

UVM Anesthesia News

A Newsletter From The University of Vermont Department of Anesthesiology

Volume 8 Issue 1

Summer 2013

News Flash

An unexpected change in leadership of the Dept. of Anesthesiology.
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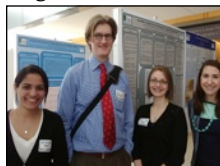
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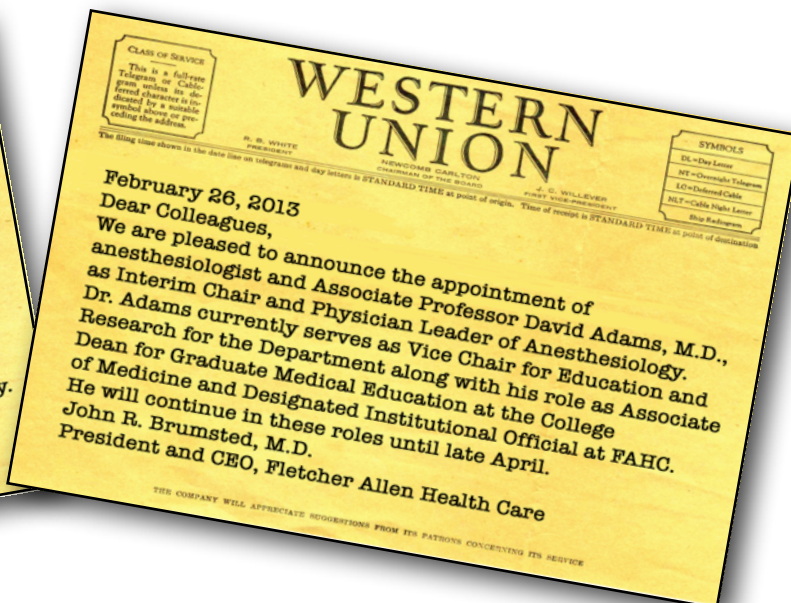
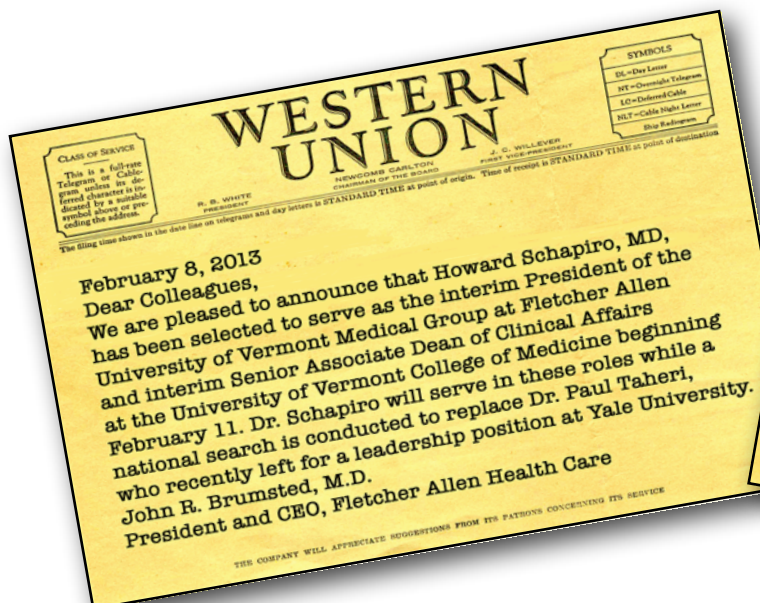
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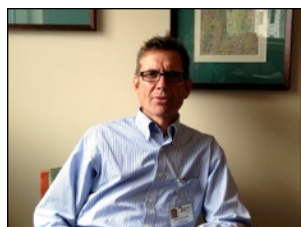
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Fletcher Allen Health Care
111 Colchester Avenue
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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Welcome to the Anesthesia Department's summer newsletter. As I reflect on our department's 75th year

during this time of leadership transition, it is only natural to visit the department's history and legacy once again. This being August, we also have an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our recently graduating class of anesthesia residents and pain fellows, welcome our new class of CA-1 and fellowship trainees, introduce three new faculty members, and wish a fond farewell to two of our distinguished anesthesiologists who have retired during this academic year.

Having provided exceptional service and leadership for an outstanding group of anesthesiologists, CRNA/AA's, residents, and fellows over the past sixteen years, Dr. Schapiro is to be congratulated on being selected the interim leader for the University of Vermont Medical Group. Elsewhere, it seems as though academic Anesthesiology Chairs rarely cultivate the external relationships and possess the internal fortitude to remain in this position for more than just a few years, but consistent with our department's history, we have certainly benefited from the stability of a long-serving leader. Dr. Schapiro, like John Abajian and John Mazuzan before him, guided the Anesthesia Department with a steady hand.

I would like to recognize the outstanding contribution of two longstanding department members, Heidi Kristensen and David Smail, who have recently retired from clinical work after 34 and 36 years respectively. Beyond their outstanding contributions to teaching and clinical care, both Heidi and David have been long-term members of our department's Quality Committee. I fondly remember many Wednesday afternoons listening to Heidi's exquisitely articulated, thorough case reviews that were often followed by one of David's laser-sharp, pithy summary comments. They will most certainly be missed.

We welcome three new faculty members, Melissa Davidson, Emily Stebbins, and Erik Anderson, who all came on board to the department in July. Melissa joins us after having served as program director and past interim chair at UMDNJ in Newark, NJ. Emily rejoins our department after

completing a pediatric anesthesia fellowship at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Erik is joining us after completing his residency and cardiac fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital. I expect that their knowledge, expertise, and infectious enthusiasm will significantly contribute to our clinical and academic missions.

For the first time in our history, all of our graduating residents selected fellowship training programs as their next destination. Two, Dr. Katherine Holley and Dr. Brian Monroe, have joined our pain fellowship program and - to my knowledge another first - Dr. Weili Gray is completing the sleep medicine fellowship at Fletcher Allen. Two of the residents matched in cardiothoracic anesthesia fellowships, Dr. Scott McQuilken at Duke and Dr. Jessica Heath at the University of Pittsburgh. Last but not least, Dr. Brian Turner has selected a fellowship in critical care at the University of Iowa. Our pain fellowship graduate, Dr. Thor Hallingbye is joining a private practice group in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he will be doing a mix of OR anesthesia and pain work.

I would like to note one additional recent departmental achievement. The IARS chose "Cognitive Outcome After Spinal Anesthesia in Infancy" as best in the category of pediatric anesthesia and a finalist for the "Best of the Meeting" award out of 400 submissions for its 2013 annual meeting. Dr. Rob Williams presented this longitudinal study of Vermont children who have been given spinal anesthesia, finding no correlation between children who received spinal anesthesia and lower subsequent scores on standardized tests. This study makes an important contribution to the emerging literature related to potential anesthetic neurotoxicity and was made possible through a unique collaboration between our department, the James M. Jeffords Center for Policy Research at the University of Vermont, and the Vermont Department of Education.

In conclusion, as I consider the professional commitment, clinical and academic talents, and personal qualities of the members of our department, please allow me to also add that I am genuinely privileged and honored to have the opportunity to serve as Interim Chair for the University of Vermont Department of Anesthesiology.

David Adams MD

David C. Adams MD Curriculum Vitae Summary

PLACE OF BIRTH

Hillsdale County, Michigan

EDUCATION

September 1984 to June 1988:

MD, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, East Lansing, MI

September 1981 to July 1982:

University of Surrey, Department of Human Biology, Guilford, Surrey, England

September 1979 to June 1983:

BS with Honors, Physiology, Michigan State University College of Natural Science, East Lansing, MI

POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING

July 1992 to July 1993:

Postdoctoral Clinical Fellowship in Anesthesiology, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, NY

August 1989 to July 1992:

Resident in Anesthesiology, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, New York, NY

July 1988 to June 1989:

Transitional Internship, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

July 2000 to present:

Associate Professor
Department of Anesthesiology
University of Vermont College of Medicine
July 1998 to July 2000:

Clinical Associate Professor
Department of Anesthesiology
Mount Sinai School of Med, New York, NY

July 1993 to August 1998:

Assistant Attending
Department of Anesthesiology
Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY

OTHER APPOINTMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS

2007 to 2013:

Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education/Designated Institutional Officer, FAHC and UVM College of Medicine

Misc:

American Society of Anesthesiologists
International Anesthesia Research Society
VT Society of Anes. (President 2007 to 2009)
Society for Education in Anesthesia Subcommittee on ACGME Competencies
FAHC QA and I Committee and Patient Safety Subcommittee

UVM Learning Environment and Professionalism Committee

UVM College of Medicine Human Research Committee

UVM Department of Anesthesia Education Committee

UVM Department of Anesthesia Quality Improvement Committee

UVM Department of Anesthesia Resident Selection Committee

New UVM Residents & Chronic Pain Fellows

Anesthesiology residency positions nationwide are highly sought after and UVM is no exception. This year's incoming CA-1 resident class is the product of a sophisticated selection process designed and implemented by UVM Anesthesia Program Director Don Mathews and Residency & Fellowship Coordinator Jennifer Poland. After evaluation of almost five hundred applications and about seventy-five interviews, we look forward to working with these men and women this year and into the future:

Residents

Mordechai Bronner MD

Yale University - B.S. Biochemistry
Mount Sinai School of Medicine - M.D.
U. of New Mexico - Internal Med. Internship

Dani Porter MD

Millersville University - B.S. Biology
Temple University School of Medicine - M.D.
Mary Imogene Bassett Med. Center - Internal Medicine Internship

Thomas Pace MD

UVM - B.S. Biology
UVM College of Medicine - M.D.
UVM - Internal Medicine Internship

Andrew Rubens MD

U. of Michigan - B.S. Brain/Cognitive Science
Wayne State Univ. School of Medicine - M.D.
Wayne State Univ. - Transitional Internship

James Wolf MD

Emory University - B.A. English
SUNY Downstate Medical Center - M.D.
UVM - Internal Medicine Internship

Amanda Yap MD

St Bartholomew's and the Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry - M.D.
UVM - General Surgery Internship

Pain Fellows

Katherine Holley MD

Indiana University - B.S. Biology
Kansas City U. of Med. & Biosciences - M.D.
UVM - Anesthesia Residency

Brian Monroe MD

Mary Washington College - B.S. Biology
Univ. of Illinois College of Medicine - M.D.
UVM - Anesthesia Residency

Categoricals for July 2014 CA-1 Start

Esther Caballero-Manrique MD

San Jose State Univ. - B.S. Chemistry & Physics
U. of Oregon - Ph.D. Chemistry & Biophysics
Univ. of Rochester School of Medicine - M.D.

Erin Maddy MD

Northwestern University - B.S. Materials Science & Engineering
Univ. of Minnesota Medical School - M.D.

The NEARC Fab Four



A number of UVM anesthesiology residents participated in poster presentations at the 7th Annual New England Anesthesia Resident Conference (NEARC), hosted this year at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston on April 13th. NEARC was first held at the University of Massachusetts in Worcester, MA in 2007, the brainchild of Dr. Stephen Heard, Chair of the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Massachusetts. His vision was to develop an annual conference bringing together residents throughout New England to share clinical, teaching, and research activities. The conference has been a tremendous success over these initial years and UVM residents have become increasingly involved in presentations at this meeting.

The conference theme this year was "Life After Residency" and was highlighted by three talks on the subject: "Overview of Healthcare Reform" by Richard Gregg, MA, MBA, Director of Programs in Healthcare Administration at Suffolk University, Boston, "Private Practice Overview" by Terence Gray, DO, Pain Fellow, B&W Hospital, and "OR Emergencies/Or Checklist" by William Berry, MD, MPH, Chief Science and Implementation Officer, Joint Center for Health System Innovation, Harvard School of Public Health.

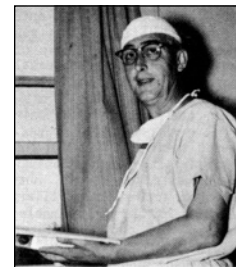
Following the talks, posters were presented. UVM residents presented four posters. Will Hart presented "Case Report: The Occurrence of an Eclamptic Seizure in a Pregnant Female with no Prior Clinical Indication or Pre-eclampsia." Katherine Holley presented "Difficult Double-Lumen Tube Placement - A Non-traditional Use of the Glide-scope, Fiberoptic Bronchoscope and Exchange Catheter When Other Devices Just Won't Fit." Veena Graff presented "AV Block Resulting from High Vagal Tone in an Obstetric Patient." Mandy Braaten presented her poster "Anesthetic Implications of a Parturient with Congenital Methemoglobin M." All these residents, known collectively as the "Fabulous Four," deserve tremendous credit for taking interesting clinical situations and developing their posters for this meeting.

Ralph Yarnell MD

1956: The Original Fab Four

Betty Wells. Gino Dente. Ernie Mills. Ed Brazell. The first two names are quickly fading from institutional memory, the latter pair long forgotten. But in 1956 they were about to become key figures in groundbreaking UVM research on a new inhalation agent that no one yet knew how to use safely. The 110-year reign of ether was almost over.

The lives and careers of Betty Wells and Gino Dente have been discussed in previous issues of UVM Anesthesia News. Betty Wells, a native of South Sutton, NH, had been hired by UVM Chief John Abajian in 1941 because "he preferred a nurse who didn't know anything, so I felt that I was qualified." Gino Dente had learned the basics of ether anesthesia as a medic on bloody Pacific beaches during WWII, and by 1956 had been an Instructor of Clinical Anesthesia at UVM for six years. Ernie Mills, the son of a well known Burlington veterinarian, was a 1942 UVM Med graduate who had also served in the Pacific, as a battalion surgeon with the Seventh Air Force. He had returned to Vermont in 1946 "to find that Dr. Abajian had already set up a two-year residency for him at the Mary Fletcher," and had become Abajian's first partner in 1948. By 1956, Mills's primary clinical interest was "ventilatory problems"



and a few years later he would found UVM's Respiratory Therapy Department. Ed Brazell had perhaps the most interesting background of the four. Born in Iron River, MI, he was interested in a medical career while in high school, but had gotten sidetracked, lured to Florida for \$13, a free bus ticket, and a chance to play trumpet in a band. Three years later, in 1941, Brazell had graduated from the University of Florida with a Physics degree and a Phi Beta Kappa key. During WWII, he had worked on radar at the M.I.T. "Rad Lab," and after a chance meeting with Henry Abajian, John's brother, had finally made his way



to Vermont, graduating from UVM Med in 1953. In 1956, Brazell was John Abajian's new Director of Anesthesiology Research.

Life is full of surprises, and so it was in 1956. John Abajian and his partners - Wells, Dente, Mills, and Brazell - had no idea that their lives and careers would soon drastically change. But they were about to find out.

Next Issue: Fluothane®

Transitions



In the middle of February, I transitioned my role as Health Care Service Leader and Chairman of the UVM Department of Anesthesiology. The department is quite fortunate to have David Adams as its new Chief. A proven leader who will provide excellent leadership for the department,

David will offer a fresh perspective. Leaving the role that I held for over fifteen years was made slightly easier knowing that competent leadership was available internally.

For me, the challenge to provide leadership as the Interim President and CEO of the University of Vermont Medical Group is a wonderful opportunity. Dr. Paul Taheri's departure to Yale necessitated finding interim leadership while a national search is underway for his replacement. It is a fascinating job. First and foremost, I wish to continue to build a cohesive medical group that will be able to face and actively participate in health care reform, in whatever shape that might take.

It has been difficult, these past few months, not being as close to the department as I have been for almost twenty-seven years. I appreciate being able to work a couple of days clinically a month and to sit in the "homeroom" and see my colleagues and friends. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you for the opportunity to work in such a wonderful department, to provide guidance, and to build on the work of great mentors. The department is in great hands.

Howard Schapiro MD

It's painful to recall the dark days of 1996, pre-Howard, when the anesthesia residency and A.A.B. Inc. were on life support and the department was at war with its' own Chief. Seventeen years later, Howard leaves the department stronger than ever, with a large, well-trained staff, highly competitive residency, and an active and diverse research program. From all of us, thank you, Howard.

The Editor



Howard on Alaska's Kenai River in June, contemplating how to build a cohesive medical group that will be able to face and actively participate in health care reform.

Tax-deductible contributions to The Johns' Fund and the UVM Anesthesia Research & Development Fund are welcome and should be directed to: David Adams MD, Chair - UVM Dept. of Anesthesiology, Fletcher Allen Health Care, 111 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401.

Upcoming Events

8th Annual Mazuzan-Abajian Classic Golf Tournament

A fundraiser for the UVM Department Of Anesthesiology Johns' Fund.

Autumn Date TBD, The Links at Lang Farm, Essex Junction, VT.

Contact: Steve O'Donnell MD at stephen.odonnell@vtmednet.org for details.

11th Annual Northern New England Critical Care Conference

October 17th - 19th, The Essex, Vermont's Culinary Resort & Spa, Essex Junction, VT.

Contact: Mark Hamlin MD at mark.hamlin@vtmednet.org or go to <http://cme.uvm.edu> for details.

2014 is the UVM Department of Anesthesiology's 75th anniversary and we are planning a celebration to commemorate this event. Tentative plans include a gala affair to immediately follow the 2014 Johns' Fund Lecture on Saturday, March 8th. Of course, all current and former staff and residents are invited. Please send all thoughts and suggestions to jude.schofield@vtmednet.org.

Dr. David Smail's pre-retirement "Last Lecture" (entitled "Smail Tales"), given at UVM Department of Anesthesiology Grand Rounds on June 20th, 2013, is available for viewing (and well worth it) at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSHRwGzkRfI>

UVM Department of Anesthesiology

Web: <http://www.fletcherallen.org/services/surgery/specialties/anesthesiology/>

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