

GSA Board of Directors

AGENDA

August 21, 2026
GSA Summer Meeting
Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands, Buford, Georgia

Items in red require motion/vote per by-laws. Items in green, action requested.

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
Information Items				
1. Call to Order	Dr. Stephen Anderson, President	5:00 pm scheduled start		
2. Confirmation of Quorum	Dr. Joanna Schindler	Total of nine (9) Officers, Directors or Alternate, Delegates or Alternates must be present and voting.		
3. Logistics	Stephanie Bowen, Executive Director	Food and beverage, facilities, and introduction of guests.		
Discussion Items Society Administration				
4. February , 2026 BOD Minutes (attached)	Dr. Anderson	Minutes of the 2026 Winter Board Meeting		
5. 2026 Mid-Year Financials	Dr. Schindler	1. 2026 Mid-Year Financials 2. Approval of Contracts for Full Replacement of GSAHQ.org website software/design. (Mr. Jet Toney) 3. Revision of Reimbursement Guidelines recognizing ASA Annual Meeting compressed schedule.		

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
6. Membership Reports(attached)	Dr. Lindsay Sween	Membership Report		
7. Nominating Committee	Dr. Bill Hallows	Dr. Hallows is responsible for submitting recommendations of members for officer, ASA delegate and alternate delegate, and MAG HOD nominations due November 30, 2026. Consultation with past presidents and current officers is recommended.		
8. Resident Section	Dr. Benjamin Taylor, Resident Section VP			
9. GAAA Report (see attached)	Ashleigh Schroder, CAA, GAAA President			
10. CWL Museum Liaison	Dr. Bill Hallows			
11. By-Laws Committee	Dr. Hallows	GSA By-Laws should be reviewed annually for conformity with ASA By-Laws and administrative procedures.		
12. CWL Award	Dr. Peggy Duke			
Discussion Items Education and Member Services				
13. Program and Education (see attached)	Dr. Andrea Corujo-Rodriguez Stephanie Bowen, Executive Director Activity Directors: Dr. Austin Debeaux, Dr. Devin Weinberg	Future Meetings @ Ritz-Carlton at Reynolds Plantation, Lake Oconee July 16-18, 2027 July 14-16, 2028 July 13-15, 2029 In its Spring Meeting, the GSA Executive Committee voted to continue conducting the Winter Forums each February. Winter 2027 sites are being researched.		
14. Vendor Relations Committee	Dr. Caryl Bailey			

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
(See attached)				
15. Practice Management	Dr. John Stephenson			
16. Academic Anesthesia (reports attached)	Dr. Susan Smith and Dr. Gaurav Patel (Emory); Dr. Mary Arthur and Dr. Akbar Herekar (MCG)	1. Program reports. 2. Medical Student Section recommendation. Students presenting: Al Fofanah - MCG Meghna Kamath - MCG		
17. Women in Anesthesia (see attached)	Dr. Judi Handley, Dr. Lindsay Sween			
Discussion Items Advocacy				
18. Government Affairs (see attached report)	Dr. Amanda Brown/ Jet Toney Stephanie Bowen Derek Norton Hannah Holcomb	GSA member State Rep. Dr. Michelle Au faces re-election challenge. GSA-PAC supports Dr. Au. Reception Friday to honor her service in the General Assembly. Members should contribute to her campaign.		
19. GSA-PAC report (see attached)	Dr. Judi Handley	See report.		
Discussion Items State Medical Relations				
20. MAG HOD	Dr. Gerry Moody	Confirm delegate attendance.		
Discussion Items ASA Component Society				
21. ASA Resident House of Delegates		GSA Delegates to 2026 ASA Resident HOD: Kellie Moon MD (MCG), Aksul Vashi MD (Emory), Chidi Ojukwu MD (Emory) Jacky Chen MD, Alternate (MCG)		

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
22. ASA House of Delegates	Mr. Toney	Confirm delegate and alternate-delegate attendance to ASA HOD. Saturday, October 17 Georgia Caucus – 1:30-3:00 p, Delmar Rm Southern Caucus – 3:00 p, Marina B’room D Monday, October 19 Georgia Caucus – 1:30-2:30 p Delmar Southern Caucus – 2:30 p, Marina B’room D		
23. ASA Director’s Report	Dr. Bob Lane/Dr. Matt Klopman			
24. Other				

GSA Board of Directors

AGENDA

February 6, 2026

GSA Winter Forum

Hyatt Regency Atlanta Perimeter at Villa Christina

Officers: Rachel Steckelberg, MD, President, presiding; Stephen Anderson, MD, President-Elect; Bill Hallows, MD, Vice-President; Joanna Schindler, MD, Secretary-Treasurer.

ASA Director & Alternate Director: Steve Sween, MD, Alternate Director, and Bob Lane, MD, ASA Director.

ASA Delegates and Alternates: Judith Handley, MD, Delegate; Matt Klopman, MD, Delegate; Lindsay Sween, MD, Alternate, and Caryl Bailey, MD, Alternate.

MAG Delegates: Gerry Moody, MD, Delegate

Committee Chairs: Andrea Corujo-Rodriguez, MD, Program and Education Co-Chair; Amanda Brown, MD, Government Affairs, Chair.

GAAA Officers: Yulanda Green, CAA, President; Ashley Schroder, CAA, President-Elect.

Resident Section Officers:

Winters Meeting Activity Director: Julian Rios, MD; Theodore Stewart-Hester.

Staff: Stephanie Bowen, GSA Executive Secretary; James E. “Jet” Toney, GSA Lead Lobbyist; Derek Norton, GSA Contract Lobbyist (MAG Contract Lobbyist), Topspin Strategies; Hannah Holcomb, Topspin Strategies.

Guest: Seza Apiliogullari, visitor from Turkiye.

Items in red require motion/vote per by-laws. Items in green, action requested.

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
Information Items				
1. Call to Order	Dr. Rachel Steckelberg	Dr. Steckelberg called the meeting to order at 5:10.		
2. Confirmation of Quorum	Dr. Joanna Schindler	Total of nine (9) Officers, Directors or Alternate, Delegates or Alternates must be		

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
		present and voting. Eleven voting members present.		
3. Logistics	Stephanie Bowen, Executive Director	Ms. Bowen addressed logistics, schedule, and meeting packet availability. Mr. Toney introduced guests. Drs. Julian Rios and Theodore Stewart-Hester, activity directors, were recognized.		
Discussion Items Society Administration				
4. August 22, 2025 BOD Minutes (attached)	Dr. Steckelberg	Approval of Minutes of the 2025 Summer Board Meeting		
5. 2025 End-of-Year Financials, 2026 Budget (attached)	Dr. Schindler	2025 End-of-Year Financials 2026 Proposed Budget		
6. Membership Reports(attached)	Dr. Lindsay Sween	Membership Report must be accepted.		
7. Nominating Committee	Dr. Stephen Anderson	Proposed 2026 Slate of GSA Officers President-Elect Bill Hallows, MD Vice President Caryl Bailey, MD ASA Director Bob Lane, MD, MBA, FASA ASA Alternate Director Matt Klopman, MD, MBA, FASA ASA Delegates Steve Sween, MD, FCCP, FASA Mary Arthur, MD, FASA Judi Handley, MD Maurice Gilbert, MD, FASA Korrin Ford, MD, FASA Matt Klopman, MD, MBA, FASA Caryl Bailey, MD Joanna Schindler, MD Ronnie Zeidan, MD, MBA ASA Alternate Delegates Anterpreet Dua, MD Amanda Brown, MD Rachel Steckelberg, MD, MPH Lindsay Sween, MD Bill Hallows, MD		

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
		Delegates to MAG Gerry Moody, MD Amanda Brown, MD		
8. Resident Section	Dr. Kelly Taylor, President			
9. GAAA Report (see attached)	Yulanda Greene, CAA, GAAA President			
10. CWL Museum Liaison (see attached report)	Dr. Bill Hallows Ad Hoc Committee: Dr. Hallows, Dr. Schindler, Dr. Steve Sween.	Ad Hoc committee on CWL Museum support recommends GSA contribute \$1,200 to fund installation of UV filtering window coverings to protect rare historic documents and photos.		
11. By-Laws Committee	Dr. Hallows	Committee to review By-Laws to determine appropriate and necessary updates and report to Board on following schedule: Submit amendments to HQ by May 30, 2026. Executive Committee review by June 15. EC recommendations to HQ by June 30. Special Board Meeting review by July 15. Final amendments submitted to the full membership by July 22. A vote to adopt the revised By-Laws should be conducted at the August 22, 2026 General Business meeting.		
12. CWL Award	Dr. Peggy Duke			
Discussion Items Education and Member Services				
13. Program and Education (see attached)	Dr. Andrea Corujo-Rodriguez Stephanie Bowen, Executive Director	2026 Summer Meeting ends its 3-year run at Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands August 21-23, 2026.	Later update: ASA established a relationship with PACE to credential CME for components. GSA	

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
		ASA is ending its Joint Provider Program. GSA will seek a CME provider partner.	will obtain CME cert working with PACE.	
14. Vendor Relations Committee (See attached)	Dr. Caryl Bailey			
15. Practice Management	Dr. John Stephenson			
16. Academic Anesthesia (reports attached)	Dr. Susan Smith and Dr. Gaurav Patel (Emory); Dr. Mary Arthur and Dr. Akbar Herekar (MCG)	Reports attached.		
17. Women in Anesthesia (see attached)	Dr. Judi Handley, Dr. Lindsay Sween			
Discussion Items Advocacy				
18. Government Affairs (see attached report)	Dr. Amanda Brown/ Jet Toney Derek Norton Stephanie Bowen	2026 Legislation of Interest: HB 326 Health plan coverage for non-opioids SB 162 Statewide credentialing HB 717 Regulation of Ketamine clinics		
19. GSA-PAC report (see attached)	Dr. Judi Handley	See report.		
Discussion Items State Medical Relations				
20. MAG HOD	Dr. Gerry Moody	MAG HOD is in the fall. The following GSA members attended the 2025 HOD: Dr. Moody, Dr. Dozier, Dr. Mark Huffman (MAG Secretary), Dr. Florence LeCraw, Dr. Carol Mulligan, and Dr. Steve Walsh. Also, Jet Toney, GSA staff.		

Agenda Topic (Support material item number in parenthesis)	Presenter	Discussion	Action Taken	Next Steps
Discussion Items ASA Component Society				
21. ASA Resident House of Delegates				
22. ASA House of Delegates	Mr. Toney	Delegates and Alternates who have agreed to serve in 2026 but know now that they will not be able to attend the 2026 ASA HOD in October should notify 2026 President Anderson and GSA HQ.		
23. ASA Director's Report	Dr. Bob Lane			
24. Other				

Officers: Rachel Stockelberg, MD, President, presiding; Korrin S. Ford, MD, Immediate Past-President; Stephen Anderson, MD, President-Elect; Bill Hallowea, MD, Vice-President; Joanna Schindler, MD, Secretary-Treasurer.

ASA Director & Alternate Director: Steve Sween, MD, Alternate Director, and Bob Lane, MD, ASA Director.

ASA Delegates and Alternates: Judith Handley, MD, Delegate; Mary Arthur, MD, Delegate; Matt Klopman, MD, Delegate; Lindsay Sween, MD, Alternate, and Caryl Bailey, MD, Alternate.

MAG Delegates: Gerry Moody, MD, Delegate and Heather Dozier, MD.

Committee Chairs: Andres Corujo-Rodriguez, MD, Program and Education Co-Chair; Amanda Brown, MD, Government Affairs, Chair;

GAAA Officers: Toby Lawhon, CAA, Past-President, and Jordan Aigner, CAA, AAAAA Director, substituting for Yulanda Green, CAA, President.

Resident Section Officers:

Summer Meeting Activity Director: Varsha Pulijal, MD.

Staff: Stephanie Bowen, GSA Executive Secretary; James E. "Jet" Toney, GSA Lead Lobbyist; and Derek Norton, GSA Contract Lobbyist (MAG Contract Lobbyist).

Special Guests: ASA 1st Vice-President Jeff Mueller, MD, (Eileen). State Rep. Michelle Au, MD, (GSA Member) and Mr. Noah Laurie, Rep. Au's Chief of Staff.

Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
January through June

	2026	2025	% Change
Income			
Exhibit Fees	14,740.00	12,160.00	21.2%
Interest Income	4,159.76	4,309.23	-3.5%
Meeting Registration	10,903.00	12,679.00	-14.0%
Membership Dues			
AA Dues	20,833.33	23,283.34	-10.5%
Membership Dues	414,570.00	395,780.00	4.7%
Total Membership Dues	435,403.33	419,063.34	3.9%
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	1,687.24	-100.0%
State Advocacy Grant	3,500.00	30,000.00	-88.3%
Total Income	468,706.09	479,898.81	-2.3%
Expense			
Advertising and Promotion	0.00	41,368.30	-100.0%
Association Management	85,735.44	85,735.44	0.0%
Awards	441.42	402.15	9.8%
Bank Service Charges	0.00	23.90	-100.0%
Contributions	2,200.00	0.00	100.0%
Gov. Affairs Consulting	55,650.00	55,650.00	0.0%
Insurance			
D&O	0.00	2,740.00	-100.0%
Total Insurance	0.00	2,740.00	-100.0%
Legislative Entertainment	3,072.07	5,272.94	-41.7%
Licenses and Permits	1,390.00	35.00	3,871.4%
Meeting Expense			
A/V & Room Rental	5,151.23	5,944.42	-13.3%
Banquets & Catering	37,255.88	11,856.92	214.2%
Liability Insurance	190.00	430.00	-55.8%
Speaker Honoraria	0.00	1,000.00	-100.0%
Total Meeting Expense	42,597.11	19,231.34	121.5%
Merchant CC Fees	12,239.59	10,945.39	11.8%
Office Supplies	477.96	446.00	7.2%
Outside Consultants	450.00	0.00	100.0%
Postage and Delivery	1,502.14	208.47	620.6%
Printing and Reproduction	870.13	24.00	3,525.5%
Professional Fees			
CPA	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.0%
Total Professional Fees	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.0%
Registrations & Reimbursements	4,790.00	5,600.00	-14.5%
Subscriptions & Dues			
Melio Fees (ACH)	11.00	5.00	120.0%
Subscriptions & Dues	1,789.15	397.95	349.6%
Total Subscriptions & Dues	1,800.15	402.95	346.7%

Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
January through June

	2026	2025	% Change
Telephone	525.00	450.00	16.7%
Travel & Ent			
Airfare	6,869.19	4,365.28	57.4%
Lodging	8,626.13	7,666.36	12.5%
Meals	1,652.16	1,135.15	45.5%
Mileage	1,581.03	940.24	68.2%
Parking, Tips, Cabs, etc.	698.88	1,008.54	-30.7%
Per Diem	0.00	66.09	-100.0%
Total Travel & Ent	19,427.39	15,181.66	28.0%
Website	8,058.82	7,574.06	6.4%
Total Expense	242,477.22	252,541.60	-4.0%
Net Income	226,228.87	227,357.21	-0.5%

Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2026

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Truist 1964 428,255.95

Total Checking/Savings 428,255.95

Other Current Assets

Investments

Federated Hermes Ultrashort 87,711.09

Vanguard Index Funds 80,570.68

Total Investments 168,281.77

Total Other Current Assets 168,281.77

Total Current Assets 596,537.72

Other Assets

Truist Investment Services

Money Market

Cash Deposits 10,040.40

Dreyfus Treasury Sec 91,438.21

Money Market -26,478.61

Total Money Market 75,000.00

Truist Investment Services 30,638.37

Total Truist Investment Services 105,638.37

Total Other Assets 105,638.37

TOTAL ASSETS 702,176.09

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable 45,660.74

Total Accounts Payable 45,660.74

Credit Cards

Truist

0065 - Jet 2,527.45

1554 - Stephanie 603.30

Total Truist 3,130.75

Total Credit Cards 3,130.75

Total Current Liabilities 48,791.49

Total Liabilities 48,791.49

Equity

Fund Balance 427,155.73

Net Income 226,228.87

Total Equity 653,384.60

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 702,176.09

Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists
Budget vs. Actual
January through June

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income			
Exhibit Fees	14,740.00	25,000.00	59.0%
Extraordinary Vendor Support	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
Interest Income	4,159.76	10,000.00	41.6%
Meeting Registration	10,903.00	40,000.00	27.3%
Membership Dues			
AA Dues	20,833.33	30,000.00	69.4%
Membership Dues	414,570.00	400,000.00	103.6%
Total Membership Dues	435,403.33	430,000.00	101.3%
State Advocacy Grant	3,500.00	15,000.00	23.3%
Total Income	468,706.09	521,000.00	90.0%
Expense			
Advertising and Promotion	0.00	75,000.00	0.0%
Association Management	85,735.44	146,975.00	58.3%
Awards	441.42	1,000.00	44.1%
Bank Service Charges	0.00	100.00	0.0%
CME	0.00	3,000.00	0.0%
Contributions	2,200.00	10,000.00	22.0%
Gov. Affairs Consulting	55,650.00	95,400.00	58.3%
Insurance			
D&O	0.00	3,000.00	0.0%
Total Insurance	0.00	3,000.00	0.0%
Legislative Entertainment	3,072.07	10,000.00	30.7%
Licenses and Permits	1,390.00	1,500.00	92.7%
Meeting Expense			
A/V & Room Rental	5,151.23	20,000.00	25.8%
Banquets & Catering	37,255.88	40,000.00	93.1%
Equipment	0.00	2,000.00	0.0%
Liability Insurance	190.00	1,000.00	19.0%
Speaker Honoraria	0.00	2,000.00	0.0%
Meeting Expense	0.00	500.00	0.0%
Total Meeting Expense	42,597.11	65,500.00	65.0%
Merchant CC Fees	12,239.59	15,000.00	81.6%
Office Supplies	477.96	1,000.00	47.8%
Outside Consultants	450.00	500.00	90.0%
Postage and Delivery	1,502.14	2,000.00	75.1%
Printing and Reproduction	870.13	500.00	174.0%
Professional Fees			
CPA	1,250.00	1,500.00	83.3%
Legal Fees	0.00	5,000.00	0.0%
Total Professional Fees	1,250.00	6,500.00	19.2%
Registrations & Reimbursements	4,790.00	8,000.00	59.9%

Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists
Budget vs. Actual
January through June

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Subscriptions & Dues			
Melio Fees (ACH)	11.00		
Subscriptions & Dues	1,789.15	1,000.00	178.9%
Total Subscriptions & Dues	<u>1,800.15</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>180.0%</u>
Telephone	525.00	1,000.00	52.5%
Travel & Ent			
Airfare	6,869.19	15,000.00	45.8%
Lodging	8,626.13	35,000.00	24.6%
Meals	1,652.16	6,000.00	27.5%
Mileage	1,581.03	4,000.00	39.5%
Parking, Tips, Cabs, etc.	698.88	4,000.00	17.5%
Per Diem	0.00	500.00	0.0%
Total Travel & Ent	<u>19,427.39</u>	<u>64,500.00</u>	<u>30.1%</u>
Website	8,058.82	8,000.00	100.7%
Total Expense	<u>242,477.22</u>	<u>519,475.00</u>	<u>46.7%</u>
Net Income	<u><u>226,228.87</u></u>	<u><u>1,525.00</u></u>	<u><u>14,834.7%</u></u>

Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists
Profit & Loss
Winter Meeting 2026

Income	
Exhibit Fees	8,000.00
Meeting Registration	8,420.00
Total Income	16,420.00
Expense	
Meeting Expense	
A/V & Room Rental	5,151.23
Banquets & Catering	19,352.97
Liability Insurance	435.00
Total Meeting Expense	24,939.20
Office Supplies	330.00
Travel & Ent	
Lodging	1,663.55
Meals	173.57
Mileage	224.75
Parking, Tips, Cabs, etc.	25.00
Total Travel & Ent	2,086.87
Total Expense	27,356.07
Net Loss	-10,936.07



PREPARED FOR THE GSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Moving GSA to GrowthZone

A single system for membership, dues, meetings, community and the website, presented with Cornerstone Communications and priced under the AMC Partner Program.



GEORGIA SOCIETY
of ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

WHAT GROWTHZONE WILL DO FOR GSA

A new, modern GSA website

Retires the aging MemberClicks/Joomla site for a fresh, mobile-friendly design with an easy-to-use CMS editor and integrated pages.

The Summer Meeting, end to end

Registration, sessions, prospectus and 20+ exhibitors in one place, with CME tracking and certificates.

Improved member experience

A self-service member portal and streamlined registration, so members update, renew and sign up on their own.

A managed migration

A dedicated onboarding coach and 20 hours of guided setup, timed to the October 1 renewal invoicing date.

Drive engagement and retention

Marketing automation plus an AI overlay that scores engagement, so staff see which members are drifting before renewal.

A private member community

Empower committees with their own online space, meetings, forums, direct messaging and teleconferencing.

Payments built in

GrowthZone Pay handles cards and ACH for dues, registration and PAC contributions, posted to the member record.

A platform that grows with you

Unlimited members, unlimited contacts, unlimited support.

AMC PARTNER PROGRAM

Cornerstone partner pricing on every item, plus complimentary Premium Support

A dedicated support manager, normally \$6,895 a year, included at no cost for the life of the agreement.

PROMOTIONS APPLIED

Additional 10% off the subscription for signing in August · 50% off implementation when Cornerstone signs two clients in the same month.

PRICING: THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT

Quote 20260807-180946952 · expires August 31, 2026

ITEM	LIST PRICE	GSA PRICE
GrowthZone AMS, Member Community & Website Annual subscription · unlimited members and users, Premium Support included Member database · dues, tiers & automated billing · online applications · member directory · events, registration, exhibitors & sponsors · committees · email & marketing automation · forms & surveys · reporting · GrowthZone Pay · hosted website · Member Community (groups, forums, messaging, meetings, files) · Premium Support	\$12,769.00	\$8,938.30/yr
Implementation Data migration from MemberClicks, onboarding, training, and Member Community setup · one-time	\$5,165.00	\$1,628.00
Year-one total \$8,938.30/yr in years two and three · rate locked for the full term	\$17,934.00	\$10,566.30

Manage. Engage. Grow.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Reagan · Account Executive timothy.reagan@growthzone.com · 612-558-0772

Membership Committee
Lindsay Sween, MD, MPH – Chair
8/21/26

Overview:

Priority Items:

1. Maintain Active Membership
2. Grow Membership

Informational Items:

1. Tips for residency program faculty recent graduate outreach
-

Priority Items:

1. Maintain Active Membership
 - Current Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022
Active	854	829	813	805	796
Affiliate	35	14	9	10	9
AA	394	377	223	226	279
Resident	126	124	111	111	114
Retired	203	197	196	192	184
Medical Student	136	118	99	102	85
AA Student	81	121	106	114	80
Total	1,829	1,780	1,557	1,560	1,547

2. Grow Membership
 - Thank you to Bob Lane, Judi Handley, and Bill Hallows for helping me contact every lapsed member from last year encouraging them to renew their ASA and GSA memberships!
 - I am now accepting volunteers to help with the same email and phone call campaign in 2027
 - As always, please encourage your colleagues to become ASA and GSA members (list of membership benefits for your reference below)
 - Identify anesthesia faculty members from each residency program in Georgia who would be willing to reach out to recent graduates in the first five years of their practice who are non-members of GSA and ASA to encourage them to join
 - Ask GAAA to reach out to VCOM (again)
 - VCOM paid for their 2025 class but has not paid for their 2026 class and has not responded to attempts to contact them

Informational Items:

1. Tips for residency program faculty recent graduate outreach

- a. Anesthesiologists in their first three years of practice qualify for the ASA Early Career Membership Program
 - i. Three years of membership for a one-time reduced fee
 - ii. ACE, Summaries of Emerging Evidence, and other ASA courses to earn CME cost-free
 - iii. One cost-free registration for both the Anesthesiology Annual Meeting and ASA Advance any time during the three-year membership term
 - iv. Delivery of targeted clinical, career, personal finance, and wellness resources
- 2. Perks of ASA and GSA Membership
 - a. A unified community to oppose payment challenges and attacks on the physician-led care team model
 - b. Leadership programs created jointly by ASA and leadership experts
 - c. Free MOCA Minute and *Anesthesiology* journal CME
 - d. Deep discounts on every ASA educational title
 - e. Discounted registration fees for ASA Annual Meeting, ASA Advance Meeting, and ASA Legislative Conference
 - f. Discounted registration fees for two GSA meetings annually in which to earn CME and network with other anesthesiologists and industry representatives

Membership Comparison Report (Summer 2021 - 2026)

Current Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Active	854	829	813	805	796	788
Affiliate	35	14	9	10	9	9
Anesthesiologist Assistant	394	377	223	226	279	251
Resident	126	124	111	111	114	114
Retired	203	197	196	192	184	141
Medical Student	136	118	99	102	85	38
AA Student Members	81	121	106	114	80	72
Total	1,829	1,780	1,557	1,560	1,547	1,413

Active Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
	854	829	813	805	796	788
PAC Contributors	19	70	53	121	106	146

Affiliate Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
	35	14	9	10	9	9
PAC Contributors	0	0	0	0	0	0

Anesthesiologist Assistant Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
	394	377	223	226	279	251
PAC Contributors	5	25	27	21	28	32

Student Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
AA Student Membership	81	121	106	114	80	72
PAC Contributors	0	0	0	2	0	2
Medical Student	136	118	99	102	85	38
PAC Contributors	0	0	0	0	0	0

Resident Members

	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Resident Members	126	124	111	111	114	114
PAC Contributors	0	0	2	1	0	1

Resident Section
Kellie Moon, MD (CA3) - President (Resident Component)
08/14/2026

Priority Items:

Residents

- Increase ASAPAC participation and GSA resident membership
- Establish a medical student council to aimed at growing interest in anesthesiology

Informational Items:

Residents

- GSA Resident Leaders
- ABA Basic Exam
- New training/educational sites
- ACGME Leadership Skills Training Program

Priority Items:

Resident participation in ASAPAC and GSA resident membership

- Track current contribution rates to identify remaining gaps
- Follow up directly with residents using resident ambassadors from each class
- Highlight recent legislative issues to reinforce relevance to residents
- Introduce GSA resident membership alongside ASAPAC enrollment
- Promote GSA membership benefits

Medical student council

- Promote early exposure to anesthesiology
- Give students structured exposure to the specialty, direct connections with residents and faculty, and a peer network across all Georgia medical schools
- Recruit a founding leadership team with representation from students across medical schools in Georgia
- Appoint one student representative at each participating school to coordinate local engagement and communication

Informational Items:

Residents:

- MCG: 48 residents
- Emory: 52 residents
 - Recently expanded by adding four new advanced positions per year, with the program expected to grow to 60 residents total
- **GSA Resident Leaders**
 - Kellie Moon - President
 - Benjamin Taylor - Vice President
 - Linda Sghayyer - Secretary
 - Nikolas Holloway - Treasurer

- Rudresh Patel, Benjamin Taylor - Resident Liaison to Government Affairs
 - Ammar Toubasi, Jacky Chen, Kamryn Lewis, Benjamin Taylor - ASA Delegate
- **ABA Basic Exam**
 - Both MCG and Emory have achieved a 100% board pass rate on the ABA Basic Exam, with one resident from each program scoring in the top 10 percentile
- **New training/educational sites**
 - Emory has opened a new simulation lab and established oral board practice for the CA-3 class, which is supported by the new Arthur Blank Children's Hospital of Atlanta
- **ACGME Leadership Skills Training Program**
 - The current chief residents completed the ACGME Leadership Skills Training Program, strengthening the leadership and management skills needed to support the residency program's initiatives

Georgia Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants (GAAA)
Ashleigh Schroder, CAA – GAAA President, 2026
August 21, 2026

Overview:

Priority Items:

1. GAAA Fundraiser

Informational Items:

1. MAG Legislative Conference Donations
2. CRNA Independence Practice
3. GAAA Ice Cream Social and Pickleball

Reference Items:

1. N/A

Priority Items:

1. GAAA Fundraiser
The annual AAAA state academy fundraiser occurred during the week of July 27th. GAAA had a successful week coming in 3rd place of all the state academies. We raised a total of \$21,791. Overall, we are in a very strong financial position at this time.

Informational Items:

1. MAG Legislative Conference Donations
GAAA made a total of \$8,000 in contributions at the MAG conference. Recipients included six Senators (Ben Watson, Chuck Hufstetler, Jason Anavitarte, Kay Kirkpatrick, Randy Roberston, and Shawn Hill) and seven Representatives (Michelle Au, Butch Parrish, Carolyn Hugley, Chuck Efstration, Lee Hawkins, Mark Newton, Sharon Cooper). We are proud to continue supporting key legislators throughout Georgia.
2. CRNA Independence Practice
There were no attempts at CRNA independent licensure this legislative season. GAAA President (Ashleigh Schroder) and President-Elect (Brooke Ferris) will be meeting with our lobbying team in coming weeks to discuss the 2027 legislative session.
3. GAAA Ice Cream Social and Pickleball
GAAA will be sponsoring the ice cream social this Saturday from 3:00-3:45pm. Immediately to follow will be the GAAA pickleball social at 4:00pm. All are welcome and encouraged to join. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Programs and Education Committee
Dr. Ragini Gupta, MD
8/2026

Overview:

Priority Items:

1. Discussion of the Winter meeting 2027

Informational Items:

1. Participation of medical students and residents in abstracts and medically challenging cases
-

Priority Items

1. The Board of Directors voted to continue the Winter Meeting, so the next question is regarding sponsorship. Will Northside still be the sponsor for the meeting?

Informational Items:

1. This year, we have **23 presentations** from students representing MCG, Morehouse, and Emory. The number of submissions continues to increase each year, and that's without even including the new UGA School of Medicine.

GSA 2026 Summer Meeting Poster Presenter Finalists

Emmanuel Dean- edean@msm.edu

Akshay Nair- akshay.nair@emory.edu

Robel Yohannes- RYOHANNES@augusta.edu

Vendor Relations Committee Report
Date: August 21, 2026
Meeting: GSA 2026 Summer Meeting
Chair: Caryl Bailey MD

Overview

Priority Items:

- Call to Action for Board Support

Informational Items:

- GSA 2026 Summer Meeting Vendors
- Vendor Participation Trend, 2022–2026
- Vendor Engagement Activity — "Vendor Vitals" (NEW)

Reference Items:

- Prize/Award Sponsorship Status
- Full 2026 Vendor and Booth Representative List

Priority Items

➤ **Call to Action for Board Support**

The committee would like to formally encourage all board members to actively support this year's vendor engagement efforts. Vendor participation is essential to the continued success of GSA meetings, and the board's visible engagement with vendors sets the tone for the membership as a whole.

Specifically, the committee asks board members to:

- Visit each vendor booth during the meeting and engage vendors and thank them for their participation.
- Encourage attendees, colleagues, and residents to take part in the Vendor Vitals activity.
- Include brief reminders about vendor engagement during moderated sessions and meeting transitions when appropriate.
- Help identify additional vendors or organizations willing to participate in future meetings.
- Share feedback with the committee on vendor interactions to help shape future engagement strategies.

Sustained, visible support from the board throughout the meeting will be a key factor in improving vendor engagement and, ultimately, vendor retention for future GSA meetings.

➤ **Looking Ahead to 2027**

Looking ahead, the committee hopes to build on this year's efforts to grow vendor participation back

toward prior levels in 2027. We are hopeful that the added lure of Lake Oconee next year will serve as an attraction for vendors much like our other attendees.

Informational Items

➤ GSA 2026 Summer Meeting Vendors

As of this report, the GSA 2026 Summer Meeting has 16 confirmed vendors, including three organizations receiving complimentary booths: the Crawford Long Museum, Georgia PHP, and the Medical Association of Georgia. This represents a decrease from the 19 vendors who participated in Summer 2025. The 2026 roster nevertheless reflects broad participation across pharmaceuticals, medical devices and technology, healthcare systems, professional organizations, and member education.

The 2026 meeting welcomes Grifols and Vertex Pharmaceuticals as new additions to the summer roster

Vendor	Booth	2026 Note
Grifols	Standard	New to summer roster
Crawford Long Museum	Complimentary	Member education
Ambu	Standard	
Octapharma	Standard	
Piedmont Healthcare	Standard	
GE HealthCare	Standard	
PAJUNK Medical Systems	Standard	Returning
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare	Standard	
Georgia PHP	Complimentary	Member education
Pacira BioSciences, Inc.	Standard	
Fusion Anesthesia Solutions	Standard	
Blink Anesthesia	Standard	
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	Standard	New to summer roster
Medical Association of Georgia	Complimentary	Prize sponsor
Mindray	Standard	
Karl Storz Endoscopy - North America	Standard	Returning

➤ Vendor Participation Trend, 2022–2026

Vendor participation at the Summer Meeting has fluctuated over the past five years, with a general downward trend since the 2023 peak of 22 vendors. This continues the pattern noted in prior committee reports and reinforces the need for renewed engagement strategies such as Vendor Vitals.

Summer Meeting Year	Number of Vendors
2022	20
2023	22
2024	17
2025	18
2026	16

➤ **Vendor Vitals Engagement Activity**

To encourage attendee traffic and more purposeful interaction with exhibitors, the committee is introducing Vendor Vitals at the 2026 Summer Meeting. Attendees will receive a participation card with spaces for four vendor signatures or stamps. After visiting four different vendors and completing the card, attendees may submit it for entry into a prize drawing.

The activity is designed to:

- Create a simple, low-barrier reason for attendees to circulate through the exhibit area.
- Increase vendor visibility and opportunities for meaningful conversations.
- Reinforce the importance of vendor participation to the success of the meeting.
- Generate feedback that can guide future exhibit hall activities.

Supporting activities will include prominent exhibit hall signage, participant cards, and verbal reminders during the meeting. Following the meeting, we will review participation and vendor feedback to determine whether Vendor Vitals should be continued or expanded.

Reference Items

➤ **Prize/Award Sponsorship Status**

Outreach to vendors regarding prize/award sponsorship for the Vendor Vitals activity is ongoing. Current status:

- Medical Association of Georgia (MAG) — confirmed, one prize sponsored.
- All other exhibiting vendors — outreach in progress; the committee is hopeful additional sponsors will be confirmed before the meeting.

Updates on additional sponsors will be shared with the board as they are confirmed.

➤ **Full 2026 Vendor and Booth Representative List**

The complete list of confirmed vendors and their booth representatives for the 2026 Summer Meeting is provided in the table above under Informational Items. The full historical vendor list (2022–2026) has been reviewed and archived for reference.

GSA 2026 Summer Meeting Vendors

Company/Organization Name	Email Primary Email	Booth Representatives
Grifols	robert.agnew@grifols.com	Rob Agnew Avery Blue
Crawford Long Museum	director@crawfordlong.org	Marena Bleech
Ambu	mbry@ambu.com	Marshall Bryant Danny McKinney
Octapharma	kelly.bunting@octapharma.com	Kelly Bunting
Piedmont Healthcare	jennifer.florence@piedmont.org	Jennifer Florence Anslee
GE HealthCare	turner.guthrie@gehealthcare.com	Turner Guthrie Avery Lagomarsino
PAJUNK Medical Systems	amer.residovic@pajunk-usa.com	Scott Long
Fisher & Paykel Healthcare	geoffrey.macdonald@fphcare.com	Geoff Macdonald
Georgia PHP	Robin.mccown@gaphp.org	Robin F. McCown, Executive Director & CEO Susan K. Blank, M.D., Medical Director
Pacira BioSciences, Inc.	patricia.metz@pacira.com	Nicole Nejeschleba Ken Wolfe
Fusion Anesthesia Solutions	DOLIN@FUSIONANESTHESIA.COM	Dan Olin
Blink Anesthesia	mark.preising@blinkdc.com	Mark Preising
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	ExSpo_Ops@vrtx.com	Lynn Rappaport
Medical Association of Georgia	drice@mag.org	Donnie Rice
Mindray	j.sewell@mindray.com	Jody Sewell
Karl Storz Endoscopy - North America	holly.waleski@karlstorz.com	Stephanie Sparacino, Airway Sales Executive

Year	Number of Vendors	Vendor Companies
Summer 2026	16	Grifols Crawford Long Museum (Complimentary Booth) Ambu Octapharma Piedmont Healthcare GE HealthCare PAJUNK Medical Systems Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Georgia PHP (Complimentary Booth) Pacira BioSciences, Inc. Fusion Anesthesia Solutions Blink Anesthesia Vertex Pharmaceuticals Medical Association of Georgia (Complimentary Booth) Mindray Karl Storz Endoscopy - North America
Summer 2025	18	Philips POC Ultrasound Crawford Long Museum (Complimentary Booth) Octapharma PPM DEA GE HealthCare Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Ambu, Inc. Georgia PHP, Inc. (Complimentary Booth) Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc. exhibiting as Pacira BioScience,s, Inc. Fusion Anesthesia Solutions Blink Device Company Medical Association of Georgia (Complimentary Booth) Piedmont Healthcare Vigilant Medical Solutions Medtronic Mindray Harmony Anesthesia Callagy Recovery

Summer 2024	17	MedPro Group Crawford Long Museum (Complimentary Booth) CCI Anesthesia National Partners in Healthcare Medical Business Bureau GAAA (Complimentary Booth) PAJUNK MEDICAL SYSTEMS Fisher & Paykel Healthcare Ambu, Inc. Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc., exhibiting as Pacira BioSciences, Inc Merck Karl Storz Endoscopy - United States Medtronic Navy Medicine Mindray SCI Anesthesia Services Cumberland Pharmaceuticals
Summer 2023	22	Cook Medical MedPro Group GAAA (Complimentary Booth) ApolloMD AAG Wellstar Health System GE HealthCare Southwell - Tift Regional Medical Center Georgia Society of Anesthesia Technologists Pajunk Medical Fisher and Paykel Healthcare Eagle Pharmaceuticals HCA Healthcare Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc. BioSciences, Inc Fusion Anesthesia Solutions Trevena Heron Therapeutics Merck Karl Storz Endoscopy Crawford Long Museum (Complimentary Booth) Mindray Cumberland Pharmaceuticals

Summer 2022	20	GAAA (Complimentary Booth) Quest Healthcare Solutions MedPro Group Cumberland Pharmaceuticals North American Partners in Anesthesia MSN Healthcare Solutions Flexicare, Inc. Preferred Physicians Medical (PPM) Pacira Biosciences Fujifilm SonoSite Pajunk Medical Systems Radar Healthcare Providers Trevena Heron Merck Mindray Acacia Pharma, Inc. Graphium Health B Braun Medical Anesthesia Associates of Gainesville
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Susan A Smith, M.D. – Emory University Liaison
Susan.a.smith@emory.edu
Mary E. Arthur, MD, FASE – Augusta University Liaison
August 21, 2026

Overview

Informational Items (Emory):

1. Residents and fellows
2. Changes to Emory residency and Fellowships
3. Departmental Education Priorities

Dr. Anne Marie McKenzie-Brown has been named Chair of our Department beginning August 1, 2026. Has served as our interim chair for the past two years.

Informational Items:

1. Residents and fellows:
 - Change to our residency
 - i. Significant tragedy in January and February 2026
 1. Dr. Jena Salem
 2. Dr. Tiana Hudson-Jerman
 - ii. 4 R1 spots started July 1, 2026
 - iii. Will be recruiting again next cycle for these 4 Rs
 - Conferences
 - We had a great showing here at the GSA with 14 residents and 9 students presenting various work
 - This year Emory residents will assume the GSA leadership roles for the resident component
 - ASA delegates will be attending the ASA in October
 - In addition we have 12 residents attending the ASA in October and last count 9 students
 - Dr. Max Brady (CA2) received the SCA HEPAC Rising Star Scholarship
 - Dr. Benoit Niclou is applying for the Georgia CTSA TLI Grant with Dr. Anna Woodbury as his mentor. This is a two-year bprogram for Clinical and Translational Research Training. He will begin the work as a CA2.
 - Graduating CA-3 class (June 2026): 2 Pain at Emory, 1 ACTA at Emory, 1 PP at Myrtle Beach, 3 Piedmont, 1 PP North Jersey, 1 PP Denver, 1 U of Fl General, 1 UNC General
 - Changes to Fellowships:
 - This year, several of the Fellowships are moving to in-person interviews
 - New non-ACGME accredited Trauma Anesthesiology Fellowship
 - American Board of Anesthesia changes
 - Change to the ACTA Board Certification
2. Residency Recruitment
 - Dr. Bailey led us through an excellent session for medical students applying to Anesthesiology in the state of Georgia last year. It was well attended and we are looking to repeat this virtual event this year

- A very competitive recruitment season again
 - i. 13 Emory M4s this year
 - ii. 15 Emory M3s this year
 - iii. Fourth season with gold and silver signals
 - Very successful mentorship of M1s and beyond led by Dr. Nelly Jimenez, Dr. Phil Carullo and Dr. Joanna Schindler. This has led to a dramatic increase in the number of Emory students applying in to Anesthesiology.
 - Fourth year of having a virtual rotation for students around the country led by Dr. Nelly Jimenez and Dr. Phil Carullo. Had approximately 40 students attend this year!
 - The total number of applicants from the state of Georgia remains very high.
 - With the initiation of signals, applicants continue to apply to a high number of programs; however, this ERAS data from last season finally shows a much-needed downward trend. We are now counselling many M4 students to apply to 15 programs.
 - Many programs around the country are interviewed exclusively from gold signals
 - Here is a Podcast link that is a great discussion of signaling and some of the first data. https://accrac.com/?post_type=post&p=2508
 - Please encourage the following:
 - i. If medical students want to attend the program, give them a signal!
 - ii. If you are unsure how to answer questions surrounding signals, please refer to anyone on the education teams.
3. Departmental Education Priorities
- Global health
 - i. The Office of Global Health at Emory has paused many of these activities due to compromised Federal funding to the university. This has halted the multidisciplinary work in Ethiopia.
 - ii. We have two other missions that we are exploring for our trainees in Rwanda and Guatemala.
 - iii. We have a new Director of Global Health, Dr. James Barger that will be taking over from Dr. Cinnamon Sullivan.
 - In-Situ Simulation
 - i. Approved funding for new simulator that will allow us to provide mobile simulation outside of AA school high fidelity simulator
 - ii. This effort is being led by our Director of Simulation, Dr. Chris Little
 - iii. Goal will be to begin multidisciplinary simulation in the OR
 - iv. Skill fairs at CHOA (state of the art sim center!) every other month led by Dr. Phil Carullo (Director of Education at CHOA) has been incredibly successful for all involved in the Anesthetic care of CHOA patients (physicians, residents, anesthesiologists and anesthesiology students)
 - OSCEs
 - i. OSCE rigor continues to increase
 - ii. First annual in person simulated OSCEs for CA3s occurred this last May under the leadership of our Director of OSCE education, Dr. Anne Elisa Cossu.

Committee on Academic Anesthesia
Mary E. Arthur, MD, MPH, FASE, FASA
Caryl Bailey MD
Augusta University Liaison
08/18/2026

Overview: No items

Priority Items

- Establishment of a GSA Medical Student Component

Informational Items:

Residents

- GMEC approval of residency expansion at Wellstar MCG Health
- New training sites: Columbia County and SCCC Health Park ASC
- ACGME Leadership Training Program
- Leadership Certificate Course
- June Onboarding for CA1s
- ABA Basic Exams
- Fellowship bound

Departmental Highlights and Strategic Initiatives

- Graduates Retained in Statewide Practice
- Introduction of the Limited-Term Instructor Pathway
- Expansion of the CAA Workforce and Recruitment Pipeline
- Systemwide Standardization of Clinical Equipment
- ASA 2026 Meeting Update
- Medical Mission

Reference Items: None

Priority Items

Establishment of a GSA Medical Student Component

- We would like the GSA Board to formally consider establishing a **GSA Medical Student Component (MSC)**. We have steadily expanded medical student engagement across the state through our virtual open house, Post-Match Panel, Medical Student Meet & Greet, increased participation in annual meetings, and sponsorship of ASA medical student delegates.
- There is also interest from the **ASA Medical Student Component** in supporting state societies that seek to develop more formal student involvement.
- The structure could **largely mirror our existing Resident Component**, providing a familiar framework for student representation and engagement. This could include a **medical student position on the GSA Board** and a designated attending physician liaison to provide mentorship, continuity, and coordination with students across

the state. We could use the existing **Anesthesiology Interest Groups (AIGs) at Georgia medical schools** to identify representatives, facilitate communication, and build a statewide network.

- This is particularly timely with the opening of the **new medical school at the University of Georgia**, which offers another opportunity for GSA to establish early connections with students as they develop their specialty interests.
- With Board support, I would like to explore the structure and requirements for establishing the MSC and to develop a proposal for implementation. **It is important for GSA to continue investing in the future of our specialty**, and a formal Medical Student Component would provide a sustainable pathway for mentorship, leadership development, and early engagement with both GSA and ASA.

Informational Items:

Residents

GMEC approval of residency expansion at Wellstar MCG Health

- The Graduate Medical Education Committee at Wellstar MCG has approved expanding the anesthesiology residency by two residents per class, effective July 2027.
- Current Residents: 48 residents, 7 fellows (2 Critical Care, 2 Pain, 1 Peds, and 2 NST)

Additional training sites

- The Surgery Center of Columbia County (SCCC)
- Advanced Endoscopy Center (AEC)
- Dental School
- WellStar Columbia County Medical Center (Grovetown) scheduled to open later this year

ACGME Leadership Training Program

- Drs. Jacky Chen, Bibiana Avello Mollano, and Andrew May attended the ACGME Leadership Skills Training Program in Chicago, IL.

Leadership Certificate Course

- The intern class has been registered for a Leadership Certificate Course designed to prepare them to become leaders in their careers, education, and community service.
- The course is based on experiential learning and provides exposure to both leadership theory and practical application. Earning the Certificate of Leadership will guide their growth as leaders and offer valuable opportunities to gain real-world leadership experience.

June Onboarding for CA1s

- The incoming CA-1 residents completed a smooth and successful onboarding process. Documented evaluations from both faculty and senior residents consistently demonstrated their clinical preparedness, professionalism, and ability to manage routine cases safely, supporting their readiness to independently manage operating rooms with appropriate attending supervision by July.

ABA Basic Exams

- We continue the annual D'Souza Course for CA1 residents in preparation for the Basic Exam.
- We achieved a 100% board pass rate on the ABA Basic Exam, with one resident scoring in the top 10 percentiles.

Fellowship Bound

- Seven of our CA3 residents have matched into competitive fellowship programs

- 4 Cardiothoracic
- 3 pediatrics

Departmental Highlights and Strategic Initiatives

Graduates Retained in Statewide Practice

- Class of 2025: 7
- Class of 2026: 2 (More are expected to return after completion of their fellowships)

Limited-Term Instructor Pathway

- A limited-term instructor pathway was introduced for board-certified anesthesiologists practicing pain medicine who wish to return to operating room practice, as well as internationally trained, board-certified anesthesiologists who have completed multiple U.S. fellowships.
- Participants undergo six to twelve months of structured proctoring, supervision, and performance evaluation to support a safe transition to independent faculty practice.

Expansion of the CAA Workforce and Recruitment Pipeline

- The department increased the number of Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) in its workforce and is re-establishing a clinical rotation pipeline for CAA students at Wellstar MCG Health.
- The initiative will provide AA students with meaningful exposure to our clinical environment, teams, and institutional culture while creating a structured pathway to recruit high-performing graduates into permanent positions.

WellStar Systemwide Standardization of Clinical Equipment

- The health system is transitioning to Alaris infusion pumps and has replaced McGrath laryngoscopes with handheld GlideScope video laryngoscopes.

ASA 2026 Meeting Update

- A strong contingent of residents and medical students will represent the department at this year's ASA Annual Meeting, showcasing their scholarly work and highlighting our commitment to education, research, and professional engagement.
- 37 residents will be representing the department
- 25 students will be presenting their posters

Medical Mission

- Megna Kamath, a third-year medical student, will join Dr. Arthur and one of our CRNAs for a medical mission to Ghana with the International Health Care Volunteers (IHCV).
- WellStar has supported the mission for the past three years by providing supplies and medications.

GEORGIA SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Medical Student Section- Proposal

Al Fofanah & Meghna Kamath, Medical College of Georgia, Class of 2028

afofanah@augusta.edu, mekamath@augusta.edu

OVERVIEW

The GSA Medical Student Section (MSS) is a proposed standing body of the Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists, designed to formally represent medical students across Georgia who are interested in or pursuing anesthesiology. Modeled on the existing GSA Resident Council, the MSS would serve as the official student voice within GSA: supporting education, mentorship, advocacy, and community for the next generation of Georgia anesthesiologists.

Georgia is home to five medical schools whose students currently have no formal mechanism for collective engagement with GSA. The MSS addresses this gap while strengthening the statewide pipeline into anesthesiology residency and membership.

MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

The MSS would seek representation from all Georgia medical schools, including:

- Medical College of Georgia- Augusta, Athens, Savannah campuses
- Emory University School of Medicine
- Morehouse School of Medicine
- Mercer University School of Medicine
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) Georgia- Suwanee and South GA

Each institution would designate one school representative to coordinate local engagement and relay student concerns to the Council.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

The MSS would organize programming across four categories: mentorship, education, community, and advocacy. The core goal is two anchor events per year, one educational and one social/networking, with additional programming layered in as the Council grows.

1. Big Brother / Big Sister Mentorship Program

A structured peer mentorship program pairing upperclassmen (M3s and M4s) with incoming students (M1s and M2s) who are interested in anesthesiology.

- Mentors provide guidance on anesthesia externships, research opportunities, and rotation preparation
- Pairs connected at the start of each academic year
- Coordinated through the MSS outreach liaison at each school

2. Post-Match Panel

An annual panel featuring newly matched anesthesiology residents sharing their application experience, interview process, and advice for students earlier in training.

- Timed for spring following Match Day
- Open to all Georgia med students virtually
- Q&A format with 4-6 panelists from diverse backgrounds and program types

3. Social Events at GSA Annual Meeting

A dedicated student social and networking event held in conjunction with the GSA Annual Meeting each fall, co-hosted with the GSA Resident Council.

- Provides students a structured entry point into the annual meeting
- Facilitates informal connections between students, residents, and attendings
- Builds cross-institution community among Georgia med students

4. Lobby Day Participation

MSS students would participate in GSA Lobby Day at the Georgia State Capitol alongside resident and attending members.

- Students learn the legislative landscape around anesthesia scope of practice and workforce policy
- Strengthens GSA's presence and demonstrates broad coalition support
- Coordinated through the MSS Government Affairs Liaison

5. Welcome Event for Incoming M3s

A welcome social and orientation event for third-year students beginning their clinical rotations, with a focus on those considering anesthesiology.

- Held at the start of each academic year
- Introduces students to MSS programming, mentorship pairing, and GSA membership
- Rotation social component to build community among students on anesthesia rotations

6. Anchor Events (Annual Goal)

The MSS's primary programming commitment is two high-quality anchor events per year:

- Educational Anchor — covers the anesthesia landscape in Georgia, match statistics, specialty overview, and career pathways. Target audience: M1-M3 students. Format: panel or lecture with Q&A.
- Social/Networking Anchor — held at or around the GSA Annual Meeting. Connects students with residents and attendings in an informal setting. Co-hosted with the Resident Council.

7. Quarterly Newsletter

A student-produced newsletter distributed to GSA student members and interested students at all Georgia schools.

- Content: match updates, research spotlights, upcoming events, anesthesia news, member highlights
- Produced by the MSS Secretary and contributing school reps
- Distributed via email quarterly (fall, winter, spring, summer)

8. Guest Speaker Series

Periodic virtual or in-person speaker events featuring GSA physician members, subspecialty anesthesiologists, and leaders in the field.

- Topics may include subspecialty spotlights (pediatric, cardiac, regional, critical care), research careers, private practice vs. academic practice, and leadership in medicine
- Open to all Georgia medical students

GOVERNANCE & OFFICER POSITIONS

The MSS will be led by an elected officer corps responsible for executing programming, liaising with GSA leadership, and representing student interests statewide.

Position	Primary Responsibilities
----------	--------------------------

President	Presides over all Council activities; represents MSS to the GSA Board and Resident Council; primary external contact for GSA leadership; sets strategic direction
Vice President	Oversees programming and event coordination; manages school representative network; assumes President duties when needed
Treasurer	Manages any allocated MSS funds; coordinates GSA student membership drives; tracks budget for events and newsletter
Government Affairs Liaison	Coordinates MSS participation in GSA Lobby Day; tracks state legislation relevant to anesthesiology; briefs members on policy updates
Outreach Liaison	Manages communications and newsletter production; coordinates Big Brother/Big Sister program; maintains contact lists across Georgia schools

Each Georgia medical school may also designate one School Representative, who serves as the local point of contact for MSS programming and recruitment. School Representatives are not elected positions but are appointed at the school level.

ELECTION PROCESS & TIMELINE

Officer elections will be held annually at the GSA Annual Meeting in August, ensuring continuity with the broader GSA calendar and providing a natural venue for all Georgia student members to participate.

Eligibility

- Any active GSA student member enrolled at a Georgia medical school may run for office
- Candidates must be in good academic standing at their institution
- Incumbents may run for re-election for one additional consecutive term per position

Campaign & Speech Process

- Candidates submit their intent to run at least two weeks before the GSA Annual Meeting
- Each candidate delivers a short speech (2-3 minutes) to MSS members at the Annual Meeting
- Speeches should address the candidate's vision for the position and their commitment to the Council's mission
- Members vote by private ballot immediately following speeches

Voting

- All registered GSA student members in attendance at the Annual Meeting are eligible to vote
- Remote voting may be offered for members who cannot attend in person
- Simple majority wins; runoff between top two candidates if no majority on first ballot

Term & Transition

- Officers serve one-year terms beginning September 1 following the August election
- Outgoing officers are responsible for a transition briefing with incoming officers within 30 days of election
- Vacancies mid-term are filled by Council vote among active members

OUR ASK

To launch the GSA Medical Student Section, we are requesting the following from GSA leadership and the Resident Council:

- Formal endorsement and approval by the GSA Board of Directors
- A permanent liaison seat at GSA Resident Council meetings for the MSS President
- Inclusion of the MSS in GSA communications and the annual meeting agenda
- Designation of a GSA physician member to serve as Faculty Advisor
- Introduction to relevant GSA board contacts overseeing membership and education

We are committed to doing the organizational work. We are asking for GSA's formal support to ensure the Council has the standing to represent students effectively and endure beyond its founding members.

Committee on Women in Anesthesia
Judi Handley, MD and Lindsay Sween, MD, MPH – Co-chairs
Aug 21st, 2026

Overview:

Informational Items:

1. September Women in Medicine Month
2. Possible activities

Informational Items:

1. During Women in Medicine Month, Sep 2026 via GSA e-news will highlight outstanding women anesthesiologists in the state.
 - a. This year will be highlighting “Rising Stars” in both academic and private practice.
 - b. Medical students again assisting with the project.
 - c. Submit any names to Drs Handley or Sween that you would like to see recognized.
2. Expanding other activities
 - a. Dinner Friday night after the reception for interested individuals
 - b. Webinars – frequency and topics to be discussed

2026 Legislative Session Report
Amanda Brown, MD, Chair
GSA Government Affairs Committee
August 2026

Executive Summary

The 2026 Georgia Legislative Session included a wide range of healthcare-related proposals with direct and indirect implications for anesthesiology practice, physician-led care, workforce development, and reimbursement structures. Several enacted measures reflect a continued legislative interest in expanding access to care through workforce flexibility, Medicaid innovation, and insurance reforms. At the same time, scope-of-practice proposals and emerging regulatory frameworks—particularly those involving certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) and non-physician providers—remain key areas of concern for physician stakeholders.

Most notably, House Bill 717, regulating psychedelic-assisted therapy, and Senate Bill 427, creating pathways for internationally trained physicians, signal Georgia’s willingness to explore nontraditional approaches to workforce shortages and treatment modalities. Additionally, House Bill 1374 (provider payment requirements) and Senate Bill 444 (limitations on AI in coverage determinations) represent meaningful developments in payer-provider dynamics.

From an anesthesiology perspective, House Bill 251—which would authorize CRNAs to independently order and administer anesthesia under certain conditions—remains the most significant scope-of-practice proposal under consideration. Although it did not advance during this session, its introduction underscores ongoing efforts to expand non-physician autonomy in anesthesia care.

Other legislation impacting clinical practice includes efforts to broaden the range of providers conducting physicals (HB 970), remove physician oversight in certain emergency preparedness programs (HB 629), and expand prescriptive or ordering authority among advanced practice providers (HB 54, HB 1273). While many of these bills did not pass, they reflect persistent legislative trends that may reemerge in future sessions.

Study committees formed this session—including those examining rural hospitals, pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), noncompete clauses, and smoking-related costs—will likely generate policy recommendations that shape the 2027 legislative agenda.

Overall, the session reflects a continued balancing act between increasing access to care and maintaining physician-led, team-based models. Ongoing engagement by the Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists will be critical in shaping future debates, particularly around anesthesia delivery, supervision standards, and patient safety.

Key Issues for Anesthesiology

1. Scope of Practice Expansion

Legislation continues to explore expanded authority for non-physician providers, particularly CRNAs and physician assistants. While most measures did not pass, they indicate sustained legislative interest in loosening physician oversight requirements.

2. Workforce Development

Bills addressing physician shortages—such as international licensure pathways and workforce data tracking—could impact long-term anesthesia workforce supply and distribution.

3. Payment and Insurance Reform

New requirements for insurer payment practices and restrictions on AI-driven coverage decisions may improve reimbursement transparency and fairness.

4. Emerging Clinical Areas

Psychedelic-assisted therapy and autism-related pilot programs introduce new treatment domains that may intersect with anesthesia and sedation practices in the future.

Bill Tracking and Analysis

I. Scope of Practice & Provider Authority

HB 54 – APRNs and PAs Ordering Home Healthcare Status: Senate Agreed to House Amendments Expands authority for advanced practice providers to order home healthcare services. Implication: Continues trend of reducing physician gatekeeping in care coordination.

HB 251 – CRNA Anesthesia Authority Status: Did Not Advance Would allow CRNAs to order and administer anesthesia independently under certain conditions. Implication: High-impact legislation for anesthesiologists; signals ongoing scope-of-practice pressure.

HB 1273 – PA Authority from Podiatric Physicians Status: Did Not Advance Allows physician assistants to receive delegated authority from podiatrists. Implication: Reinforces broader delegation trends across specialties.

HB 970 – Expanded Providers for School Physicals Status: Senate Tabled Expands list of providers who can perform preparticipation physical exams. Implication: Further normalization of non-physician clinical authority.

HB 629 – AED Program Physician Requirement Removal Status: Senate Tabled Removes requirement for physician involvement in AED programs. Implication: Reduces physician oversight in emergency preparedness programs.

II. Insurance, Reimbursement & Coverage

HB 1374 – Provider Payment Requirements Status: Enacted (Effective July 1, 2026) Establishes requirements for insurer payment methods to providers. Implication: Potential improvements in payment consistency and administrative burden.

SB 444 – AI in Coverage Decisions Status: Enacted (Effective January 1, 2027) Prohibits insurers from relying solely on AI for coverage determinations. Implication: Strengthens clinical judgment in utilization review processes.

HB 961 – Surprise Billing (Ambulance Services) Status: Senate Read and Referred Addresses out-of-network ambulance billing protections. Implication: Continues expansion of consumer protections in billing.

HB 951 – Orthotics & Prosthetics Coverage Status: Senate Read and Referred Requires coverage for medically necessary devices. Implication: Adds to mandated benefits landscape.

III. Workforce & Licensure

SB 427 – Licensure for International Physicians Status: Enacted Creates pathway for internationally trained physicians to practice in Georgia. Implication: Could expand physician workforce, including potential anesthesia pipeline.

HB 1295 – PA Licensure Compact Status: Passed Allows interstate practice for physician assistants. Implication: Enhances provider mobility and workforce flexibility.

SB 500 – Behavioral Health Workforce Database Expansion Status: Enacted Expands data collection across healthcare workforce. Implication: Improved workforce planning and policy development.

IV. Medicaid & Public Health Initiatives

HB 1238 / SB 428 – Medicaid Waiver Flexibility Status: Enacted Directs submission of waiver requests to CMS for expanded caregiver reimbursement. Implication: Potential shifts in care delivery models.

SB 380 – Medicaid Expansion Funding Authorization Status: Did Not Advance Would authorize appropriations tied to federal participation. Implication: Ongoing debate over Medicaid expansion.

HB 943 / SB 402 – Autism Pilot Programs Status: Enacted Establish pilot programs for autism services for children in foster care. Implication: Expands specialized care programs.

V. Emerging Clinical & Regulatory Areas [Type equation here.](#)

HB 717 – Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy Regulation Status: Enacted (Effective July 1, 2026)

Ketamine Clinic Regulation

Establishes regulatory framework for psychedelic-assisted treatment. Implication: May intersect with anesthesia/sedation protocols in controlled settings.

SB 395 – Low THC Oil Registry Requirements Status: Enacted Adds physician reporting requirements. Implication: Increased administrative responsibilities.

VI. Study Committees & Resolutions

HR 592 – Noncompete Clauses in Physician Contracts

HR 948 – PBMs and Drug Access

HR 1393 – Rural Hospitals

HR 304 – Smoking Costs

Implication: These committees will shape future legislation affecting physician employment, reimbursement, and healthcare access.

Strategic Takeaways for GSA

1. CRNA Scope Expansion Remains the Primary Threat
HB 251 did not pass, but similar legislation is likely to return. Continued advocacy for physician-led anesthesia care is critical.
2. Incremental Scope Expansion Is Ongoing
Even without major wins, multiple smaller bills continue to erode physician exclusivity in care delivery.
3. Workforce Shortage Solutions Are Accelerating
Policymakers are pursuing alternative workforce pipelines, which may reshape anesthesia staffing models.
4. Payer Reform Is Moving in a Favorable Direction
New laws on payment practices and AI limitations may improve provider leverage and reimbursement fairness.
5. Prepare for 2027 Legislative Activity
Study committees and unresolved proposals signal a highly active healthcare agenda in the next session.
6. Engagement in Ketamine Clinic Rulemaking
GSA must play a proactive role in the rulemaking process at the Georgia Composite Medical Board regarding the regulation of ketamine clinics. The GCMB could initiate this process in the near term, making early engagement critical to shaping standards that protect patient safety and physician oversight.

7. Political Turnover and Strategic Advocacy Risk

Significant turnover in state leadership and legislative seats is expected, creating uncertainty and potential setbacks for GSA priorities. For example, recent discussions with the Governor's healthcare policy analyst confirmed that Governor Kemp will not entertain an opt-out of CMS supervision requirements for CRNAs tied to Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement. However, a future governor could choose to pursue such an opt-out. This dynamic underscores the importance of sustained political engagement, including GSA participation in the "Physicians for Jackson" fundraiser, to maintain influence in a shifting policy environment.

GSA – PAC Contributions
November 1, 2025 – August 21, 2026

Super Donors

Matt Klopman, MD	\$1,501
Judi Handley, MD	\$1,500
John Moss, MD	\$1,500
Bill Hallowes, MD	\$1,001
Stephen Anderson, MD	\$1,000
Maurice Gilbert, MD	\$750
Bob Lane, MD	\$750
D. Shantha, MBBS	\$750
Bradley Phoenix, MD	\$501
Richard Ballard, MD	\$500
Aliya Bynum, MD	\$500
Gregory Foster, MD	\$500
Phillip Mills, MD	\$500
Joanna Schindler, MD	\$500
Susan Smith, MD	\$500
Gautam Sreeram, MD	\$500
Jeffrey Sugarman, MD	\$500
Michelle Sumler, MD	\$500
Francis Sullivan, MD	\$500
Paul Turk, MD	\$500
Brian Zeh, MD	\$500

Physician Members

Melissa Darlington, MD	\$300
Justin Ford, MD	\$300
Taylor Plumer, MD	\$300
Lindsay Sween, MD	\$250
Steve Sween, MD	\$250
Julian Rios, MD	\$200
Lindsay Eppihimer, MD	\$100

Anesthesiologist Assistant Members

Bill Buntin, CAA	\$250
Yulanda Greene, CAA	\$250
Jenn Stever, CAA	\$250
Kevin Dean, CAA	\$300
Jordan Aigner, CAA	\$100

Katherine Hunt, CAA	\$100
Rebecca Reach, CAA	\$100

Total Contributions: \$17,883

GSA PAC Report as of 6/30/2026**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 YTD
Contributions to PAC	\$54,185	\$31,262	\$39,942	\$38,243	\$60,192	\$50,004	\$55,825	\$61,401	\$51,893	\$54,101	\$53,608	\$66,851	\$49,131
Number of Contributors	282	158	147	173	196	178	236	232	172	164	116	835	794
Political Contributions	\$52,200	\$23,500	\$59,400	\$32,900	\$77,700	\$34,300	\$52,400	\$34,500	\$86,850	\$73,550	\$23,600	\$52,800	\$54,300
Number of Contributions*	62	25	61	50	91	56	71	42	64	71	31	39	38
Fund Balance Year End	\$19,307	\$32,911	\$14,811	\$18,821	\$1,313	\$16,964	\$20,889	\$46,990	\$3,658	\$-10,516	\$18,256	\$37,707	\$37,038

*Please note legislators may be given more than one PAC check in the same election cycle

**Based on calendar year activity

MAG HOD meeting 2026
Gerald E Moody

Overview:

Priority Items:

1. CRNA push for independent practice
2. Nurse practitioners push for expanded roles
3. Infusion clinics including ketamine clinics

Informational Items:

1. New proposed regulations from the Composite Board of Medicine

Reference Items:

1. None proposed at present.
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Priority Items:

1. There is expected to be another push for expanded practice for CRNAs. I have not heard specifics, but we should have MAGs full support on this and they will be actively looking for these.
2. APRNs are also expected to press for expanded roles. This has actually helped us with other medical specialties as they are seeing similar issues as we have faced with CRNA attempts so expand scope of practice. Other medical specialties have not always been with us on this issue.
3. The Medical Board is working on new guidelines for Ketamine clinics and should have them ready by the time the MAG HOD meets. Some of these are being run by APRNs.

Informational Items:

1. The MAG HOD will meet in Savannah October 16-18. The committees will have virtual meetings the week before. Anyone can attend and I will send links as soon as I get them.