

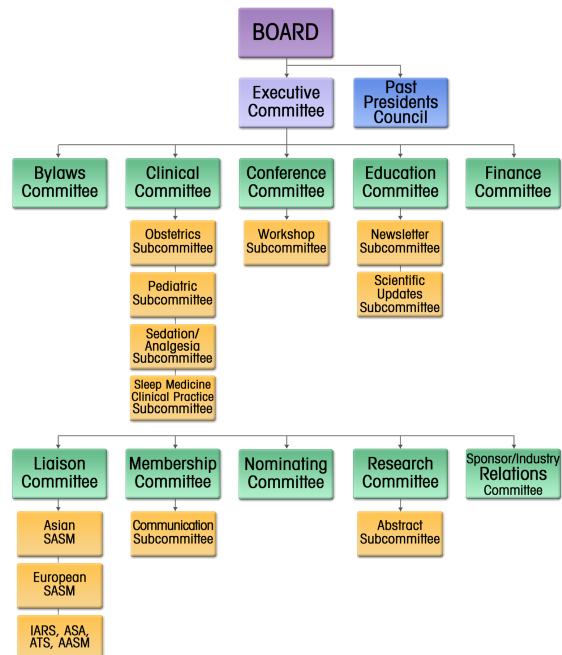
Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine Annual Report • October 2019

This 2019 Annual Report for the Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine (SASM) now brings to a close our eighth year of successful operation. During this time period, SASM has developed into the trusted leader in the field of perioperative treatment of patients with sleep disordered breathing (SDB), and has provided valuable resources to patients, clinicians and researchers alike. The growth has been supported by an expansion in membership, production of educational and scientific material, publication of practice guidelines, the establishment of a SASM section within the International Anesthesia Research Society’s (IARS) journal *Anesthesia & Analgesia (A&A)*, and the conduct of successful Annual Meetings. These activities have led to the expansion of SASM’s reach beyond North America. Within the last year, SASM has stayed up-to-date with new developments in perioperative medicine and embraced new technologies such as perioperative ultrasound, which again will be included in our program for this year.

These endeavors have been supported and made possible by the dedication of the members of the Board of Directors, the large body of committee members and the excellent management by Svinicki Association Management, Inc. (SAMI) in Wisconsin.

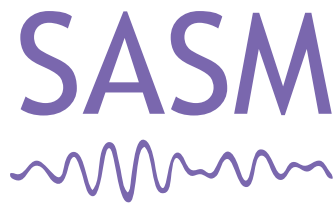
Organizational Structure

The organizational structure has evolved over the years, reflecting the expansion of our activities. The committee and subcommittee structure has been modified to include new initiatives of our organization.



Affiliation with the *A&A Journal* Section on “Respiration and Sleep”

SASM continues to work with IARS. This partnership aligns with the mission and vision of SASM in terms of research and education. Moreover, this partnership helps achieve our goal to increase the number of sleep related publications in *A&A*, thereby increasing exposure of the readership to the field of anesthesia and sleep medicine. For the past few years, Dr. David Hillman has been serving as the Executive Section Editor for Sleep and Respiration for *A&A*, the flagship journal of IARS and the official journal of SASM. Both IARS and SASM share the goal of increasing the amount of published literature related to respiration and sleep medicine. This relationship has been



most critical in helping disseminate knowledge of sleep medicine in the field of anesthesiology and most recently publicize the Society's Guidelines. This year, Dr. Hillman - after many years as Section Editor - has announced his desire to step down from this position. We are grateful to Dr. Hillman for serving in this position given his unique qualification as an anesthesiologist, sleep medicine specialist, and a prolific clinical investigator. In collaboration with A&A and SASM leadership, we have identified Dr. Toby Weingarten as successor, a long-term SASM member and well-known individual in the field. He is currently working with Dr. Hillman and A&A to ensure a smooth transition. We were notified that A&A is interested in dedicating an edition of the journal to SDB, which should elevate SASM even further. SASM members should be encouraged to submit their scientific work related to anesthesia and sleep medicine to the Respiratory and Sleep section of A&A.

Bylaws Committee

Bylaw changes are required to reflect the changes in the governance structure of SASM. In addition, there may be need for changes in Bylaws to ensure that they reflect current circumstances and needs of the Society. Dr. David Hillman, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, guides us through the process of modifying the Bylaws as necessary.

Clinical Committee

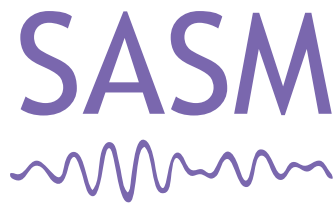
The Clinical Committee, under the leadership of Drs. Bhargavi Gali and Dennis Auckley, has undertaken several educational efforts.

The following were created and placed on the website:

- 1) PAP in the Perioperative Period
 - a. Slide Set
 - b. Tip Sheet for Clinicians
 - c. Publication of a Review Article on Perioperative PAP Therapy
- 2) Revision of Previous Available Documents
- 3) Revised Versions for Non-MD Providers of the Educational Documents for Perioperative Management of Patients with OSA
 - a. Long Guidelines and Recommendations Document
 - b. Brochure
- 4) Collaboration with the Narcolepsy Network on Narcolepsy Perioperative Task Force
 - a. Publication of a Narcolepsy Perioperative White Paper

Obstetrics Subcommittee

The Obstetrics Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Jennifer Dominguez and co-chaired by Dr. Ghada Bourjeily, includes an international group of members with clinical and research expertise in sleep and pregnancy from the US, Canada and Britain. SDB during pregnancy can have a major effect on the health of the mother and that of the newborn. The Obstetrics Subcommittee has been



most productive with regards to education on effects of SDB on pregnancy and labor. The group has conducted multiple teleconferences to work on several issues that are of interest to anesthesiologists, obstetricians and neonatologists. They have been involved in numerous collaborative efforts including symposia at SASM, World Sleep and others as well as co-authored publications that raise awareness about the importance of sleep in the obstetric population. Their big project for the year has been a collaborative one with members of the subcommittee and others from outside the committee on a consensus statement on SDB in pregnancy. At this point they have performed the extensive literature review, reviewed all abstracts and are completing the process of assessing full texts for inclusion.

Pediatric Subcommittee

The Pediatric Subcommittee, under the guidance of Chair Dr. Rajeev Subramanyam and its members, has worked hard to promote and take part in scholarly activity (e.g. clinical and bench research, guideline development, systematic review/meta-analysis) as it relates to the perioperative management of children and adolescents up to the age of 18 years with SDB, and to interpret what it means for the health care provider responsible for their care and ensure this knowledge reaches them.

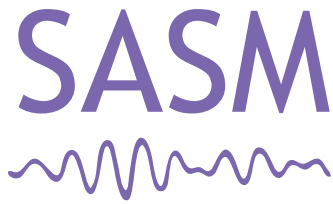
Another project of the Pediatric Committee was recently published in *A&A*. This project was designed to identify research needs related to the care of children with OSA undergoing diagnostic and surgical procedures. This is a part of a bigger project of developing guidance for appropriate selection of children undergoing airway surgery on an outpatient basis. This project was conducted in collaboration with Dr. Girish Joshi (Past President of SASM) and the Guidelines Committee of the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA).

The Committee submitted a panel to the ASA on updates and controversies on Pediatric OSA which will be presented by the committee members.

The committee has regularly provided literature updates that has been circulated to SASM members.

Sleep Medicine Clinical Practice Subcommittee

The Sleep Medicine Clinical Practice Subcommittee, led by Dr. Sarah McConville and Co-Chaired by Dr. Mandeep Singh, includes anesthesiologists with dual specialties: anesthesia and sleep medicine. One of the goals of this subcommittee is to increase the interest in the field of sleep medicine and raise awareness of perioperative sleep-related issues. This subcommittee fosters formal networking and exchange of clinical ideas between anesthesiologists and sleep medicine physicians. The subcommittee is working on completing a survey designed specifically for trainees in order to solicit feedback and ideas related to: perceptions of sleep medicine training, challenges or barriers to such training for anesthesiologists and benefits of such training to an individual and the provider and patient community. In addition, this group works with the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA)



to advance the incorporation of sleep medicine into regular anesthesia residency curriculum and eventually into anesthesia board examinations. The committee is actively working at this time to make the survey available to all members through the SASM website.

Education Committee

One of the major functions of SASM is to promote communication between anesthesiology and sleep medicine practitioners to improve patient care and safety. The multidisciplinary membership with expertise in anesthesia and sleep medicine is in the forefront of research addressing optimal management of patients with SDB. SASM is a leader in the field and with focus on perioperative care of patients with SDB it has developed multiple avenues to achieve its educational goals, including the Annual Meeting, a newsletter, and web-based education such as white papers and review of recent literature, to mention a few.

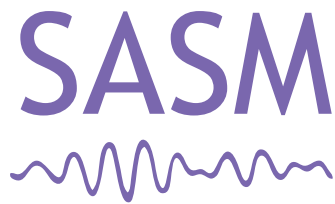
The SASM Annual Meeting, held just before the ASA Annual Meeting, is the showcase of our educational efforts. This year, it has been organized under the direction of Drs. Christine Won, Stephen Haskins and Krish Ramachandran as well as the Conference Committee. This year's theme, *State of the Art Technology, Pharmacology and Pathways*, provides some new insights to practitioners who take care of patients with SDB in the perioperative arena. This year, the SASM meeting will also expand its Ultrasound Workshop to include the assessment of the airway in addition to the more traditional assessment of cardiopulmonary pathology. This type of activity has been very successful in other societies and I believe that it will expand the appeal of our meeting to younger physicians who more routinely incorporate technology into their everyday practice.

Further, this year we collaborated with the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine (ASRA) to explore the close links between regional anesthesia and pain management and perioperative outcomes in patients with SDB. Opportunities are explored to see if a collaboration between the societies could lead to the creation of consensus guidelines on the postoperative management of patients with SDB. As the first two guidelines have been a tremendous success, I am confident that this resource intensive project has a good chance of succeeding by pooling the interest and knowledge of both societies.

In this context, the SASM Annual Meeting provides a perfect opportunity to exchange ideas with an expert group focused on the sleep-anesthesia interplay. Abstracts are an important component of the Annual Meeting. Drs. Malin Jonsson Fagerlund and Toby Weingarten, Abstract Subcommittee Co-Chairs, will lead the abstract exhibition and announce the top three award recipients at our Annual General Meeting.

Newsletter Subcommittee

The Newsletter Subcommittee, under the leadership of Drs. Jean Wong and Mahesh Nagappa, produces excellent newsletters at regular intervals. It also presents a vehicle to attract sponsorship



and bring value to our members and collaborators. In 2020, we will move to a bi-annual format in order to focus resources and consolidate our message. The SASM newsletter is a rich source of information and continues to update us on the activities of SASM and articles on current trends and controversies surrounding perioperative care of patients with SDB. The circulation of the SASM newsletter is an important task due to our connection to the IARS and the World Anesthesia Network. The newsletter is posted on the SASM website and affiliated society websites as well.

Scientific Updates Subcommittee

The Scientific Updates Subcommittee, under the outstanding guidance of Drs. Susana Vacas and Crispiana Cozowicz, provides continuing educational material to our members via the website. It supplies members and readers with summaries of the most important publications in the field and highlights trends in research informing clinical care.

Finance Committee

Our financial affairs are still in good order. However, we - along with many other societies – have seen increasing difficulties in obtaining sponsorship funding for our Annual Meetings. Companies in general seem to distance themselves from funding subspecialties. This needs to be addressed and we will need to identify alternative funding sources in order to maintain the financial health of our Society. Irrespectively, we have worked diligently to ensure that our administrative costs remain modest, allowing us to re-invest our funds in our educational program, outreach activities and in supporting research.

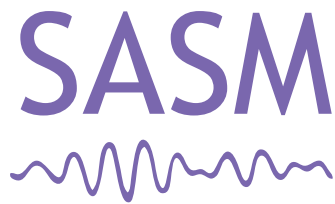
Due to the change in our membership year, our 2019 budget shows an increase in liabilities, which will however have no effect once 2020 is considered.

Under the guidance of our Treasurer, Dr. Ramachandran, our governance arrangements ensure appropriate oversight. A monthly financial reporting structure is in place to the President and the Treasurer.

We continue to work on increasing memberships and engage corporate support that would allow us to pursue various projects that expand membership benefits. As mentioned previously, financial support has diminished this year for both our and other societies. In order to stem this trend, SASM has created an Industry Relations and Sponsorship Committee under the leadership of Dr. Ramachandran, which we hope will be able to address this issue.

Involvement in Activity of Other Professional Societies

There is emerging opportunity for SASM to advance perioperative care of patients with SDB and enhance patient safety worldwide. SASM has been invited to organize panels at the 2020 World



Anesthesia Congress in Prague. Close collaboration with the IARS continues and our members represent SASM at a number of societal meetings throughout the world.

This year a closer collaboration with ASRA may lead to the creation of new joint guidelines in the future.

Membership Committee

Membership is the cornerstone of our Society. In order to achieve a committed membership, we need to look for ways to increase value to members. We have introduced innovations in our membership drive to broaden our membership base. These efforts have continued under the leadership of Dr. Meltem Yilmaz. Last year, it was decided to divide the Membership Committee into regional work groups who would be in charge of soliciting and engaging departments in their respective regions. The success of this endeavor will have to be evaluated and adjustments need to be made if needed.

Communication Subcommittee

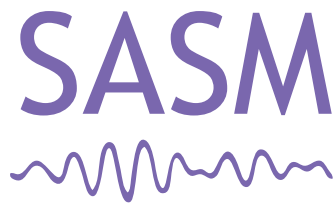
Under the leadership of Dr. Michael Pilla and his committee, our website remains the face of SASM to a broad audience. Its appearance and functionality have been improved over the years and, with its solid content, remains a highlight of SASM.

OSA Death and Near Miss Registry

In May 2014, SASM partnered with the Anesthesia Quality Institute of the ASA to launch a registry to identify recurring patterns underlying perioperative deaths or adverse events in patients with known or suspected OSA. Dr. Norman Bolden led the project in collaboration with Dr. Karen Posner at the University of Washington, Seattle, and the ASA Closed Claims Project. The members of the committee recently submitted an abstract to the ASA 2018 Annual Meeting. It was accepted for an oral presentation and extremely well received.

Perioperative Care Guideline Taskforce

After the development of guidelines on preoperative screening and assessment of adult patients with OSA, which has been published in the August 2016 issue of *A&A*, guidelines for intraoperative management of patients with OSA were published in 2018. Preliminary talks between members of SASM are ongoing to complete the final guidelines on the postoperative management of patients with SDB.



Conclusion

SASM continues to be the thought leader in the field of perioperative care of patients with SDB. It represents a multidisciplinary group of individuals who strive to improve outcomes with comorbidities spanning from OSA, Hypopnea Hypoverilation Syndrome, Narcolepsy and other related problems. Our members continue to push forward the education, science and advocacy in this field and our reach has grown internationally. With outlets such as our newsletter, section in *A&A* and our website we reach thousands of physicians and practitioners throughout the world.

We have achieved much, but recognize the challenges ahead. Our financial health depends on finding alternative funding sources, including the growth of our membership. Obtaining corporate sponsorship in a very competitive environment has become a challenge, but we are ready to face it by leveraging our products and our human resources. The future of SASM is bright and many scientific questions are waiting to be answered. I am not exaggerating: millions of patients will benefit from the work of SASM. I therefore want to thank all of those who have contributed to its success and invite anyone to indicate their interest in joining the leadership of this energetic Society.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stavros G. Memtsoudis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Stavros G. Memtsoudis, MD, PhD, MBA
President, Society of Anesthesia and Sleep Medicine