

GatorWorks

Anesthesiology Alumni Newsletter

Winter 2016



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Our mission is to provide an environment that develops great physician leaders through education, research, innovation and the care of our patients and each other.

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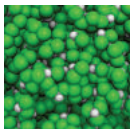
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We would like to thank Jerome H. Modell, MD, and Shirley Graves, MD, for their generous support of this issue of GatorWorks.



Like us on facebook!

To keep up-to-date with happenings in Anesthesiology at UF, please email Christina Carey at webmaster@anest.ufl.edu.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Greetings from the Department of Anesthesiology.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. In this edition, we thought to change the focus to update you on some alumni and their current activities. Graduating more than 20 residents and a similar number of fellows per year leads to a wide number of alumni, some of whom you may know, depending on when you graduated from residency and/or fellowship from the Department of Anesthesiology. Of course, we hear snippets of news from all of you occasionally and would love to hear more. You might be interested in daily or weekly follow up about alumni and other Departmental news by using social media such as Facebook and the Department website.

Given my present appointment, I thought you might be interested in the happenings of my current and former supervisors, who are also alumni of a Department of Anesthesiology residency and/or fellowship.

(continued on next page)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR *(continued)*

Michael Good, MD, Dean, University of Florida College of Medicine; Professor, Department of Anesthesiology

As you may know, Mike graduated from the residency program here in Gainesville in 1988 and then launched a very successful research program to improve patient safety by developing the human patient simulator with many collaborators along the way. This simulator continues to be used in many locations in the United States and also internationally. From 1996-2005, Mike spent his time at the VA, supervising anesthesiology services, and then as Chief of Staff for the entire North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System. Rejoining day-to-day operations at UF, Dr. Good was our Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs from 2005-2009 before becoming Dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine. One of his recent major projects has been funding and building the Harrell Medical Education Building (click here) that opened on July 29, 2015 for the College of Medicine Class of 2018 and 2019 – both architecturally and stylistically appointed to be one of the most beautiful buildings on the campus and one that might tempt you to repeat medical school. More recently, Mike has been spending time in Tallahassee, representing the College of Medicine in the legislative halls, planning health system responses for the Zika virus now present in Alachua County, recruiting new departmental chairs, facilitating research expansion and billing compliance, and other activities.

Notwithstanding, Mike still gets into the operating room and supervises residents anesthetizing patients, where we are glad to work with him.

Nik Gravenstein, MD, The Jerome H. Modell, MD, Professor of Anesthesiology

I know that many of you will fondly remember working with Nik and learning how to be a little bit “slicker” in anesthetizing patients. Nik stepped down as Chair in 2008 after 13 years of service and now continues as a Professor to mentor not only residents, but also junior faculty and other colleagues here at UF. You might be interested in returning to UF to update your MOCA component related to a simulation session that Nik supervises – previous participants have found the time very non-threatening and educational for their practice. Moreover, Nik maintains an abiding interest in the technology we use everyday to care for patients in and out of the operating room. Nik is extremely active in the Department, anesthetizing liver transplant patients, recruiting as Chair of our Faculty Search Committee, adding to his long list of awarded patents, and other tasks.

Here at the Department, we would like to hear more from you and your success over the years since your graduation to practice. If you email rastrom@anest.ufl.edu, we would be very glad to learn about your adventures and add more information to an alumni section in future newsletters.

– Timothy E. Morey, MD



By: Corey Astrom

I would like to welcome you to the first official “Alumni” edition of the Department of Anesthesiology’s GatorWorks newsletter. In the other issues of our newsletter, we strive to bring you the topics that are a priority to our department and university, the news from our divisions and faculty members, and other interesting items from the field of anesthesiology. With this edition, however, we have chosen to focus on *YOU*, the people who have made the Department of Anesthesiology possible. We thank you, honor you, and celebrate you for all that you have given over the years and all that many of you continue to give as you work as faculty here at UF. This first issue may be small, but it is our hope that it will continue to grow as those of you that it reaches will share your stories with us and once again become part of the anesthesiology family. ***Please check in at rastrom@anest.ufl.edu to update your contact information, tell us what you have been doing, and let us know what UF Anesthesiology has meant to you. Go Gators!***

WELCOME TO OUR *Alumni* ISSUE!

Fifty-Eight Years and Growing!

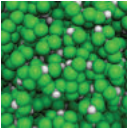
We’re fifty-eight years old this year,
And we’re just shifting gears,
Alumni ranks have grown,
For so many seeds we have sown.

A small beginning with greatness,
And talent you couldn’t miss,
Many came and made their mark,
Some stayed while others left.

It’s a story that has no end,
They come and learn and tend,
Alumni at the heart of our success,
UF, a department filled with pride!

Congratulations, UF Department of Anesthesiology!

By Shirley Graves Modell, MD



PEOPLE

Honoring Rebecca Lovely

By: Corey Astrom



On March 17, 2016, we say goodbye to one of the Department of Anesthesiology's longest-serving employees, Rebecca Lovely. We wish Rebecca much happiness, health, and fulfillment in her retirement, and she will be deeply missed. Having been with the University of Florida for over 40 years, she has often served as our historian, protector, organizer, and conscience. We

are very grateful for all the many contributions she has made to our department and the College of Medicine.

Rebecca started with UF as a part-time student clerk typist in 1973 and began working in the Department of Anesthesiology in 1983 as a Staff Assistant II under Chair Jerome H. Modell, MD. Carolyn Schoenau, onetime Business Manager for the department, remembers, "When I interviewed Rebecca Lovely for a staff assistant position in the Department of Anesthesiology, I did not dream at that time that she would be one of the best hires I made during my 29 years in the Department. She was always dependable to a fault, efficient, made excellent suggestions for changes, and I could not have asked for anything more in an employee. Her personality was cheerful, she was thoughtful, and never acted in haste. The best way I can describe her is that she was truly LOVELY!"

The only chair Rebecca has not worked for is J.S. Gravenstein, MD, although she worked closely WITH him. Over her 40-year career with UF, she has worked her way through the ranks

to become Associate Director of Administrative Services in the Department of Anesthesiology, while also serving as the Executive Secretary of the Anesthesiology Alumni Association of Florida from 1993 until December 2015. During this time, Rebecca has earned the praises of many, including Professor and former Chair Kayser Enneking, MD, who said, "Rebecca is a great Southern Lady. She has lovely manners, she cares deeply for those around her, and she knows how to cross t's and dot i's. If she is displeased, she has a way of looking down her nose and pursing her lips that leaves no doubt about her true feelings. Her smile is worth a 1,000 words of praise. She has seen great times and horrible times (not just good and bad) in the department. She has been a rock for the department, doing nitty gritty jobs, going behind everyone and making sure things are done correctly. She has sat in on every important meeting that has occurred in the department for at least the last twenty years." This is high praise, indeed, and is echoed by Professor Emeritus Shirley Graves, MD, who seconded the fact that Rebecca "carried a big administrative load and did an excellent job."

For many of those working with Rebecca, it was and still is her deeply caring personal side that has meant the most to them. Joanie Nyland, once an employee of the department for many years, says of Rebecca, "She is very dedicated. She is always looking for fair and reasonable solutions to problems and/or events and is very compassionate and caring. Rebecca has a perpetually positive attitude and is generous with her time, patient in her dealings with others, and has always been a wonderful sounding board for me."

Rebecca has been married to her husband, Ed, a retired school board administrator, for 41 years. They have two children, Emily and Craig. Emily is a school teacher and Craig works in information technology. In her leisure time, Rebecca likes to participate in church activities, garden, travel, and raise honeybees with her husband.

Please join us in offering Rebecca the most sincere congratulations on her retirement and our warmest thanks for all that she has done for UF and the Department of Anesthesiology over these many years. There is no question that hers will be very difficult shoes to fill.



Rebecca Lovely and Carolyn Schoenau



Nancy Hanner Retiring in 2016

As many of you know, Nancy Hanner retired in January, after 35 years in the department.

For most of those years, she was been the primary faculty support person for the cardiovascular division and provided administrative support for at least 150 faculty over the various other divisions of anesthesiology.

For many years, Nancy was the welcoming face for ACEM (Anesthesiology Course for Engineers and Marketing Personnel), having coordinated over 70 of the week-long workshops. She worked closely with such department legends as J.S. Gravenstein and David Paulus, and was one of the few in the department who worked with every chairman this department has ever had (although J.S. Gravenstein was a Graduate Research Professor and former chairman in her time). Her long-time employment and devotion to this department is deeply appreciated. Nancy will be greatly missed here, but we are excited for her as she eagerly begins her "new" life after retirement.

She was honored for her years of service with a luncheon on Friday, January 15. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors!!

Gravenstein Scholars Program



From left to right: Jerome H. Modell, MD, Shirley Graves, MD, Ron and Carolyn Schoenau, Nik Gravenstein, MD, Galey Gravenstein, J.S. Gravenstein, MD and Alix Gravenstein

We would like to send a special thank you to the Department of Anesthesiology Alumni for paving the way for others and building the Gravenstein Scholars Program.

This wonderful program is founded completely on alumni participation and other donors or sponsorships, with no state-matched funding. Because of donors like you, we have raised close to \$450,000 since 2008. Our goal is to raise \$1,000,000 for our endowment so that the Gravenstein Scholars Program will continue in perpetuity and support the next generation of academic anesthesiologists.

The Gravenstein Scholars Program is an innovative five-year program created to address the increasing shortage of residents entering academic anesthesiology. This ACGME-accredited program integrates clinical practice and research training and is designed to enhance and promote the training of academic anesthesiologists.

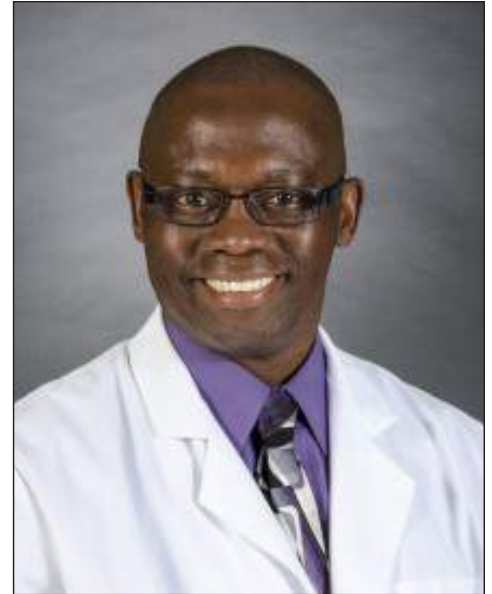
Please consider making your annual gift or multi-year pledge today at <https://goo.gl/REUsok>



Alumni Achievements ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Beating the Odds: Caleb Awoniyi, MD

Dr. Caleb Awoniyi is the newly appointed Chief of Anesthesiology at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center. He completed his residency program at UF in 2009 and has accomplished much since then.



By: Christina E. Carey

Born in a small village in Nigeria, West Africa, Caleb Awoniyi, MD, was the second born of nine children and the first of his family to make it to the United States.

His village built its first high school when he was in grade school. As a child, he remembers being in the first group of kids to enter that high school when it was his time to go. His parents weren't particularly educated; his mom never went to school and his dad had a sixth grade education. His family did not have any electricity or running water, and only a sparse amount of food to choose from, including milk.

Growing up for Dr. Awoniyi was a difficult journey and he knew he would have to work hard to overcome his many obstacles. When he was in high school, he spent a lot of time around his grandfather, who was the village herbalist. Herbalists are African healers and a form of doctor that cure sick villagers. They are knowledgeable of which herbs to use, what the herbs treat, and how to combine the various herbs and plants to create treatment remedies. Dr. Awoniyi found a new passion while being around his grandfather and he knew that working in some form of healthcare was his goal. He knew that was what he wanted to do because he always felt joyful when the patients got well.

After graduating high school, Dr. Awoniyi wanted to fulfill his dream of working in healthcare so he aspired to enroll in nursing school in Nigeria. However, his father disapproved of the idea and told him nursing was a female profession and steered him toward teaching. He decided to attend the Teachers Training College where he became a school teacher instructing fourth and fifth graders. After two years of teaching and not feeling "satisfied," as Dr. Awoniyi called it, he still wanted to fulfill his aspirations of working in healthcare although parents did not approve of the profession. Instead, they suggested he become a minister. Dr. Awoniyi listened to his parents and went to the Adventist Seminary of West Africa to become a minister. Although he was doing very well at the Seminary, he was not content and he felt like ministering was not his true purpose. He later decided to apply to schools in America. "When you get to the U.S., you can do whatever you want," he thought.

Fortunately, he received a scholarship to attend a historically Black Seventh-day Adventist institution called Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama. The college accepted all of

his credits from the seminary so he started right in with science courses with \$1000 to his name. "In Nigeria, \$1000 is a lot of money! But I found out the hard way that it's not in America," Dr. Awoniyi explained.

He worked at the Huntsville Hilton Hotel as a dishwasher to put himself through school and he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1982. At that point, he wanted to go to medical school, so he took the MCAT exam and passed, but many obstacles were in his way. He could not afford medical school and he came to the U.S. on a student visa and did not have a green card therefore he could not get a job nor could he receive loans. Dr. Awoniyi was stuck and could not even afford to go back home to Nigeria.

Things seemed to turn around when a good friend encouraged him to apply to Southern Illinois University. Luckily, Dr. Awoniyi did just that and was not only admitted into the institution but also awarded a scholarship to complete a Master's in Physiology; he was later awarded another scholarship for a PhD in Physiology.

After completing school in 1987, he had the same problem: he could not get a job because he did not have a green card. At the time, he was married to his high school sweetheart, Dr. Bea Awoniyi, who is currently the Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs at Santa Fe College. They were going to move back to Nigeria together, but that summer, he went to present his dissertation at a national conference and someone from Johns Hopkins University fell in love with his research, so much so that the green card issue was not a problem. "You tell me whatever you need and we'll get you a green card to stay," he said to Dr. Awoniyi.

While at Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Awoniyi received his green card and completed a Post-Doctorate Fellowship in Reproductive Physiology. Upon completing his fellowship, he became faculty. A year later, he accepted a position at the University of Colorado in Denver as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. During his stay there, he was given his own lab, where he conducted research in reproductive endocrinology, trained several post-doctoral fellows, and directed research projects for graduate students. He was awarded grants from the National Institutes of Health for his research on the development of a male contraceptive. He is the author of several peer-reviewed publications on this topic.

PEOPLE (continued)

In 1996, he was promoted to Associate of Professor with tenure at the University of Colorado. Unfortunately, Dr. Awoniyi wasn't satisfied even after being tenured for 10 years. His burning desire was to continue his education and obtain his medical degree; this flame would not die. "At the time, I was 41 years old, and I told my wife I still want to study medicine and if I don't go now, I will never go!" exclaimed Dr. Awoniyi. After taking the MCAT exam again, he was accepted into four medical schools and he chose the University of Colorado. While in medical school, he discovered the field of anesthesia and was matched to the University of Florida, where he completed his residency. "There are a couple of people that I may mention that played a significant role while I was here: Dr. Mahla, who's no longer here but I will never forget him, Dr. Enneking, and the Gravensteins," said Dr. Awoniyi.

During medical school and residency, Dr. Awoniyi enjoyed his rotations at the VA Hospital, so he already knew when he finished his training where he wanted to practice. Luckily, in 2009, he found a position at the Malcom Randall VA Medical

Center as one of their Staff Anesthesiologists. In 2011, he was appointed Assistant Chief of Anesthesiology. Just last year, when the Chief, Dr. Katz, was getting ready to retire, Dr. Awoniyi applied for soon-to-be-vacant position. Following a national search, Dr. Awoniyi was chosen.

During my interview with Dr. Awoniyi, it was his second week on the job and he absolutely loves his new role. "I love the people here and I love the residents. My desire is to stay in Gator Land until I retire," Dr. Awoniyi said excitedly.

His road to success was not an easy one to travel. Coming to a foreign country without any means was a mighty struggle that Dr. Awoniyi conquered. His desire to take care of people was a dream that he didn't let die. When I asked him what his inspiration was to keep going, he simply replied, "I am a man of faith and my Dad was a role model to me." Out of nine siblings, Dr. Awoniyi has helped them all complete school, and four of them are in the U.S. with him now. His children, two girls and a boy, are also educated and successful. In 2000, when he went home to Nigeria, he helped to start a high school in his village and raised money for it, which he still works on today.



Alumni Achievements Salvatore R. Goodwin, MD, Lifetime Achievement Award



By: Christina E. Carey

Once an intern and fellow here at UF Health Shands, Salvatore Goodwin, MD, has always been a phenomenal doctor. In 1979, he was awarded the William P. Hadley Outstanding Intern of the Year Award by Dr. Gerry Schiebler. At the time, Dr. Goodwin felt he was undeserving of such an award and now, nearly 35 years into his career, he has been presented yet another award, the Northeast Florida Society of Pediatrics (NEFPS): 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award.

NEFPS is a society for practitioners dedicated to the healthcare of children in Northeast Florida. It serves as a center for the organization of volunteer activities and as a forum for communication about the needs of children and the needs of the healthcare practitioners who care for children.

Dr. Goodwin whole heartedly loves his job as a pediatrician, teacher, and mentor. During his acceptance speech, he said, "when you have the privilege of caring for children, you almost

always love what you do. To be able to care for critically ill children in the ICU and the operating room and to teach others how to provide this care is a blessing from God." He believes that teaching this craft to younger trainees continues the legacy provided by their mentors and theirs before them.

Dr. Goodwin earned his Bachelors of Science degree from West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV. He then received his medical degree from the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY. He completed his internship, two years of residency, and fellowship program all at UF Health Shands. He is board certified in Anesthesiology, Critical Care Medicine, and Pediatrics. Dr. Goodwin has been awarded many other accolades such as the Affiliated Faculty Teaching Award, Best Doctors in America-Southeast Region (1996-97), and Best Doctors in America (2003-2008, 2011, 2013, & 2014).

We congratulate "Sal" on this great honor and on being a fantastic UF Anesthesiology alumnus!



Alumni Achievements

Stephanie D. Hollis, MD, Chief Operations Officer of Solar Stik™, Inc.



By: Christina E. Carey

Stephanie Hollis, MD, is an alumna of the UF Anesthesiology residency program and now Chief Operation Officer of Solar Stik™, Inc., as well as business owner of Adrift Anesthesia, PLLC. Dr. Hollis attended Stetson University and then the University of Florida College of Medicine, subsequently completing her residency in anesthesia at UF Health Shands Hospital. In 2004, she entered private practice at Flagler Hospital in St. Augustine, while simultaneously founding Solar Stik™ with husband, inventor, and Chief Executive and Technology Officer, Brian Bosley.

As a physician in private practice, Dr. Hollis gained extensive experience in corporate operations as well as real-world medical applications. Her expertise as a medical doctor has been exercised in the development of the Solar Stik™ System, and her vision for employment of the system includes the humanitarian field. The diverse wealth of knowledge she brings to the Solar Stik™ team has been realized in her multiple roles as the Chief Financial Officer, the Solar Stik™ Liaison to the humanitarian field, and most recently as the Chief Culture Officer. Her responsibilities include being the official historian, team advocate, and leader.

The Solar Stik™, Inc. staff includes 30 members who operate the company in three separate locations, all located in Saint Augustine, FL. They believe in keeping manufacturing in the United States. This solar-powered system provides versatility and adaptability for those who need portable power. They believe in providing "the most thorough information resource for anyone looking at solar generators, even if a system is ultimately purchased from another manufacturer."

The Solar Stik™ is a hybrid power system; in the center of the system is a battery bank. Inside of the battery bank is a smart technology product that interacts with the generator, diesel,

and solar power that uses power only when it is needed. Because of this smart technology, large amounts of gas can be saved and it is very effective for the Army, who utilizes these devices in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition, fuel convoys, which are frequently targeted during war, aren't needed as often. Dr. Hollis and her husband have donated quite a few systems and equipment to clinics in Africa and Sudan that provide power for basic care and refrigerators to keep medicine and other portable devices powered.

Solar Stik™, Inc. has just been named one of UF's Top 100 fastest growing companies in the "Gator100." The Gator100 is sponsored by UF Warrington College of Business Administration and the Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation (CEI), which recognize and celebrate the achievements of leading UF alumni entrepreneurs around the world. The Gator100 ranks the 100 fastest-growing, Gator-owned or Gator-led businesses each year to recognize the entrepreneurial spirit in all Gator alumni.

Currently, Dr. Hollis still finds time to practice medicine two or three days of the week at Baptist Beaches Hospital in Jacksonville, FL. However, most of her time is contracted with Jacksonville Anesthesia Corporation through her own company, Adrift Anesthesia, PLLC.

Dr. Hollis has been married for 14 years and got engaged in the operating room, where Dr. Dave Paulus and Dr. Mike Mahla were very instrumental in the production! She encourages others to be persistent and to keep motivated when it comes to their goals, even when people don't think highly of their ideas. "If it's in your heart and you have a passion for it, don't let other people persuade you otherwise," said Dr. Hollis.

Check out Dr. Hollis' solar products by visiting the following link:
<http://www.solarstik.com/products-solutions>.



Alumni Who Came Back

What brought you back to UF Health?

"My family moved back to Gainesville because of my desire to work with Anesthesia residents here at UF Health where I trained. I worked in private practice and felt a bit distanced from the pulse of anesthesia. I love the academic atmosphere with intelligent colleagues and impressionable residents. I graduated in 2001 and my wife, Julie-Anne, finished Veterinary School in Gainesville in that same year. We now have 2 boys aged 11 and 8, Zach and Ben, and love Gainesville as a place to raise a family."

– David Corda, MD

"I never left Gainesville, I just moved my practice to the private sector for a year. I came back because I missed working with residents and medical students. I had a certain lack of fulfillment in private practice that grew over time due to the corporate environment. I feel the overall mission of quality patient care and training future clinicians is important and it gives me a great sense of satisfaction to be a part of it."

– Sean Kiley, MD

"I came back for something a little more interesting and challenging. I enjoy working in an academic setting and having trained at UF, I knew it would be a rewarding experience."

– Renard Sessions, MD



Alumni Who Are Coming Back

Heather Reed, MD

Dr. Heather Reed will be joining UF's Department of Anesthesiology, Division of Cardiothoracic Anesthesia in August.

She is currently concluding her fellowship training at the University of Washington in Seattle. She began the program in July and is very excited for it to end so that she can return



to her family in The Swamp. "I know a lot of people that are still in the department, like my mentors Drs. Laurie Davies and Greg Janelle," said Dr. Reed. She wants to remain in a family-like setting and at UF Health, she really feels at home! "When you're working and spending most of your days with certain people, you want to make sure it's with people you get along with and feel at home with," Dr. Reed explained. She encourages future medical students "to try to learn something new every day."

ANESTHESIOLOGY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA, INC. DUES STATEMENT 2016

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership (MDs)	\$35.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership (non-MDs)	\$17.50	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership	\$500.00	\$ _____
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