



ASPAN

American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

Message from the President

ASPAN Committees - Working For You

November/December 1997

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ASPAN President 1997-1998

November is ASPAN's midyear point of our year. By this time each year, the president has received midyear reports from each committee chair outlining the progress on the committee's action plans written in May. The action plan is a list of goals that the committee sets to accomplish the objectives of our strategic plan. As you will see from the following committee activity update we are an ambitious group and have accomplished a great deal in last six months. We use our strategic plan as a tool to plan for ASPAN's future. As your ASPAN president, it is one of my goals to plan well beyond our three year plan into the next millennium. I ask myself questions such as: What type of perianesthesia nursing will we be practicing then? How will our membership benefits need to change? What will our healthcare system look like? What changes will occur in healthcare that will impact ASPAN? What can we do now to ensure ASPAN's viability and strength into the next millennium? I feel the answers to our strength and viability for the future are in our organizational structure transformation, promoting financial growth and stability, promoting ASPAN as the specialty organization for perianesthesia nurses and our membership.

Clinical Practice: Myrna Mamaril, MS, RN, CPAN, CAPA, chairs this committee. Myrna and the committee members respond to an average of thirty clinical practice inquiries per month. ASPAN members can send a clinical practice question to this committee via e-mail, phone or fax. The clinical practice committee has just completed the Competency Based Orientation Credentialing Program; it is presently available for purchase through the National Office.

Standards and Guidelines: This committee is a subcommittee of the Clinical Practice committee and is responsible for writing ASPAN's standards and guidelines. Ellen Sullivan, BSN, RN, CPAN, is the chair. The committee is in the process of coordinating the revision of the 1995 Standards of Perianesthesia Nursing Practice. The committee met in August to revise the Standards. The first Representative Assembly will review the Standards for approval and will be available in the summer of 1998.

Computers and Information Technology (CIT): The chair, Denise O'Brien, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, and the CIT members are responsible for the growth of our website, <http://www.aspan.org>. The committee is presently developing methods for ASPAN's committees to hold meetings online. A new committee forum allows committees to post information on projects on the website. As a member, you are invited to post questions and respond in the conference center.

Education Provider: Nancy Saufl, BSN, MS, RN, CPAN, CAPA, is the director for education. Nancy represents the four education provider committees on ASPAN's board of directors. Linda Wilson, MSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, and Evelyn Medycki RN, are co-chairs of the 1998 National Conference Committee. They have confirmed speakers and the brochure will be in the mail soon. We look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia! Karen Reining, MSN, RN, CCRN, CPAN, chair of the Independent Studies Committee, and the committee members have been busy updating ASPAN's video library. The ASPAN educational videos are available for purchase or rent through the National Office. The Independent Studies Committee is also developing a contact hour independent studies program that will be available on the ASPAN web-site. Janet DiMartino, BSN, RN, Seminars Committee Chair, and members have planned 12 seminars to be presented at different locations around the country. The topics of the seminars range from CPAN and CAPA Reviews to Pediatric Ambulatory Assessment and award 8.0 contact hours. In the spring of 1998 look for the new leadership seminar. The Workshops Committee, chaired by Judy

Ontiveros BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, has assisted in eight co-sponsored workshops with components this fall. The committee has updated the outlines for Core I and Core II and is in the process of writing an advanced workshop on hemodynamics and ventilators.

Education Approver: Linda Mills, MSN, RN, CPAN, chairs the approver side of our education committee. Last year ASPAN received an accreditation for six years from the ANCC to provide contact hours. The approver committee has processed approximately forty applications per month for fall educational presentations.

Ethics: The chair of the committee is Mary Mulkay, RN, CPAN. The purpose of the Ethics Committee is to examine issues of ethical concern within perianesthesia nursing practice. Committee members publish articles on ethics in *Breathline*. This year the committee is exploring the ethical issues related to pain in the perianesthesia patient.

Finance: ASPAN's Treasurer Kathy Jurrus, BSN, RN, CPAN and the Finance Committee monitor the financial status of our Society. This committee is responsible for generating all cost and benefit analyses of ASPAN projects. This new responsibility has kept the committee very busy this year.

Health Care Products: Brenda Wilson, RN, CAPA, and the HCP members are contacting exhibitors for the 1998 Conference in Philadelphia. A full exhibit hall provides the ASPAN conference attendees a chance to network with industry and see the latest health care technology.

Governmental Affairs: Susan Carter, RN, CCRN, CPAN and the committee members monitor legislation that impacts nursing and healthcare. The committee publishes articles on governmental affairs in *Breathline*. As a member, you may contact Sue with questions on legislative issues.

Membership: Susan Shelander, RN, CPAN and the Membership Committee members are busy with the Member-Get-A Member Campaign. Brochures are available through the National Office and we invite all members to participate. With a grant from the ASPAN Foundation, the Membership Committee was able to contribute \$10,000 dollars in scholarships this year for National Conference, higher education in nursing and certification.

Publications: Publication Committee members and editors are on one of ASPAN's most active committees this year. Look for the Ambulatory Core Curriculum in the spring by editor Donna Quinn MBA, RN, CPAN. Kim Litwack, PhD, RN, FAAN, CPAN, CAPA will serve as editor for the 4th edition of the Core Curriculum. The Redi- Ref is being revised under the editorship of Donna Seaman, RN.

P/R and Marketing: Under the leadership of Barbara Diekelmann, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA the P/R and Marketing committee has prepared for the celebration of PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week. Logo items and posters will be available to help members celebrate. Additionally, the committee is preparing for opening and closing ceremonies for National Conference.

Research: Vallire Hooper, MSN, RN, CPAN, Director for Research, and the committee members are putting together a survey on temperature. The information gathered will be presented at the ASPAN/ASPANF Consensus Conference on Perioperative Thermoregulation in February of 1998. The committee is also in the process of revising the Research Grants Application.

Standard Operations: Jane Ehrhardt, BSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA oversees the committees of Standard Operations that are Bylaws, Policy and Procedures and Credentialing. The Bylaws Committee is chaired by Penny Lempesis, RN, CPAN. This committee is responsible for assisting the Components in revision of their bylaws in response to ASPAN's organizational transformation. Due to our organizational changes, Suzanne Mattson, RN, CPAN and the Policy and Procedures Committee are in the process of revising our policy book. Deadline for completion of this project is April of 1998. The Credentialing Committee, chaired by David Wharton MPH, RN, CPAN, developed an application that will be used to credential the members of ASPAN's first Representative Assembly in Philadelphia.

Specialty Practice Groups (SPGs): Gwen Williams, RN, is Coordinator for the Preoperative Assessment SPG. Membership in the Preoperative Assessment SPG is currently 452 members. Shirley Norris, MEd, RN, CNA, CNOR is in the process of forming a Management SPG.

Strategic Planning: Jane Coyle, BS, RN, CNA, CNOR, CPAN, and the members of the Strategic Planning Committee met in July to develop our strategic plan for the next three years. The plan will be weighted and approved by the Board of Directors. Our strategic plan gives of society the direction needed to fulfill ASPAN's mission statement.

As I stated at the start of my report, ASPAN's committees are an ambitious group of volunteers. Through the donation of time and hard work, our committees accomplish our societal goals. If you are interested in serving on a committee, complete a Willingness to Serve Form and submit it to the National Office by February 2, 1998. Maureen Iacono, BSN, RN, CPAN, VP/President-Elect will be making committee selections for 1998-1999. I encourage you to volunteer for an ASPAN committee. With your time and commitment to ASPAN, you will gain personal and professional growth. Together, ASPAN and you will insure that perianesthesia nursing remains healthy and viable for the upcoming challenges of the twenty first century.

- ASPAN has received another six-year accreditation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center until 2003.
- Patient Education videos on General, Regional, and MAC anesthesia are now available. Plans are in progress through the ASPAN Foundation to obtain support for expansion of the Patient Education Video Project to provide for distribution to hospitals throughout the US.
- The Journal of PeriAnesthesia Nursing will soon be online with a link to ASPAN's web page.
- ASPAN will be responding to an ANA Congress of Nursing Practice survey which will provide information to the ANA on the process and criteria by which nursing specialties are designated.
- ASPAN participated in an AORN conference on the air quality risks of surgical smoke. Working with a lobbying firm in Washington, DC, a coalition of organizations is supporting development of standards and guidelines relating to exposures to a variety of toxins carried in surgical smoke.