

**Inside LSA**

Welcome	P1
Annual Meeting	P1
District Highlight	P2
“Lobby View”	P2
Monthly Article	P3
Legislative Focus	P3
Sitting in the Back	P4

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**President’s Welcome: “All-In” for Physician Anesthesiologists**

Today, it is more important than ever to be an **active** member of the LSA and the ASA. We have recommitted ourselves to serving **you**, and in turn, we hope you’ll go out and be ambassadors on the issues facing physician anesthesiologists and our patients. Our Legislative Committee evaluated and established positions on legislation in Baton Rouge that supported our patients and our practice. The Annual Meeting Committee is planning a wonderful event in New Orleans on November 21, 2015. We are very excited

to offer a wine tasting social on the night before the meeting to kick off the weekend.

Regardless of one’s practice environment, it has become impossible to close our eyes and ears to the tumult of healthcare today. Many non-physicians, both clinical and administrative, are more than happy to speak on “behalf” of our patients in our absence. If you prefer not to get involved in the advocacy process, at the very least become a member of the LSA, ASA, and a contributor to our political action

committees, which allows us to work on the issues that impact **you!** I invite you to reach out to the LSA and get involved, or contribute with any suggestions and comments you might have.



*Kraig de Lanzac, MD is President, Louisiana Society of Anesthesiologists and Alternate Director, ASA Board of Directors*

**Save the Date: LSA Annual Meeting!**

On behalf of the LSA Annual Meeting Planning Committee, I’d like to personally invite you to attend this year’s conference in New Orleans, on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Renaissance New Orleans Pere Marquette Hotel. This year promises to be our best ever, starting with an optional, but highly anticipated wine-tasting “welcome party” on that Friday evening before. Highlights of the meeting will include ultrasound-guided regional and introduction to TEE workshops, small-group PBLD-style

sessions, and of course the ever-popular resident Jeopardy in the afternoon! Here are just some of our invited speakers and their topics: Jeff Plagenhoef, MD, ASA President-Elect, will give our ASA update; Josh Lumbley, MD, Ohio State faculty, will be speaking about ego-depletion of the anesthesiologist; and Meg Rosenblatt, MD, Mount Sinai faculty, about regional anesthesia. Please join us this fall for what will be a wonderful annual meeting! For more info about the meeting, visit our website [here!](#)



*Kierstin Lund, MD Is Chair, LSA Annual Meeting Committee and Jefferson District representative of the LSA.*

louisiana society of anesthesiologists **2015**  
**Annual Meeting**  
November 20-21  
Renaissance New Orleans Pere Marquette Hotel  
New Orleans, LA

## District Highlight: Acadiana



*Julie G. Broussard, MD is Acadiana District representative of the LSA Chief Anesthesiologist, Parish Anesthesia of Lafayette*

Greetings to all from Acadiana! The medical community of our LSA district has witnessed an evolution of the healthcare landscape. It seems like every time we turn to our local news, there is an announcement of a local hospital aligning and partnering with other, larger systems. Change is a simple word with a difficult meaning; progress is indeed impossible without change.

Similarly, this has brought about changes in physician anesthesiology contracts, groups and management companies. Because of my position as Chief of my local group, I

have been involved with negotiations between several anesthesia groups and their hospital administration. Ultimately I felt like these negotiations went very well, but I did notice an unexpected and altogether disturbing theme: I found myself having to defend the **NEED** for a physician anesthesiologist as an essential player in the care team model. I had to convince different administrators that the physician anesthesiologist is the only person uniquely qualified to make critical decisions in an emergent situation, as well as provide the most

comprehensive and safe anesthetic care for patients.

These recent experiences have opened my eyes to the current needs of our profession. It is my hope that by remaining vigilant towards patient safety, and vocal in our advocacy for the physician-led anesthesia care team, our noble field will thrive in these trying political times. In healthcare today, change is inevitable. I think you will agree that change is not progress without an important role for the anesthesiologist.

*"I found myself having to defend the **NEED** for a physician anesthesiologist as an essential player in the care team model."*

## Lobby View: from Haynie and Associates



*Ryan K. Haynie is managing partner, and co-owner of the Baton Rouge-based lobbying firm, Haynie and Associates.*

The Legislature is in Baton Rouge for session through June 11, 2015, before having to return to the voters for **election** along with all statewide positions on **October 22, 2015**. The legislators and the Governor are grappling with a \$1.6 billion budget deficit this session, partially caused by the drop in the price of oil. For the first time since Jindal was elected in 2007, the legislature is seriously considering revenue raising measures (that's right, taxes). The assumptions are that no

long-term budget solutions will be accomplished, and major reforms will have to wait until after elections when a new Governor is elected.

Elections are an important time of year for LSA, and we strongly encourage you to donate to the LSA PAC and also to your local legislators. What we do for you as lobbyists can and will be amplified by your personal relationships with legislators from your area. These relationships should be formed before

major issues arise at the capitol. When legislation that affects you is coming up for a vote, we will call on the LSA membership to reach out to their legislators. To better form relationships between LSA members and key legislators, we have formed a new **legislative relations sub-committee** and will be looking for your participation as we match LSA members with legislators to educate them on the practice of anesthesia safe, physician-led medicine in Louisiana.

## Monthly Article Highlight – from NOLA.COM

**Legislative efforts fail to resolve 'turf war' between doctors and nurse practitioners in Louisiana.**

By Emily Lane,  
NOLA.com

Many patients in Louisiana and across the United States no longer see a family physician when they catch a cold or wake up with the flu -- they see a nurse practitioner.

The shift in recent decades toward nurse practitioners as primary health care providers has occurred partially in response to rising health care costs and lower Medicaid reimbursements, according to professionals in the field. The financial

debt doctors take on to complete a dozen years of school and training, combined with those other factors, make it more lucrative for them to become specialists.

"It's extremely difficult to get physicians to go to rural areas," said state Rep. Robert Johnson, D-Marksville, on April 28 from the Louisiana House floor. "Nurse practitioners have stepped in and have filled that void."

But some nurse practitioners and the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners say the Louisiana Board of Medical Examiners, which regulates doctors in the state, is trying to

implement rules that would thwart some nurse practitioners from helping to fill that void.

"It's a flat out turf war," Johnson told NOLA.com.

On one side, the medical examiners board says it wants simply to regulate the doctors the board is charged with overseeing. On the other side, the nurse practitioner association says the medical examiners are trying to push them out of practice because they provide competition.

"I understand the fact they went to school for 12 years, and it's difficult to see providers coming after them with master's degree.

...However, when the need is there, the need is there," said Buzz Jeansonne, a nurse practitioner in Avoyelles Parish.

Louisiana Board of Medical Examiners Executive Director Dr. Cecilia Mouton said, however, that "Anyone that would try to characterize the (medical examiners board as trying to) inhibit nurse practitioners from practicing their full scope -- that's ludicrous."

For the full article, click [here](#)



Everything New Orleans

## Legislative Focus: Relevant Bills, LSA Positions, and Outcomes

The Louisiana legislature is in session until June 11, 2015, and that means that the LSA, LSMS, and our lobbyists are very active representing the interests of patient safety and physicians in this great state. Here are some of the most relevant pieces of legislation up for debate, and their status:

HB416 (oppose): allows APRNs to practice independently if meeting certain criteria. KILLED IN COMMITTEE

SB56 (oppose): vastly expands chiropractors' abilities to order radiologic exams, and treat medical conditions. KILLED IN COMMITTEE

SB115 (oppose): permits PAs to perform epidurals, spinals, nerve blocks, etc. PERMISSION REMOVED FROM BILL

HB843 (support): enacts due process for physician complaints submitted to the LSBME. PASSED HOUSE, IN SENATE COMMITTEE.

HB486 (oppose): removes the ability of any board to prevent collaborative agreements between MDs/APRNs. KILLED IN COMMITTEE

We are *always* looking for more people to join the LSA Legislative Committee! Please don't hesitate to contact us if interested.

Contact:  
[ryan@haynie.com](mailto:ryan@haynie.com)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| LSA Monthly Article Submission Deadline<br><i>Email submissions to <a href="mailto:janna@lsa-online.org">janna@lsa-online.org</a></i> | June 22, 2015       |
| ASA Annual Meeting (San Diego)<br><i>For more information click <a href="#">here</a></i>  | October 24-28, 2015 |
| LSA Meeting Abstract Submission Deadline<br><i>To submit an abstract click <a href="#">here</a></i>                                   | September 15, 2015  |
| LSA Wine-Tasting Social (New Orleans)<br><i>For more information click <a href="#">here</a></i>                                       | November 20, 2015   |
| LSA Annual Meeting (New Orleans)<br><i>For more information click <a href="#">here</a></i>  | November 21, 2015   |

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.lсахq.org>



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Have any events to add? Interested in submitting an article for this newsletter? Want to get more involved with the LSA?

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