

WICTA

Women in Cardiothoracic Anesthesia



FALL 2021

Message from the Chair and Chair-Elect

September is Women in Medicine Month and WICTA would like to honor the women in cardiothoracic anesthesiology and our professional women colleagues throughout medicine.

The pandemic of the last year and a half has necessitated many women, in addition to their professional work, to take on even more domestic responsibilities, whether childcare responsibilities or care for aging, fragile family members. Increased clinical workloads either due to COVID directly or due to the backlog in care produced by the pandemic often added to the burden. In addition, women in our field have continued to navigate gender bias, inflexible and often family-unfriendly work schedules as they tried to stay focused on their jobs and advance themselves professionally.

Many women, sadly, have left our field, feeling too overwhelmed and unsupported in their professional environments. Rates of burnout, depression, and even suicide have all been documented to be higher in women physicians.

As a result, the need to support women and address professional barriers and bias is even more critical today than it has been in the past. Recognizing this, WICTA and its membership has stayed focused on our mission to promote DEI in our field through the recruitment, development, and promotion of women and under-represented minority physicians as leaders in cardiothoracic anesthesiology.

With that in mind, we would like to take this moment to reflect on some important accomplishments in the last year and a half. WICTA has:

- **Created** virtual happy hour networking events
- **Worked** with the SCA research committee to launch an SCA-research grant for women and underrepresented minorities in medicine
- **Developed** and launched two Peer Development Mentoring Programs: In 2020, a program for women seeking professional speaking skills and this year,



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SOCIETY OF
CARDIOVASCULAR
ANESTHESIOLOGISTS
Knowledge • Care • Investigation

a program for women looking for mentorship and skills to develop research projects. There have been 4 excellent webinars for all WICTA members to participate in and learn from

- **Built** a speaker database that has already begun to connect women to professional speaking opportunities
- **Provided** community and a resource for over 300 women in CT anesthesiology who are looking for a meaningful way to engage with the SCA, including a way to connect with potential collaborators at other institutions or learn about available leadership positions, awards, and grant opportunities.

While change is often slow and may be hard to see as we all are busy in our own personal and professional spheres, we want to highlight a remarkable trend in the last 2 years: the increased involvement and visibility of women in the SCA leadership.

Since 2019, the percentage of SCA Leadership committees that had significant proportions of women have doubled. While WICTA was only part of this story, it is an impressive reminder that impactful change is possible and in our reach.

Great things happen when you give women visibility, a community, and a voice. Thank you all for your amazing work!

Dr. Daryl Oakes and Dr. Bola Faloye

Mission Statement

The **mission** of the SCA Women in Cardiothoracic Anesthesia Special Interest Group (WICTA SIG) is to ensure excellence in quality of patient care through promoting a diverse, inclusive and equitable professional community in our specialty. Our **purpose** is to recruit, develop, and promote women and under-represented minority (URM) physicians and leaders in cardiothoracic anesthesiology.

WICTA *Election Results*



Our WICTA elections were held in the Spring, and we are excited to announce our new team:

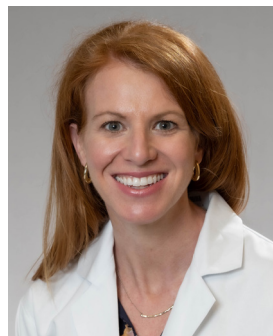
EXECUTIVE TEAM



Chair
Dr. Daryl Oakes
Stanford University



Chair-Elect
Dr. Bola Faloye
Emory University



Communications
Dr. Kelly Ural
Ochsner Health



Social Media
Dr. Samhati Mondal
University of Maryland



Research
Dr. Anne Cherry
Duke University



Scholarship and Awards
Dr. Stephanie Ibekwe
Baylor College of Medicine



Professional Development
Dr. Kiran Belani
Inova Fairfax Hospital
(UVA affiliate)



Member Engagement and Networking
Dr. Choy Lewis
Northwestern Medicine



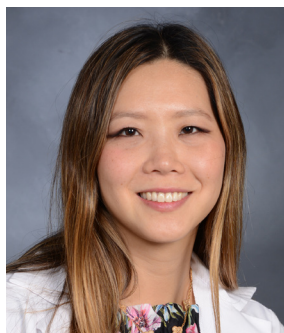
SCA Board
Dr. Emily Methangkool
UCLA

WICTA

WICTA *Election Results*



MEMBERS-AT-LARGE



Research Advisor
Dr. Lisa Rong
Weill Cornell Medicine



Speaker Database
Dr. Lavinia Kolarczyk
University of
North Carolina



Speaker Database
Dr. Tara Humphrey
Keck Hospital of
the University of
Southern California



Mentorship
Dr. Maya Hastie
Columbia University



Happy Hour Networking
Dr. Diba Daneshrad
Providence Cedars-Sinai

NEW MEMBERS-AT-LARGE



Dr. Seema Deshpande
University of Maryland
School of Medicine



Dr. Richa Dhawan
University of Chicago



Dr. Agnieszka Trzcinka
Tufts Medical Center

WICTA

CURRENT *Highlights*



Professional Development Mentoring Program – Focus on Research

We've just wrapped up our latest peer development mentoring program and it was a huge success! The focus for this series was research and our mentees received one-on-one mentorship with research leaders in our field. The program also featured four webinars with prominent guest speakers that were open to all WICTA and SCA members.

All of the sessions were recorded and are available on our website. The links can be found here:

- EPISODE 1** Project Design, *Tiffany Williams, MD, PhD*
- EPISODE 2** Medical Statisticians, *Simon Body, MBChB, MPH, FAHA*
- EPISODE 3** Publishing in Medical Journals, *Hillary Grocott, MD, FRCPC*
- EPISODE 4** Grant Writing, *Danny Muehschlegel, MD, MMSC, FAHA*
Recording will be available soon

WICTA Speaker Database

The WICTA speaker database was created to help connect WICTA members seeking speaking opportunities with department chairs, program directors, and meeting coordinators looking for speakers for grand rounds, etc. Any WICTA member can enter information on previous talks given and areas of expertise. We encourage you to upload your information so those looking for speakers can contact you for potential speaking engagements. If you've given local lectures, grand rounds, talks at regional or national meetings, or even if you have not yet but are interested in doing so, you are more than qualified for our database! We would love for all of our members to be recognized for their hard work.

A link to enroll can be found on our webpage or click the link here: www.scahq.org/WICTA Database.

For those looking for speakers, the database can now be accessed directly from our webpage www.scahq.org/WICTA. If you need any assistance selecting a speaker, please contact us at WICTA@scahq.org.

WICTA Happy Hour

Our WICTA happy hours are a fun way to network with other members. Past sessions have featured great guest speakers and fabulous cocktails from our WICTA mixologist, Dr. Diba Daneshrad.

Mark your calendars for our next happy hour, Wednesday, November 3, 2021. Stay tuned for more details on the topic and information on how to register.

Join us on November 3, 2021!



SCA 2022

Educational Events



Perioperative Ultrasound Course (PoCUS)

The PoCUS Planning Committee is thrilled to announce the return of the hands-on portion of the Perioperative Ultrasound Course at the SCA's Echo Week, February 17, 2022, in Atlanta, Georgia.

This is a fantastic opportunity for any anesthesiologist who is eager to implement basic echocardiography and point-of-care ultrasound into their practice. The workshop focuses on the practical application of point-of-care ultrasound and can be useful to anesthesiologists in private practice or in the academic setting.

For more information, please visit www.SCAHQ/PoCUS.



Echo Week Meeting

Echo Week Planning Committee is excited to announce the return of the flagship perioperative echocardiography conference of the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists (SCA), in an in-person abbreviated format as the SCA ECHO WEEK, February 18- 20, 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia.

The three-day conference will feature multidisciplinary panels on the role of echocardiography in surgical decision making in valvular disease and mechanical circulatory support, clinical dilemmas uniquely encountered in the operating room that may alter the surgical plan, and structural heart disease transcatheter procedures. For more information, please visit www.SCAHQ/Echo Week.



Thoracic Anesthesia Symposium (TAS)

The TAS Planning Committee is looking forward to seeing you in sunny Palm Springs, CA, for the 10th Anniversary of the Thoracic Anesthesia Symposium.

Please join us in sunny California on May 13, 2022 for a day of lectures, workshops, and mentoring through both PBLDs and resident/fellow sessions. Join us for a town hall discussion on anything you may want to explore or share with our panel of experts or with your colleagues.

For more information, please visit www.SCAHQ/TAS.

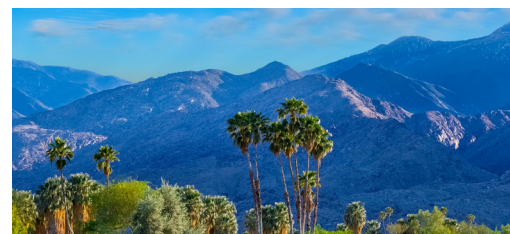


Annual Meeting & Workshops

The SCA Annual Meeting and Workshops will take place in sunny Palm Springs, CA from May 14-17, 2022. We look forward to the return of our in-person annual business meeting and some fun WICTA networking events!

We encourage you to submit an abstract or complex case to be considered for presentation. The submission opens on November 1, 2021 and closes on Dec 10, 2021.

For more information, please visit www.SCAHQ/Annual Meeting and Workshops.



IMPORTANT *Reminders*



Job Listings

Is your department looking to hire? Let us do some advertising for you! Please send job listings to wicta@scahq.org and we'll be happy share with our members.

Social Media Corner

To stay better connected, follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, and join our WICTA Facebook group. Anyone can join our Facebook group, and any member can post to the page. This is a great place to network with other members, ask questions, list job openings, etc.

Got something exciting you need to tweet, send us an email at wicta@scahq.org and let us know about your recent publication, promotion, etc. and we'll share on our social media sites. Let us do the bragging for you.



TWITTER:
[@womeninctanes](https://twitter.com/womeninctanes)



INSTAGRAM:
[@WICTA](https://www.instagram.com/WICTA)



FACEBOOK:
WICTA page and
WICTA Facebook group

WICTA

WICTA Mission Statement

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OUR PURPOSE

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