



Call for Nominations: ASA Excellence in Education Award

The ASA Excellence in Education Award recognizes ASA members who have made outstanding contributions through demonstrated excellence in teaching, development of new teaching methods and/or implementation of innovative educational programs in anesthesiology. The nominee for this award must be an active ASA member in good standing who teaches students, residents, fellows or

faculty in an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education-accredited (or international equivalent) anesthesiology or subspecialty training program and spends at least 50 percent of his or her time on clinical activities. Physicians from academic or community practices that have training programs are eligible. Nominees should have a minimum of five years of experience in resident and/or continuing medical education.

Those who wish to submit nominations should include the following:

1. A one-page cover letter summarizing why he or she believes the nominee should receive this recognition.
2. A copy of the nominee's current resume or curriculum vitae.
3. A letter of support from the nominee's department chair.
4. Any additional supporting materials that are essential to impact the

final decision of the Committee of Professional Oversight in selecting the reward recipient.

All nominations and supporting materials should be submitted to j.jacobson@asahq.org by May 17, 2021. The award recipient will be announced in June 2021, and will receive a plaque, an honorarium and reimbursement for hotel and travel, and per diem to accept the award at the ASA ANESTHESIOLOGY® annual meeting. ■

You Are Awesome

A tribute to all who work in the Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Anesthesia, Critical Care, and Pain Medicine.

In normal times,
which yes there were,
and may never be again,

You worked your magic,
caring for those who came
in need of your healing touch

Just for a few moments
known to them,
yet their life is in your hands

As it surely would,
the stealth killer came
unexpectedly (for most)

Spreading on the wind
from the air we breathe
into the moist flesh

The vulnerable
could not stop
the mass replication

Which ravaged the lungs
the heart
the vessels

Weakened
Breathless
Afraid

They came to you
helpless to fight
against the relentless beast

And, you
also unprepared
also afraid

did not turn away.
Instead, stood firm
for those who needed you

You took care of them
even when
you didn't know how.

Redeploy they said.
There is no one else.
You put yourself in harm's way.

The human form
in front of you
fighting for life

Against some RNA
without a soul
and you with so few weapons

You medicated
ventilated
sometimes not sure how.

The rules changed
every day
every hour

You adapted.
You persevered.
Defeated your fear

Gave the best of care
not enough for some
but for others, survival

Where did it come from in you?
The passion to serve
those you don't even know

Even you may not know
may not question
it is so deeply felt

We who watched
from a distance
in awe

of your competence
your energy
your courage



Jeffrey B. Cooper, PhD

Professor of Anaesthesia, Harvard Medical School, Department of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and Executive Director Emeritus and Senior Fellow, Center for Medical Simulation, Cambridge.

and for those you saved
and those you did not,
forever grateful.

Since COVID-19 hit us, our department's quality and safety team has had a Zoom meeting every day, looking for ways to support what our anesthesia providers and support staff are doing. We've been hearing what's happening at the front lines of care and the incredible challenges anesthesia providers have been facing. The team wanted to honor all the clinicians who have risen to this occasion. After one of our team meetings, I woke up at 2 a.m. inspired by how much so many owe to all of you. When I wrote this, I had in mind those who have been caring for patients, but as our team considered more about what has happened, we realized there are many more – including all the staff who support those providing direct care – to whom this equally applies.

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Jeff Cooper  
June 4, 2020

### ASRA

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May 13-15, 2021, at Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resorts in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, with virtual components. We

have learned a lot from necessity during the COVID crisis. Looking ahead, we plan to continue offering educational webinars and on-demand continuing medical education, but with a hope to be once again face-to-face for educa-

tional programming. Regardless of what happens, ASRA will remain poised and flexible to meet our members' needs and maintain engagement.

All of these efforts are possible with the continued work of our dedicated vol-

unteers and staff who tirelessly support the society's mission. ASRA is truly a team effort made ever-more apparent during COVID. We are incredible grateful to be part of and to serve this great society. ■