

January 2026

Iowa Society of Perianesthesia Nurses



# Awakening News

Volume 36- issue 2

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ISPAN President

Spring Conference

ASPAN Representative  
assembly

Shirt fund raiser

EBP—improving patient  
satisfaction with home care  
instructions

Save the date

ISPAN board meeting:  
minutes:

ASPAN board members

## Upcoming events:

March 7 Spring Conference  
zoom 08-1215March 10 ISPAN board  
meetingApril 27-30 ASPAN Nation-  
al Conference. San Fran-  
cisco, CA

## Professional Development Institute (PDI) St. Louis 2025

Kris Franken  
RN, CAPAISPAN presi-  
dent

At the November PDI in Louisville, I was grateful for ISPAN's support in attending and representing our component. ASPAN's 2025 PDI message centered on leadership as everyday stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, highlighting clear pathways for engagement at the component, regional, and national levels. Even small acts of service strengthen our profession, and one of the presentations emphasized that true legacy is measured in the people we uplift and the impact we create together. The overall tone of the meeting suggested that restructuring is moving forward, with the Representative Assembly (RA) vote being a formality.

The RA vote will be held during National Conference with the expectation of voting on endorsing your component merger or dissolving your current component. Financial details remain somewhat unclear, including how membership fees will be allocated, though ISPAN's legacy fund remains restricted and under our control. While the educational content was familiar, the mock Representative Assembly was especially helpful in demystifying the process. We ended the PDI conference with an open Q&A. The questions focused almost entirely on restructuring, revealing that many components share similar concerns and are seeking the same clarifications. I am hoping we can move forward together with clarity and connection as this process unfolds.

# Spring Conference

## March 7, 2026

## Zoom 08-1215



Register at:

<https://uiowa.cloud-cme.com/course/courseoverview?P=0&EID=74403>

### Agenda

08:00 a.m. Welcome

08:05 Vaginal Natural Orifice Surgery (): What, How and Why?  
Emily Boevers, MD, Obstetrician Gynecologist

09:05 Neurosurgery Admission Practice Changes | Anthony  
Marincovich, MD, Neurosurgery Resident

09:35 Cerliponase, a Novel Therapy for Batten Disease | Patrick  
Donegan, MD, Ophthalmology Resident

10:05 Break

10:15 Hypoglossal Nerve Stimulation in the Treatment of Ob-  
structive Sleep Apnea – Douglas J. Van Daele, MD, Otolaryngol-  
ogy Professor

11:15 Supportive Care for Children with Autism Spectrum Disor-  
der Undergoing Venipuncture – DeeAnn Hebrink, BSN, RN,  
Peds-BC, Staff Nurse

11:45 End-Tidal CO2: The Fifth Vital Sign – Ryan Frede, MBA,  
RRT, RRT-NPS, RRT-ACCS, Respiratory Care Supervisor 12:15  
p.m. Evaluation & Adjourn

## ISPAN Goes to National Conference – 2026 Edition

ISPAN is pleased to support several board members who will be attending the ASPAN National Conference in San Francisco, April 27–30, 2026. Covered expenses may include registration, meals, hotel accommodations, airfare, transportation to and from the airport, and airport parking. All qualifying receipts should be submitted through the ASPAN-approved Smart Receipts App by May 20, 2026. If you are attending National Conference, please reach out to Kris Franken so we can include you in any informal ISPAN gatherings during the event.

## Representative Assembly Voting – Your Voice Matters

Kris Franken and Diane Lange will represent ISPAN at the ASPAN Representative Assembly. Candidate profiles are available online, and members are encouraged to review them and share their selections. The submission deadline is February 28th. Only your candidate choices will be forwarded to the component representative so ISPAN's vote truly reflects the voice of our membership. Let's aim to beat last year's participation — reaching 20 votes would be a fantastic milestone. Please take a moment to make your voice heard.





## T-Shirt Scholarship Fundraiser

ISPAN has a few t-shirts for sale. The money raised is going to fund educational scholarships. We have a few colors and sizes available right now. If there is enough interest, we will consider setting up an online store, but for now we have a limited supply. The size and number of shirts available at publication is listed above.

If you are interested in a shirt, email Kris with the size, color (blue 1[first] or blue 2[last]), and shipping address. The t-shirts are currently \$25 each. The orders will be filled in the order they are received. If I am out of the shirt, I will let you know as soon as possible. Once I have confirmed your order, I will discuss payment options. Kris email: **kfran86@gmail.com**

## *Using EBP to improve patient satisfaction with home care instructions*

Claire Ronnebaum RN,  
MSN

Donna Dolezal RN,  
MSN, CPAN, CAPA

Prior to implementation, the ASC ranked below the organizational goal of the 90th percentile for patient satisfaction with home care instructions. Variation in nurse communication methods and inconsistent education delivery contributed to lower satisfaction scores and patient misunderstanding.

Evidence supports the teach-back method as a communication strategy that enhances comprehension, adherence, and satisfaction. Teach-back encourages patients to restate information in their own words, reinforcing understanding and promoting safety (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality [AHRQ], 2024). Shersher et al. (2021) found that 70% of patients reported sufficient time with clinicians when teach-back was used compared to 44% without it. Structured education lasting 7–8 minutes was shown to reduce post-discharge emergency department visits (Ulrich et al., 2022).

Nonverbal behaviors, such as maintaining eye-level communication, improve patients' trust, satisfaction, and participation in care (Wanko Keutchafo et al., 2022). Similarly, Iyer et al. (2023) demonstrated that clinician seating position directly impacts patient satisfaction and perceptions of engagement. Synthesized evidence supports combining teach-back with eye-level positioning to promote understanding and patient-centered care.

The project standardized discharge teaching by incorporating teach-back with eye-level communication. Nurses were educated through one-on-one sessions and an instructional PowerPoint. Implementation strategies, guided by the Iowa Implementation for Sustainability Framework, included the use of change champions, huddle reminders, and informational tip sheets. Nurses were encouraged to sit or stand at patient eye level during discharge education while using teach-back to review medications, follow-up instructions, and surgical care needs.

Process and outcome indicators included Press Ganey satisfaction reports and pre/post nurse surveys. Baseline data showed the ASC ranked in the 8th percentile for home care instruction satisfaction. After one month of implementation, scores increased to the 92nd percentile. Eye-level communication achieved an 82% adoption rate among nurses. Confidence in providing clear discharge instructions rose from 50% to 87%, and the proportion of nurses sitting during education increased from 57% to 73%.



## Using EBP to improve patient satisfaction with home care instructions-continued

Post-implementation sustainability efforts included ensuring chair availability in all patient bays, adding the intervention to new nurse orientation checklists, continued huddle reminders, and monthly documentation audits. Press Ganey scores remained above pre-intervention levels (August: 93rd percentile; September: 63rd percentile), demonstrating sustained improvement.

Standardizing discharge teaching using the teach-back method and eye-level communication enhanced patient satisfaction, nurse confidence, and care quality. This low-cost, high-impact intervention aligns with patient-centered communication principles and supports ongoing improvement in perianesthesia care. Continued reinforcement, orientation integration, and leadership support will sustain the practice change and advance quality outcomes.

### References

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (2024). *Use the teach-back method: Tool 5*.

Iyer, R., Park, D., Kim, J., Newman, C., Young, A., & Sumarsono, A. (2023). Effect of chair placement on physician and patients' satisfaction: Randomized deception trial. *BMJ*, 383, e076309.

Shersher, V., Haines, T. P., Sturgiss, L., Weller, C., & Williams, C. (2021). Definitions and use of the teach-back method in healthcare consultations with patients: A systematic review and thematic synthesis. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 118–129.

Ulrich, L., Welty, M., Henderson, A., & Allen, E. (2022). Quality improvement approach to increasing respiratory therapy driven teach-back style asthma education. *The Journal of Asthma*, 59(4), 823–828.

Wanko Keutchafo, E. L., Kerr, J., & Baloyi, O. B. (2022). A model for effective nonverbal communication between older patients: A grounded theory inquiry. *Healthcare (Basel)*, 10(11), 2119.



Free CEU's

*Log into ASPAN website [www.aspan.org](http://www.aspan.org)*

# ASPAN National Conference

## April 27-30, 2026

### San Francisco, CA



ISPAN board meeting  
March 10, 2026 7pm

Follow ISPAN:

Website: <https://ispan.nursingnetwork.com>

Facebook: Iowa Society of Perianesthesia Nurses-  
ISPAN

## Minutes from Fall ISPAN board meeting

**2025-2026  
ISPAN BOARD**

**President:**

**Kris Franken**

**kfran86@gmail.com**

**VP/President Elect:**

**Secretary:**

**Sheri Parman**

**Sheri-parman@uiowa.edu**

**Treasurer:**

**Diane Lange**

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**Immediate Past President:**

**Pam Uhrich Pam-**

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**Governmental Affairs Rep:**

**Pam Uhrich**

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**Membership:**

**Susan Metz**

**Smetz120@comcast.net**

**Publications:**

**Donna Dolezal**

**Donna-dolezal@uiowa.edu**

**Education:**

**Meggan Musselman**

ISPAN MINUTES 10.11.25

Zoom Mtg 09-1100

Called to order at 9:05am; meeting adjourned at 11:00am

**ATTENDANCE:** Meggan Musselman, Pam Uhrich, Kris Franken, Linda Armstrong, Susan Metz, Diane Lange, Wendy Rindels

**1. Committee reports**

**a. Approve of June minutes:** motion Wendy Rindels, 2nd Susan Metz

**b. ISPAN presidents Report:** Kris Franken Thank You to the board for their work and dedication to keep ISPAN going. I would like to personally recognize Meggan for the hard work she put into planning for the Fall Conference, including the challenge of navigating IBON provider number procedure changes. Thank you, Pam, for setting up the Zoom BOD meeting on such short notice. Donna the Newsletter is great, Diane thanks for providing the financial documents requested by ASPAN. Thanks to Susan and Linda for registering for the fall conference

**Next BOD meeting:** January 13th at 7:00pm on Zoom, Pam Uhrich will set up meeting/ link

**i. Board Positions**

- President-Kris Franken
- Vice President-President Elect-Open
- Treasurer-Diane Lange
- Secretary- Sheri Parmen
- Newsletter- Donna Dolezal
- Governmental Affairs- Pam Uhrich
- Membership Officer- Susan Metz
- Education Chair- Meggan Musselman
- Digital Communication Chair- MaKayla Peters
- Fall Conference Committee- Wendy Rindels, Holly Meis





## Minutes from Fall ISPAN board meeting

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**Education:**

Meggan Musselman

**Continued**

ii. ASPAN restructuring to 11 regions. What does that look like? Our proposed region consists of 8 states and has a total current membership of 836 members. Considerations for ASPAN's restructuring include: decline in membership, data from 2018 to 2023 shows a decline of 9.7% with ISPAN seeing a drop of 131 to 87 members. decline in service, 70% of members surveyed said they would decline serving on their component board & 73% surveyed believe components should merge, ASPAN is considering taking over some fiscal and administrative responsibilities from the components ensuring all chapters have uniform by-laws, policies, and practices.

These are proposals with an estimated implementation date of January 2027. Many details still need to be worked out, and further discussion is expected to take place at the Representative Assembly being held in April 2026 at National Conference in San Francisco. Expect a letter outlining proposals to be sent out in late March or early April 2026.

iii. Succession planning: Is it necessary? Continue with current board until new structuring occurs

**c. Treasurer Report: Diane**

i. Financial Report—ii. What should we do with our funds? Majority of BOD present would like to send as many members as possible to the national conference in April 2026

iii. Reimbursement tool-how to use the smart app. Reach out to Diane for questions

**d. Membership Report: Susan**

Current Membership: 78-79 Renewals: 3      New Members: 0

e. Education Report: Meggan-SWOT Analysis re: Fall Conference Planning. Kris-Select Seminar analysis. Future recommendations for education plans.

continued next page



## Minutes from Fall ISPAN board meeting-- Con-

### 2025-2026 ISPAN BOARD

**Continued**

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**Membership:**

**Susan Mettz**

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**Publications:**

**Donna Dolezal**

[Donna-dolezal@uiowa.edu](mailto:Donna-dolezal@uiowa.edu)

**Education:**

**Meggan Musselman**

**Strengths**

- Free location secured quickly
- Free resources and knowledge from staff at MGMC to help with planning
- Speakers generously volunteered their time, with a small token of appreciation
- Organization and documentation throughout the planning process will be a valuable resource moving forward

**Weaknesses**

- Event planning experience is still developing
- Tight preparation timeline/time of year
- Difficulty securing speakers to speak on topics
- Confusion around contact hours vs. CEUs
- Limited marketing reach
- Low membership—relying solely on ISPAN members isn't sustainable

**Opportunities**

- Strengthen marketing efforts—continue social media outreach and encourage broader registration
- Consider a hybrid format with more lead time
- Connect with other components at PDI for advice
- Explore alternative paths to secure a provider number (I'll reach out to ASPAN)
- Encourage broader member participation in planning
- Increase engagement through interactive social media strategies



## Minutes from Fall ISPAN board meeting-- c0ntin-

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#### Education:

Meggan Musselman

#### Threats

Continued

- No provider number for RNs needing certified CEUs
- ASPAN offers free CEUs, which may impact attendance
- Uncertainty around ASPAN's upcoming structural changes
- Date and time length of education
- Economy/price
- Travel Price/Gas cost
- Other options for conferences in the fall with potentially overlapping topics

#### f. Governmental Affairs Report:

Pam: Discussed government shut down affecting hospitals, concerns for international staffing, hospitals are reporting negative quarters. Inflation due to tariffs is affecting hospital supplies

g. Newsletter: Donna- Always looking for new articles. Susan Norris is the new editor of Breathline and is moving to a digital format

h. Digital Communications Chair- MaKayla- What do we want to see more of?

2. General Discussions- Wins and Recognitions, 2 ideas for volunteer events for 2025-2026, 2 fun ISPAN events for 2025-2026. NO volunteer/fun events planned at this time. Wendy was recognized for helping establish and volunteer to serve in Mary Greeley's Nurse Honor Guard. Kris was recognized for her upcoming retirement after 32 years at MGMC. She will continue to work in PeriAnesthesia at a new surgery center.

3. Region 2 News with Linda Allyn

4. T-shirts- I have extra T-shirts that are available for immediate purchase \$5 goes to scholarship.

5. Strategic plan. Do we address this in light of restructuring?

6. Vote on the By-laws. Kris sent out an email to membership to vote on approval, disapproval, or to abstain regarding the proposed by-laws for 2025. Voting is due by November 15th.

7. Formal acceptance of job description. The job descriptions were formally approved.

8. Kris expressed interest in attending PDI, it was approved for her to attend PDI in Louisville November 7-8, 2025

9. Consider ASPAN National Conference in San Francisco, CA April 27th-30th



## ASPAN NEWS:

Check out the Web site at: [www.ASPAN.org](http://www.ASPAN.org)

Connect with ASPAN for information and education:

ASPAN.Org and Facebook American Society of Peri-Anesthesia Nurses.



**ASPAN President-**  
Ursula Mellinger, BSN, RN,  
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**Vice President/President-Elect**  
Ronda Dyer MSN BSPA RN CPAN  
CAPA



**Regional Director Region Two**  
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### ISPAN MISSION STATEMENT

**As a component of ASPAN, ISPAN formally recognizes the purpose and mission of ASPAN. The society is committed to maintaining and upgrading the standard of the specialty, and to the promotion of professional growth of its members.**