

2018 ASPAN National Conference Scholarship Report
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Attending ASPAN's 37th National Conference in Anaheim, California was a dream come true. It was my first time in the great state of California. I have planned attending this particular conference for the past 3 years, and ASPAN did not disappoint. Much like the title of the conference, greatness was detected, and the proof was in the conference planning and delivery!

My week started off on Sunday, with the ASPAN Development Dream Walk, to benefit ASPAN's foundation and fundraising efforts. I walked with four representatives from NC, and I am hoping next year, in Nashville, NCAPAN can have more representation. We received many compliments of on our NC t-shirts as well. As a member of the Resource Development SWT, we have talked about this walk during every meeting, and it was nice to see this event come full circle.

I was able to witness the Representative Assembly and congratulate a close friend, board member, and colleague on her new position to the Nominating Committee. It is nice to see our board of directors at work, keeping perianesthesia nursing at the heart of all they do. There is much work ahead, but I feel the newly elected board members are very capable of making those visions a reality.

Component Night was a blast, as we represented NC with a Mayberry theme, in full costume as Aunt Bea, Barney, Thelma Lou, and Otis. Our NCAPAN bobbles were a hit among the fishermen/fisherwomen. We had a great time trying to get attendees to guess who were! It was a wonderful time mingling with colleagues from all over the country.

Kicking off the conference on Monday morning, opening ceremonies and guest speaker were very motivating and inspiring. This set the tone for a great week of learning and networking. That afternoon I had my very first experience at the CPAN/CAPA luncheon, which will not be my last. The speaker was motivating and gave us something to laugh about. I left with pride in my heart for having obtained and maintained my CPAN for many years.

On Tuesday evening NCAPAN hosted a meet and greet at the hotel with record attendance. It was a great time to interact and meet new colleagues from around the state, and two from a neighboring hospital in my home town! We are blessed with many talented and caring nurses in our great state.

As a member of the Resource Development SWT, I attended the ASPAN Development breakfast, where Chris Price spoke about mentoring and leaving a legacy. She used many ASPAN past presidents and leaders as examples of how to be a great leader. What an honor it would be to have her as a mentor. It was such an inspiring talk and was one of my conference highlights.

From the opening ceremony to the closing of the conference, it was packed full of great speakers, poster presentations, and an exhibit hall full of vendors. I am truly grateful to ASPAN for helping support my attendance at the 37th National Conference. I am looking forward to seeing you all at LDI in September and Nashville in 2019, as President-Elect for NCAPAN.