

Welcome Letter from the Program Director

Dear Residency Candidate:

Congratulations! You are now entering the final phase of a physician's journey and have, no doubt, worked very hard to achieve this.

Welcome to the **Louisiana State University Anesthesiology Program**. We are dedicated to offering an outstanding clinical training experience in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. You will go on to achieve success and become a leader in the specialty of Anesthesiology. We would like to introduce you to the invaluable aspects the LSU program has to offer.

During your first year, you will rotate through the LSU Internal Medicine Department where you will be exposed to pathology that is often only read about in textbooks! You will be surrounded by outstanding faculty with exceptional clinical skills and a strong commitment to resident education. Specialties such as Cardiology, Endocrinology, Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Emergency Medicine will be offered. "Ward work" is busy and gratifying, and a month of clinical Anesthesia near the end of the intern year is offered to give needed exposure.

As you enter specialty training as a CA-1, you will be introduced into the only academic Level-1 trauma center in the state. A plethora of disease states and care for the indigent population is what makes this hospital "tick". Care for this underserved population will be foremost on your mind. This will truly be a fascinating time and this home base hospital will be the stabilizing thread throughout your residency training. However, along this three year path will be many other hospitals to explore:

Children's Hospital is the facility for pediatric anesthesia within the city of New Orleans. This facility has provided pediatric anesthesiology anesthesiology experience for residents for over twenty years. Residents will provide medical care to an urban underserved pediatric population along with insured patients in a private practice setting.

Kenner Medical Center offers a high volume of obstetrical anesthesia, including high-risk OB. In addition, this experience affords training in the areas of pain management, both acute and chronic. Regional blocks for surgical post-op pain are often performed. This facility provides care to a suburban population exposing the residents to a private practice setting.

The VA hospital provides a multidisciplinary approach with systematic assessment and ongoing management of pain. This rotation will allow residents exposure to not only advanced regional blockade, spinal cord stimulator trials, radiofrequency and ablation, but also incorporates the psychosocial aspects of pain management.

Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center is one of the largest clinical practices in the region. They service privately insured patients with a wealth of many subspecialties, including cardiovascular. This hospital has thirty operating rooms and has a long tradition of training residents in other specialties. Cases provide broad exposure to different types of anesthetic management, including but not limited to

cardiac and regional anesthesia. This facility is located in Baton Rouge, LA. Housing is provided in close proximity to the hospital.

Ochsner Main campus is a leader in organ transplantation for this region. Our residents will be exposed to many aspects of care of liver transplant patients, i.e. emotional and practical support issues, as well as the complex anesthetic requirements. In addition, the resident will have the opportunity to be a part of the Neuro Intensive Care Unit which will provide additional insight into the critical care aspects of cerebral protection and maintenance.

As of July 2013, Lafayette General Medical Center has been added as an additional outlying site during the CA 2 and CA 3 level of training. The ability to supplement case volumes in neuroanesthesia have enhanced residents' educational experience. In addition, more thoracic and major vascular cases have been captured. Housing in a very new facility is provided.

One may comment, *"That is a lot of places to go."* My retort is, *"that is a foundation of a well rounded individual who is a product of many experienced hands and skilled anesthesiologists, and is not afraid to walk into a new environment or hospital setting and accomplish a task with confidence!"*

Building on this clinical foundation, an **Academic Success Program** is offered. Residents are provided a day of academic resources, simulation exposure and opportunity every week. Simulation workshops and conferences including Grand Rounds, Morbidity and Mortality, and Journal Clubs are offered throughout the month. An immersive *Study Hall* has been instituted to prepare the residents for the American Board of Anesthesia Examinations with key words and an interactive question and answer sessions. The pursuit of scholarly activity, relevant quality improvement projects and research opportunities supplement our residents' education.

Our program has reached outside of the hospital in many ways to serve the community with involvement in the Mobile Fishes and Loaves food drives, craft fairs for Children's Hospital, Break Through NOLA summer students, and health and wellness activities for the individual resident themselves.

It is a delight to share our program with you and hope that you will consider us on your journey.

With warmest regards,

Judy G. Johnson, MD