AANA Advanced Pain Management Fellowship Offered this Fall

The AANA, in partnership with Texas Christian University (TCU) School of Nurse Anesthesia, will offer a Postgraduate Advanced Nonsurgical Pain Management Fellowship beginning in August 2016. The objective of this fellowship, a component of the AANA Pain Management Curriculum, is to educate and prepare advanced practitioners to deliver holistic pain management care, including comprehensive pain management interventions and patient education.

“This partnership with TCU is an exciting new chapter for AANA and CRNAs who specialize in treating patients who suffer from chronic pain,” said Bruce Schöneboom, PhD, CRNA, FAAN, COL (Ret), USA, AANA Senior Director, Education and Professional Development.

The program is designed to prepare CRNAs to help meet the growing need for pain management in the United States. According to the Institute of Medicine, chronic pain affects approximately 100 million American adults—more than the total affected by heart disease, cancer, and diabetes combined. The costs, in terms of medical treatment and lost productivity, add up to $635 billion each year.1

About the Program

The Advanced Pain Management Fellowship is a 12 month program consisting of nine online courses and three clinical practicums for a total of 22 credit hours. According to the TCU website: “The goal of this post-graduate program is to approach pain management holistically by addressing the treatment of pain in ways that ultimately seek to restore normal homeostatic well-being. When a return to normal and healthy regulation is not possible, the student will seek to provide comfort, hope and meaning to support a patient’s highest potential of human functioning.”

Topics of study include:
• Theoretical foundations of pain
• Imaging and radiation safety
• Assessment, diagnosis, and referral
• Pharmacology
• Interventional pain practice
• Spiritual aspects of health and illness
• Non-allopathic aspects related to pain

The program is part of the AANA Pain Management Curriculum, which includes AANA Learn modules and the Jack Neary I and II Workshops. Upon completion, CRNA pain management practitioners are eligible to take for the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA) subspecialty certification examination for Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM).

This program is pending accreditation by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) and will be reviewed in Spring 2016. Watch the AANA website and Anesthesia E-ssential for announcements and registration details.

For further Information:
• The AANA Pain Management Webpage: http://www.aana.com/resources2/practicemanagement/Pages/Pain-Management.aspx
• The TCU Pain Management Webpage: http://crna.tcu.edu/pain-management-fellowship/
• The NBCRNA Nonsurgical Pain Management Webpage: http://www.nbcrna.com/NSPM/Pages/NSPM.aspx

References
1. Institute of Medicine. Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education, and Research. 2011

ANCC Awards AANA Accreditation with Distinction

In late March, after extensive evaluation the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) awarded AANA Accreditation with Distinction, the highest recognition awarded by the ANCC. In announcing the decision, AANA Senior Director, Education and Professional Development Bruce Schöneboom, PhD, CRNA, FAAN, COL (Ret), USA, stated: “This designation speaks to the strength and quality of the educational content we are producing at AANA and reaffirms the dedicated work and commitment of our entire staff to the core values and mission of our organization.” The accreditation has been granted for four years, from March 28, 2016 to March 31, 2020.

The mission of the ANCC, a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association (ANA), is to promote excellence in nursing and health care globally through credentialing programs. In addition, ANCC accredits healthcare organizations that provide and approve continuing nursing education. It also offers educational materials to support nurses and organizations as they work toward their credentials. ANCC was incorporated in June 1990.

The ANCC Accreditation program recognizes the importance of high-quality continuing nursing education (CNE) and skills-based competency programs. Around the world, ANCC-accredited organizations provide nurses with the knowledge and skills to help improve care and patient outcomes.