

Thank you for selecting me as one of the recipients of the national scholarship. This scholarship allowed me to attend the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual ASPAN conference this past April. I greatly appreciated this opportunity to connect with fellow members and enhance my knowledge as a perianesthesia professional. During the five day seminar I reached out to many state component members at such events including component night and the presidential reception. We shared many experiences and camaraderie. In regards to research, it was eye opening and enlightening to learn of the work being performed by our members in the perianesthesia field. The vendor exhibits not only caught our attention but demonstrated advances in the tools of our trade.

As with every annual conference I've attended, this year was no different in regards to the variety of course work and speakers. From speakers discussing best practices to the implementation process involved in electronic record development to presentation of critical care events, I was captivated and am anxious to share this information with my colleagues at work.

It's from attending such conferences that I've realized the importance of certification in our profession. My goal is to continue to inform my colleagues of the importance of demonstrating the advanced skills needed for our specialty nursing profession and there is no better way than obtaining certification.

Once again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity and I look forward to attending future conferences.

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