

Past Attendees Speak Out: The ANESTHESIOLOGY Annual Meeting is ‘Fabulous’!

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“Effervescent,” “Fabulous,” “Mind-Opening,” “Interactive.” These are just a few of the words attendees used to describe ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2022. Every year, the Committee on Annual Meeting Oversight (AMOC) is committed to making the next meeting even more innovative, instructive, educational, and inspirational. As part of this effort, we listen to feedback from attendees to get a pulse on the needs of the collective group. Our membership and their educational needs are front and center when

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planning the meeting, spearheading our process to bring forth cutting-edge educational topics, create networking opportunities, and drive interest in the exhibit hall with entertaining and inspiring offerings. The words of our 2022 attendees were so thought-provoking that I wanted to share some of what they told us.

Connection and education

Above all, attendees raved about the value of networking, telling us the annual meeting “...means connection. It means mentorship. It means growing my network ... There’s something about meeting people in person. There’s something about connecting with people you’ve met on social media, and just having that in person connection that ... is vital” (Tolu Kehinde, MD, MBA).

Others talked about the value of the education they received, saying “the ed-



ucation that I get here has always been a key component of me evolving with the state of the art of anesthesiology. I certainly value all the research that I get from journals and textbooks. But to see knowledge come to life here at the conference, it’s unparalleled. I can’t imagine a better way to interact with my profession and get my learning done at the same time” (Michael Stout, CAA).

Research and advocacy

Research and advocacy also earned high praise. One attendee extolled the value of seeing “people from all over the world presenting their research and the things that they’re interested in. It’s a great way to connect with a lot of people and learn about what everyone’s doing in the field” (Ankith Palpnuri Reddy). Another pointed out that the conference did a good job addressing the importance of “advocacy for our profession, especially now, more than ever” (Sachin S. Kulkarni, MD).

Energy and opportunity

Residents and medical students told us that “ASA is where it happens.” One medical student called ANESTHESIOLOGY the

place “where you will have an opportunity to meet so many amazing people that you wouldn’t get to meet otherwise ... an amusement park for anesthesiologists” (Iman Ahmed Soliman). A resident pointed out that “it’s sometimes easy to think that anesthesia is this small group of people. But when you come to a conference ... with thousands of anesthesiologists, hundreds of residents, just the energy of seeing all the people who do the same thing as we do every day is invigorating” (Bengt J. Grua, MD).

Presenters told us being at ANESTHESIOLOGY benefited them personally and professionally, allowing them to advocate for their passions. One, for ex-



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ample, said “the opportunity to speak about global health at the ASA helps me expand my reach, helps me draw more anesthesiologists into the cause, and helps me network for the cause as well” (Kathryn McQueen, MD, MPH, FASA).

Even ASA exhibitors shared their opinions. We beamed with pride when one of the exhibitors called the event the “Superbowl of anesthesia.” Other exhibitors mentioned coming to ANESTHESIOLOGY to “display new technology and innovations; meet with potential customers” and get reacquainted with “opinion leaders” (Kelly OBrien, Braum Medical). Others said they valued the opportunity to “come together with thought leaders and have conversations we couldn’t normally have” (Robert Canfield, Fresenius Kabi).

The committee is working hard so each and every attendee will feel that sense of belonging, of being part of something bigger than themselves, when they join us at ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2023. Based on the praise the event earned last year, we have big shoes to fill. And we’re determined to fill them with high-quality education, opportunities to forge and grow connections, and interactive spaces that invite participation and learning. We hope you’ll join us this year. In the words of one attendee, “You can’t miss it. Fly out. Drive in. Do something. You’ve got to show up. It’s amazing” (Moses Onwuchekwa). Learn more at asahq.org/annualmeeting. ■

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