

ASA-GHO Announces Second Class of Successful Resident Applicants for Training Program in Ethiopia

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The Resident International Anesthesia Scholarship Program, developed by the Committee on Global Humanitarian Outreach (GHO), was inaugurated in 2015.

It is hosted at the CURE Ethiopia Children's Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Mary Bernard, M.D., and James Layton, M.D., supervise the residents, ensuring they have the opportunity to learn to practice anesthesia in more austere surroundings. As U.S. citizens and ABA board-certified anesthesiologists, both serve with CURE International, a health care network that operates charitable hospitals and programs in 29 countries worldwide. Dr. Bernard also serves as the hospital's medical director.

Established in 2008, CURE Ethiopia is primarily a pediatric orthopedic hospital situated in the lovely hills surrounding the capital city of Ethiopia. In addition to Drs. Bernard and Layton, CURE Ethiopia has two full-time, British-trained orthopedic surgeons, two African-trained orthopedic surgeons, three full-time Ethiopian anesthesiologists, a part-time plastic surgeon, and O.R. and PACU nurses and support staff. In October 2016, they will be adding a third U.K.-trained orthopedic surgeon.

In a year, CURE hospital hosts more than 100 visiting medical professionals, including anesthesiology and orthopedic residents from Addis Ababa University and master's nurse anesthetist students. This affords the Resident International Anesthesia Scholars the opportunity to teach anesthesia and relate with colleagues from Ethiopia. The hospital has 54 beds, does approximately 2,400 surgical cases yearly, and has recently received a USAID grant to support the ongoing function of the hospital by supplying much-needed equipment.

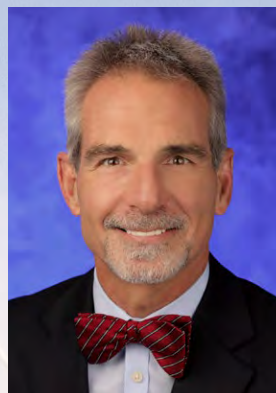


Anna Swenson-Schalkwyk, M.D., with a small patient at CURE Hospital in Ethiopia.

Residents who have already completed a rotation at CURE uniformly have found it to be a valuable addition to their residency training.



Elizabeth T. Drum, M.D., FAAP, FCPP, is an attending anesthesiologist, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology and Pediatrics (adjunct), Temple University School of Medicine, and U.S. Program Director for Scholarship Program, Philadelphia.



Berend Mets, M.B., Ph.D., FRCA, is Chair, ASA Committee on Global Humanitarian Outreach, Chair, Committee on Representation to the WFSA, Council Member, World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists, and Professor and Chair, Pennsylvania State University, Department of Anesthesiology, Hershey, Pennsylvania.



Chelsea Willie, M.D., said:

Traveling to CURE Ethiopia was an experience that is difficult to put in words. Although the hospital was very different from my home institution I felt a sense of belonging and inclusiveness that almost rivaled my home hospital. All the medical staff was devoted to helping the “lesser among us”

make it successfully through their surgeries and recoveries both safely and with as much comfort as possible. I was given the task to teach the anesthesia master’s students, such that lessons could be carried on to encourage the safe anesthetic care of children in a variety of practice settings. Although I was there to teach, I learned more from those I worked with that will follow me throughout my professional and personal life. I learned to be more flexible, more open-minded and to continually give compassion to those around me. Taking a month to go to CURE Ethiopia was an experience I will never regret!



Anna Swenson-Schalkwyk, M.D., said:

Thank you very much to ASA for making this experience possible. During my time in Ethiopia I learned about the challenges of practicing safely in low-resource settings, and I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to teach anesthesia master’s students. Everyone at CURE and other hospitals I was able to

visit was very welcoming and made a wonderful working and learning environment. I hope to draw on this experience and integrate global health practice into my career.

Applications for the Resident International Anesthesia Scholarship are sought yearly and are due by the end of January of the respective year. Learn more at www.asahq.org/gho/ghoprograms/scholarship (please see box on page 46 for details).

Following the inaugural class of eight residents who traveled to Ethiopia with the ASA GHO Resident International Scholarship program, more than 30 U.S. anesthesiology residents applied for the 2016-17 scholarship class. A subcommittee of the GHO committee, composed of Drs. Faye Evans, Liz Drum and Berend Mets, had the difficult task of selecting the next participants from a field of highly qualified applicants. We are pleased to announce their names below:



Anna Harter, M.D., M.A.S., is a resident at Stanford University where she is a chief resident. She is her class representative for the California Society of Anesthesiologists. As a medical student, she participated as a volunteer on the U.S. Naval ship *Mercy* in Vietnam.



Whitney McLeod, M.D., is a resident at the University of Arizona. Her undergraduate degree is from the Georgetown School of Foreign Service with a focus on Africa, and she had multiple international experiences prior to medical school. She did an elective in emergency medicine at Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa as a medical student.

Colby Simmons, D.O., M.B.A., is a

resident at the University of Colorado. He lived in Spain for two years between college and medical school, where he helped public high school science and history teachers develop a bilingual curriculum. He is certified in neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring.

While a medical student in Missouri, he was a medical student delegate to the ASA.



Eric Brown, M.D., is a resident at Maine Medical Center, where he is chief resident. He previously completed an undergraduate teacher education program, including student teaching at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He has an extensive background in adventure travel in the Americas,

Europe and the Mediterranean and has been a guide and a researcher-writer for guidebooks.

Ian Miller, M.D., M.S., is a resident at

Allegheny Health Network in Pittsburgh, and he also is board-eligible in internal medicine. He worked in the biotech/business industry prior to medical school and helped build a cable car system in Trinidad and Tobago to help transport patients to a medical clinic.



Benjamin Cloyd, M.D., M.P.H., is a resident at the University of Michigan. He has an M.P.H. degree from the University of Sydney, where he completed several research projects. He previously did volunteer work aboard the *U.S.N.S. Comfort* as a medical student in Panama, Columbia, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

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Ryan Oosthuysen, M.D., is a resident at the University of Florida. He was born in Zimbabwe and is now a U.S. citizen after coming to the U.S. prior to college. He has had experience in teaching as an anatomy teaching assistant and served as a faculty advisor for the National Young Leaders Forum on Medicine. He previously did volunteer work in Nicaragua in primary care.

Adam Was, M.D., is a combined pediatrics/anesthesia resident at Stanford University. As an undergrad studying mechanical engineering, he took a class in the MIT Development Lab, where his team built a wellhead chlorinator for a community in Zambia. This started his interest in global health, and after college he worked for the Clinton Foundation doing non-clinical/operations work for HIV treatment programs in Swaziland and Ethiopia.



We wish to thank all of the resident applicants who applied for the Resident International Anesthesia Rotation and congratulate the eight successful candidates.

In addition, we thank Drs. Mary Bernard and James Layton for making this program possible on site in Ethiopia for our residents. Finally, ASA's support of the GHO Committee, in delivering this opportunity for our residents, is greatly appreciated.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicants must be CA-2 residents at time of application and must have completed a pediatric anesthesia rotation.

- Must be a resident in good standing in a U.S. anesthesiology residency training program.
- Application requirements include a letter of motivation, letter of support from a program director, a CV and one additional letter of recommendation.
- First available month for the rotation is September 2017; start dates are flexible based on the needs of the home institution.
- **Applications are due by January 31, 2017.**

Send application materials or questions to:

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