Ben Waldbaum, MSN, CRNA was awarded the 2019 Preceptor of the Year at the Annual JHMI CRNA Education Retreat by Saheel Patel, the Clinical Coordinator for Graduate Nurse Anesthesia Education.

Ben is an outstanding preceptor for SRNAs and goes above and beyond traditional methods of teaching. He shows up early to help the SRNA practice flexible bronchoscopy, running though case scenarios and conducting journal clubs. His method of teaching focuses on current research practices and he is a strong advocate for SRNA autonomy. Students enjoy working with him and have consistently vocalized their appreciation of his teaching methods.

Ben Waldbaum, attended Washington University in St. Louis as an undergraduate, graduating with honors. He then began a career in computer science transitioning to healthcare in 2004 when he attended Columbia University school of Nursing, where he graduated with Sigma Theta Tau honors. In 2008 Ben completed his anesthesia training at Case Western/ Cleveland Clinic Anesthesia program where he graduated first in his class. Ben joined our Johns Hopkins Team in 2009.

In 2013, Ben co-founded the Johns Hopkins Center for Sweat Disorders with Dr. Malcolm Brock. He has 2 current IRB protocols, has lectured on thoracic anesthesia, and is an expert with bronchoscopy intubations.

Ben accepted the award with excitement via a video recording where he thanked his past preceptors, his father, an anesthesiologist, who mentored him through school and pushed him to be his very best and his wife, for being a constant source of strength and encouragement. It brings him great joy seeing the success of a student. His goal is to bring out the best in every SRNA and work on their weaknesses in an environment that fosters learning. He was honored to receive the award. Congrats Ben!!
The 2019 JHMI CRNA Education Retreat was well-attended with over 70 CRNAs and SRNAs! Thank you to everyone who attended. The feedback and evaluations have all been positive with comments of appreciation. A special thanks to the Lead CRNAs for their help in organizing the retreat (program, food, CEUs, and marketing). Other highlights included Preceptor of the Year Award, recognition of CRNAs across the Johns Hopkins Enterprise (see below) and the Hopkins Selfie Station. Share with your Lead CRNAs program suggestions and ideas for next year’s retreat.

Effective Feedback:
Tyler Enslin, Professional Keynote Speaker

The Perioperative Nuts and Bolts of Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVAD):
Brian Cho, MD

Don’t Forget Bronchoscopy:
Scott Mittman, MD, Ph.D.

Intraosseous Access:
Robin Boynton, CRNA, BSN

Kristine Santos, a Bayview Medical Center CRNA was recognized for her excellent clinical care to all of her patients. In addition to being a great leader, she plays an important role on scheduling committee, participates in CRNA community outreach activities like feeding the homeless in collaboration with the Catholic Charities of Baltimore, and helps promote our profession by teaching middle school students of St. Francis of Assisi in Baltimore. Kristine is a team player and a conscientious, diligent and compassionate CRNA. She is an epitome of a great CRNA. Congrats Kristine!

Faresha Sims, a CRNA from The Johns Hopkins Hospital was recognized for her patient-centered care. She has clearly demonstrated an unparalleled level of clinical excellence and a commitment to our patients. She is routinely assigned to neurosurgical cases and is embraced by that team. Her vigilance, attention to detail and communication with all members of the OR team is constantly reassuring. Patients have recognized and appreciate Faresha’s level of commitment and kindness with very positive feedback. These attributes have calmed difficult patients and evoked trust and confidence from their families. Congrats, Faresha!
Michele Lowman, a Howard County General Hospital CRNA, was honored for being a CRNA that truly embodies what it means to be a team player. Michele joined our team in August of 2016 and in those short 2 1/2 years, she has made us feel as though she has been here forever as part of our family. She always has a positive attitude and a willingness to learn and expand her clinical practice. She consistently shows consideration and kindness for her fellow team members, both anesthesia and OR staff. Her professionalism, dedication and dependability are exemplary. In addition to her outstanding clinical patient care, Michele was also very involved on the Critical Care Committee as well as the Malignant Hyperthermia Committee where she was instrumental in the development of our new MH policy and procedures, including the execution of a multi-disciplinary MH drill involving all OR staff. Congrats, Michele!