



APP Spotlight



Sarah Cunningham, APN
*Trauma Outreach and Injury Prevention Coordinator
Nurse Practitioner Department of Trauma Surgery*

Sarah has a unique role within Trauma, serving as the Trauma Injury Prevention and Outreach Coordinator. Her peers credit the AMAZING work she has accomplished this past year including a collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) to bring a Student Safety Ambassador program to Cooper. She has also educated thousands of people on Stop The Bleed, and she was personally mentioned as a strength by our American College of Surgeons (ACS) Trauma Site Surveyors during our re-verification. This is a non-traditional APP role, and we thank Sarah for all she does for her peers, for Cooper and for the community.

Here is Sarah's story.

I have been employed at Cooper University Health Care since 2007. My career started in the Nurse
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From the desk of: Chief APP Eileen Campbell



This is an exciting time to be an APP and especially to be an APP at Cooper! Our Center for Advanced Practice (CAP), officially launched in November 2023, continues to focus on supporting our APPs by providing opportunities to have a voice, engage, develop professionally and personally and to optimize our roles on our healthcare teams. Our goal is to make Cooper the destination for APPs and all of you are critical to our success in achieving this goal! This newsletter highlights the tremendous work by our Advanced Practice Council and committee members!

We continue to see growth of our workforce and currently have over 500 APPs at Cooper who collaborate with our physicians, nurses, and other team members to provide high quality patient centered, compassionate care in every institute and center.

We will be celebrating National APP Week along with our APP colleagues across the country during the fourth week of September. The theme this year is "Innovate, Elevate, Celebrate: The Power of APPs." This week celebrates and recognizes all PAs, NPs, CRNAs, CNMs and CNSs for their contribution and highlights the importance of a collaborative model for Advanced Practice. Please look for more to come on activities planned for the celebration of you!

I hope you are having a wonderful summer and take time with family and friends to relax, rejuvenate and enjoy! I am so grateful for all you do every day and proud to have you on our Cooper team!

With appreciation,

Eileen

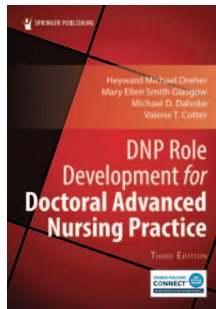
RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS



Sally A. French, MSN, APN, PMHNP-BC will be presenting at the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) 38th Annual Conference.

Her poster presentation "The healthcare journey of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) is very complex and often fraught with challenges. Cooper University Health Care has developed a 5-pillar program aimed at improving the care of this patient population." This annual conference is in Louisville, KY at the Kentucky International Convention Center on October 9-12, 2024.

Congratulations to Dr. Mary Francis, PhD, APN, Nurse Practitioner, Trauma Surgery, on her work in the recently published text, *DNP Role Development for Doctoral Advanced Nursing Practice (3rd ed)*. Dr. Francis co-authored the chapter, *Interprofessional and Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Essential for the Doctoral Advanced Practice Nurse*.



Karima Robinson, MSN, APN, CCRN, CWS, presented at the Chi Eta Phi annual meeting of the Northeast region at Caesars in Atlantic City. Chi Eta Phi is a professional nursing service organization that was established in 1932. The organization was necessary since African American nurses were not allowed to be part of the American Nurses Association (ANA).

The Northeast Region of Chi Eta Phi Sorority Incorporated donated \$1,000 to Cooper University Health Care on behalf of the APP volunteerism and community outreach committee. The money will be used to provide wigs for African American women undergoing cancer treatment at MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.



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APP Spotlight (continued from page 1)

Externship Program on North 7 the Trauma Medical Surgical Floor. In 2008 I graduated from Widener University and worked as a registered nurse on N7, TSDU, TICU and TAA. I graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2013 with my master's degree as an AGACNP. I am currently still involved in seeing patients a few times per month although the majority of my time is spent running the Trauma Outreach and Injury Prevention Program for the Department. As the only level 1 Trauma Center in South Jersey an injury prevention program is a required part of our certification. The focus of the program is to provide free education and resources to the community with the focus being on our top three mechanisms of injury: falls, motor vehicle crashes and blunt trauma. My resource

catchment area includes Burlington to Cape May County.

Some programs that are offered include Stop the Bleed, Distracted Driving, fall prevention initiatives and our Trauma Injury Prevention Program. I work in collaboration with Robert Wood Johnson, another Level 1 Trauma Center that covers parts of the northern part of the state, on the Safety Ambassador Program and in developing a Pediatric Stop the Bleed Program. I am in the process of initiating an evidence based practice (EBP) program called Bingocize to assist in fall prevention and safe mobility. I work closely with our Military, Diplomatic and Field Surgical Affairs (MILDAF) Program in the training of local police and SWAT teams as well as our Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Outreach group in the training of our pre-hospital affiliates. I also partner with our Safe Kids coordinator to assure that safety initiatives are

being provided across the lifespan.

I am a member of the Pedestrian Safety Coalition, Motorcycle Safety Coalition and the NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Council. I assist with the Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) and the Trauma Family Support Group. I am also an editor to the Trauma Newsletter "Trauma Time" and co-chair to the APP Symposium.

My free time is spent enjoying time with my wonderfully large family, my husband John, our boys John, Brian and Nolan, my parents, sisters, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews.

Trauma has been the core of my entire career. I am extremely grateful for the unique role that has given me the opportunity to be able to share my knowledge and experience with the community and continue to be involved in patient care.

RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS



Congratulations to **Christopher Campanella, PA-C**, Physician Assistant, Neurocritical Care, on his recognition as Q1 Provider of the Quarter, 2024.

During the May 2024 APP Town Hall, the APP Doctorate Prepared Professional subcommittee hosted a panel discussion highlighting several doctorate-level degrees. The panelists included Marc Angud, DNP, AGACNP-BC, PCCN-CMC, CNE; Mary Francis, PhD, APN; Sandrine Martin, DMSc, PA-C; Beth Mercanti, DSc, PA-C; and Kimberly Twaddell, DNP, APN. We wanted to highlight two of our panelists.

The APP Community Outreach and Volunteerism committee received wigs, scarves, and specialty bra donations from **Gail Luciano** of True Spa and Boutique in Berlin, NJ.



Mary Francis, PhD, APN practices within the division of trauma as an APN and has a Doctor of Philosophy which she earned from Widener University. Mary's dissertation was a narrative inquiry into the experience of being a victim of gun violence. Mary chose to pursue a PhD because it allowed her to obtain tenure within academia and she enjoys the process of research.



On June 2, 2024, **Joe Lever, APN** earned his Doctor of Nursing Practice at Wilmington University and **Ashley Weinmann, APN** recently earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice and Master of Business Administration at Wilmington University, Wilmington Delaware. Congratulations Joe and Ashley!



Sandrine Martin, DMSc, PA-C is the lead to outpatient neurology and neurosurgery APPs within the Cooper Neurological Institute. Sandrine obtained her Doctorate of Medical Science from the University of Lynchburg and holds an interest in health care leadership and organizational behavior.

BYO-APP Friend for AP Council held an educational and networking event sponsored by AstraZeneca, on June 4 at MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper. Andrea Branco, CRNA, and Carolyn Pyle, APN, hosted this successful event. This BYO-APP Friend was hosted by the APP Engagement Committee, APP Social events subcommittee.

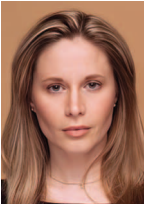


Cooper Neurological Institute held an APP outing May 16, 2024 in which our chairman and chief of Neurology, and Medical Director of CNI, and Cooper and Inspira Neuroscience, **Tudor Jovin, MD**, participated. The catered bowling event was at Bowlero in Cherry Hill and sponsored by CNI to thank the CNI APPs for our strong engagement scores. CNI APN and PA colleagues with prior commitments were there in spirit, as Dr. Jovin recognized all the CNI APPs.



Shown, kneeling in front: PA Christian Conklin, Lead APP in Patient Teams, and to his left, PA Susan Fitzgerald. **Middle row:** PA Sandrine Martin, Lead APP Outpatient Teams, APN Teresita DeVera, PA Eleni Brecht, PA Paola Rehill, PA Rachel Wiegand, PA Bhavika Panchal, PA Nicole Marshall, and PA Danielle Brown. **Back row:** JPA Jessica Bryson, PA Randy Faber, Tudor Jovin MD, APN Ellen Boxer-Goldfarb and PA Karen Bulaong. (continued)

RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS



Congratulations to **Bethann Mercanti, DSc, PA-C, DFAAPA**, for being named a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Physician Associates – one of only 60 physician assistants nationwide to be honored this year. Fewer than 2% of the entire American Academy of Physician Associates' membership have earned this distinction.



Interested in learning how to create a poster presentation? The APP Professional Development committee will host two online learning sessions: August 14, and September 25, 2024, led by **Charles Elsea, DNP, APN**, who practices as an Interventional Radiology APN. Email Charles at Elsea-Charles@cooperhealth.edu to sign up.

Charles Elsea, DNP, APN, (pictured above), hosted a Phillies Pride Night on behalf of the AP Council Diversity Committee. There was a great turn out of Cooper APPs representing many areas within Cooper including IR, Hospital Medicine and various surgical specialties. A big shout out to Cooper physicians who joined in the fun.



Cooper APPs traveled to the Dominican Republic to head a mobile medical clinic for residents of the Valverde Mao province from June 23-30. In those five days, over 500 patients were seen and cared for in five different towns in collaboration with nurses and doctors from the Dominican Republic. Our Cooper APPs survived excessive heat, a constant patient flow, and language barriers while providing quality care to patients who live in extreme poverty. May of the team plan to return next year from June 22 to 29 to support sugar cane workers from the San Pedro de Macoris province.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join the Cooper APP Dashers for the Run the Bridge event!

A scenic 10K course across the Benjamin Franklin Bridge through Camden held on Sunday, November 3, 2024. All proceeds benefit children with special needs at the Larc School.



This is a terrific event to have APPs come together outside of Cooper for a great cause (and exercise). Each registered participant will receive:

- Long-sleeve cotton T-shirt (or upgraded tech tee).
- Finishers medal (for in-person 10K participants only).
- Official race bib.
- Swag bag.

To join the Cooper APP Dashers team, select Cooper APP Dashers from the drop-down menu when you register at RunTheBridge.org.

National Advanced Practice Provider (APP) Week: "Innovate, Elevate, Celebrate: The Power of APPs"

National Advanced Practice Provider (APP) Week (Sept. 25-29, 2024) honors the contributions of Physician Assistants/Associates, Nurse Practitioners, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Certified Nurse Midwives, and Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants. We recognize and celebrate providers who are certified and licensed to assess, diagnose, treat, and manage illnesses, prescribe medications, perform clinical procedures, and conduct clinical research in management of the whole individual. This important group of providers elevates the fields of medicine and nursing to ensure our patients and communities receive safe, high-quality, evidence-based care.



We utilize this week to celebrate the hard work of these professionals and to raise awareness of their unique roles in healthcare.

Annual APP Symposium Friday, November 1, 2024

REGISTRATION:

7 a.m.-7:45 a.m.

PROGRAM:

8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks
- CMEs and CEUs

ATTENDEE COST:

- Cooper Employees **\$135**
- Non-Cooper Employees **\$180**
- Students **\$80**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

"Compassionomics"

Stephen W. Trzeciak, MD, MPH
Chairman and Chief of Medicine
Cooper University Health Care

CLOSING REMARKS:

Eric K. Reed
Deputy Assistant Director
United States Secret Service
(retired), and Executive Coach

FOUR TRACKS:

1. Acute Care
2. Family Practice/
Primary Care
3. Mental Health
4. Women's/Children's

- Poster Presentations
- Networking

REGISTER AT:

Events.CooperHealth.org

DoubleTree by Hilton

2349 Marlton Pike West, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002



REGISTER TODAY!

Questions? Email [Janice DelGiorno](mailto:Janice.DelGiorno@cooperhealth.org) or [Sarah Cunningham](mailto:Sarah.Cunningham@cooperhealth.org)

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Advanced Practice Provider Town Hall

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

TWO SESSIONS: Morning and early evening

- 7-8 a.m. (Online only)
- 5-6 p.m. (In-person and online)

JOIN US!

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!
DETAILS TO FOLLOW

CALLING ALL NEW APPs!

**Aspiring to
excel in your role
as a new APP?
(0-3 years of experience)**

**BECOME THE
HERO
YOU WERE MEANT TO BE**

with a little help from a mentor!



JOIN COOPER'S APP MENTORSHIP PROGRAM COMING IN 2025!

Help shape your mentorship experience! Scan the QR code to share your thoughts.

BECAUSE EVEN SUPERHEROES NEED A SIDEKICK!

The APP Mentor Subcommittee is part of the APP Orientation and Transition Committee.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MENTOR

PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE APP MENTORSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE:

Dana Gentile, APN, at gentile-dana@cooperhealth.edu OR Michelle Henritzky, APN, at henritzky-michelle@cooperhealth.edu.

 **Cooper**
University Health Care

Center-for-Advanced-Practice@cooperhealth.edu