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SOUTHEAST

Councils of periOperative Nurses

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PRE-SHOW PLANNER

CONFERENCE THEME

The Power of Legacy and Advocacy: Advancing Excellence, Inspiring the Future

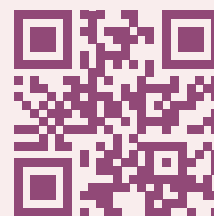
We honor those who lead with purpose and passion —
and we commit to advancing excellence and inspiring the future
of perioperative patient care.

REGISTER TODAY AT **SOUTHEASTPERIOP.COM**



NOVEMBER 13-15, 2026

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA
HILTON BEACHFRONT RESORT AND SPA



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

Connect with perioperative professionals from across the Southeast for CE-accredited education, exhibits featuring leading vendors, and exceptional networking opportunities.

OUR 2026 THEME:

The Power of Legacy and Advocacy: Advancing Excellence, Inspiring the Future

Our legacy and advocacy is at the heart of perioperative nursing. Nurses find a calling to speak, act, and lead in ways that protect patients, support colleagues, and strengthen our profession.

Our legacy and advocacy celebrate the courage and commitment of nurses who transform challenges into opportunities for progress. From ensuring safe surgical environments to mentoring the next generation of leaders, perioperative nurses continue to raise the standard of excellence through every action of advocacy.

In 2026 as we come together under the banner of The Power of Legacy and Advocacy, we honor those who lead with purpose and passion — and we commit to advancing excellence and inspiring the future of perioperative care.

Approved for up to 9 CEUs by

OR Today is a Continuing Education Provider with the State of California Board of Registered Nursing; License No. CEP 16623.



Approved for 6 CE by

The Southeast Councils of periOperative Registered Nurses conference has been approved for 6 CE by HSPA. Approval code: OR Today 260605



Approved for 6 contact hours by

The Southeast Councils of periOperative Registered Nurses has been approved for 6 Contact Hours by CBSPD.



TAG US ON YOUR SOCIALS
#SEPERIOP

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

4:30-6 PM Welcome Reception

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7 AM Registration opens

7-8 AM Continental Breakfast

8 AM-2:30 PM Exhibitor Set-up

8 AM Opening Remarks

8:30-9:30 AM Welcoming Address

9:45-10:45 AM Morning Keynote

11 AM-12 PM Education

12-1:30 PM Lunch & Learn

sponsored by



Northeast Georgia Health System

2-3 PM Afternoon Keynote

3-6 PM Exhibit Hall Reception

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7 AM Registration Opens

8-10 AM Exhibit Hall Brunch

10-11 AM Education

11:15-11:30 AM Daisy Foundation
Awards Presentation

11:30 AM -
12:30 PM Closing Keynote

12:30 PM Closing Remarks

1-2 PM State Council/Chapter
Meetings

For the most up to date schedule, visit
southeastperiop.com/schedule.

EDUCATION

EARN UP TO 9 CEUs!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

8:30-9:30 AM

Welcome Address: Shared Vision, Collective Action: Unifying Nursing Voices for Nation-Wide Impact

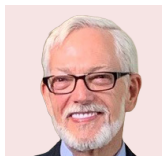


David Reinhart, DNP, MBA, RN, CNOR, FAAN, Director of Education EHC Perioperative Services, Emory Healthcare, President AORN and **Stuart Downs DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CENP, CPHQ, FACHE, FAONL, FAAN, SVP and Systems Chief Nurse Executive, President-Elect AONL**

The nursing profession possesses unparalleled potential to influence healthcare delivery, policy, workforce development, and patient outcomes across the nation. However, maximizing this impact requires a unified approach that empowers nurses at every career stage to grow as leaders, advocates, and change agents. Participants will learn how collaborative mentorship models and leadership initiatives can break down silos across specialties, generations, and practice settings, creating a shared vision that amplifies nursing's influence in decision-making and policy arenas. The presentation will also discuss strategies for cultivating inclusive environments that support lifelong learning, professional engagement, succession planning, and workforce resilience.

9:45-10:45 AM

Morning Keynote: Quantum Caring Leadership in the OR: Visionary Leader to System Architect



Jim D'Alfonso, DNP, RN, PhD(h), NEA-BC, FNAP, FAAN, Executive Director for Professional Excellence: Kaiser Permanente

Visionary perioperative leaders are no longer defined by what they manage, but by what they design. Quantum Caring Leadership (QCL) offers a discipline-specific nursing leadership framework integrating Caring Science, quantum leadership, and complexity science to guide how leaders shape culture, teams, and system

design. In perioperative environments where precision, trust, resilience, and human dignity must coexist, traditional leadership models grounded primarily in hierarchy, efficiency, and control are increasingly insufficient for modern surgical ecosystems.

11 AM-12 PM

Balancing Technology with Human Judgment: AI & Safety

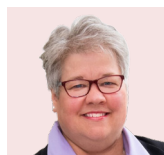


Jason Lesandrini, PhD, FACHE, HEC-C, LPEC, Assistant Vice President Ethics, Advance Care Planning and Spiritual Health, WellStar Health System

As artificial intelligence becomes embedded in perioperative practice, nurses face a challenge that is both practical and ethical: knowing when to trust the technology and when to trust themselves. This session explores the intersection of AI, patient safety, and human judgment — examining how clinicians can maintain moral agency and ethical accountability in environments where algorithmic tools increasingly influence clinical decisions. Through discussion and interactive exercises, participants will examine real-world tensions between data-driven systems and the irreplaceable role of human judgment in keeping patients safe.

2-3 PM

Afternoon Keynote: Beyond the Mask: Professional Citizen



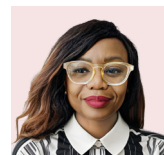
Rebecca M. Patton, DNP, RN, CNOR, FAAN Professor Endowed Perioperative Nursing Chair, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University

The nursing profession has long enjoyed positive recognition for safe, high-quality, compassionate care across various healthcare settings, selfless contributions to society, and, according to Gallup, being the most trusted profession. Both historical and social mandates position nurses and our profession to generate positive social change during a time when it is needed. This session will identify strategic actions and exemplars of professional citizenship by nurses that have made a difference beyond the mask.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

10-11 AM

The Healthy OR



Katie Boston-Leary, PhD, MBA, MHA, RN, NEA-BC, FADLN, FAONL, FAAN Senior Vice President of Equity and Engagement, American Nurses Association

Perioperative professionals are uniquely positioned to reshape the culture to better support the health, engagement, and retention of OR employees. This session explores how together we can reshape the culture to foster psychological safety, strengthen teamwork, and promote healthier work environments. The audience will examine common cultural barriers in surgical environments—including hierarchical communication, workload pressures, and normalization of stress—and identify practical strategies to create more supportive and resilient perioperative teams. Through leadership-driven approaches, attendees will learn how to assess the health of their OR culture and implement sustainable changes that benefit all team members, and patient outcomes.

11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Closing Keynote: Professionalism, True North and Finding the Human Connection



Joshua A. Wymer, DNP, RN, FHIMSS, FACHE, FAAN, Chief Health Information and Data Strategy Officer, Health Data Consortium

Professionalism, ethics and moral direction (described as True North) along with themes of change, innovation, caring and humanistic elements of practice will be explored during this presentation.

#SEPERIOP

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ONE HOTEL CIRCLE
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Group Rate: \$242/night
(includes \$20 daily resort fee and destination fee)

Reservations: (888) 446-6677

Booking Link:
southeastperiop.com/location

Deadline: October 22, 2026
(Group block may sellout prior to deadline)

Daily Resort Fee includes:

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- Shuttle Service to Golf and Local Shopping at Shelter Cove
- Bottled Water in Guest Rooms
- Game Room Access
- Self-Service Laundry
- Morning Yoga Instruction

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EARLY BIRD - \$99

(valid until 8/31/26)

REGISTRATION FEE - \$125 after (8/31/26)

ONSITE REGISTRATION FEE - \$150

Each option includes full registration and admission to all events, education and exhibits for the duration of the conference. They also include access to on-demand online education for the event.

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