolfe, DNP, CRNA
Assistant Director

Cathy Miseta, MS
Education Coordinator

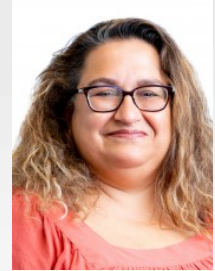
Angela M. Rood, BA
Sr. Administrative Assistant

Emily Britton, PharmD
Faculty

Autumn Arkwright, MSN, CRNA
Clinical Coordinator

Shannon Markham, MSN, CRNA
Clinical Coordinator

Rachael Broadbent, DNP, CRNA
Faculty



**SAVE THE DATE—2nd Annual UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia
Symposium coming September 14, 2024.**

REGISTER EARLY FOR GREAT SAVINGS!

UPMC Hamot School of Anesthesia/
Gannon University

201 State Street
Erie, PA 16550

Phone: 814-877-2938
Fax: 814-877-6070

E-mail: schoolofanesthesia@upmc.edu

**Please update your
email address.
Thank you.**

UPMC
LIFE CHANGING MEDICINE