



# the review

A quarterly newsletter of the North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants

Katie Tanner, PA-C, Editor

September, 2006

## Greetings from the President



Greetings North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants. My name is Terrie Jo Wold, and it is a privilege to serve you as your new President. I would like to introduce myself. I graduated from the UND PA Program in February 1995.

Prior to PA school I worked as a RN for 25 years- 20 of those years in the OR. I am a diploma RN graduating from Lutheran Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing and got my BSN from Mary College in Bismarck, ND. In 2001 I got my Master of Science in Health Science from George Washington University in Washington DC. I joined the faculty of the UND PA Program in 2000. My clinical practice has had a family practice and women's health focus. Being a PA has been the best job I have ever had and I feel blessed every day for the gift of this career in my life.

Steve and I have been married for 36 years. We have two great daughters, one wonderful son-in-law and two amazing grandsons- Ethan 7 years old and Conner 3 months old. I love to show brag photos any place any time! Steve and I moved from Grand Forks, ND to Moorhead, MN in December of 2004 when Steve accepted a call to serve Trinity Lutheran Church. I continue to teach at the UND PA Program in Grand Forks Monday's- Wednesday's and from home in Moorhead the rest of the week. My clinical job is at MeritCare OB/GYN Broadway Clinic on Thursday's. Church activities as a clergy spouse keep me busy and one of my

**Check out the New Website!**



**[www.ndapahome.org](http://www.ndapahome.org)**

passions has been coordinating mission trips to Honduras and Haiti.

After graduation from PA school, I quickly became involved in the state organization out of a call to professional service. I worked on the CME committee for several years, chaired the CME committee for four years, served as vice president and represented the UND PA Program on the board. It has been a privilege to work with PA professionals around the state, learn about state and national legislative and PA practice issues. Discovering unique healthcare issues for rural communities has been quite a learning opportunity.

I look forward to serving as your president and hope each member feels free to contact me with their suggestions for how we can improve our impact on the PA profession in the state and region. I hope to see our academy's membership grow. I strive to increase awareness of the PA profession throughout the state for patients, healthcare administrators and physicians. Finally I anticipate a continued positive relationship with the North Dakota Board of Medical Examiners. Thanks for voting me into this position and I am humbled to have this opportunity to serve.

Terrie Jo Wold  
NDAPA President

## Update: University of North Dakota Physician Assistant Program

Since I was unable to attend the Primary Care Conference held in May, I have not had the opportunity to update the membership on the latest happenings with the PA Program.

In May, we graduated 23 students. On August 4<sup>th</sup>, the first two transitional masters students graduated. Both are former grads of this program who wanted to “update” their skills while earning a masters degree. It took each of them about 24 months to complete the program. So, if any of you practicing PAs or NPs have thought about getting your Masters Degree, why not check out our web site <http://www.med.und.nodak.edu/depts/pa> and see if now might be the time – and UND be the place!

This year we are beginning a 3 year pilot project in which we have accepted applicants other than RN’s. All those accepted have significant clinical experience in their field of licensure. So, while over half the students are RN’s, students from other disciplines include physical therapists, corpsmen/paramedics, pharmacists, clinical lab scientists, foreign medical grads, respiratory therapists. Hopefully, this will give us a good mix of backgrounds for a dynamic learning environment. I will keep you updated on how it goes. Also, almost ALL of these “non-RN” students come from North Dakota or Minnesota!

We are in our third year of a federal grant that is helping us increase our applicant pool of American Indian nurses from the tri-state area and has enabled us to enlist the assistance of American Indian elders to be trained as standardized patients for teaching students to better understand cultural and health care issues for this segment of the population.

During this budget year, we are adding another person to our core faculty. While the total number of students is about 60, the fact that we have two classes going simultaneously and now have three times the number of courses we had in the past, justified our request for more faculty. Presently, we are interviewing applicants.

Hopefully, this gives you an idea of how your “PA educators” on the northeastern tip of North Dakota keep busy!

Take care, Peace,  
Mary Ann Laxen  
Director, Physician Assistant Program

## Message from the Past-President

Dear NDAPA Members,

A special thanks to all who attended the 28th annual spring primary care conference in Fargo. We had a great turn out and applaud you all in supporting the Academy. We had a great conference once again and congratulate the CME chairperson, Heidi Fitzgerald and her committee for a superb job. We are already looking at planning the conference for next year.

We are also looking at attending the North Dakota board of medical examiners meeting to look at some networking with them.

The NDAPA website is up and running. Be sure to check it out at [www.ndapahome.org](http://www.ndapahome.org). This is a great addition to the Academy for membership renewal, rules and regulations and many more opportunities.

The new board members will be started their new positions in July, and we have included these new members in this newsletter. Please welcome them on their new endeavors for the year to come. We look forward to some new faces and ideas for the Academy.

A special thank you to all board members that have helped me in the past two years as president. I will continue to help out as much as I can in any way to promote our profession.

Sincerely,  
Kate Larson, PA-C



Welcoming the New President,  
Terrie Jo Wold, PA-C

**NDAPA Board Meeting**  
**May 3, 2006**  
**Fargo Holiday Inn**

Meeting was called to order at 8:40 p.m. by President Kate Larson. Those in attendance were Heidi Fitzgerald, Barb Heier, Randy Perkins, Terrie Wold, Kate Larson, Cindy Renner, Terri Lang, Pat Blomquist, Scott Barry, Cheryl Ulven and Wayne Kartes.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved on a unanimous vote, after a motion by Cheryl Ulven, which was seconded by Randy Perkins.

Membership report by Terri Lang reported 96 current members.

The newsletter was discussed. Cindy Renner is looking to retire and a new chairperson is being sought.

The next order of business was our CME, which was discussed by Heidi Fitzgerald who reported 206 registered attendees. There was discussion of future speakers, including Pas. There was also discussion of exhibitor fees and grants for the Academy to use for speakers as we choose, noting that the NDAPA does sponsor lectures as well. There was discussion regarding increasing exhibitor fees and there was a motion to do so by Heidi Fitzgerald, seconded by Randy Perkins. The CME committee will discuss appropriate increases and will also discuss these increases with the board members. It is noted that neighboring states have much higher fees than we do.

For the 2007 CME, it was noted that the dates which we usually reserve are not available at the Holiday Inn. We will look into meeting at the Marriott Courtyard in Moorhead. Options will be investigated and we may consider an earlier date, however, the open dates were Tuesdays and Wednesdays, which the board felt was not preferable for our group. Heidi and Kate will check on dates and places and discuss at a later date.

The silent auction was discussed by Cheryl Ulven. Several articles have been donated and we will run the auction similar to last year, which was quite successful.

Scholarship applications were distributed, reviewed, and discussed. There was a motion by Scott Barry to give three scholarships this year, as there were only three applicants. This was seconded by Randy Perkins and motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's report was given by Pat Blomquist. (a copy should be attached to these minutes)

There was discussion regarding raising scholarship amounts. There was discussion regarding earmarking interest from savings accounts for the scholarship as well. This issue will be reviewed at the budget meeting in July.

Next order of business was the National Convention. Delegates this year are Barb Heier, Chief Delegate, Wayne Kartes, Junior Delegate, Heidi Fitzgerald and Jim Spaeth as Alternates.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was a call for Junior Delegates for the National Conference in Philadelphia in 2007. Kate Larson is interested in attending as a Junior Delegate. There will be a call for additional candidates for Junior Delegate and Alternate Delegates at the membership meeting.

There was discussion regarding the 2007 leadership meeting in July in Washington DC. Terrie Wold was interested in attending. There was discussion next regarding State Lobbyists. We are not currently employing a lobbyist. There was discussion regarding the legislative chair becoming more active with the Board of Medical Examiners and possibly being more involved in the legislative processes. Scott has voiced his interest regarding both of these issues.

It was noted that Paul Levinson of the AAPA will be speaking at the noon luncheon tomorrow.

Board liability insurance and was approved with a motion by Barb Heier and seconded by Scott Barry. Motion carried.

Next discussion was for nominations for the upcoming NDAPA Board of Directions. Volunteers were requested and members were asked to seek additional candidates for Board positions.

Next was a request for book sponsorship for the Masters students at their White Coat Ceremony, the book "**Just Say for Me**" by Eugene A. Stend. There was a motion by Kate Larson, seconded by Cheryl Ulven for a yearly donation and motion was carried unanimously.

There was discussion of the PPAP visit, which we plan to schedule.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m. on a motion by Randy Perkins, seconded by Cindy Renner.

Wayne Kartes, Secretary

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 5, 2006

Fargo Holiday Inn

Board and chair members present were as follows: Heidi Fitzgerald, Barb Heier, Randy Perkins, Terrie Wold, Kate Larson, Cindy Renner, Terri Lang, Pat Blomquist, Scott Barry, Cheryl Ulven and Wayne Kartes.

Minutes of last year's meeting were approved as read on a motion by Randy Perkins, seconded by Heidi Fitzgerald. Board members and delegates were recognized.

Paul Robinson of the AAPA spoke regarding AAPA activities.

Next order of business was elections. There was a call for nomination for Vice President. Barb Heier was ballot nominee. There were no other nominations and there was a motion by Julie Keller to cease nominations, seconded by Joan Nyckelmoe. Motion carried. Barb Heier was named Vice President. Next was the position of secretary. Wayne Kartes was the ballot nominee. There were no other nominations. Lori Dockter made a motion to cease nominations, seconded by Cory Jones. Nominations ceased and Wayne Kartes was named secretary.

Next was the position of Treasurer – Pat Blomquist was the nominee.

There were no other nominations. Cindy Renner made a motion to cease nominations, seconded by Cheryl Ulven, motion ceased and Pat Blomquist was named as the Treasurer. Next was the position of Director at Large. Cheryl Ulven was the ballot nominee.

There were no other nominations and motion by Marie Brekken to cease nominations, seconded by Lori Dockter. Nominations ceased and Cheryl Ulven was named as Director at Large. Next positions

were that of Junior Delegate and alternate delegates to the 2007 convention in Philadelphia. Kate Larson was a ballot nominee for Junior Delegate. Alternate delegates on the ballot were Lori Dockter, Wanda Knudson, and Scott Barry. On a secret ballot, Kate Larson was elected Junior Delegate and alternate delegates were Lori Dockter and Wanda Knudson.

Annette Larson spoke on the UND program. The program is changing entry requirements, which is a new feature. It was also noted that the Program had been awarded educational recognition.

It was announced that the scholarship silent auction netted \$884 which is an all time high.



Barb Heier, PA-C, Chief Delegate &  
Wayne Kartes, PA-C, Junior  
Delegate at the National Convention

Next order of business was the 2007 State meeting. Dates available were May 9 & 10 at the Ramada Inn in Fargo and April 26 & 27 at the Marriott Inn in Moorhead with the Moorhead dates and times receiving the most votes.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Julie Keller, seconded by Denise Carlson. Meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m. The meeting had been called to order at 12:30 p.m.

An addendum not to the previous minutes, post conference meeting was held on the afternoon of May 5, immediately following the conference. There was discussion regarding next year's conference. A new option arose that was the possibility of having the conference at the Doublewood Inn in Fargo the first weekend in May or at the Marriott in Moorhead on the last weekend of April. Ballots will be mailed to the membership to choose between these options.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wayne Kartes, Secretary.

## MEMBERSHIP

It is time to join and/or renew your membership to the North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants. Page 7 is the application for joining or renewing your membership or you can find it on-line at <http://www.NDAPAHome.org>. For those of you, who attended the 2006 NDAPA primary care conference and indicated and paid the full registration which included the membership fee, please fill out the form and check the appropriate box that your membership fee has already been paid if you did not fill out an application during the conference and hand it in. We need the application forms filled out in order to update your membership information. Membership continues to be \$50 for fellow members and \$10 for students. Please be sure to provide your e-mail address as it provides a more effective and efficient way to communicate with all members.

Becoming a member of the North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants affords you a greater opportunity to keep up to date with what is happening in the PA profession in addition to networking with fellow physician assistants. We are also encouraging each and every one of you to become involved with the academy by your participation on a committee. When you fill out your application form, please indicate any committees that may be of interest to you that you would be willing to be a part of. Terri Lang, the executive secretary will then have the chairman of the committee contact you to make sure you are included in the activities of that committee.

## 2007 Primary Care Conference

The NDAPA Spring Primary Care Conference will be held at the Doublewood Inn **May 3 and 4, 2007**. We hope that we will continue to have the tremendous support that you have shown us in the past few years. We strive to have a well planned conference and hope that you enjoy and learn a great deal from the conferences. It is also fun to network and see other physician assistant's every year. Our conference is already being planned and several speakers have already eagerly agreed to speak at the conference. Some of the topics include osteoporosis, cardiovascular disease, immunizations, bipolar disorder and dementia in primary care. We have received the evaluations from last year's conference and will try to make improvements as you have asked. See you next year.

Kate Larson, PA-C



Paul Robinson, Speaker of the House, from Minnesota addressed the academy at the 2006 general membership meeting for the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

## PA of the Year Award



Sean McDonald, PA-C of Fargo, ND receiving PA of the Year Award from Kate Larson, NDAPA President

We were pleased to present the PA of the year awards again this year at the 2006 NDAPA Primary Conference. The PA of the Year Award was given to Sean McDonald from Fargo, ND and the PA Educator of the Year Award was given to Kristen Schoen-Bosey from Minot, ND. We encourage everyone to continue to nominate their peers for this award. It is such pleasure to give these awards from the NDAPA.

Kate Larson, PA-C



Kristen Schoen-Bosey, PA-C, of Minot, ND receiving PA Educator of the Year Award from Kate Larson, NDAPA President

## NDAPA has their Web Site!

The NDAPA web page is HERE!!! Check it out at [www.ndapahome.org/](http://www.ndapahome.org/)

Check it often and give us feedback on how we can improve. Save in on your "My Favorites" for quick access.

The photo gallery link will be activated once we get pictures. If you have any academy related photos- please e-mail them to Terri Lang at [telang@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:telang@medicine.nodak.edu) or myself. [tewold@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:tewold@medicine.nodak.edu)



HUGE THANKS go to Sue Kuntz PhD for developing the web page for our academy. Sue is on faculty at the UND PA Program. She has a background in clinical lab

science and a doctorate in distance learning. Please send her a thank you e-mail message at [skuntz@medicine.nodak.edu](mailto:skuntz@medicine.nodak.edu).

## Hepatitis C (HCV) Randy Perkins, PA-C

HCV is one of the leading known causes of liver disease in the United States. It is the leading cause for liver transplantation. It is the most common chronic blood-borne infection, nationally. The old non-A, non-B hepatitis was identified in 1987 to be hepatitis C (HCV). At different times, you will read that the prevalence of HCV in America is about 2%. This is only correct for the general population. Other prevalence rates include IV drug users (80-90%), homeless (22%), veterans (6.6%), incarcerated (15%). The HCV rate of incarcerated (prison) individuals varies greatly from state to state and prison to prison. So, a good question for any review of systems should include HCV. There is a tremendous amount of IV drug (mostly meth) use in ND. Although the overall incidence of HCV has dropped dramatically in the past 20 years the prevalence has not. Remember, all hepatitis diseases are not created equally. Hepatitis C is not like hepatitis B or A (or X or M). In the next newsletter, we will discuss diagnostic and screening lab studies for HCV.

**NORTH DAKOTA ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS  
2006 Membership Application/Renewal Form**

**First time applicants: Please include a copy of your NCCPA certificate and a copy of your program diploma. Thank you.**

First Name	MI	Maiden	Last Name	Title
Home Address		City	State	Zip
Supervising Physician		Clinic/Hospital Name		
Work Address		City	State	Zip
Home Phone		Work Phone		
Fax		<b>E-Mail Address</b>		

Currently registered with the N.D. Board of Medical Examiners:  Yes  No License \_\_\_\_\_  
 AAPA Member:  Yes  No AAPA ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
 NCCPA Certified:  Yes  No NCCPA Cert. # \_\_\_\_\_

Training Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr. Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

**Practice Demographics:** Clinically Active:  Yes  No  
 Type of Practice: Rural  Urban  Clinic  Hospital  Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

On which committee(s) would you be willing to be involved in:  
 Membership  Public Relations  Newsletter  Legislative  Cont. Ed.  Corporate Sponsor  
 Elections  NDAPA Awards  Professional Wellness  Reimbursement  Scholarship

Please indicate your mailing preference:  Home  Work  No rent option\*  
 \* NDAPA rents its mailing list of members to carefully selected companies and organizations. If you do not wish your address to be rented, please check the "no rent option".

Would you like your name added to our resource pool for lecturing, etc.?  Yes  No

What areas would you be willing to present? \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Contribution to the Kathy Ohly Scholarship Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Fellow \$50.00 (A PA certified by NCCPA)
  - Sustaining \$25.00 (A PA who has chosen not to practice as a PA and not join AAPA)
  - Student \$10.00 (one in an approved CAAHEP approved program)
- \_\_\_\_\_ PA Program \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated graduation
- Affiliate \$50.00 (non-PA wishing to belong to NDAPA)
  - Physician \$50.00
  - Membership paid at conference**

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Contribution Scholarship Total

Make checks payable to NDAPA. Send application to: **Terri Lang, Executive Secretary, NDAPA, 1412 Cottonwood Avenue, Minot, ND 58701** (please make a copy for your personal records. Thank you.)

**North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants' Mission**

To promote quality, cost-effective, accessible health care to enhance the health and well being of the people within North Dakota and to promote the professional and personal development of physician assistants.



# the review

North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants

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The mission of NDAPA is to promote quality, cost-effective, accessible health care to enhance the health and well-being of the people of North Dakota and to promote the professional and personal development of Physician Assistants.

