President’s Message
Jessica Nelson, MPAS, PA-C

Another annual meeting has come and gone and what an amazing turn out we had; our most attended to date! This illustrates the growth we have had and the dedication of physician assistants in urology. As we do every year, we strive to make each meeting the best and the education committee did not disappoint from lectures on kidney stones to testosterone replacement to physical therapy to oncology. I specifically want to thank Brooke Zilinskas and the entire education committee for their dedication to planning this enlightening meeting. I am so excited to see what next year has in store! Please be sure to fill out the post conference survey. I hope everyone found the conference useful and was able to network.

Continue to spread the word about UAPA and plan to attend next year’s conference in Washington DC!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Board of Directors for being the backbone of UAPA and helping guide me along the way. I am so grateful for not only your friendship but your expertise on urology as well. Finally, WJ Weiser & Associates for putting the best interests of UAPA in the foreground.

I promise to be dedicated to UAPA even as my Presidency comes to an end and I hope many of you will, if interested, become involved in this growing organization. Please continue to spread the word. Visit: www.uapanet.org.

Already looking forward to seeing familiar faces and new ones in DC next year!

2017 – 2018 OFFICERS

President: Jessica Nelson, MPAS, PA-C
Vice President: Scott Young, MS, PA-C
President-Elect: James R. Kovarik, III, PA-C
Secretary: Heidi Turpen, MS, RD, MPAS, PA-C
Treasurer: G. Brooke Zilinskas, MMS, PA-C
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David R. Coleman, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA

AUA REPRESENTATIVE
Todd J. Doran, EdD, PA-C, DFAAPA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Heather Swanson
President-Elect’s Message  
Jim Kovarik, MS, PA-C

It is an honor and privilege to address UAPA members as this year’s incoming president. Neither when I accepted my first urology job 13 years ago, nor when I joined UAPA seven years ago would I have imagined I would be in this position, especially following such a distinguished line of predecessors. I would like to say a special thanks to past-president Jessica Nelson for her dedication and commitment to UAPA.

I want to thank everyone who worked tirelessly putting together another stellar Annual Conference in Scottsdale. Thank you to everyone who attended making it one of our best conference turnouts to date. For those who missed it, you will just have to come next year to see what all the excitement is about. I am already very excited to see the program and events next year in Pentagon City, VA.

I want to encourage all of our members to continue to reach out to our urology PA colleagues to invite them to become members and get involved. I fully acknowledge that we are but one of many organizations vying for your time, energy, and money. However, UAPA is the only organization whose sole purpose is “dedicated to supporting and advancing Physician Assistants in Urology.” No one is going to be more passionate about our success as a profession as those who are living it. We know the benefits we bring to our patients, our team, and our practices, let us continue to get the word out and promote ourselves. We will continue to engage and educate to optimize everyone’s opportunity to practice at the top of their PA licenses. Together we can move our profession forward and invest in those PA’s new to the urology world.

Everyone should consider other ways to get involved. Let pre-PA applicants shadow you in clinic or the hospital, reach out to your local PA program to take students during a rotation, or even offer to give a urology topic lecture. It is not a scary as it sounds, trust me. Consider starting a PA/NP urology journal club. Reach out to our Membership Committee co-chairs Adam Mogil and Scott Young. They have great ideas how to do this because they have already done it.

I am looking forward to continuing Jessica’s work last year, promoting UAPA to regional and national organizations, including AUA, American Association of Clinical Urologists (AACU), and SUNA. We will continue to look for opportunities to promote UAPA and provide additional benefits to our members.

I am looking forward to serving all of you this year. Enjoy your summer with friends and family. Start making plans for next April 2019. I will look forward to seeing you in Pentagon City!

Vice President’s Message  
Scott Young, MS, PA-C

As we say hello to Summer and goodbye to Spring, we also say goodbye to another incredible UAPA Annual Meeting which was pervaded by top notch content presented by adept individuals, organized by a tenacious team of people! Not to mention, Arizona provided a beautiful backdrop and Scottsdale provided a wide selection of culinary selections to replenish our large group of eager students. As a resident of the Phoenix Metro area, I hope the valley provided all that you were looking for in a venue to host our meetings!

Our 7th Annual meeting saw the highest attendance we have had in our history! As Co-Chair of the membership committee, nothing could make me happier than this type of attendance! This has little to do with the leadership at UAPA and more to do with each of you that spread the word to friends, colleagues and strangers about our growing organization! We thank you each for that dedication to our organization and profession!

In Phoenix, over the last year, we have seen quite an increased number of new members. We attribute this in part to a PILOT program that was put in place after our last UAPA meeting. To increase awareness and provide more value to membership, the concept of Regional UAPA meetings came to fruition. In the greater Los Angeles area and Phoenix Metro area, bi monthly/quarterly meetings were held which provided educational content, hands on skills labs and intimate networking opportunities. Surveys administered confirmed that nearly all attendees found great value in the meetings and reaffirmed our belief that they would be well attended if continued. Our conclusion going forward is that we need more members to consider hosting a meeting like this in their Metro area to capitalize on the momentum from our annual meeting! If you think this is something you may be interested in, please contact Heather Swanson at heather@wjweiser.com.

Some of our highlight presenters this year included our esteemed President Jessica Nelson, President Elect Jim Kovarik, Dr. Ajay Nangia, Dr. M. James Belsante and Mary Dunn just to mention a few! Attendees were entertained and informed by an excellent testosterone debate, left scratching their heads during the interesting cases podium session and hands-on engaged during the Cystoscopy skills workshop. Mary Dunn NP and Christy Smith NP presented timely discussions on palliative care and implementing an APC center. This partnership with our NP colleagues is vital as we continue to work hand in hand in filling the upcoming shortage of physicians in Urology.

I’d like to thank the amazing staff at WJ Weiser and Associates, our generous industry sponsors, the education committee at UAPA, the Board of Directors and most importantly each of you, who are responsible for such an unparalleled attendance and for making this meeting possible! Until next year, see you all in our nation’s capitol! #UAPADC2019
After the 7th annual meeting, the financial future of UAPA continues to look bright. Under the management of WJ Weiser & Associates, we continue to grow and remain financially stable. Our record attendance at the annual meeting in Scottsdale shows that we are a relevant association for urology PAs and any provider in urology to be involved with. We will continue to try to grow industry support for future annual meetings and evaluate other opportunities for growth and education as they become available. Your annual dues also go toward sending our president, president-elect, and other board members as appropriate to opportunities with the American Urological Association, the American Academy of Physician Assistants, and other opportunities at a national level. This allows us to advocate for PAs, and especially PAs in urology, anytime there is a seat offered at any table. Thank you for your continued support of our organization and I hope to see you all in DC!

The 7th annual UAPA meeting was held in Scottsdale, AZ this past March and we were greeted with beautiful, warm, and sunny skies. We had a record number of attendees and an excellent program. Highlights of the program included talks on pediatrics, radiology, infertility, oncology, testosterone, and pelvic floor dysfunction. The second day concluded with breakout sessions including a successful hands-on cystoscopy and difficult foley session which was a hit.

It was the second year for case presentations, which are 5-10 min presentations on an interesting topic or case submitted by any UAPA member. We encourage everyone to think about this throughout the year and be sure to remember your interesting case/topic to present it at conference! It is a great way to get experience in giving presentations, all while in a friendly environment.

We look forward now to the 8th annual meeting, which will be held at the Ritz-Carlton in Arlington, VA on March 29-31, 2019, right outside of Washington, DC. We are anticipating another successful meeting and invite any member to participate on the CME committee to help plan the program. Emails will be sent out inviting participants to join the committee.

Thank you for your continued support of UAPA, participating in annual meetings, and helping to make our organization and conferences a success!

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION for the UAPA Board of Directors?
Please submit any questions to Heather Swanson at heather@wjweiser.com
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

AAPA 2018
New Orleans, Louisiana
May 19 - 23, 2018

AAPA 8TH ANNUAL MEETING
UAPA 9TH ANNUAL MEETING

The Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City
Arlington, Virginia
March 29 - 31, 2019

The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri
April 3 - 5, 2020