# AsMA Constituent Organization Presidents for 2023–2024

### Benincasa Heads Army Flight Surgeons

LTC Jennifer A. Benincasa is the incoming President for the Society of U.S. Army Flight Surgeons. She hails from the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia, PA, and graduated from LaSalle University with



a dual Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Psychology with a Premedical Concentration. She was commissioned as an Army Officer through the Health Professions Scholarship Program as a Second Lieutenant and attended the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, where she was awarded her Doctor of Osteopathy medical degree in 2009. She completed her Transitional Year Internship at Madigan Army Medical Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in 2010 and General

Surgery Internship at Tripler Army Medical Center on the island of Oahu in 2011. Afterward, she served a General Medical Officer tour in an aviation unit, where she developed her interest in and passion for operational, aviation, and aerospace medicine.

LTC Benincasa then completed her Occupational Medicine residency training with the U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine in 2016 and Aerospace Medicine residency training with the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in 2017. During her residency training she earned both her Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from University of Maryland University College and her Master of Public Health from the University of West Florida in 2016. She is board certified in both Occupational and Aerospace Medicine with both the American Board of Preventive Medicine and American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine. She is a member of many professional societies, including the American Osteopathic Society, American Association of Public Health Physicians, American Public Health Association, American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists, Space Medicine Association, Society of Critical Care Medicine, and the Society of Federal Health Professionals. She is also a member of the Aerospace Medical Association, where she serves on the Council, Nominating Committee, and Scientific Program Committee.

LTC Benincasa's military experience includes serving as Battalion Flight Surgeon in Germany with the 412<sup>th</sup> Aviation Support Battalion in the 12<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade from 2011–2014, Brigade Flight Surgeon in Hawaii with the 25<sup>th</sup> CAB in the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division from 2017-2019, Command Surgeon for Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island Arsenal from 2019-2021, and deploying as a Battalion Flight Surgeon in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from 2012-2013. She is currently stationed at Fort Rucker, AL, where she served as the Program Director of the Residency in Aerospace Medicine at the U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine from 2021-2023 and currently serves as the Chief Aeromedical Reviewer/Flight Surgeon/Aerospace Medicine Specialist at U.S. Army Aeromedical Activity. Her awards include the NATO Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Air Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal, She also holds a Bronze Medal, Order of St. Michael Award.

For the latest AsMA News and News of Members, visit https://www.asma.org/news-events/asma-news.

#### **Berry to Lead ASAMS**

Dr. Daniel K. Berry is the incoming President for the American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists (ASAM). He is a graduate of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN, with a



Bachelor's degree with a Mathematic major and a Chemistry minor. He earned an M.Sc. in Biomathematics from Loma Linda University in California with his research in 3-D modeling of cardiac electrical activity using Aitoff projections, and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the California Coastal University with his research in statistical analysis of cardiac disorders using the angiogram as the gold standard. He graduated from Kansas City University of Medicine

and Biosciences and completed his postgraduate training at the Tulsa Regional Medical Center, which is now the Oklahoma State University Hospital. He completed the RAM requirements for a Master's of Public Health at the University of Oklahoma, School of Public Health, in Oklahoma City, OK. He is Board Certified in Aerospace Medicine by the American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine and is Board Certified in Family Practice by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Practice.

Dr. Berry served in the U.S. Air Force for 28-1/2 years as a physician. He started his career as a Flight Surgeon at Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City, OK. Within 1 year he was promoted to the chair of the 10-physician department. His next assignment was at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey, where he was the Director of Preventive Health Services and directed the offices of Flight Medicine, Public Health, Bioengineering, Infectious Diseases, and the Immunizations Clinic. He was then assigned as the Aerospace Medicine Squadron Commander at Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City, FL. Then he was selected to be the Command Chief of Aerospace Medicine, the Chief of Clinical Medicine, and the Medical Director of the Personnel Reliability Program for headquarters Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, CO. He then became the Aerospace Medicine and Aeromedical Information Systems Director for the Human Systems Program Office at Brooks City-Base in San Antonio, TX, where he directed the departments for 17 medical device and information systems development. He went on to become the Human Systems Office Deputy Group Commander. His last assignment with the U.S. Department of Defense was as the Joint Project Manager for Biological Defense. He retired from the Air Force but continued to practice Aerospace Medicine in the Federal Aviation Administration first as the Deputy Regional Flight Surgeon, and then as the Regional Flight Surgeon for the Central Region of the United States. He is also the acting Senior Regional Flight Surgeon for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Dr. Berry has also been extensively involved in professional activities with the American Osteopathic Association. He has held nearly every office in the American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine, including President of the College. He developed and founded the Osteopathic Specialty of Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine and established the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Conjoint Committee. He is currently the Chair of the American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine, has served in this position for 14 years, and was just re-elected for a 15<sup>th</sup> year. He is a distinguished Fellow of the American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine and a fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association.

Dr. Berry is one of the authors of the "Aerospace Medicine Board Essentials" text book. He is also a frequent lecturer on topics in Aerospace Medicine and has written articles on Aerospace Medicine.

He is a trained item writer for Board questions and is trained in Anghoff psychometric procedures. He developed the first Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Table of Specifications (TOS) and Joint Task Analysis (JTA), and has participated in updating the previous Aerospace Medicine TOS, and JTAs. He holds five medical patents and is the president and owner of Obtronics, Inc., which is a medical device development company.

#### **Ruskin Is Incoming AsHFA President**

Keith J. Ruskin, M.D., is the incoming President for the Aerospace Human Factors Association (AsHFA). He is a Professor of



Anesthesia and Critical Care and Director of Aerospace Medicine at the University of Chicago. His clinical practice focuses on neurosurgical anesthesia. His major academic interests include neurosurgical anesthesia, human performance, and aerospace medicine. His career has focused on teaching these disciplines to practicing physicians. He has worked as part of a team to develop guidelines for screening morbidly obese pilots for obstructive sleep apnea and for the

management of in-flight cardiac arrest. He has developed a fatigue risk management program for physicians who must work overnight shifts and participated in a NASA workshop on space torpor. Keith is also interested in the terrestrial applications for this work, writing articles on the role of automation in the operating room and how personal protective equipment affects human performance. His funded research involves developing guidance for the next generation of alarms, alerts, and warnings in Air Traffic Control.

Dr. Ruskin received a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Biotechnology from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He then attended medical school at the University of Miami School of Medicine and completed his residency at New York University Medical Center. He spent 20 years on the faculty of Yale University before being recruited to the University of Chicago. He has had a lifelong interest in aviation and currently holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with Airplane Single-Engine Land and Sea, Multi-Engine Land, and Instrument Airplane ratings. He holds a Second in Command type rating for the DC-3. He currently flies a Cessna Skylane out of Chicago Executive Airport (KPWK), but would love to would fly a jet.

Dr. Ruskin has published original research, review articles, and textbooks on a variety of topics, including willingness to fly during the COVID-19 pandemic, management of critical events, and other topics related to safety and human performance. He also teaches two undergraduate classes at the University of Chicago: "Conquest of Pain," which covers pain physiology, and "Physiology in Extreme Environments." He serves on the American Society of Anesthesiologists' Patient Safety Editorial Board and Committee on Patient Safety Education and is Chair of the Aerospace Medical Association's Aerospace Human Performance Committee. He is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association, the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists. He is also a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

#### **Welsh to Lead AsPS**

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CDR Welsh is the incoming President for the Aerospace Physiology Society (AsPS). A native of Ambridge, PA, he earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Exercise Physiology from Slippery Rock State University, PA. He also graduated from George



Washington University with a certificate in Medical Laboratory Technology and is a board certified Aerospace Physiologist.

CDR Welsh enlisted in the Army in May 2002, and attended Basic Combat Training at Ft. Benning Infantry Training Center, GA. He was promoted to Sergeant in April 2005 and commissioned through the Navy's Direct Commissioning Program in September 2005. In 2006 he completed his initial Navy training at Naval Air Station

(NAS), Pensacola, FL, and NAS Whiting Field, FL. His training included Officer Development School, Aviation Preflight Indoctrination, Primary Naval Flight Training, and the Naval Aerospace Physiology Course. As a Naval Officer, his past assignments include Division Officer, Aviation Survival Training Center (ASTC), NAS Patuxent River, MD; Aeromedical Safety Officer, Training Wing Six, NAS Pensacola, FL; Aeromedical Safety Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 26, Marine Corps Air Station, New River, NC; Assistant Professor, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences School of Medicine, Bethesda, MD; Director of Aeromedical Safety, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Camp Foster, Okinawa; and Director ASTC Pensacola, NAS Pensacola, FL. He is currently the Deputy Surgeon at the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Cherry Point, NC.

CDR Welsh is authorized to wear the Fleet Marine Force Officer Warfare Device and his current personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4 awards), Army Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and Army Good Conduct Medal.

### **Feuillie Is Incoming IAMA President**

Vincent Feuillie, M.D. is the incoming President of the International Airline Medical Association (IAMA). Since 2016, he has held the po-



sition of Air France Medical Advisor. He joined Air France in 1998 and served in a variety of positions such as Deputy Medical Director, Medical Officer in the Occupational Health Department, and served in Air France's International Travel Clinic, Paris Invalides, until taking his current position. From 1989-1999, he was also Day Hospital Head at the Institute Pasteur in Paris, where he also served in the Infectious and Tropical Diseases Department.

Dr. Feuillie is a member of the International Air Transport Association Medical Advisory Group, an International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine academician, President of the French speaking Society of Aerospace Medicine (SOFRAMAS), and Member of the Medical Council French Civil Aviation Authority (DGAC). He was chair of the Organization Committee for the International Conference of Aerospace Medicine in Paris in 2022. He has been a member of the Airlines Medical Directors Association

#### **Future AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings**

May 21–25, 2023 Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA May 5–9, 2024 Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL June 1–6, 2025 Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Atlanta, GA since 2009, and is a member of the European Society of Aerospace Medicine and Member at Large of their Executive Council and a member of IAMA. He is a European Union Aviation Safety Agency representative at the Flight Standards Technical Committee, and a member of the Aerospace Medical Association since 2009. Within AsMA, he is a member of the Air Transport Medicine Committee.

#### **Bates Continues as IAMFSP President**

Col. Christopher W. Bates is starting his second year as President of the International Association of Military Flight Surgeon Pilots. He is currently the sole tanker Pilot-Physician for the U.S. Air Force and is



actively engaged in human system integration issues for the KC-46. As a KC-46 instructor pilot he works with 22nd Operations Group in the execution of KC-46 Initial Operational Test and Evaluation and training of KC-46 aircrew. Prior to this assignment, he was the Commander of the 22nd Operational Medical Readiness Squadron, 22d Medical Group, 22d Air Refueling Wing, McConnell AFB, KS. In 2001, Col. Bates was commis-

In 2001, Col. Bates was commissioned through the U.S. Air Force

Academy and earned his Doctor of Medicine in 2005 from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU). He is a Pilot-Physician with over 2000 pilot flight hours in the T-6, T-1, KC-135, and KC-46. He has deployed as a pilot, flight surgeon, and critical care air transport team (CCATT) physician in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is also a board-certified emergency medicine physician and a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians. A full bio is available in the October 2022 newsletter: https://www.asma.org/asma/media/AsMA/pdf-journal/pdf-news-2022/oct-2022\_news\_final.pdf.

#### Auñón-Chancellor Is NASA Flight Surgeons President

Dr. Auñón-Chancellor is the incoming President of the Society of NASA Flight Surgeons. She received a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from George Washington University, Washington, DC, in 1997 and



an M.D. from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston in 2001. She completed a 3-year residency in internal medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston, TX, in 2004 and then completed an additional year as Chief Resident in the Internal Medicine Department in 2005. She also completed an aerospace medicine residency at UTMB and an M.P.H. in 2007.

Dr. Auñón-Chancellor was selected by the National Aeronautics and Space

Administration (NASA) in 2009. Board certified in Internal and Aerospace Medicine, she recently served as Flight Engineer on the International Space Station (ISS) for Expeditions 56 and 57. During her time on orbit, the crews contributed to hundreds of experiments in biology, biotechnology, physical science, and Earth science aboard the International Space Station. Investigations were led into new cancer treatment methods and algae growth in space. The crew also installed a new Life Sciences Glovebox, a sealed work area for life science and technology investigations that can accommodate two astronauts. During Dr. Auñón-Chancellor's first flight, she logged in 197 d in space. She currently covers medical issues and onorbit support in the Astronaut Office. In addition, she serves as the Program Director for UTMB's Aerospace Medicine Residency

Program and as academic faculty for LSU Health's Internal Medicine Residency Program in Baton Rouge, LA.

Dr. Auñón-Chancellor's awards and honors include the U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeons' Julian Ward Award, an Outstanding UTMB Resident Award, the William K. Douglas Award, and the Thomas N. and Gleaves James Award for Excellent Performance by a third-Year Resident in Internal Medicine. She is a member of the American College of Physicians, the American College of Preventive medicine, and the National Engineering Honor Society, and is an Associate Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association.

### **Suresh to Head Space Medicine Association**

Dr. Rahul Suresh is the incoming President of the Space Medicine Association (SMA). He is an operational Flight Surgeon at the NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC). He has served as the deputy



crew surgeon for Expeditions 61-62 and as the prime crew surgeon for Expeditions 66-67 (SpaceX Crew 3). He currently serves as the Program Medical Officer for NASA's Low Earth Orbit Commercial Destination Program. His duties in this role include providing physician leadership for the Agency in its development of future commercial LEO destinations and to serve as the prime physician interface to commercial providers building LEO stations. His other roles include sup-

porting SpaceX Crew Dragon launches and landings as a certified SpaceX Hawthorne Mission Control Specialist and as the Co-Lead of the Exploration Medical Integrated Product Team where he helps identify and fund development of medical capabilities for future exploration missions. He is a longstanding SMA member and has been the chair of the SMA Awards Committee for the past 2 years.

Dr. Suresh earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biochemistry and Cell Biology from Rice University in Houston, TX. He returned to his hometown of Rochester, MN, where he received his Doctor of Medicine degree and a Master of Clinical and Translational Research degree from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. He completed residency training at the University Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston, TX, and earned a Master of Public Health degree. He is currently board certified in Internal Medicine and Aerospace Medicine. He is also a practicing hospitalist and sees patients at hospitals in Houston.

#### **Incoming SUSAFFS President is Andrus**

John R. Andrus, B.Sc., M.D., M.P.H., M.Sc., Brig. Gen., USAF, is the incoming President for the Society of U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeons. He is the Commander, 711th Human Performance Wing (HPW),



Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH. He entered the Air Force in 1988 through the Uniformed Services University and earned his B.Sc. at the University of California, Irvine, CA, his M.D. at the Uniformed Services University, and completed a family practice residency in 1996. He graduated from the Aerospace Medicine Primary Course in 1997 and the Squadron Officer School Correspondence Program in 1998. He received

his M.P.H. in 2002 from the University of California, Berkeley, and also completed the Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning Program. He served an Aerospace Medicine Residency in 2003 and a General Preventive Medicine Residency in 2004 at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks City-Base, TX. He completed the Air War College Distance Learning Program in 2007 and earned a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy at the Eisenhower School of National Security and Resource Strategy, National Defense University, Fort McNair, Washington, DC. He also holds a Project Management Professional Certification.

Dr. Andrus was a Family Physician, 65<sup>th</sup> Medical Group, Lajes Field, Azores, from 1996-1998, when he became Flight Surgeon at the 86<sup>th</sup> Medical Group and then at the 37<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, both at Ramstein AB, Germany. In 2001, he attended the Air Force Institute of Technology to study for his M.P.H. He became Chief of Aerospace Medicine, 62<sup>nd</sup> Medical Group and then Commander of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Medical Operations Squadron, both at McChord AFB, WA., in 2004. He was assigned as Commander, 62<sup>nd</sup> Medical Squadron, JBSA Lewis-McChord, WA, in 2008 and became Deputy Command Surgeon, HQ U.S. Africa Command, Kelley Barracks, Stuttgart, Germany, in 2009. From 2012-2015, he served as Commander, 59<sup>th</sup> Medical Operations Group, JBSA Lackland, TX, before attending the National Defense University to earn his Masters. From 2016-2021, he served as Command Surgeon, HQ Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB, CO, and then Command Surgeon and Director, Global Patient Movement Operations at U.S. Transportation Command before taking his current position.

Dr. Andrus deployed to support Atlas Response airlift operations and was the lead flight surgeon in the evacuation of injured USS Cole sailors from Yemen. He is the recipient of the Emma L. Bockman Memorial Award for outstanding scholarly activity, the Mackay Trophy, the Malcolm C. Grow Award, and the Life Cycle Logistics Field Award. His other awards include the Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Humanitarian Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Recognition Ribbon, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air force Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit, and Defense Superior Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

### **Krause Is the New SUSNFS President**

Robert J. Krause, M.D., M.P.H., CIME, is the incoming President for the Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons (SUSNFS). He is a physician and Captain in the U.S. Navy, dual board-certified in



Occupational Medicine and Aerospace Medicine. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1996, his M.D. from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in 2008, and his Master of Public Health from the University of West Florida in 2014. Between 2012 and 2014, he served and Aerospace Medicine Residency at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in Pensacola, FL.

Dr. Krause began as a Student Naval Flight Officer at Aviation Training Command and CTW-6, Pensacola. FL, in 1996. From 1997-1998, he was a Naval Flight Officer at Sea Control Squadron Four One, San Diego, CA, and then Sea Control Squadron Two Four, Jacksonville, FL. He then became Officer in Charge, NROTC Unit, at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. After he earned his M.D., he served in a variety of positions, including General Surgery Intern, Battalion Medical Officer, and Flight Surgeon, before becoming a Resident in Aerospace Medicine in 2012. Following his residency, he was assigned as Senior Medical Officer on the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) and the USS

George Washington (CVN 73). Starting in 2017, he was a Senior Regional Flight Surgeon at Branch Health Clinic Oceana in Virginia Beach, VA, and then was an Independent Contractor from 2018-2022 for American Analytical Medical Services, San Diego, CA; Maximus, McLean, VA; and MLS Group, Southfield, MI. He then became the Department Head of Operational and Aerospace Medicine, Branch Health Clinic Oceana, in 2018. That year, he also became Medical Director/Senior Medical Officer at Oceana Triad in Virginia Beach. In 2020, he left those positions to serve as an Aeromedical Analyst, Code 14 Branch Head, at Naval Safety Center, Norfolk, VA, a position he holds today. Additionally, from 2019-2022, he was Navy Specialty Leader, Aerospace Medicine and Flight Surgery, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, in Falls Church, VA.

Dr. Krause is a member of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, and a member, previous Secretary, and past Vice President of the Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons. He is an Associate Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA). His honors include the Air Medal (First Strike/Flight Award), Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Army Commendation Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards). He is an author or co-author on six publications and presentations, and is a Certified Independent Medical Examiner (CIME) of the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners.

#### Sobel Continues as ANAHPS President

Annette L. Sobel, M.D., M.S., FAAFP, FASMA, FAAN, is beginning her second year as president of the Aerospace Nursing and Allied Health Professionals Society. Dr. Sobel is currently Adjunct



Professor, School of Nursing, at Texas Tech School of Health Sciences, and Adjunct Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Texas Tech. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and Computer Science from Rutgers University in 1979 and her M.D. from Case Western Reserve in 1983. She did her Family Medicine Internship and Residency at Duke University. She received a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Medicine/Human Factors Engineering from

Wright State University. She also attended Ari Command and General Staff Collee, Air War College, the NASA Flight Surgeon Course, the U.S. Navy Hyperbaric Medicine course, and the JFK school of Government National Security Program at Harvard University.

Dr. Sobel is a former President of the Space Medicine Association and the Aerospace Human Factors Association, recipient of the AsMA Julian E. Ward and AsHFA Henry F. Taylor Awards, and the Anti-Defamation League's Award for Superior Public Service. During her military career, and a civilian career as a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories, NM, she served during 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina responses, and worked on a number of forward-leaning partnerships for peace and non-proliferation. She led DoD development of public health/ counter WMD initiatives in Thailand, Vietnam, Qatar, and across the CENTCOM (pre-AFRICOM) areas of responsibility for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She worked for USAID/NGOs in Africa on medical education and training and developed an interprofessional pre-hospital care and innovation initiative in Lubbock for medical, nursing, business, and engineering students. A full biography is available in the June 2022 journal [AMHP 2022; 93(6): 540-541 and in the newsletter [June 2022:N22].

Did you know? FAA seminar info can be found at: https://www.asma.org/scientific-meetings/other-meetings.

#### Lee to Head LSBEB

Peter H. U. Lee, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S., FACS, FACC, FASMA, Lt.Col., USANG, is the incoming President of the Life Sciences and



Biomedical Engineering Branch (LSBEB). He is an Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Brown University and a cardiothoracic surgeon at Southcoast Health in Massachusetts. He received a B.S. in neuroscience, Ph.D. in pathobiology, and M.D. degrees, all from Brown University. He received an M.S. in Space Studies from the International Space University in France and an M.P.H. from Harvard University. He completed his surgical training at Tufts

University, UCLA, and Stanford University.

Dr. Lee is board certified in both general surgery and thoracic surgery and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons (FACS), a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology (FACC), and a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association (FAsMA). He was also a heart and lung transplant surgeon while on faculty at The Ohio State University. His research interests span the range of clinic, outcomes, translational, and basic science research. He has over 100 scientific publications, abstracts, and book chapters. He has his own basic science laboratory focusing on skeletal and cardiac muscle tissue engineering, gene therapy, and the use of stem cells. He has an interest in applying tissue-engineering technologies for use in regenerative medicine, as replacement tissue, as a biological pump, and an organ-on-a-chip type in vitro experimental model. He also has an interest in aerospace medical and space life sciences research. He has flown multiple microgravity and spaceflight experiments, including in parabolic zero gravity flights, aboard the space shuttle, and on the International Space Station (ISS).

Dr. Lee is a recipient of the Young Investigator's Award by the American Society for Gravitational and Space Research (ASGSR) as well as a Faculty Research Fellowship by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). He is an elected Academician of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine (IAASM), and the International Academy of Astronautics, an Executive Council member of AsMA, a member of LSBEB, the past President of the Space Surgery Association (SSA), and former Governing Board member of the ASGSR. He is also a member of the User Advisory Committee for the International Space Station National Laboratory. He serves as a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Air National Guard, where he serves as a general surgeon and flight surgeon and was the Chief of Clinical Services for the 179th Medical Group. He is also the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of the innovative medical device company Spiritus Medical, Inc., which has a license to manufacture and sell the NASA/JPL-designed VITAL ventilator. He has served as the medical officer on a 1-month Mars simulation mission in the Canadian Arctic as part of the Flashline Mars Arctic Research Station crew and was a finalist for the 2016 Canadian astronaut selection campaign. On a personal note, he is a seventh degree grandmaster in taekwondo, a certified master scuba diver, and a private pilot.

#### 2023 Associate Fellows Announced

The following members of the Aerospace Medical Association have achieved Associate Fellow status and were approved by the Executive Committee: Jeffrey Althoff, Chris Bates, Quen Shaw (Thomas) Chong, Joseph Connolly, Daniel Danczyk, Ari Epstein, Erik Frijters, Patrice Guillemautot, Candice Nicole Hatcher-Solis, Any Kreykes, Charles G. Mahakian, Carlos Navarro, Nina Purvis, Michael Schmidt, Philip Strawbridge, and Frank Villamaria.

### In Memoriam: James T. Webb, Ph.D.

AsMA Home Office staff were deeply saddened to hear of the death of James T. Webb, Ph.D. He was a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association and served as the AsMA Vice President of Education and



Research. He also served as the AsMA President (2013-2014) and was honored with the 2018 Louis H. Bauer Founders award.

Dr. Webb entered the U.S. Air Force (USAF) in 1965. Following receipt of his pilot wings in 1966, he became an F-4D Aircraft Commander and terminated active duty in 1970, after a tour in Vietnam, to pursue graduate degrees from the University of Washington in Seattle. For his efforts in Vietnam, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the

Air Medal with eight oak leaf clusters. During graduate work for his Ph.D. in Fisheries (Biochemical Ecology) at the University of Washington in Seattle, he flew C-141A heavy transport jets as a pilot and aircraft commander with the 97th MAS, USAF Reserve (ASSOC), at McChord AFB, WA. After completing graduate work and 2800 hours of C-141A flying time, he resumed extended active duty with the USAF in the Department of Biology faculty, USAF Academy, Colorado Springs, CO, in 1979. He taught biology, aerospace physiology, and comparative animal physiology and served as Director of Research. In 1984, he was assigned to the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM) at Brooks AFB, TX, as a research physiologist.

At USAFSAM, Dr. Webb worked with crewmembers of Space Shuttle mission 51C in an attempt to quantify fluid shifts during Space Shuttle launch and early phases of adaptation to weightlessness. He served as one of the subjects in a protocol on the USAFSAM human centrifuge during this research project. In 1987, he joined KRUG Life Sciences as a senior research scientist on contract with USAFSAM. For his 1991 article in Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine (now Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance), "Unpredictability of fighter pilot G tolerance using anthropometric and physiologic variables" (ASEM 1991; 62:128-35), he received the 1992 Harold V. Ellingson Literary Award from the Associate Fellows Group of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA). His later research on DCS led to receipt of the Sidney D. Leverett, Jr., Environmental Science Award in 1999 for his article in the blue journal, "An abrupt zero-preoxygenation altitude threshold for decompression sickness symptoms" (ASEM 1998; 69:335-40).

One of Dr. Webb's research projects demonstrated increased efficiency of preoxygenation by employing exercise to enhance perfusion and ventilation. This research led to receipt of the Fred A. Hitchcock Award for Excellence in Aerospace Physiology from the Aerospace Physiology Society (AsPS) in 1996. The exercise during prebreathe technique was incorporated with NASA findings to enhance denitrogenation prior to the extravehicular activity beginning in 2001. He received the Silver Snoopy award from the NASA astronauts in 2002 for this work. In 2003, he received the Paul Bert Award for Physiologic Research from AsPS and the Professional Excellence Award from the Life Science and Biomedical Engineering Branch (LSBEB) in 2004.

After retirement from the USAF, Dr. Webb continued aerospace physiology research as a scientist with Wyle Laboratories. In 2006, he began employment with Eagle Applied Sciences, LLC, in a curriculum development role aimed at compiling a "Handbook of Aerospace and Operational Physiology" to replace a 1976 Air Force Pamphlet on the same subject. He coordinated the efforts of 28 USAF subject matter experts who contributed to its completion. As part of that effort, he reviewed the decompression sickness research at Brooks AFB from 1960–2010, published in May 2011 as a supplement to the journal. Throughout his 26 years of altitude and acceler-

ation physiology research at Brooks, he published 20 first-author, peer-reviewed research papers in ASEM and co-authored 15 more. He was the winner of the 2011 John Ernsting Award for all his work in physiology.

Dr. Webb was a member of the International Association of Aviation and Space Medicine, Sigma Xi (The Scientific Research Society), and a life member of the Order of Daedalians (The National Fraternity of Military Pilots). He was board certified in Aerospace Physiology by the AsMA and held an Airline Transport Pilot certificate from the Federal Aviation Administration. After retirement, he continued efforts to investigate DCS risk and consulted with the USAF via his consulting firm, Scientific Aerospace Research Consulting (SARC), LLC.

Dr. Webb was instrumental in implementing and growing the AsMA Aerospace Physiology Certification Program. He served on the AsMA Executive Committee and Council, and served as Chair of the Aerospace Physiology Certification Board and on the editorial board of the AsMA journal. In 2010, he received the President's Award for his efforts as Chair of the Editor-in-Chief Selection Committee. He was a member of the Space Medicine Association and the Life Sciences and Biomedical Engineering Branch (President 1995–1996) He served on numerous AsMA committees, including the Resolutions Committee, Bylaws Committee, Aerospace Human Factors Committee, History and Archives Committee, Awards Committee, Science and Technology, and many more.

## **Scholarship Winners**

## **AsMA International Aerospace Medicine Scholarship**

Sophie Levasseur is a third-year medical student at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She holds a bachelor's degree in Honours Behavioral Neuroscience from Concordia University. She



began as a Research Assistant at the McGill Centre for Studies in Aging in Verdun, Quebec, Canada. She then became a Research Assistant at the Neurobiology of Learning Lab at Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec. She went on to become a Medical Scribe for Jewish General Hospital's Emergency Department in Montreal. She is currently a vaccinator with the Quebec COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign. She is the founder and co-president of McGill University's first Space

Medicine Interest Group (SMIG), a Co-President of the McGill Student Surgical Society, and a CSTARS CSAM Medical Student Representative.

# Anita Mantri, Ph.D., Memorial Travel Scholarship

Samuel Stephenson, M.D., is a recent graduate of Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). He is from Culpeper, VA, and completed his undergrad in 2019 at the University of Virginia with a major in



kinesiology. He then moved to Norfolk, VA, for medical school at Eastern Virginia Medical School, from where he will graduate in May 2023 with an M.D. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he was on a team that used 3-D printers to make respirators which were used by the Children's Hospital for the King's Daughters during the early pandemic and he volunteered at numerous vaccine clinics helping administer COVID-19 vaccines to the local community. He also

led exercise classes and nutrition discussions at the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, working with the Portsmouth Diabetes Prevention Program, and serving as a running pacer at local half marathons. He developed a novel touchscreen switch task and completed and published his first study titled, "Simulated Space Radiation Exposure Effects on Switch Task Performance in Rats" in *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance*. He completed the NASA Aerospace Medicine Clerkship last October. He will begin his residency training in June 2023 at UTMB in the combined Internal Medicine/Aerospace Medicine program.

# Stanley R. Mohler, M.D., Aerospace Medicine Endowed Scholarship

Cyril Mani is a final-year aerospace engineering student at McGill University, Montreal, Canada, completing—with a parabolic flight campaign—his ESA-funded thesis investigating spacecraft propul-



sion in microgravity. From 2019-2022, he led 25 engineering students to build and launch the first Canadian experimental student rocket, while also working on Canada's very first commercial launch capacity. His was invited to present at IAC 2022 in Paris and CI/CS 2022 in Ottawa. He then pivoted his career to aerospace medicine and joined the Space Medicine and Astronaut Health division of the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). He contributes to the flagship

Connected Care Medical Modules program and pursues aerospace medicine research. He wishes to obtain a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering and clinical experience through an M.D.

# Jeffrey R. Davis, M.D., Aerospace Medicine Endowed Scholarship

Alex Suh is an M2 medical student originally from Omaha, NE, studying at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, LA. He began his education studying physics at the University of



Nebraska at Omaha and then was part of an exchange program at Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea, studying microbiology and taking a Korean Intensive Language Program before attending Tulane University. He started as a Research Intern at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in the Departments of Pharmacology and Experimental Neuroscience and Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. He then designed a prototype of an aircraft wing at the Tulane University

Novel Tech Challenge. Later he became a videographer and editor at Suh-Hermsen Omni Glasses. Last summer, he conducted research in the Cardiovascular and Vision Laboratory at NASA's Johnson Space Center as a University Space Research Association Intern. He is President of the Tulane University Aerospace Medicine Student and Resident Organization and is serving as Communications and Logistics Chair in the Tulane University Social Contexts in Medicine Program. He is also a volunteer at Luke's House Eye Clinic in New Orleans. He is author or co-author on over 15 publications.

Full biographies for the scholarship winners can be found in the April 2023 newsletter [https://www.asma.org/asma/media/AsMA/pdf-journal/pdf-news-2023/april-2023\_news3.pdf].

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