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Fiscal Year 2014 Student Representative to the AANA Foundation Board of Trustees

Student Spotlight

The AANA Foundation is pleased to present Student Spotlight, a new feature that recognizes student registered nurse anesthetists who have captured attention through their dedication to education, professional excellence, and overall commitment to advancing nurse anesthesia.

Spotlighting Morgan Moszee, RN

Morgan Moszee, RN, a former All-American track athlete, is nearing the finish line of her nurse anesthesia education. She was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas, where she attended Ronald Reagan High School. Morgan's drive, determination, and athletic ability earned her a Division I track scholarship to the University of Texas at San Antonio. She excelled as a member of the track team and was a three-time conference champion in the long jump. However, during her third year as a collegiate athlete, Morgan suffered a severe hamstring injury, and she made the difficult decision to step away from competitive sports.

As Morgan began to think about the next phase of her life, she knew that she wanted to focus her studies on a career that would be dynamic, intellectually stimulating, and afford her the opportunity to help others. Morgan quickly realized that nursing provided an ideal career path for her to accomplish her goals. After completing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at The University of the Incarnate Word, she went on to work as a medical-surgical ICU nurse at Methodist Hospital.

During Morgan's nursing training, she specifically recalls an event that solidified her career choice and led her down the path to becoming a CRNA.

"I remember being in the room of a laboring woman who was in great discomfort," said Morgan. "My nursing instructor and I were discussing fetal heart tones when there was a knock at the door. A man walked in, introduced himself as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, and asked, 'Would you like an epidural?' I was absolutely intrigued by his professionalism and skillful placement of the epidural catheter. At that moment, I knew I wanted to be a CRNA."

Over the course of Morgan's obstetrics rotation, the CRNA she met served as an invaluable mentor and resource for Morgan. He took the time to educate her about the profession and helped her develop a plan to achieve her goal of becoming a CRNA.

Now, six years later, a once distant vision is becoming a reality. Morgan is a senior student in the nurse anesthesia program at the University of New England (UNE). She has excelled in both academics and in the clinical setting. Morgan specifically credits the faculty and resources at UNE for molding her into a highly skilled clinical professional. Maribeth Massie, UNE's program director, delivers high praise for Morgan's numerous accomplishments and describes her as "the perfect blend of self-assurance and humility." Morgan says that she especially values the rural "CRNA only" sites that are incorporated into the UNE clinical curriculum. Outside of her academic and clinical responsibilities at UNE, Morgan is also involved professionally. She attended the AANA Assembly of School Faculty meeting in Tucson, Ariz., and had the privilege of being mentored by Michael Boytim, Assistant Director and Director of Admissions for the Kaiser Permanente/California State University Fullerton Nurse Anesthesia Program. Morgan also attended the AANA Mid-Year Assembly in Washington, D.C.

Following graduation, Morgan plans to relocate to Atlanta, Ga., to become a member of an OB team. As a future CRNA, Morgan desires to live a purpose-driven life. She plans to be an advocate for the nurse anesthesia profession, as well as for patient safety, quality health-care, continued education, and diversity in nurse anesthesia. She said, "There is no greater satisfaction than positively impacting the lives of others." One thing is for sure, although Morgan no longer competes as a Division I track star, her passion and determination will propel her throughout her career into an accomplished and respected leader within our profession. ■

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