



INTERFACE

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2010 STA Annual Meeting Photos



Dr. Kirk Shelly Presents the Best Abstract Award from the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Annual Meeting to Dr. Chris Connor.



Dr. Mohamed Rehman thanks Dr. John Sudkamp the 2010 Annual Meeting Chair.



Dr. Mohamed Rehman presented the JS Gravenstein Award to Dr. Michael Ramsey.



Dr. John Doyle thanks Dr. Mohamed Rehman for his service as president of STA during 2009.

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Society for Technology in Anesthesia would like to recognize our 2010 Corporate Members



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STA President's Message

By D. John Doyle, MD, PhD, STA President

It is with great pleasure and humility that I undertake to write this letter using an awkward combination of voice recognition software and "hunt and peck" typing. Our society was launched at a time when anesthesia technology was advancing rapidly from rather primitive foundations. Many of the developments at that time were predicated on the development of the microprocessor. (The first commercially available microprocessor was the Intel 4004, a 4-bit microprocessor launched in 1971. It had a maximum clock speed of 0.74 MHz. Compare that to today's 64-bit microprocessor systems with a clock speeds of 3000 MHz (3 GHz) or more!)

Devices for automated blood pressure measurement, airway gas monitoring, pulmonary artery (Swan-Ganz) catheters, pulse oximetry and capnography all came on the clinical scene during a relatively short period in that exciting era. I am very proud to acknowledge that many STA members played an important role in the evaluation and adoption of these vital clinical technologies. Today, as clinical experience with these and other technologies continues to accumulate, we are witnessing a gradual shift in emphasis towards human factors concerns to help ensure that these technologies become increasingly reliable and easy to use, allowing us to focus on the patient instead of troubleshooting our monitoring equipment.

Another important development that will continue to evolve will be the increased adoption of AIMS systems, not only for their obvious use as anesthetic record keepers, but also to help support "pay for performance" initiatives that are influenced by perioperative care (documentation of appropriate use of prophylactic antibiotics, maintenance of normothermia, DVT prophylaxis, etc.). AIMS systems will also increasingly allow us to study the connection between what we do as clinicians (e.g., depth of anesthesia) and what happens to the patient in the long run (outcomes research).

Having set the stage for why our society is so important to the provision of good clinical care, let me thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve as STA president. As president I look forward to having STA help foster the development of technology in anesthesia and critical care medicine. One way we do this is by holding great meetings. Another way is to attract younger members with an interest in clinical technology and to provide mentorship to younger members so they can shine as future leaders. I look forward to receiving any suggestions you may have in this regard.

Our meeting this year was very successful. It was held January 13-16, 2010 at the PGA National Resort and Spa in West Palm Beach, Florida and was organized by Dr. John Sudkamp and Dr. Ravindra Prasad under the guidance Dr. Mohamed Rehman. All deserve a great round of thanks.

I would like to particularly thank Dr. Mohamed Rehman for performing a wonderful job as STA president in 2009. Finally, thanks are also due to the board members, past presidents and committee members, as well as to Svinicki Association Management, Inc. (particularly Jane, Annette and Marie), all who have helped in making this society so successful this year and in past years.

**STA Ty Smith Dinner at the
ASA 2010 Annual Meeting**
Sunday, October 17, 2010
Peohe's on Coronado Island
San Diego, California
Registration Opens June 1, 2010





Report from the (New) Executive Director

By Jane A. Svinicki, CAE, STA Executive Director

Welcome to Spring 2010!

January 2010 Annual Meeting A Success!

Thanks to all the supporters, exhibitors, attendees and others at our successful January 2010 annual meeting at the PGA National Resort in West Palm Beach, Florida. STA continues to build its attendance, with 128 attendees and 45 abstracts at the meeting. We are especially thankful for our Corporate supporters, our true partners in the development of life saving anesthesia technology.



Enjoy the program highlights and photos included in this newsletter!

January 2011 Annual Meeting

LAS VEGAS

Plan NOW to join STA at the beautiful Venetian Resort in Las Vegas for the January 13-15, 2011 annual meeting. Easy to get to and easy on the wallet (unless you are a gambler) the tremendous number of airline flights and hotel rooms make Las Vegas a very competitive cost destination.

STA Membership Promotion!



Look for the STA booth at several other medical meetings this year, including the recently completed March meeting of IARS in Hawaii (aloha) and the ASA meeting in San Diego in October. You may pick-up a small gift if you 'play your cards right.'

STA 2010 Ty Smith Dinner

After last year's spectacular dinner at Commander's Palace, it may be hard to advance to the next level of gastronomic delight – however, we are going to try. Join STA at Peohe's on Coronado Island, just a short water taxi ride across the bay from San Diego, on Sunday, October 17, 2010 at the ASA meeting in San Diego, California.



Thanks for your support!

Jane Svinicki, CAE
Executive Director

IARS 2010 Annual Meeting Photos



Society for Technology in Anesthesia Panel, "What Can AIMS Do For You?" at the International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. From Left to Right: Dr. Mohamed Rehman, Dr. James Blum, Dr. David Reich and Dr. David Feinstein



Jane Svinicki & Annette Schott with STA Past President Dr. Mohamed Rehman at the STA Exhibit Booth at the IARS Annual Meeting Honolulu, Hawaii

2010 STA Annual Meeting Report

By D. John Doyle, MD, PhD, STA President

The 2010 annual meeting of the Society for Technology in Anesthesia (STA) was held January 13-16, 2010 at the PGA National Resort and Spa in West Palm Beach, Florida. The meeting was organized by Dr. John Sudkamp and Dr. Ravindra Prasad under the guidance of then STA President Dr. Mohamed Rehman.

After opening remarks by Dr. Rehman, the keynote address by Dr. Don Detmer was delivered. Dr. Detmer served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Medical Informatics Association for a number of years. His talk was entitled "Meeting the Challenge of Electronic Health Records for All" and dealt at length with the many challenges facing the medical informatics community to meet the goal of providing electronic health record (EHR) systems for all hospitals. The special difficulties facing small hospitals were reviewed, and some of the ongoing activities at the national level (regulation, legislation, policy analysis etc.) were discussed. The difficulty of implementing EHR systems when ongoing clinical activities cannot be halted was aptly explained using the following analogy: "It's a bit like changing the engine of a car with the car still running."

Following the keynote address, a series of sessions began dealing with technology application to large and small institutions. A number of underlying themes emerged. One theme was that the size of an institution does not necessarily dictate technology requirements, and that large and small institutions often vary significantly in terms of the organization of their bureaucracy, their degree of nimbleness, the accessibility of their upper management, and the flexibility of their budget process. Another theme dealt with differences in technological requirements that arise in private practice settings as opposed to academic practice. Yet another theme was that of telemonitoring and its potential to improve healthcare delivery in both conventional and remote settings.

The electronic anesthesia record (AIMS - Anesthesia Information Management System) was a major focus of the conference. One series of presentations dealt with the difficulties that often arise in the implementation of AIMS systems. Another presentation dealt with using the electronic anesthesia record for logging cases done by residents. One particularly interesting presentation dealt with using AIMS systems to satisfy the Joint Commission requirements for ongoing practice professional evaluations.

Another series of presentations focused on limiting malpractice exposure when using AIMS systems. The case was made that while the occasional artifacts present in AIMS systems can sometimes be a problem, AIMS systems have considerable potential as both a risk management tool and as a means of documenting that excellent care was provided.

In addition to the invited lectures, 45 poster presentations were presented at the meeting. One recurring theme dealt with hospital information systems, such as interfacing IV pumps, anesthesia machines and patient monitors to hospital information systems. Another theme focused on developments in anesthesia record keeping systems with a view to improving clinical care and meeting the requirements of regulatory and safety authorities. One presentation discussed how the iPhone might be used in such a setting. Another presentation looked at the utilization of data from an automatic anesthesia record keeping system for physician credentialing.

Respiratory monitoring was another frequent topic. One study reported on measuring small variations in the pressure inside an air bladder as a means of respiratory monitoring. Another report dealt with transcutaneous measurement of carbon dioxide tension as a means of noninvasive respiratory monitoring. A related initiative described an initiative to develop a database of capnographic waveforms (*CapnoBase*).

Dr. Kirk Shelley, now President-elect of STA, provided four research awards for the presentations voted on as "best". These were:

Best Clinical Use of Technology

Turning an iPhone Into an All-In-One Device – Two Approaches
Brian Rothman MD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, TN

Best New Technical Innovation

The Log-Log EEG Spectrogram as a Measure of Anesthetic Depth
Christopher Scheib MD, CMS Anesthesia Services, Nicholasvi, KY

STA Annual Meeting Report continued on next page

STA Annual Meeting Report *continued***Honorable Mention**

Paperless Solutions for an Academic Anesthesia Department
Marina Krol PhD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NY

Honorable Mention

Successful use of a Novel format of Postoperative Ward Monitoring
Mary Jeskey RN, Damon Michaels, BS, Neal Sanders, PhD, Paul St. Jacques, MD

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, TN

Two additional presentations at the meeting are deserving of special mention. Maynard (Mike) Ramsey, MD, PhD, currently CEO/CTO of CardioCommand, Inc., was awarded the Gra-venstein award for his life-long contribution to blood pressure measurement. In his acceptance speech, Dr. Ramsey described the development of the DinamapTM noninvasive blood pres-

sure monitor based on the very first ever microprocessor, the Intel 4004. Amazingly, the computer code for the system was all written in machine language (following hand translation from assembly language). The first commercial version, the Dinamap 825, was released in 1976, and measured only mean arterial pressure. Applied Medical Research, launched in 1969, was the name of the company Dr. Ramsey started for this purpose. The Johnson & Johnson company acquired Applied Medical Research in 1979, 10 years later. Dr. Ramsey continued with the new company and was actively involved in further product development for many years.

Finally, Beverlee Anderson, past executive director of STA, was honored posthumously with tributes given by Dr. Jim Philip and Dr. Charlotte Bell. We will all miss her.



2011
Annual Meeting
January 12-15, 2011
The Venetian Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

Abstract Submission Opens June 1, 2010
Registration Opens September 1, 2010
Please Visit www.stahq.org
for Additional Details