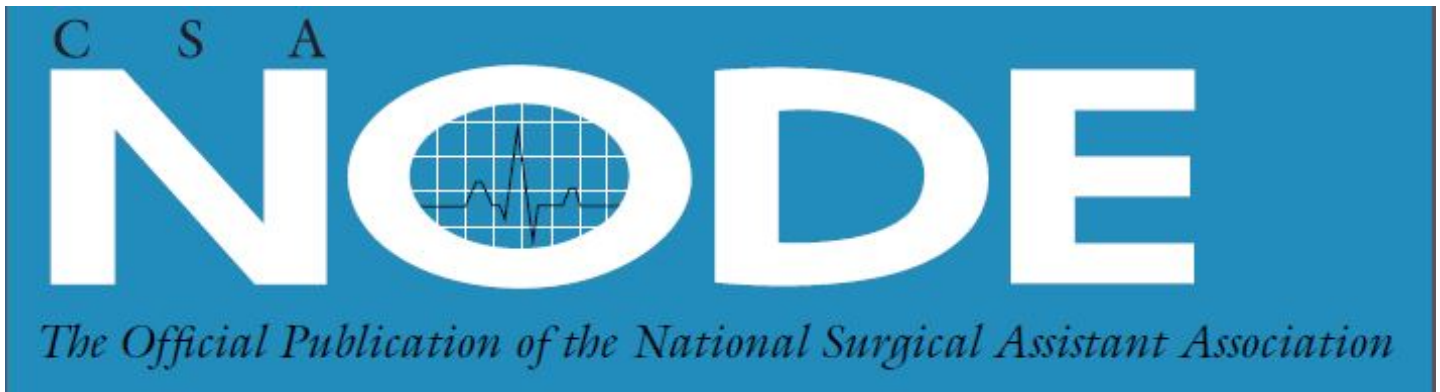
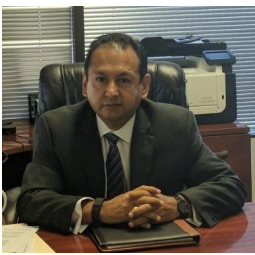


4th Quarter CSA Node - December 2018



## President's Message



Luis Aragon, CSA, RSA, LSA  
President, NSAA Board of  
Directors

Dear Fellow SAs,

I am hopeful that you enjoyed your holidays in company of family and friends and that the increased workload that characterizes our industry at the end of the year did not prevent from spending quality time with them.

In looking back to what we have accomplished in 2018, and looking forward for what lies ahead in 2019, I am full of exciting and positive expectations for the profession with a realistic approach to our vision of a stronger industry with increased recognition and unity.

In 2019; we, as a profession, need to advocate and place a specific focus on sustaining our high-quality surgical training and education that conforms to the modern working environment. There are some changes needed to strike for improvement especially in the areas of robotics and cardiovascular training, as we have seen that these skillsets are the most sought throughout the country.

NSAA will make proper recommendations that quality assurance of our examination will further be strengthened, and that accreditation is successfully attained. We will continue to seek opportunities to partner with our counterparts, so that we can reap the benefit of the exchange of surgical expertise and mutual understanding of diversities, and most importantly so we can broaden the breadth of exposure and leverage our commonalities to communicate our value proposition to the major stakeholders.

With the commitment and effort from our membership and partners, I trust that the future of our association will not only blossom but grow and flourish. I look forward to the support and views from all surgical assistants, as your input and feedback is essential to the realization of our endeavors and goals.

I trust that I will see you in Chicago in April as it promises to be a conference for the history books where not only is it the first of its kind, but one where we will be discussing our goals and priorities for the long-term sustainability of the profession of surgical assisting.

Warm Regards,

Luis Aragon, CSA, LSA

## Featured Article

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## 2019 ASA/NSAA Joint Conference



Discover the rewards of attending next April's 1st ASA/NSAA Joint Conference in Rosemont, IL. [Visit our website](#) for details, and [contact us](#) to register for any level of participation, including exhibiting, sponsoring, or speaking.

## Continuing Education Units (CEUs)





## Multidisciplinary team successfully performs complex surgery on patient suffering from enlarged skull

A 2-year-old girl with an extreme form of hydrocephalus could someday lead a more normal life, thanks to a remarkable surgical intervention aided by state-of-the-art technologies used by a leading pediatric team supervised by two assistant professors of medicine at Université de Montréal.

The child, who underwent two operations at CHU Sainte-Justine children's hospital in Montreal, including a total cranial vault reconstruction, could not even sit upright because of the size and weight of her head. Her brain was being compressed by an excess of cerebrospinal fluid.

[Read Article](#)

**NSAA Members - If you would like to contribute an article to the Node and receive valuable CEUs, please email your ideas to: [articles@nsaa.net](mailto:articles@nsaa.net)**

### New Product



## Cios Spin Mobile 3D C-Arm for Orthopedic Surgery

Siemens Healthineers has unveiled a new mobile C-arm, the Cios Spin, that can provide both 2D and 3D imaging in just about any operating room. Mostly intended for orthopedic procedures, the device allows clinicians that are currently using 2D C-arms to upgrade to 3D capability and see things in a much more intuitive perspective.

Read more: [Cios Spin](#)

### Bonus Article

## Surgeons successfully perform full face transplant

### NSAA CEU Policy

**The *Continuing Education Policy for the CSA* is provided for CSAs as participating in Continuing Educational Units (CEU).**

[Read Full Policy](#)

### NSAA Board of Directors 2018-2019

As your representatives, NSAA's Board of Directors appreciate any comments, concerns, or questions you might have about the profession or your association.

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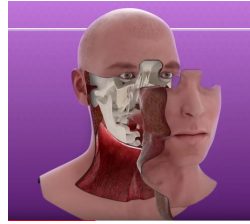
#### Medical Director

Paul Friedman, MD  
Livonia, MI

#### Medical Director

William Dickhoner, MD  
Cincinnati, OH

A team of surgeons has successfully performed a face transplant for a 26-year-old man who had a self-inflicted gun injury. The team used facial skin from a donor to replace much of the man's face, as well as partially replacing his bone structure.



Stay Connected



A team of over 100 medical professionals at New York University (NYU) Langone in New York City performed the transplant. Dr. Eduardo D. Rodriguez - the Helen L. Kimmel professor of reconstructive plastic surgery and chair of the Hansjörg Wyss Department of Plastic Surgery at NYU Langone - led the surgical team.

The patient's name is Cameron Underwood. He is a 26-year-old man who lost most of his lower jaw, teeth, and nose as a result of a self-inflicted accidental gunshot. The man had also damaged his maxillary and palate as a result of the accident.

[Read Article](#)

## News & Features



### Legislative Report

NSAA is tallying up its wins driven congressional champions over the last two years. Members will recall that two years running, NSAA secured language in the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations bills promoting the notion of routine use of Certified Surgical Assistants within the VHA system.

Conversations in the last few weeks hinted that VHA's chief surgeon, Dr. William Gunnar, would soon sign off on a position description for a hybrid Medical Technician-Surgical Assistant position to be placed in VA medical centers around the country. This new position will carry with it a higher GS level designation and somewhat higher salary in the range of \$60,000 to \$75,000.

[Dave's Full Report](#)



### NCCSA Update

#### Revised CEU Requirements for CSAs

In an effort to standardize continuing education within the profession, the NCCSA has made certain revisions to the current CSA re-certification requirements.

Beginning June 1st, 2019, individuals desiring to re-certify by continuing education will be required to submit **38 CEUs** during the 2-year re-certification cycle. Of these, **8 CEUs** must be derived from a live event, physically attended by the practitioner.

The rationale for this requirement is to ensure that educational experiences are reflective of current best practices, and not exclusively based on review of the literature. Additionally, live interactive sessions encourage the exchange of information and new ideas, which greatly contribute to the growth of the profession.



### NSAA 2019 Elections

The Call for Nominations opens January 2nd, 2019 and seeking candidates for the positions of President, Treasurer and Member at Large.

Service on the Board of Directors of NSAA in an officer position is a rare chance to help drive the decisions of our highly-respected national association and shape the future of the surgical assistant profession. The opportunity to work with other leaders in NSAA allows you to be on the cutting edge of Allied Healthcare concerns and to be part of the decision-making process on the national level, driving the strategic goals of the organization.

[More on the 2019 Elections](#)

## 2019 ASA/NSAA Joint Conference



## ASA/NSAA Joint Conference

April 26th & 27th, approximately 200 surgical assistants will meet in Rosemont, IL at the Embassy Suites for the 1st ever joint conference of the Association of Surgical Assistants and the National Surgical Assistant Association making it the largest surgical assistant conference in the country! Enjoy an extraordinary hotel experience with classic hospitality and distinctive service at the Embassy Suites O'Hare Rosemont. This contemporary hotel recently completed an \$11 million renovation designed in the style of Frank Lloyd Wright, with stained glass windows, wooden accents and skylights.

The Embassy Suites Chicago \* O'Hare /Rosemont is just 1.5 miles from the Chicago O'Hare Airport. Complimentary hotel shuttle is available at the Bus/Shuttle Center located at Level 1 of the Main Parking Garage between Elevator Centers 3 and 4 just outside baggage claim at Door 3 @ every 20 minutes. Reservations with an ASA/NSAA Conference Room Rate of \$143.00 for Single and \$163.00 for Double may be made via this link:

<http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/C/CHIRMES-NS9-20190423/index.jhtml>

Begin each morning with a free made-to-order breakfast in the seven-story garden atrium. Lounge in your two-room suite, complete with a separate living room, refrigerator, microwave and WiFi access. Sample Mediterranean specialties in a casual atmosphere at Basil's Kitchen or have snacks and drinks at Basil's Bar. Maintain your exercise routine at the complimentary fitness center, equipped with brand new LifeFitness machines. Relax in the heated indoor pool, located on the ground floor.

The Embassy Suites Chicago - O'Hare/Rosemont hotel is convenient to transit facilities such as the Rosemont Blue Line CTA train station, which will take you to attractions in Chicago, Illinois. Eat and play at Rosemont's dining/entertainment district, MB Financial Park at Rosemont, or shop at the Fashion Outlets of Chicago, located two blocks from our hotel.

Prepare to be highly motivated and participate in the cutting edge educational programs, technical exhibits, and "Hands-On" workshops. Current thinking and innovative products and services go hand-in-hand to help surgical assistants provide the best support to the surgeon and care for their patients. The ASA and NSAA sponsors this meeting to provide a continuing educational experience and promote advancements in surgery.

### Announcements & Reminders

#### Submitting CEUs

CSAs must recertify every 2 years. Part of the recertification requirement is to submit 50 continuing education units (CEUs) within those 2 years. CEUs need to be received by the NSAA 30 days prior to your certification expiration date to provide enough time for verification and processing, and for NCCSA to process your CSA recertification certificate. For questions, please refer to this link: <https://csaexam.com/becoming-a-csa/recertification-requirements/>

NSAA will send out emails to its members 60 days prior to your expiration date as a reminder. Please check your email spam settings to ensure that you are able to receive emails from info@nsaa.net.

#### Checking CEU Status

You can check where you stand with your CEU count in the members area section of the website. Go to [www.nsaa.net](http://www.nsaa.net) and click on 'members area' at the top and log-in. If you have trouble logging in please call the office at 855-270-6722. This is a great way to know how many CEUs you have on file at any given time. This information is updated about 72 hours after CEUs are submitted to NSAA. Once you submit CEUs, we encourage you to check your member profile to ensure your CEUs were properly received and recorded.

**National Surgical Assistant Association**

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