

2016

American Academy of Physician Assistants in Allergy, Asthma and Immunology

Volume 4 Issue 1 December 2016

Inside this issue:

- 1: A Letter from our Past President
- 2: "A Newbie in Asthma and Allergy"
- 2: Mission Statement
- 3: Meet our Board Members!
- 4: Meet our Board Members! cont.
- 5: AAPA-AAI CME Conference 2017
- 5: Social Media Accounts

AAPA-AAI
12/1/2016



American Academy of Physician Assistants in Allergy, Asthma and Immunology

AAPA-AAI

December 2016

Volume 4 Issue 1

Letter from our Past President



Brian Bizik MS PA-C
Immediate Past-President
AAPA-AAI

We are in this for you!

After having the honor of working with the AAPA-AAI for a few years now I have come to see just how much this organization exists for you, the member, the PA.

Everything we do is for our members. From our most visible event, our annual conference, to the behind the scenes work we do with many partner organizations, we do it to advance PAs.

Last year we produced the first ever salary survey for PAs and NPs in Asthma and Allergy. This has been used to help PAs renegotiate contracts and secure proper compensation.

Our annual conference features affordable CME that rivals any conference in the nation. With incredible speakers and practical topics, our meeting provides a learning environment second to none.

The AAPA-AAI works diligently with organizations like the Asthma and Allergy Network, the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI), The Society of Physician Assistants in Otorhinolaryngology, The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, The National Asthma

Education Certification Board, and the AAPA. These relationships help make sure that PAs have a seat at the table when there are relevant discussion on issues that affect the world of asthma and allergy.

In the end however, we can't do the work without you and your support. Being a member and attending our annual conference does so much more than secure some of the best CME around. It allows us to be voices for you and to promote PAs in a myriad of ways.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I want to thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to many productive years to come.

A “Newbie” in Asthma and Allergy



Nicole Soucy MPAS, PA-C

I recently started working in asthma, allergy, and immunology about nine months ago. It is my dream job—I grew up with asthma and allergies and I was excited to give back and share my experiences with patients. I was especially excited to find that there was a professional organization for physician assistants in such a niche subspecialty as AAI and joined the AAPA-AAI soon after starting my new job.

I work in a small clinic in Duncanville, Texas and I had not seen many mid-level providers who worked in the same specialty. Much to my excitement, I also noticed the AAPA-AAI annual conference was in San Antonio this year. It was great, because due to the small size of my clinic I won't be able to attend the AAAAI or ACAAI conferences this year as my

supervising physicians will be attending these conferences and we will need coverage in clinic.

I can't really overstate how much I enjoyed this year's conference. I was able to attend many great lectures from a mid-level perspective from providers who work in the same specialty as me. I met so many people and was surprised the number of people who told me they regularly attended the conference. I was also impressed to see how many individuals from Primary Care came to this conference to learn more about the best ways to care for their allergic patients.

I especially enjoyed the very first social dinner for the AAPA-AAI which was a dinner cruise around the San Antonio riverwalk. It was an excellent opportunity to talk and network with other mid-levels. After meeting and talking with some of the leadership of this organization, I decided to become involved in the organization and attended a board meeting to see how I could help. From that, I am

now the new chair of social media and member outreach!

Overall, I greatly enjoyed this conference. I met a lot of great PAs passionate about caring for patients with Asthma, Allergy, and ENT disorders. I will definitely be back next year and I hope all of you will as well! See you in New Orleans in 2017!

AAPA-AAI Mission Statement



Promotes the growth and development of physician assistants who have an active interest in the field of allergy, asthma, and immunology

- Provides the general membership with a forum for informal assembly regarding the issues that relate to physician assistants in allergy, asthma, and immunology
- Develops and maintains a speakers bureau for the Academy and its members
- Facilitates mutual assistance and support of physician assistants, health professionals, and health services by organizing and disseminating health care information through forums, panels, and other similar programs concerning the delivery and quality of health care services.

Congratulations to our Newest Board Members!

President Amanda Hofmann



Amanda is a board certified Physician Assistant that has been working in the specialty of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology for the last six years. She graduated from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA in 2009 with her Bachelor of Health Sciences and in 2010 with her Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies. She immediately started practicing at Advanced Allergy and Asthma, covering six different offices locations in PA, OH, and WV.

Amanda joined the AAPA-AAI in 2013 and began working with the Board of Directors in 2014. Amanda is also a member of American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants (PSPA), and the Greater Pittsburgh Allergy, Asthma, Immunology Society (GPAAIS). Amanda enjoys opportunities to get involved, gain experience, and further her development, personally and professionally. Amanda studied abroad in the healthcare systems of Budapest, Hungary, and Cape Town, South Africa. She also spent six weeks in Liberia, Africa for her OB/GYN clinical externship. She has been a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority since 2006, holding numerous leadership positions within the chapter, and within the Greek community on campus. Amanda became an advisor to the chapter at Duquesne in 2011 and still holds that position today. Amanda and her husband Allen have two English Mastiffs, Zeus and Roman, and recently welcomed their first son, Landry.

President Elect Susan Symington



Susan has been a practicing Physician Assistant for 25 years. For the past 10 years she has practiced in allergy, asthma and immunology. Susan is passionate about educating patients, students, and colleagues about any topic related to allergy. She currently is an allied health member of the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) and the American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) and currently serves as the medical liaison for the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) to the AAAAI. In addition, she is president –elect to the AAPA Allergy Asthma and Immunology specialty organization. She has published in

peer reviewed articles, is a national speaker for continuing medical education conferences and has presented on many topics including anaphylaxis, screening for primary immunodeficiency, dermatological disorders in allergy, chronic cough, pulmonary function workshops, and asthma. She currently is a full-time faculty member at the University of Washington MEDEX NW PA Program in Seattle. In her spare time, Susan enjoys spending time with her two children. Her favorite sports are college football, basketball and volleyball. She enjoys all genres of music and plays the oboe and piano. She also exercises frequently and loves the outdoors to hike or to go for a long bike ride.

Secretary Amanda Hess



Amanda earned her Bachelor's degree in Neuroscience from Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania in 2009. She then decided to pursue a career as a physician assistant and graduated from Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona with her Master of Medical Science Degree in Physician Assistant Studies in 2012. Amanda works in

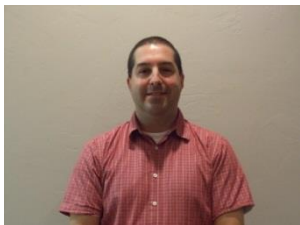
allergy and clinical immunology at San Tan Allergy & Asthma in Gilbert, Arizona. She is also fortunate to be involved in many clinical research trials in asthma, allergy and immunology as a sub-investigator with Arizona Allergy and Immunology Research, LLC. Amanda is a fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). She is also an allied health member of the Arizona Allergy Society, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI), the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI), and a junior member of the European Association of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI). She is married and she and her husband enjoy exploring the outdoors and hiking with their two dogs, as well as traveling, cooking, and playing ice hockey. She is excited to be a part of the AAPA-AAI Board of Directors.

Treasurer Gabe Ortiz



Gabriel Ortiz, MPAS, PA-C, has been a Physician Assistant in Allergy and Asthma since 1991. He has participated in numerous clinical trials for allergy and asthma medications and antibiotics. He received his third BS degree in Physician Assistant studies from the University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston in 1989 and his Masters of Physician Assistant studies in Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1999. Gabe is Co-founder and past president of the American Academy of Physician Assistants in Allergy, Asthma and Immunology. Gabe is the former Liaison from the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) and the AAAAI Liaison to the AAPA. He is also the former AAPA Liaison to the National Institutes of Health-National Asthma Education and Prevention Program –Coordinating Committee. His research on the use of pharmacotherapy in the management of asthma and topics related to the treatment of allergies has appeared in Annals of Allergy Asthma and Immunology, Physician Assistant, Journal of the AAPA, Journal of Asthma, Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Advance for the PA, Advance for NP and PA, Clinical Advisor, The Journal of Family Practice and CHEST. He has served as chair or co-chair for several PA and NP conferences and has given numerous lectures at local, state and national conferences including the AAAAI. In February 2008, Gabe was awarded the recognition of Distinguished Fellow of the AAPA.

Member at Large David Mangold



David Mangold, PA-C, MHS has been practicing in Allergy, Asthma and Immunology since he graduated in 2002. He has owned his practice since 2003 and has two office locations in Western Montana. He is also a member of the ACAAI, AAAAI, and the Contact Dermatitis Society. He is married and has four children.

Director at Large Mike Calvin



Michael Calvin, PA-C, earned his Physician Assistant degree at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 1991. He continued his education and achieved a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 2001. He began his Physician Assistant career in 1991 working in the specialty of allergy, asthma, and immunology as both clinician and sub-investigator in clinical research, and has over eighteen years of professional experience in this specialty. Michael is a Past-President of the American Academy of Physician Assistants in Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology. He has been a Web Editor for the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI) and Vice Chair of the Public Education Committee. He relocated to Texas in 2009, and has

joined Texan Allergy in their Dallas office.

Mark Your Calendars!



Join us next year in New Orleans!

July 28th-30th 2017

Follow Us on Social Media!

Website: <http://aapaaai.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aapaaai>

Twitter: [@AAPAAAI](https://twitter.com/AAPAAAI)

Have something you want seen in the next newsletter? Find any interesting articles?

Contact Nicole at nsoucy24@gmail.com