



Innovative Programs The Apgar Scholars Program

Margaret Wood

E.M. Papper Professor of Anesthesiology

Chairman, Department of Anesthesiology

Columbia University

College of Physicians & Surgeons, New York



Training the Academic Anesthesiologist The Old Way (Mine)!



1973: *First paper (Drug Metabolism)*

1974: *Alder Hey (UK) – Jackson Rees
Pediatric Anesthesia*

1976: *CT Fellowship – Vanderbilt*

Clinical and Research (Pharmacology)

Found my own mentors/supervisors

Wrote my own ticket!

But just jumped in the pool—swim/drown



Now

ACGME Fellowships: Advanced Clinical Training

- *Master Clinician: Excellent Specialist Training*
- *Detailed Program Requirements*
- *Very little research/scholarly projects*
- *No faculty development/leadership*



Developing an Anesthesia Research Community and Culture

Apgar Scholars Society

Initiated in 2002

Margaret Wood, MD

(Honorary President)

In 2012 we have 27 Apgar Scholars

VIRGINIA APGAR SCHOLARS

- *Basic/Clinical Subspecialty and Research Fellowships*
- *2 year commitment in addition to residency*
- *Virginia Apgar Society*
- *Virginia Apgar Lecture*
- *Mentoring*
- *Research pathway*



Apgar Scholars and the Mission of the Department

- *Train future leaders in academic Anesthesiology*
- *Applicant pool for clinical fellowships and T32*
- *Future Columbia Faculty*
- *Since 2002 emulated widely*
- *Develop an academic research community*

Program Content for Scholarship

- *Course Work*
- *Project*
- *Mentor & Supervisor*
 - *Not the same thing!*
- *Deliverables*
 - *Publications*
 - *Funding*
- *You are training for scholarship*



Academic Scholars Program Track

- Work with excellent department
- Committed mentor
- Define important question
 - Answerable/Achievable
- Join successful/productive research group
 - Research area with techniques up and running
- Start early in residency
- Present early at National Meeting
- Need a successful “product”
 - Publication, Grant



Anesthesiology Research

Broaden The Research Horizon

*Relationship between NIH and Congress:
Research must improve health of US— Francis
Collins current focus!*

- ⑩ *Basic Research*
- ⑩ *Clinical Research*
- ⑩ *Outcomes Research*
- ⑩ *Epidemiology/Population Science*
- ⑩ *Comparative effectiveness Research*
- ⑩ *Health Policy/Services Research*

Developing a Sustainable Research Enterprise—Mentors



- *Need to broaden base of faculty mentors*
 - *Basic Science*
 - *Clinical science*
 - *Epidemiology*
 - *Comparative Effectiveness*
 - *Outcomes—Patient Safety*



Summary

Pitfalls for Junior Faculty

- *Too much service effort*
- *Diffusion, confusion, lack of focus*
- *Lack of mentoring*
- *Exploitation by other faculty*
- *Lack of discipline and perseverance*
- *Key is having passion for what you do*



Apgar Scholars: Outcomes

- *Academic Faculty Appointments*
- *Funding – NIH, FAER*
- *Publications*
- *Prizes/Honors*

- *Year 1: 4 Scholars Year 2: 2 Scholars*
- *2012 Total : 27 Scholars*

