**Chairman's Corner**

*Dr. T. J. Gan*

Dear Colleagues

This represents the first issue of a new monthly format for Sleep Talker: the Stony Brook Anesthesiology Newsletter.

As the department increases in size, it is important to have an effective means of communication among members of the department. I hope with the monthly publication of this newsletter, we could improve communication and disseminate information more effectively. I encourage you to provide news that you would like to share with other members of the department and contribute various content to the newsletter. This does not have to be work related. For example, achievements and accomplishments in your family, events you are proud of and would like to share with the department.

I would like to thank Jim Dilger, Steve Vitkun and Marisa Barone-Citrano for taking on the task of editing and publishing this newsletter. Any suggestions for enhancing the newsletter are welcome.

Happy reading.

---

**Academic Research Evening 2015**

The 2015 Peter Glass Academic Research Evening will be held Wednesday, May 13, 2015 from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Wang Center.

**Henrik Kehlet, MD, PhD** will be the keynote speaker. Professor Kehlet has been Head of Section of Surgical Pathophysiology, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University and Professor of Perioperative Therapy, Copenhagen University since 2004. He also served as a Professor of Surgery at Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University and Chief Surgeon in the Department of Surgical Gastroenterology, Hvidovre Hospital, Copenhagen. He is a world-renowned advisor for pain and anesthesia products in development for the pharmaceutical industry and has acted as an international scientific advisor for several pharmaceutical companies.

Professor Kehlet is perhaps the most well-known surgeon among anesthesiologists around the world due to his substantial contributions toward the understanding of surgical pathophysiology. His long term work in Denmark in the 1990s, developing and implementing the fast-track principles in surgery, has been met with universal acclaim. Today, the majority of surgical specialist areas are working under the fast-track principles.
His clinical and scientific interests have focused on improving surgical outcome with a focus on pathophysiological responses to surgery (stress responses, pain, fatigue, immune function, fluid management, minimal invasive surgery), all leading to the concept of fast-track surgery being a multimodal combination of evidence-based, unimodal inventions in order to enhance recovery and decrease morbidity.

Professor Kehlet serves as a member of Advisory Board of Egalet A/S. He has been a non-executive Director of Rheoscience A/S since March 2002. He has served as a member of Scientific Board of Synt:em S.a. and has given more than 200 invited lectures at more than 700 scientific publications and serves on the Editorial Boards of five international scientific journals.

For his major research contributions, he has been awarded several prizes including the prestigious Novo-Nordisk and August Krogh prizes. He holds an Honorary Doctor degree from Linköping University in Sweden. Professor Kehlet is an Honorary Fellow of the UK Royal College of Anesthesiologists, the American College of Surgeons and the German Surgical Society.

The title of Dr. Kehlet's keynote address is "Fast-Track Surgery: The Role of the Anesthesiologist".

**Welcome new faculty members**

**Grigori N. Enikolopov, Ph.D.**
Professor (Research)

Dr. Enikolopov comes to us from the prestigious Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, where he was an Associate Professor. Dr. Enikolopov earned an M.Sc. at Moscow State University and a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the Institute of Molecular Biology at the Russian (USSR) Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia. His studies focus on adult stem cells, their contribution to tissue plasticity, and signals that control their fate, with the main focus on stem cells of the brain and the neuroendocrine tissues. He was among the first to show that antidepressant therapies increase neurogenesis in the adult brain. He later introduced a new model of stem cell lifecycle in the adult brain and much of his current research focuses on this model of adult neurogenesis. Dr. Enikolopov is also recognized for his work on nitric oxide (NO). His research established that NO acts as a negative regulator of cell division in the developing adult nervous system, such that by manipulating NO levels, it is possible to change the number of neural stem and progenitor cells.

An internationally distinguished investigator, Dr. Enikolopov will bring to Stony Brook several current grants, including grants from the National Institutes of Health.
Natalia I. Peunova, Ph.D.
Research Associate Professor

Dr. Peunova earned a M.Sc. in Genetics at Moscow State University and a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the Institute of Molecular Biology at the Russian (USSR) Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia. Also from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Dr. Peunova started as a Visiting Scientist and was later promoted to Research Investigator. She received a research grant from the National Science Foundation to conduct research on the developing brain of Xenopus tadpoles. Dr. Peunova was able to clone the Xenopus nNOS orthologue, and demonstrated that NO is an essential negative regulator of cell division during brain development and that NO is a critical factor in planar cell polarity, regulating cell movements in early embryo development. Dr. Peunova also discovered that NO deficiency results in cilia defects in a number of tissues and may contribute to human ciliopathies; importantly, she found that defects in cilia growth and function can be rescued by supplying donors of NO. This finding will help us understand the role of NO in other disorders of cilia function, such as COPD and asthma. Dr. Peunova is a highly regarded research scientist and a named collaborator in several of Dr. Enikolopov's grants.

Drs. Enikolopov and Peunova's labs will be located on the third floor of the Centers for Molecular Medicine, within the Center for Developmental Genetics (CDG).

Martin Griffel, MD
Associate Professor and Associate Chief Medical Officer for Patient Safety

A graduate of the six year Biomedical Program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Albany Medical College, Dr. Griffel is trained and board certified in Anesthesiology, Internal Medicine and Critical Care, with recertification in Critical Care. His clinical areas of interest are cardiothoracic and surgical critical care, and has a personal focus on patient safety. We welcome Dr. Griffel back to Stony Brook; during the 1990’s he was an Assistant Coordinator, Clinical Anesthesia, in the Operating Room, and then became the Director of the Anesthesia Intensive Care Unit. Dr. Griffel comes to us from the Department of Anesthesiology at the New York University Medical Center where he was the Director of the Cardiovascular Surgical Intensive Care Unit.
**Ruchir Gupta, MD**  
Assistant Professor  

Dr. Gupta is a graduate of the College of Medicine, State University of New York Upstate Medical University. He is the co-editor of McGraw Hill's "The Anesthesia Guide" and Cambridge University Press's "Rapid Review for the Anesthesia Orals." He is an active member of the NYSSA and SAMBA and has been an Assistant Professor of Anesthesia at Hofstra-North Shore University Hospital, prior to joining Stony Brook University. His interests include neuromuscular blockade in laparoscopic surgery. He would like to be active in clinical teaching and scholarly activities.

![Photo of Ruchir Gupta](image)

---

**Susan Stanley, MD**  
Assistant Professor  

Dr. Stanley graduated from the University of Texas in Arlington, Texas and obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. She then went on to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas for her Doctor of Medicine. Her postgraduate and professional Training was from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. She then went on to complete her Obstetrical Anesthesiology fellowship at New York Presbyterian- Columbia University Medical Center in New York City. She also worked at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn. She enjoys OB Anesthesia, Urology and Gynecology, as well as Orthopedics. She also enjoys working with and teaching residents, giving lectures to residents and medical students, and giving mock oral exams and simulations.

![Photo of Susan Stanley](image)

---

**Meng Wang MD, PhD**  
Assistant Professor  

Dr. Wang is a graduate of our Residency program. She received her medical degree from the Peking University Health Sciences Center in Peking, China in 1988. She came to the US and did graduate research in the department of Neurobiology and Behavior at Stony Brook, receiving her PhD in 2007. Her PhD thesis is entitled "Synapse formation and neuromuscular transmission in a zebrafish choline acetyltransferase mutant". Her current academic interests are the mechanisms of inhaled anesthetics, including their effects on glycine receptors in the CNS.

![Photo of Meng Wang](image)
Farewell!

Drs. W. Walter Backus and Farrokh Maneksha are both retiring from the Department of Anesthesiology after many years of clinical service. We wish them health and happiness for their retirement!

Drs. Steve Chen and Brian Durkin are both leaving the department to pursue new opportunities. Dr. Chen left us in February.

Dr. Durkin leaves at the end of May. He will be working at Mather, St. Charles and Peconic Bay Hospitals and starting a new pain group as a subsidiary of Long Island Anesthesia Physicians.

Chief Residents and Resident Scholar for 2015-16 Announced

The Chief Residents for the 2015-2016 academic year were selected by a vote of the faculty.

The Chief Residents for Resident Activities will be: Dr. Samir Shah and Dr. Alexander Praslick.

The Chief Resident for Medical Student Activities will be Dr. Aimee Pak.

A new position, Resident Scholar, has been created for the purpose of coordinating resident research and scholarly activities. Dr. Roger Moon was elected to hold this position.

Congratulations to all!

National Meetings

Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA)

Drs. T. J. Gan, Ruchir Gupta and Arvind Chandrakantan attended the annual SAMBA meeting in Scottsdale, AZ.

Dr. Gan spoke on "Update on the Management of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting".

Dr. Gupta presented a poster "Prilocaine for Spinal Anesthesia: A Literature Review". He proposed that prilocaine, which is used in Europe, should be re-considered by US physicians as safe for short duration procedures. He also spoke on a "Cases from the Real World" Panel where he discussed the use of propofol in patients allergic to eggs.

Dr. Chandrakantan presented his poster "A Survey of Post-Discharge Nausea and Vomiting (PDNV) Risk Factors in Children".

American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists (ASDA)

Dr. Ralph Epstein and four Dental Anesthesia Residents attended the annual
meeting of the ASDA, also in Scottsdale, AZ.

Dr. Kevin Dincher presented his poster "Significant Bradycardia Followed by a Sustained Tachycardia in a Patient with Long QT Syndrome". Drs. Yuen Wu, Lily Hu and Michael Alanes gave a combined presentation on the use of the Ambu® aScope 3 Flexible Video Laryngoscope.

Of the five Resident presentations at the meeting, four were by Stony Brook Residents!

**New Alpha Omega Alpha Member**

Dr. Siddharth K. Dave, CA-3 Resident, was selected for membership in the Medical Honor Society, Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) by the student members of AOA (Class of 2015). This honor reflects his outstanding skills as a resident teacher and mentor. He will be inducted at the Society's dinner on May 5. Congratulations!

**Clinical Research**

*Sabeen Rizwan*

May 20 is International Clinical Trials Day. I don't think that Stony Brook Medicine does anything for it but it's an interesting thing to note because I'm sure many people don't even know that it exists.

June 4 is Research Day for the Department of Surgery. They have a full day of forums and colloquiums that may be of interest. The event runs from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Wang Center. Their Keynote Speaker is Charles J. Yeo, MD, FACS from Jefferson University Hospital.

Our very own research assistant, Ehab Al-Bizri, just took his Step 2 exam and scored in the 99th percentile! Wooo hoooo!

**Dr. Chakraborty wins Photography Award**

Dr. Saikat Chakraborty, a postdoc in Dr. Michelino Puopolo's lab, won the 4th place award at the 2014 Confucius Institute Photo Contest. Saikat's winning photo, "Tide and Time Waits for No One", can just barely be seen in the upper corner of the photo at right, but is shown in full detail here.

Saikat specializes in nature photography and has also become interested in sports and action photos. A collection of his photos can be seen here.
Science Fair Judging

Among the things that Long Island is known for is the number of high school students who get involved in research projects and ultimately succeed in national competitions. One step for many students is to present their work at the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair (LISEF). Other students participate in the New York State Science and Engineering Fair (NYSSEF) and some present their posters at both fairs. The top three students in 17 different categories, go on to compete at the International level, ISEF. For at least the past 15 years, members of the Department of Anesthesiology have volunteered as LISEF judges. This year at LISEF, the department was represented by four judges: Drs. Steve Vitkun, Linda Cimino, Srinivas Pentyala and Jim Dilger. Jim also judged at NYSSEF this year.

URECA

Stony Brook University undergraduate students who do research have the opportunity to participate in the annual Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URECA) Celebration. This year, on April 29, a record number of students working in the Department of Anesthesiology presented 8 posters about their research projects.

- Simon d'Oelsnitz. "The Role of FABP5 and MAGL in Prostate Cancer Lipid Dysregulation". (Dr. Kaczocha)
- Dishaw Holiprosad. "Inhibition of TRPM7 Channels by Propofol". (Drs. Dilger and Lin)
- Dania Malik, Kennelia Mellanson. "The Role of the Hypoxia Inducible Factors on Astrocyte Survival upon Hypoxia". (Dr. Floyd)
- Sunjit Parmar, Sahana Pentyala, John Pfail, Krupali Chokshi. "Characterization of Prostate Cancer Specific Biomarker". (Dr. Pentyala)
- Sahana Pentyala. "Biomarker Based Detection of Diabetic Nephropathy". (Dr. Pentyala)
- John Pfail, Sunjit Parmar, Sahana Pentyala, Krupali Chokshi. "3D Printed Biomimetic Bone Implants". (Dr. Pentyala)
- Allen Stekol. "Glycine Reduces Clustering of α1 Glycine Receptors in HEK-293 Cells". (Drs. Rebecchi and Dilger)

Congratulations to all!

Anesthesia Interest Groups

Dr. Ursula N. Landman

The Stony Brook Anesthesia Interest Group met on March 30. We had a terrific panel discussion led by the recently matched 4th year students. They related their experiences during the interview process leading up to the Match.
We also held elections for the upcoming year. The new leadership is:
  Isaac Yeung MS1
  Tyler Jones MS1
  Fred Cohen MS1
  Faraz Khan MS1

I gave a talk to the NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine Anesthesia Interest Group about upcoming clinical rotations. On April 14, the group heard a 4th year student speak about his recent interviewing experience.

The new leadership at NYIT COM for 2015-2016 is:
  Anthony Esposito, OMS1 - President
  Sheena Mago OMS1 - Vice President
  Yevgeniya Borovin OMS1 - Secretary
  Liana Tatarian OMS1 - Treasurer
  Neeraj Suryanarayanan OMS1 - 2nd Year Representative

---

**Young Man Going West (slightly)**

*Bill Galbavy*

After five years of working in the Department of Anesthesiology, I will be leaving my position as a Research Support Specialist this July in order to become a full time PhD student in Neuroscience. There is a long road ahead; but more accurately, I will be taking a short walk over to the Life Sciences building to join the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior.

The finality of this upcoming move provides me with some hesitation and reflection. HSC has become my second home. I am indebted to the co-workers and mentors I’ve had the privilege to work for. These people supported me through successes and failures, and helped me develop professionally and technically. I would start to list names here to thank them but it comprises about half of the Department’s faculty and staff.

Many great opportunities were afforded to me. I have been able to present twice at the Society for Neuroscience meeting and at each of the Anesthesiology Academic Research Evenings for the past five years. From my work on various projects, I am an author on four publications. These papers have bolstered my CV and placed me on the fast track to a PhD, a short three years after my graduation in 2012 from Stony Brook.

In these final three months, I will be doing what I love best: doing experiments in an effort to finish some projects. I hope to squeeze in as much quality data and publications as I can before that final whistle is blown, signaling that I must put down my pipet on the Anesthesiology bench for good.

---

SleepTalker, the Stony Brook Anesthesiology Newsletter is published by the Department of Anesthesiology, Stony Brook Medicine, Stony Brook, NY.

Tong Joo Gan, M.D., Chairman.

Editorial Board: James P. Dilger, Ph.D., Stephen A. Vitkun, M.D., M.B.A., Ph.D., Marisa Barone-Citrano.