



SLEEPY TIMES

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 2 FEBRUARY 2026



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN: STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT AND PRESS GANEY SURVEY

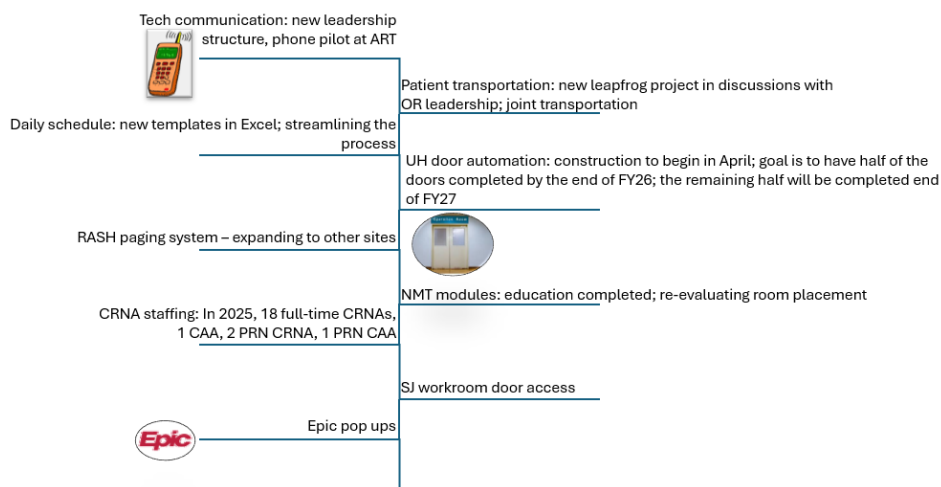
-Scott T. Reeves, MD, MBA

I hope everyone had the opportunity to attend either in person or virtually the State of the Department address on January 20. If you missed it, [you can watch it here](#). We just finished an amazing year and have a lot to look forward to as we enter 2026. I am especially excited for our academic mission as evident by the number of faculty who were promoted, our residents moving on to fellowships and our impressive research accomplishments.

This month we will all be asked to complete our annual Press Ganey survey. I would encourage everyone to do so. It is an opportunity to give honest confidential feedback about MUSC, MUHA and the department. We use the survey to affect change. Carlee and the ICCE have spent a lot of time this year working on the GROSS survey pressure points. What we have accomplished as a department was evident in the State of the Department address, and in this edition of Sleepy Times is a summary of the ICCE results. There is work still to do, but we are making progress.

FY26 ICCE Action Plans

FY26 Action Plans



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OPENING STATEMENT CONTINUED

FY26 Wins

ART Anesthesia workroom door repaired

Call room support: locks updated, cameras installed, SEI floor renovation pending



Badge reels and lanyards purchased for the department

New MUHA Anesthesia Providers and Technicians Director hired in April



Transition from paper labs to Epic orders

Karl Storz imagers purchased for CMAC systems



Anesthesia APP lead aprons purchased

Pyxis conversion to open shelving is complete for all sites

NMT Modules installed and education complete

New carestation at UH and Getinge machines at SJCH



TSC Life Fluidio compact systems purchased 1/2026. Transitioning from Ranger fluid warmers.

Oxygen regulator upgrades purchased for all 32 machines. 63% installed.



High Flow Nasal Cannula systems installed 1/9

LOWCOUNTRY HEART WALK—FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Join us at the Lowcountry Heart Walk!

Saturday, February 28, 2026—8:00am

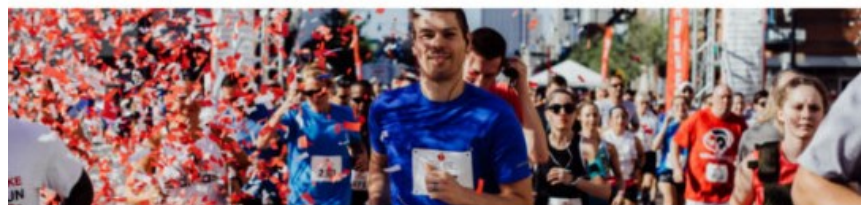
Join our Anesthesia Sleepwalkers' team to support heart health. Our goal is to raise \$3,000 so let's put on our walking shoes!



American
Heart
Association®

Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026
Joseph P. Riley Stadium

[Click here to join our team](#)



CRNA WEEK—JANUARY 18-24, 2026

It's National CRNA Week, a time to celebrate Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists and recognize the critical role you play in delivering safe, high-quality anesthesia care every day. Happy CRNA Week!

I want to personally thank each of the nearly 130 CRNAs on our team for the dedication, professionalism, and heart you bring to your work. I see the long hours, the flexibility, the teamwork, and the unwavering commitment to patient safety and clinical excellence. Your expertise and leadership have a direct and meaningful impact on our patients, our surgical teams, and the success of our organization. You consistently step up for our patients and for one another, and I am incredibly proud to work alongside such a talented and compassionate group of providers. We also look forward to celebrating you throughout the week with cake and other treats as a small token of our appreciation. Thank you for all that you do - not just this week, but all year long.

Candace Jaruzel, PhD, CRNA, Director of MUHA Anesthesia Providers

**ANESTHESIOLOGISTS WEEK—JANUARY 25-31, 2026**

January 25-31, 2026, we celebrate anesthesiologists' week. It is our yearly tradition to celebrate and recognize our excellent faculty and residents. Please take a moment to thank them for all they do for our patients, department and each other.

2025 was an amazing year of accomplishments. If you have not had an opportunity to hear my State of Department address, I encourage you to take the time to do so. It can be found [here](#).



ANNUAL EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY—FEBRUARY 2ND

We want to hear from you! The Engagement survey will be sent on **Feb 2 and will close Feb 16**. While completing this survey is voluntary, your feedback is invaluable. Rest assured, the survey is 100% anonymous. All comments are reviewed only by Press Ganey and Dr. Patrick Cawley; the department/ICCE does not have access to individual responses or comments.

Last year, we achieved an impressive 75% participation rate, and this year, we're aiming even higher! Your input helps us grow and improve. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts.

Definition of Common Terms by Care Team Member:

	Anes Techs	CRNAs/CAAs	Faculty	APPs	Residents
Organization: consider your primary employer, i.e. the MUSC Medical Center (MUHA), the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), MUSC Community Physicians (MCP), or MUSC Physicians / MUSCP Primary Care (MUSCP).	MUHA, Hospital	MUHA, Hospital	University	MUSCP	University
Senior Management:					
If you are part of MUHA, MCP, & MUSCP consider the group consisting of Chiefs and Administrators.	C-Suite; ICCE Leadership (Dr. Clark & Jenny Ann Smoak)	C-Suite; ICCE Leadership (Dr. Clark & Jenny Ann Smoak)	President, Dean, Dr. Reeves	President, Dean, Dr. Reeves	President, Dean, Dr. Reeves
If you are part of the University consider the group consisting of the President, Provost, Chiefs, VP's, Deans, Associate/Assistant Deans, and Chairs.					
Director: consider the Director for your Department or your Division Director	Candace Jaruzel	Candace Jaruzel	Division Chiefs	Dr. Clark & Jenny Ann Smoak	Dr. Guldán
Manager: consider the Manager	Previous Supervisors (Marcus and Kanika)	CRNA Manager	Dr. Reeves	Dr. Hulse	Dr. Guldán
The person I report to: consider the person you report to directly; the name of the work unit leader found in your survey invitation email	Previous Supervisors (Marcus and Kanika)	CRNA Manager	Dr. Reeves	Dr. Hulse	Dr. Guldán
Work unit: consider the group of employees you work with on a regular basis, usually reporting to one leader	Techs	CRNAs			
Employees: consider the people who work at MUSC Medical Centers (MUHA), MUSC Community Physicians (MCP), the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), and MUSC Physicians (MUSCP)					
Customer: consider patients, families, visitors, vendors, residents, community, students, and fellow employees					

ANNUAL MANDATORIES

The 2026 Annual Mandatories have been assigned to you in OurDay. These lessons are available in the Learning Home in OurDay. Lessons must be completed by **June 30, 2026**.



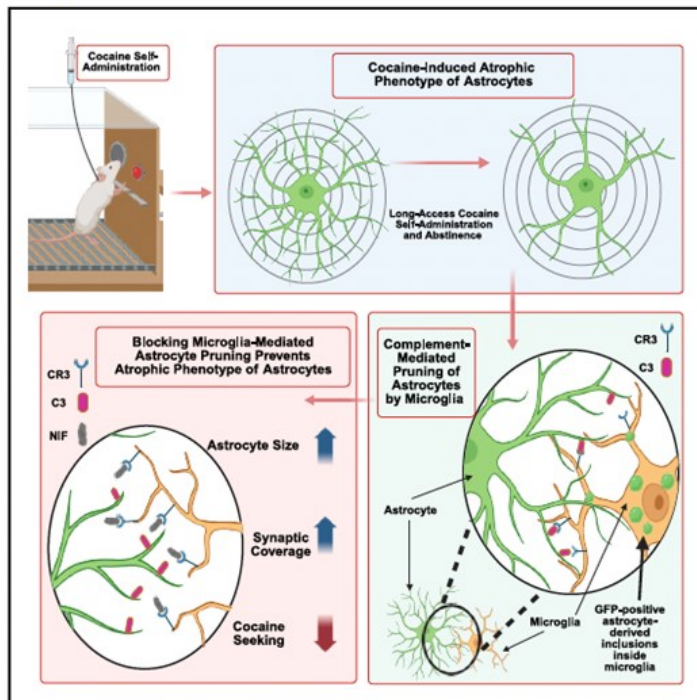
RESEARCH CORNER

Cell Reports

Article

Abstinence from cocaine self-administration promotes microglial pruning of astrocytes, which drives cocaine-seeking behavior

Graphical abstract



Authors

Anze Testen, Jonathan W. VanRyzin, Tania J. Bellinger, ..., Michael D. Scofield, Marie-Ève Tremblay, Kathryn J. Reissner

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kreissne@email.unc.edu

In brief

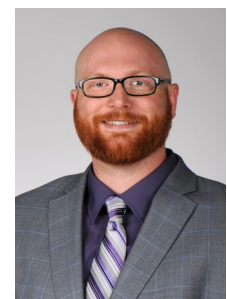
Testen et al. show that rat cocaine self-administration leads to decreased nucleus accumbens astrocyte branching, which occurs by CR3-mediated engulfment of astrocyte membranes by microglia. Results indicate that microglial pruning of astrocytes is a biological phenomenon that is increased across cocaine abstinence and contributes to prolonged vulnerability to cocaine use.

Neuropharmacology. 2025 May 15; 269: 110365. doi:10.1016/j.neuropharm.2025.110365.

Effect of an astrocyte calcium exporter on orbitofrontal cortex neuron excitability, astrocyte-synaptic interaction, and alcohol consumption

A.R. Kastner-Blasczyk^a, S.W. Hester^a, S.E. Reasons^a, M.D. Scofield^b, J.J. Woodward^{a,*}

^aDepartment of Neuroscience, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, United States



Michael Scofield, PhD

RESEARCH CORNER

Reversible propofol resistance in a pediatric patient with chemotherapy-induced hypertriglyceridemia: a case report

Brooke Rovner¹, Sydney Greenlaw², Christopher Ferrante³,
Ashley C. Eason³, Christopher Heine² and Nicole C. McCoy^{2*}



Nicole McCoy, MD



Chris Heine, MD

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT

Cole Frank

Research Assistant

Cole Frank recently graduated from Clemson University where he received a B.S. in Chemistry. At Clemson, he participated in research in the field of mass spectrometry and was a four-year starter on the Clemson Men's Rugby Team. He is excited to join the anesthesia department at MUSC as a research assistant to immerse himself in the field of anesthesia. Cole intends to become an anesthesiologist assistant and is excited to start his schooling later this year. Outside of work, he enjoys working out, fishing, watching football, and spending time with friends.

RESIDENT OF THE MONTH NOMINATION—BRIAN BUMPOUS

We are nominating Dr. Bumpous for resident of the month and would love him to be recognized in particular for going above and beyond during his CVICU rotation in regards to his clinical expertise, professionalism, teaching with medical students, and excellent communication with other team members.

On several instances during his rotation in the CVICU, Dr. Bumpous has greatly helped out with staffing when urgent issues arise, often significantly changing his own schedule – for example, he has stayed and worked a 24 hour shift and covered another night shift when no one else was able to, thus ensuring appropriate patient-staff ratios in the ICU.

He has excellent rapport with nurses and other team members – so much so that the nurses have voted him as this month's Friend of Nursing! He has managed complex patients here with ease and has shown excellent clinical judgement.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STAFF OF THE QUARTER



Brandy Harrison
Anesthesia Tech of the Quarter



Margaret Halladay
CRNA/CAA of the Quarter



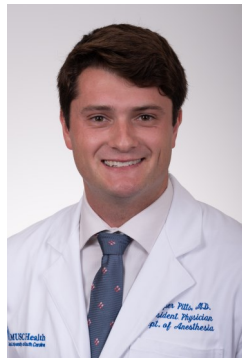
Dr. Maxwell Rubin
Resident of the Quarter



Dr. Ellen Johnson
Faculty of the Quarter

CONGRATS!

GRAND ROUNDS—FEBRUARY 2026

**“Anesthetic Management of Long Gap Esophageal Atresia: New Insights to an old problem ”****Carlos Munoz, MD, Assistant Professor****February 3, 2026****Dept. of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine
Johns Hopkins****“Modern Anesthesia Informatics: OR Physiologic Data, QI Dashboards, and LLM Applications ”****Frederick Kuo, MD, Assistant Professor****Luis Ahumada, PhD, Executive Director Advanced Technologies and Data Science****February 10, 2026****Dept. of Anesthesiology and Critical Care medicine
Johns Hopkins****“M&M”****Jaimie Dietrich, MD, Resident****Cooper Pitts, MD, Resident****February 17, 2026****Dept. of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina****“Peds QI Update and Case Presentation”****Amanda Redding, MD, Associate Professor****Jenna Littman, MD, Fellow****February 24, 2026****Dept. of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina**

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIA AND
PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE

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[CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Future Events/Lectures

CA 1 Lecture Series

2/4—Local Anesthetics & Adjuncts to
Anesthesia—Brenden Moore

2/11—Pediatric Anesthesia—Jen Smith

2/18—Obstetric Anesthesia—Katie Hatter

2/25—Geriatric Anesthesia—Jenny Matos



I HUNG THE MOON

Please don't forget to nominate your co-workers for going 'Beyond the Call of Duty.' I Hung The Moon slips are available at the 3rd floor front desk and may



Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and
Twitter:



 Follow @MUSC_Anesthesia



Graduation
June 19th at 6:00pm
Trinity Hall

Holiday Party
Saturday, December 5th
Carolina Yacht Club

[ONE MUSC Strategic Plan](#)

We Would Love to Hear From You!

If you have ideas or would like to contribute to *Sleepy Times*, the deadline for the March edition will be February 18, 2026.