

## **2017 National Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana**

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As a recipient of the 2017 ASPAN Scholarship, it was my pleasure to be able to attend the 36<sup>th</sup> ASPAN National Conference in Indianapolis. It was especially poignant to be able to support and honor my colleague and ASPAN president, Katrina Bickerstaff, as she transitioned leadership to our incoming president, Susan Russell.

This was my third conference, and I found the mix of indirect and direct continuing education offerings to be varied and interesting. As expected, the session offerings were informative, providing valuable knowledge that I can bring back to my perianesthesia units and colleagues. I always attend the updated Standards session to make sure I remain current with safe practice in a changing health care field. The guest speakers, Marcus Engel and David Glickman, were inspirational, memorable, and entertaining – what a great way to start the week!

The evening events were a great way to meet fellow nurses from all over the country, with an opportunity to exchange ideas. More often than not, we share similar issues and problems. With a bunch of nurses in the same room, that can lead to spirited and lively talk.

I will be bringing some new ideas to my unit, and look forward to sharing the highlights. I hope to motivate other nurses to attend future conferences. This yearly dose of inspiration and rejuvenation recharges our motors, gets our gears moving, and motivates us to meet the challenges of a changing health care force.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend this conference, and the opportunity to learn from the great ASPAN leaders around the country.