



# CAPA NEWS

*Summer 2011*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
BY STEVE KUDEBEH, PA-C**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**HEARD ANY GREAT SPEAKERS  
LATELY?**

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SUSAN STANTON, MMS, PA-C**

**SAVE THE DATE: 28TH ANNUAL  
WINTER CME MEETING**

**"YOU'RE EITHER AT THE TABLE OR YOU'RE THAT  
EVENING'S ENTREE"**

As I sit in the Las Vegas airport awaiting my return flight to Denver after this year's House of Delegates, I realize the pithy little statement above has been rattling through my consciousness.

This statement came up during the State Legislative Coordinators meeting at the conference. Time and again leaders from various states stood up and gave either success stories of being at the table or problems generated when we were not. Decisions are constantly being made about PAs, be it workforce issues or reimbursement policies or state rules and regs. When PAs were not at the table, decisions were made by others - by physicians, hospital administrators, regulators or legislators, who had little to no experience with PAs or by other health care providers who had an ax to grind.

Often when PAs were at the table, seeming miracles happened, the right legislator was at the meeting and was willing to carry a bill, a regulator was there who finally understood that a rule did not enhance patient centered practice, or administrator became an ally because her niece just got into PA school.

CAPA has employed a full time lobbyist for the past 3 years. Due to her lobbying efforts and monitoring, she identifies legislation where PAs were not included. This past session, due to her efforts and the efforts of your CAPA staff and Board of Directors, PAs now are included as one of the providers who can provide handicapped placards, can explicitly order medications that can be self administered by the student and allows PAs to assess and certify a students athlete's ability to return to play after a concussion. We are at the table. We don't miss opportunities to improve PA practice in our state.

Prior to 3 years ago, before we had a full time lobbyist, how many chances were missed to improve PA practice because we were not at the table?

Due to the inability to recruit a president elect last spring I have volunteered to step in and act as your president beginning July 1. The atmosphere for PAs has changed dramatically since I was President in 1991.

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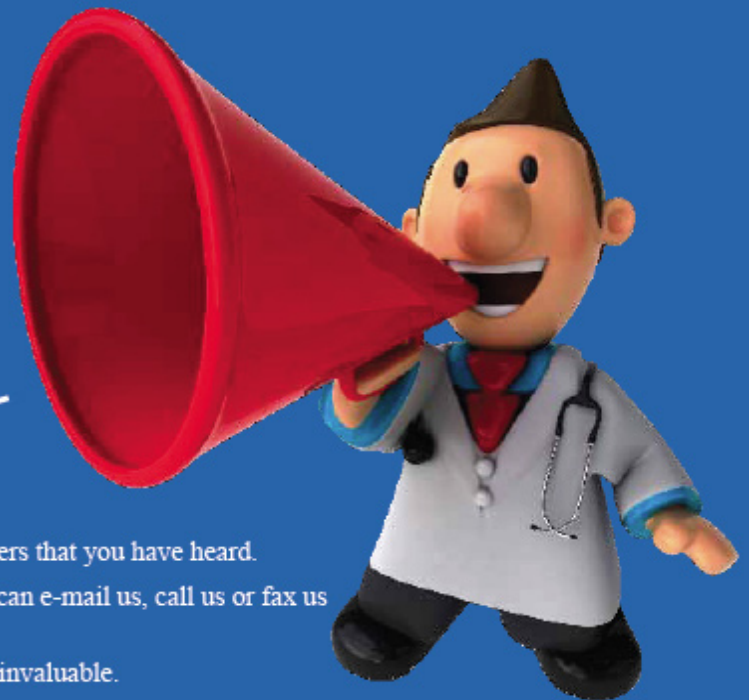
*President's Message Continued...*

I have been thinking about my agenda and they focus around being at the table:

1. We need to know when each of you are at the table. Do you sit on committees, or state task forces? Do you need more training? I would like to recruit and educate a cadre of PAs who are educated in the issues facing the profession. CAPA will be asked to testify at the legislature, not just when our practice act is sunseting, but on a regular basis. We need qualified people to testify in the confrontative atmosphere of the legislature. There are state taskforces that are making decisions on our ability to practice that do not have PA representation. We need a group of PAs that we can call on who are articulate and passionate, who can be trained up quickly and asked to step in.
2. We need a strong reimbursement committee. With the Affordable Care and Patient Protection Act coming on line in 2014, decisions on implementation are being made now. And we are currently not at the table.
3. We need a strong membership committee. During the sunseting process for our practice act, I was often asked how many PAs in the state does CAPA represent. I had to tell them about 495 out of 1800, just over a quarter.
4. I would like to see further support for the students at the two student programs in the state, the Child Health Associate/Physician Assistant Program and Red Rocks. The students are our future, we need to get them involved early, encourage them to be members and encourage them to be active in their student societies at both a local and national level.

Ambitious, maybe. Necessary, I think most certainly. I don't want to be the next meal. I welcome your comments, [skudebeh@gmail.com](mailto:skudebeh@gmail.com) or contact Carol or Mary Beth at the office, 303-770-6048. If you have attempted to volunteer in the past and we have not been responsive, contact me. CAPA needs your help to stay at the table to continually improve PA practice in our state.

**HEARD ANY  
GREAT  
SPEAKERS  
LATELY?**



CAPA is requesting referrals from you on GREAT speakers that you have heard.

We also welcome suggestions on interesting topics. You can e-mail us, call us or fax us the information.

GREAT speakers make a GREAT program. Your help is invaluable.

Call: 303-770-6048 Fax: 303-771-2550 or e-mail: [marybeth@goddardassociates.com](mailto:marybeth@goddardassociates.com)

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CAPA WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE 2011 - 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & LEADERSHIP:

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**CAPA ON FACEBOOK**

For information on upcoming events please visit CAPA on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=143355785284>

A special thank you to the members who served on the 2010-2011 Board of Directors, your dedication to CAPA is appreciated!

**CHIEF DELEGATE REPORT  
BY STEVE KUDEBEH, PA-C**

**AAPA HOUSE OF DELEGATES, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
MAY 31-JUNE 2**

The House of Delegates (HOD) at the AAPA annual conference has given me the opportunity to observe the growth and maturation of the Physician Assistant profession. The Academy continues to produce a rich tapestry of position papers. The liaison activities with our physician partners continue to grow, with observers attending the annual conference from many medical and surgical groups including the American Medical Association. The growth of the PA profession overseas is impressive with over 6 countries sending representatives to the conference. New schools are being opened overseas.

This year I served as your Chief Delegate filling the role that became vacant when Kyle Kirkpatrick was appointed to the Colorado Medical Board and was required to resign from his CAPA elected positions.

This year CAPA was represented by 3 individuals with little to no house experience and two of us who had represented CAPA in the past. I have asked them to report to the CAPA Board on the business of the House and give some insight into their introduction to the policy making body of the academy.

In addition to my House duties, I attended the South Central Regional Meeting and the Legislative Coordinators meeting at the house. Please see my report included in this edition to give you a flavor of the successes and failures that occurred this year on the legislative front across the country.

The South Central Region is an odd duck. We are thrown together with the states across the south, from Mississippi to New Mexico and Texas to Kansas. I questioned the utility of the region; we have not had a real focus since Mississippi passed enabling legislation. It was mentioned that in other regions there is a rich sharing of what works in the state. This has not been the history of the SC region. I asked that the AAPA coordinators for the region bring back the concerns to the AAPA Board of Directors and staff and see if a mission can be drafted that the constituent chapters can support.

I look forward to serving again next year as Chief Delegate in Toronto.

**CLÍNICA TEPEYAC LOOKING FOR MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS**



Are you looking for a fulfilling volunteer experience? You don't need to look any further than the Globeville neighborhood in Denver to find one!

For the past 17 years, Clínica Tepeyac's mission has been to provide culturally competent health care and preventive health services for the medically underserved. We are a Family Practice clinic providing a full-range of services. We rely on medical volunteer providers to achieve this mission and serve as many patients as possible. At Clínica Tepeyac, you will find helpful staff, grateful patients, and, most importantly, a rewarding professional and personal experience.

Please visit our website for more information about the clinic at [www.clinicatepeyac.org](http://www.clinicatepeyac.org). You may also call our office manager Oswaldo Lozano at 303-458-5302, ext. 2942.



# IMPACT<sup>®</sup>

EXPERIENCE IT ALL ♠♥♣♦ 2011

## IMPACT 2011

BY CATHERINE LANDGRAF, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDENT AT  
RED ROCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The IMPACT 2011 Conference in Las Vegas just came to a close, and it was such an exciting event. I am a first year student at the Red Rocks program, so this was my first time attending. I had no idea what to expect from the conference but was thrilled by my experience. I ran for an office with the student board of directors and was elected the Regional Director of the South Central Region. I met so many amazing people including Patrick Killeen, PA-C, President and Robert Wooten PA-C, President-elect of AAPA.

There are many new projects in the works for both the AAPA and the SAAAPA for this upcoming year. Project Access, a joint effort between AAPA and PAEA to inspire and motivate minority youth to pursue a career as a PA, has been brought back (it was initiated in the early 90s and lasted for almost a decade, but was discontinued due to issues with sustainability.) This is a great opportunity to get involved with the youth in our community and promote our profession. To learn more about the project or to get involved, check out the AAPA website: <http://www.aapa.org/news/pa-pro-now/2675-project-access-needs-volunteers>. Look for updated information coming soon!

The Student Society has many goals this year. Some of these include increasing our community service projects, starting Pre-PA societies for those hoping to join our career field, and combining efforts between schools in each region. We want to increase participation in Capitol Hill Advocacy Day, both in Washington DC and within our own states. We also plan on playing an integral role in implementing Project Access as a sustainable national service project during PA week this year.

I wanted to share some of my experience at IMPACT 2011 for a couple of reasons. I learned so much from the conference and met so many PA's with inspirational and educational experiences they were willing to share with me. I would highly recommend participating in the Annual Conference in Toronto next year whether you are a student or a professional. Also, as the Student Society's newly elected Regional Director for the South Central Region, I want you to know about that community service or legislative opportunities are available to anyone who wishes to get involved. Contact me at [saaapasc@gmail.com](mailto:saaapasc@gmail.com) if you have any questions. The SAAAPA is going to be starting a variety of task forces for projects we are implementing within our region and nationwide. There are so many ways to participate as a student or a practicing PA.

Catherine Landgraf  
Physician Assistant Student - RRCC  
SAAAPA Regional Director – South Central  
[saaapasc@gmail.com](mailto:saaapasc@gmail.com)

### **CALL FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Do you have a good story to tell, an interesting PEARL you have discovered or news that you think your colleagues should know about?? We encourage you to contribute to this newsletter! This newsletter is meant to be for you and by you! Please submit any articles, or ideas for articles that you would like to see to Susan Stanton, PA-C at [sgs@pvhs.org](mailto:sgs@pvhs.org).

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**MEET YOUR COLLEAGUE: SUSAN STANTON, MMS, PA-C**

*Where/when did you graduate from PA school?*

I graduated from Red Rocks Community College with my PA certificate and from St. Francis University for my MMS.

*Where do you work?*

I work at Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland, Colorado as Trauma/General Surgery PA.

*What ages/types of patients do you see? What is a typical day like for you?*

In our practice, we see surgical and trauma patients of all ages from infants to the very elderly. My favorite thing about my job is that a “typical” day tends to vary widely. I start my at 7am for rounds and usually follow that with surgical cases. Traumas and consults come in throughout the day and we work through the patients prioritizing needs and urgency. I usually do afternoon rounds in the ICU and on the floor to make sure that interventions or tests have been accomplished and follow-up on any needs that have arisen throughout the day. My day usually ends around 9pm...unless something comes up!



*What is your favorite/most challenging thing about being a PA?*

My favorite thing about being a PA is the variety of patients I see. I enjoy working with people in general and having the opportunity to see such a variety of illnesses an injuries is a great opportunity for me. Seeing severely injured trauma patients recover meaningfully is an amazing thing to be a part of. Conversely, seeing young patients with devastating injuries is perhaps the most challenging part of my job.

*What is your favorite place to get CME?*

For the past several years I have had the opportunity to attend the Trauma and Critical Care Conference held every Spring in Las Vegas. At the moment, this is my favorite place to obtain CME.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**CAPA'S 28TH ANNUAL  
WINTER CME MEETING**

**JANUARY 19-22, 2012**

**COPPER MOUNTAIN, COLORADO**

**WWW.COLORADOPAs.ORG**

