

2018 ASPAN National Conference Scholarship Report

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I began going to national conference in 1990 which inspired me to get my certification in 1991. My wish would be to go every year from that time on, but life and work prevented it at times. It is wonderful to have the resources of the ASPAN Scholarship program to help defray the cost. The application process takes some time and thought but is easy to complete. Just be sure to use the check off sheet.

With the support I was able to attend the 37th ASPAN National Conference in Anaheim, CA. It is always exciting and fun to join old friends, colleague, and meet new friends. The networking at the conference is boundless and you feel that you are not alone in the day to day struggles of PAT/Pre-op/PACU life. Each person who attends National Conference is present to gain knowledge to improve the safety of our patient and staff. The perianesthesia specialty is a continuous journey to advance our practice to higher levels of excellence.

The opening and closing ceremonies are uplifting speeches that give you a sense of “why I am a nurse and how can I be better”. Tuesday and Wednesday are the meat of the sessions that guide our practice and gives us insight to improve and qualify our practice at the bedside. The ASPAN Standards support the safe care we give to each patient we touch whether in PAT, pre-op, PACU, or phase 2.

Over the years I have enjoyed attending conference, being a committee member, and helping ASPAN in anyway I can to support the members and the board. As Armi Holcomb stated at the ASPAN Development Breakfast this year some of us are “conference Junkies”. I think I fit that category. It is time to get involved because ASPAN is there to support you. I truly appreciated the gift of the scholarship.