

# WICTA

Women in Cardiothoracic Anesthesia



SPRING 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND CHAIR ELECT

As we emerge from the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a push towards re-establishing normalcy. In-person meetings and conferences are back, as is travel. In many ways, this “return to normal” is a welcomed relief, as we can now reconnect in person with family, friends, and colleagues. But the pause of the last two years, while challenging, did create several innovations and unique opportunities. The shift to virtual platforms made us all video conferencing experts – and let us attend professional meetings in sweatpants and slippers – and provided us with powerful new channels to build professional networks.

While WICTA was able to function entirely via webinars and zoom meetings, our organization, remarkably, has continued to grow, build community, enhance professional connections, and create new opportunities for women in CT anesthesiology. **We've seen record numbers of women joining and leading SCA committees. The networks formed through WICTA have opened doors to our members for speaking opportunities, project collaborations, mentorship, and friendship and support.**

We can now continue the conversations from our annual events throughout the year, between national meetings, enhancing access to professional opportunities and ending the isolation some women may feel in their unique work environments.

The pandemic highlighted the disparities in caregiver burdens as women's careers were particularly more adversely affected by pandemic restrictions. Given these realities, there is a growing need to re-examine and modernize our professional work structures to meet the needs of our current workforce better.



**Daryl Oakes**  
WICTA Chair



**Bola Faloye**  
WICTA Chair-Elect

Opportunities exist to create greater flexibility at work in scheduling and career trajectories while also establishing mechanisms to address gender disparities in compensation and professional opportunities. WICTA is interested in exploring ways to change the landscape.

In addition, we are excited at the growing interest that anesthesiology residents and ACTA fellows are taking in WICTA! These rising physicians are our future. To better serve this generation, WICTA, with support from the SCA, is thrilled to launch an educational webinar series geared towards preparing trainees to navigate early career-hood.

**We are thrilled to have the opportunity to meet in person in May at the annual SCA meeting in Palm Springs, CA, and continue to innovate with you. At the meeting, we will hold our annual WICTA business meeting (Sunday, May 15, 12:30-1:30 pm) and host a WICTA networking event (Saturday, May 14, 5:00-7:00 pm).** Be on the lookout for more information and registration details for the networking event. We hope you will be joining us as there is lots of exciting work for us to do together.

# COACHING *Scholarships*



## WICTA Coaching Award Recipients Selected

WICTA members were recently afforded the opportunity to apply for one of four coaching scholarships generously donated by Dr. Karen Souter. Dr. Souter is a full professor in the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine at the University of Washington and is a fully trained, International Coaching Federation Associate Certified Coach.

Please join us in congratulating the following women who were chosen as recipients:



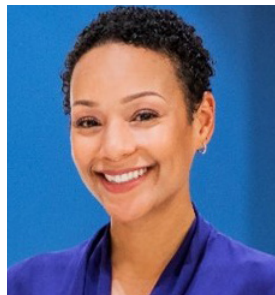
**Gina Linganna, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
and ACTA Fellowship  
Program Director  
*Thomas Jefferson  
University Hospital*



**Samhati Mondal,  
MBBS, MD**  
Assistant Professor  
*University of Maryland  
School of Medicine*



**Erica D. Wittwer,  
MD, PhD**  
Consultant in  
Anesthesiology and  
Perioperative Medicine  
*Mayo Clinic  
University Hospital*



**Charlene Blake,  
MD, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
*University of California  
San Francisco*

# WICTA

### SCA KAPLAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AWARD

WICTA member, Dr. Stephanie Ibekwe, Assistant Professor and Director of Cardiovascular Anesthesia Quality Improvement at Baylor College of Medicine has been named one of this year's recipients of the SCA Kaplan Leadership Award.

***Congratulations Dr. Ibekwe!***



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.

# 2022 SCA *Annual Meeting*



## Join us in Palm Springs, California!

We are thrilled for the opportunity to connect in person at the SCA Annual Meeting. All members are invited to attend our business meeting on Sunday May 15 from 12:30-1:30pm.

We will also host a WICTA Social Event on Saturday, May 14th from 5:00 PM -7:00 PM PST. We are still working out the details and will send location information and registration once we know more specifics. We hope you can join us.

## 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](mailto: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.

## WICTA Speaker Database

The WICTA speaker database has already contributed to multiple speaking arrangements for our members and is being used more frequently by chairs and cardiac anesthesiology division chiefs planning grand rounds, etc. Please upload your information so those looking for speakers can contact you for potential speaking engagements.

If you've given local lectures, grand rounds or talks at regional or national meetings you are more than qualified for our database! We would love for all 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](http://www.scahq.org/WICTA Database).

If you or someone in your department is looking for speakers for Grand Rounds, conferences, etc. please submit an inquiry directly to [wicta@scahq.org](mailto:wicta@scahq.org) to be provided with a list of speakers in the content areas you specify.

# WICTA

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



# TRAINEE

## Engagement Session



### New series launching

We've seen an uptick in membership applications from residents and fellows, which is fantastic! To make sure we're meeting all our members' needs, we're launching a new series geared specifically towards trainees.

#### The first session:

*Preparing for your first job...What you should know*, will be held virtually April 21, 2022, from 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM CST. We are planning to have a moderated panel discussion followed by breakout sessions for small group discussion.



Please [register here](#) to receive the link to attend.

### WICTA IMPACT SURVEY

Several months ago, we sent a survey to WICTA members asking how the organization has impacted their careers and/or professional development. We got some amazing responses. Here are a few highlights of how WICTA has empowered our members.

***"I am in the first year of my practice. Hearing advice in the happy hours and small groups has been incredibly impactful"***

*"...Promotion letter of recommendation, publication in JCVA, grand rounds speaker invitation, SCA opportunities, friendship, and networking. I am incredibly grateful for this group of women who empower women"*

***"The webinar series have been extremely helpful. The presentations were exceptional in terms of content and the speakers were very engaging"***

*"Because of WICTA collaboration, we have a manuscript submitted"*

***"I won a coaching award which really helped my professional growth"***

## Virtual Happy Hour



SUNDAY • APRIL 24  
6PM EST/5PM CST

Our virtual happy hours are a fun, relaxed way to network with other members and learn some valuable skills. Our next happy hour will take place on Sunday April 24th at 6pm EST/5pm CST. This happy hour will feature Dr. Brandi Bottiger from Duke University who will be speaking on Imposter Syndrome.

You can [register here](#) for the event.

# JOB *Listings*



## ■ Mayo Rochester

Mayo Rochester is looking for women interested in a Critical Care position. Time will be split between the OR and the ICU, less than 50% ICU time unless you prefer more. Compensation after a week of 12 hour shifts in the ICU is a week off. Combined training with cardiac is a plus. contact Dr. Erica Wittwer for more information at [Wittwer.ERICA@mayo.edu](mailto:Wittwer.ERICA@mayo.edu).

## ■ Wake Forest University School of Medicine / Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Hospital

Section head for cardiac anesthesia for the Department of Anesthesiology. Prospective candidates should email their CV and letter of intent to Angela Goodson at [agoodson@wakehealth.edu](mailto:agoodson@wakehealth.edu).

## ■ The University of Arizona and Banner University Medical Group

Tucson has several openings for leadership positions.

For more information, please follow the link here: <https://anesth.medicine.arizona.edu/>

Interested applicants can contact Lauren Chuc at [ltgallandt@anesth.arizona.edu](mailto:ltgallandt@anesth.arizona.edu).

## ■ University of Arizona, Vice Chair for Research

The Vice Chair of Research will oversee all Department of Anesthesiology research initiatives in both the clinical and basic science domains. This individual will also represent the Department of Anesthesiology at University of Arizona and Banner research meetings. They will have financial oversight of departmental research programs and administrative oversight of research program administrative staff.

## ■ University of Arizona, Vice Chair for Education

The Department of Anesthesiology is seeking a highly motivated and leadership-oriented Vice Chair for Education. The Anesthesiology department provides educational opportunities across the spectrum of medical education from medical students through residents, fellows, faculty and continuing medical education. The individual will demonstrate commitment to creating an inclusive learning and working environment. The VCE will oversee the work of the Anesthesiology residency program including the Anesthesiology fellowships.

## ■ Banner University Medical Group, Tucson, Medical Director of the CVICU

Under the joint direction of the Service Line Leaders of Anesthesia, Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery and the Chief Medical Officers, the incumbent will partner with the peri-procedural nursing leadership to oversee the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit.

Is your department looking to hire? Let us do some advertising for you! Please send job listings to [wicta@scahq.org](mailto:wicta@scahq.org) and we'll be happy share with our members. You can also post to our Facebook group.

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP