



**FLORIDA SOCIETY OF
ANESTHESIOLOGISTS**

Physician-led. Patient-centered.

**NEWS THAT WON'T
PUT YOU TO SLEEP**



APRIL 2020

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FSA Executive Office
786-300-3183
executiveoffice@fsahq.org
www.fsahq.org



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DR. CHRISTIAN DIEZ

Hello FSA Members,

In recent weeks, our lives, professions and day-to-day existence have been and continue to be eclipsed by COVID-19. I want to thank you again for your tireless efforts and contributions as this pandemic continues, and to use this issue of the FSA newsletter to share with you some better news on what your Society has been up to outside of this current crisis.

The 2020 Florida legislative session was one of the most challenging we've seen. Your leadership team, working closely with our medical colleagues and our lobbyists at Johnson & Blanton, was at the forefront of all the activity, and through the amazing work, guidance and leadership from members like Legislative Affairs chairperson Dr. Jay Epstein, we were able to accomplish a great deal in the name of continued patient safety and physician-led safe anesthesia for the state of Florida. In general, the session was a victory for organized anesthesia. BUT...we'll encounter a very different dynamic next year – several of our stalwart supporters are leaving the legislature, so it's imperative to start building relationships with our representatives over the coming summer months. FSA has great information and tools to help our members accomplish this – please contact us (executiveoffice@fsahq.org or 786-300-3183 x154) to learn more.

As I mentioned in my recent message, words are tough to formulate in times of crisis such as what we're currently experiencing, but words of gratitude seem most appropriate.

Thank you for your membership in the FSA.

Thank you for your loyalty, patience and understanding.

And above all, thank you for the amazing care you provide our patients in Florida.

Sincerely,

Christian Diez MD MBA FASA
President, Florida Society of Anesthesiologists





**SOCIETY FOR
SAMBA^{ULATORY}
ANESTHESIA**

Outpatient • Office Based • Non-Operating Room

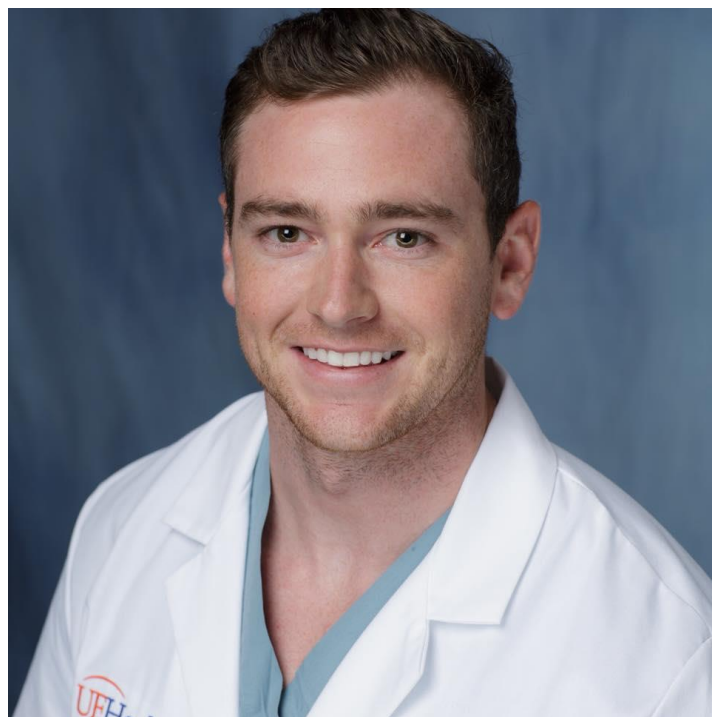
Be a part of the fastest growing sub-specialty in clinical anesthesia practice, network with your peers and expand your expertise.

[Learn More](#)

2020 RESIDENT TRAVEL AWARD

ALEX BUTTERMORE, RECIPIENT OF THE PRACTICE MANAGEMENT 2020 FSA TRAVEL AWARD!

Alex Buttermore is a ca-3 resident at the University of Florida. He plans to join a private practice group in Phoenix, AZ come July. Read more about his experience at the ASA Practice Management Conference in Las Vegas, NV:



"My experience at ASA Practice Management 2020 was as entertaining as it was informational. From the opening introduction through the closing remarks, a diverse panel of experts presented on topics ranging from artificial intelligence to gender equity in the modern anesthesia workplace. The exhibition hall was decorated with cutting edge anesthesia technology and innovative poster sessions. Seasoned anesthesiologists and residents alike were able to engage with one another in conversation to discuss novel practice management strategies. What I found to be most valuable in this experience was the ability to learn about physician leadership, to discuss new payment models, and to interact with peers. In my observation, the role of the anesthesiologist in our modern healthcare system is expanding in both managerial and leadership capacities. The PM conference addressed this with multiple presentations such as "Physician Leadership" and "Anesthesia: A Leading Partner in Hospital Quality and Patient Safety." The presentations on "Billing and Coding Requirements" and "Professional Development" were especially useful to me as a resident soon transitioning into the work force. Interacting with peers in roundtable discussions was useful to learn how other residency programs and private practices differ from my current program. ASA PM 2020 conference made an impact on all attendees and will aid in propelling my career after residency. The knowledge that I gained will help me push the envelope in regard to patient care and practice management. As a physician anesthesiologist, having the ability to optimize practice performance and to overcome operational obstacles will undoubtedly benefit my future practice and the patients I care for."

CONNECTING WITH FLORIDA LEGISLATORS

THROUGHOUT THE WINTER SEASON, SOME OF OUR FSA MEMBERS TOOK TIME TO MEET WITH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES. OUR MEMBERS CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE FOR SAFE, PHYSICIAN-LED ANESTHESIA. A FEW HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED...



IMAGE 1: DR. ESKANDER & REP MARIANO

Dr. Daniel Eskander met with Representative Mariano. Additionally, Dr. Jonathon Slonin met with Representative Magar in December.



IMAGE 2: DR. SELL & REP AUSLEY

Dr. Brence Sell had Representative Ausley come to the Operating Room at Tallahassee at the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. She spent the day shadowing him as he took care of patients. This was productive in that she was able to see the way anesthesia is provided in the provided in the "Anesthesia Care Team" model

Dr. Roger Duncan (far left) had a successful visit to the Florida capitol mid-January. His efforts included a full day of meetings with a variety of legislators from Palm Beach County including Representatives, Matt Willhite, David Silvers, Tina Polsky, and Senators Gayle Harrell, Lori Berman and Kevin Radar. In addition, he has also met with Mary Lynn, Chair of the healthcare of appropriations subcommittee.

FSA's Text to Update

FSA members can opt-in to receive text notifications for critical legislative updates. This alert system will notify you when FSA leaders need our members to contact representatives regarding related legislation or policy. Texts will only be sent when action is needed immediately

Opt-In for Text Updates



FSA LEGISLATIVE DAYS IN TALLAHASSEE

JANUARY STATE CAPITOL VISIT!

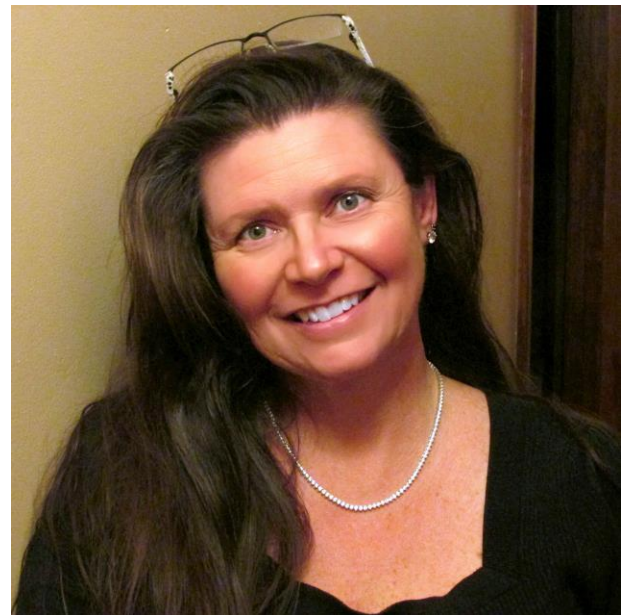
The FSA had a successful trip to Tallahassee at the end of January as a part of the FSA Legislative Days. FSA Board and Legislative Committee Members engaged with senators and representatives throughout the day. This trip plays a crucial role in the FSA's legislative success as these meetings are the most effective way to affect the future course of the anesthesia profession. Thank you to those that attended to continue patient safety initiatives.



IN THE BREAKROOM...

SIX QUESTIONS FOR NOREEN FENNER

Meet Noreen Fenner, our FSA PAC accountant with PAC Financial Management – Noreen has more than 25 years of experience working with the Florida Elections Code and campaign finance reporting. Noreen's experience includes 20 years working in the elections and ethics law arena as a legal assistant. This vast experience gives Noreen additional insight to the complexities of campaigns and the drive to succeed.



ITB: *I'm guessing "election codes and campaign finance reporting" was not your major in college - what were your interests and career choices that brought you to this job?*

Like most people, this was not my chosen career – I fell into it. I was the administrator for the Tallahassee office of a national law firm when my boss was approached by a candidate for Florida Insurance Commissioner, asking if he would be the campaign treasurer. I did the books and reporting for that campaign. After that, I had the good fortune of working with some of the best election law/campaign finance attorneys in Florida.

ITB: *You have a front row seat in observing how politics and finance work together - what's one life lesson you could share from this observation?*

Although money is very important to winning elections, it will never overcome hard work and sincerity.

ITB: *A moment of confession - I'm one of those people for whom the words "finance" and "accounting" can generate an unfair, knee-jerk reaction of avoidance. But I fondly remember the first time you and I spoke on the phone a few years back and I was floored at how easily and effortlessly you were able to explain the work you do. Why do you think finance and accounting carry negative stigma for so many people, and what is it about those fields that you find interesting, even fun?*

First, thank you, for the kind words. As to why accounting makes some people nervous – three words come to mind. Internal Revenue Service. Or in my world – Division of Elections. The Division is the governmental entity responsible for overseeing many of the elections held in Florida. By always keeping in mind the reason why we report all campaign activities – to inform the public of who gave it and who got it – accurately and fully reporting the information required by law doesn't seem like such an imposing thing to do. And I do find it fun – being mixed up in Florida's political scene.

ITB: *Proudest moment of your career? And conversely, was there ever a moment when you gave serious consideration to throwing in the towel?*

Proudest moment of my career is the day I opened my own firm. I honestly dreamed of throwing in the towel when the lottery was over \$1 billion. I dreamt of living in Paris. And Tuscany. And Boulder. And New Zealand. And Aruba. You get the picture.

ITB: What is your favorite aspect of living in Florida?

I was born and raised in Michigan. I moved to Florida right after high school, so it is definitely-- NO SNOW!

ITB: When you're not working, what do you like to do for fun?

My husband and I renovate old houses, if you can call that fun. I love to entertain friends and to bake, but I don't get to do much of that during an election year.



**PAC Financial
Management**

COVID-19 Survey

In case you missed this earlier message from FSA President Dr. Diez, "We want to be proactive and on the front lines as physicians in assisting with fighting the current battle with COVID – 19. To this end we would like to be in a position as an organization to assist the Governor and Surgeon General in identifying critical medical resources around the state."

Take a moment and respond to the following brief survey so we can better assess our ability to help in areas across the state.

[CLICK TO RESPOND](#)

FSA UPDATES

FSA 2020 Annual Meeting Cancellation

We would like to inform you that, due to COVID-19, the Florida Society of Anesthesiologists 2020 Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, Florida has been cancelled. The FSA is aware that this cancellation is disappointing and inconvenient for all of our attendees. However, the health and safety of our members and attendees remains our top priority.

Registration: If you registered for the FSA Annual Meeting, you will automatically be receiving a full refund within the next few weeks. Please know we are working as quickly as possible to provide prompt service on this important matter. If you have any other questions about registration, please contact us at registration@fsahq.org.

Hotel: In the next week, The Breakers will automatically be processing reservation cancellations. Any deposits will be refunded to the card on file used to make the reservation.

Abstract/Poster Authors: The FSA Program Committee is currently discussing potential opportunities for submitted FSA abstracts. Detailed information will be sent to abstract authors in the coming weeks regarding your submissions.

FSA Business Meeting (Members Only): The current plan is for the FSA Business Meeting to still take place in June using a virtual platform. More information regarding the Annual Business Meeting will be sent out as details are confirmed.

We understand the uncertainty that the present times are causing. Currently, many members find themselves providing care in areas they haven't in years. Others have moved to practicing via telemedicine for pain visits while obstetric anesthesiologists may have noticed minimal slowdowns. Some members find themselves financially at risk while we all await the increased case volume soon to come as the elective cases have backlogged. All of these factors contributed to our decision, and we felt this was the best way to move forward. We thank you for your understanding during these uncertain times and appreciate your support and engagement in the FSA.

If you have any questions, please contact the FSA office at jj@fsahq.org or christines@fsahq.org.



Honoring Jerome Modell, M.D., D.Sc.

It is with a heavy heart that we inform you that on Tuesday, April 14th, Jerome Modell, M.D., D.Sc. (Hon.), passed away at the age of 87. His career had a remarkable influence on the field of anesthesiology and patient safety.

Dr. Modell served in the U.S. Navy from 1957 to 1963 and concluded his military service as chief of anesthesiology at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Pensacola, Florida. At the University of Miami Department of Anesthesiology from 1963 to 1969, Dr. Modell developed his research interests caring for drowning victims and became the international expert in this field. He and his colleagues conducted the original research in demonstrating that mammals could breathe special oxygenated liquids and survive.

He served the University of Florida College of Medicine for more than 43 years. During his career, Dr. Modell received several awards, including the FSA's Distinguished Service Award in 2006.

Dr. Modell remained active through his retirement, volunteering three to four days a week to care for patients and teach students in the colleges of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Modell and his wife, Dr. Shirley Graves, M.D., D.Sc. (Hon.) were appreciated philanthropists and generous supporters of several University of Florida initiatives that have helped facilitate private gifts on behalf of others.

The FSA extends our deepest condolences to his children, family, friends and colleagues. We are grateful to Dr. Modell for his significant contributions to patient care.