

**ROBYN C. WARD, PhD, CRNA**

Commander, United States Navy, Nurse Corps, Retired

**BUSINESS ADDRESS:** Robyn C. Ward  
TCU Box298626  
Texas Christian University  
Fort Worth, TX 76129

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**EDUCATION:**

June 2018 **Rush University, Ph.D. in Nursing Science**  
College of Nursing  
600 S. Paulina St., Suite 440  
Chicago, IL 60612

February 2000 **Master of Science, Nurse Anesthesia**  
Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program  
Georgetown University College of Nursing  
Georgetown University, Washington, DC 20057

June 1990 **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**  
College of Nursing  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, Montana 59717

**MILITARY EXPERIENCE:**

December 1990 to December 2005 U.S. Navy Active Duty

December 2005 to April 2011 U.S. Navy Reserves

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

August 2019 to present **Program Director**  
Texas Christian University  
School of Nurse Anesthesia  
Fort Worth, TX 76129

Jan 2017 to July 2019 **Associate Program Administrator**  
Florida State University  
Nurse Anesthesia Program (NAP)

4750 Collegiate Drive  
Panama City, FL 32405-1099

- Assist in attainment of accreditation for new clinical sites by Council on Accreditation (COA) for Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs
- Revised NAP curriculum to mirror content outline for national certification exam (NCE)
- Provide didactic instruction year-round for Anatomy and Physiology, and Fall Semester for Comprehensive Course for Board preparation (NCE)
- Developed Anatomy and Physiology from ground up – to include PowerPoint lectures, class discussions and assignments and all exams.
- Provide clinical instruction on a weekly basis with students at local clinical sites.
- Clinical Site Coordinator: coordinate clinical site assignments for 48-72 students amongst 15 clinical sites; supervise all student credentialing for all clinical sites.
- Assist with annual admissions/interviews for incoming Cohorts; 150 applications for past 2 years, narrowed down to 55 interviews.
- Coordinate remediation and probationary plans as needed.
- Coordinate testing for the NAP - developed the Comprehensive Exams which students take in Semesters 5 and 7. Developed remediation plan for Pathway to the NCE, based on Comprehensive Exam and national Self Evaluation Exam (SEE) results.
- Assist with programmatic budget; assist with Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant selectees.
- Assist Simulation Coordinator with simulation activities.
- Participate in all activities associated with annual Cohort graduation
- Maintain all aspects of Teaching, Service and Scholarship in current role.
- Research focus: psychometrics and testing (see Dissertation)

July 2017 to  
present

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist/Clinical Preceptor**  
Anesthesiology Associates of Tallahassee  
2173 Centerville Place, #A.  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Oct 2014 to  
Nov 2016

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist/Self Employed, OB Anesthesia**  
Godwin Corporation  
Fort Belvoir Community Hospital  
9300 Dewitt Loop  
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

Oct 2011 to  
Aug 2014

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist**  
Veteran's Administration  
3687 Veterans Drive  
Fort Harrison, MT 59636

Feb 2013 to  
Aug 2014

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist**  
Community Hospital of Anaconda  
401 W. Pennsylvania Ave.  
Anaconda, MT 59711

- Locums CRNA for community hospital performing all anesthetics to include regional (peripheral nerve blocks/neuraxial anesthesia), general anesthesia, local/MAC
- Provide call for surgical and obstetric services
- Services include neurosurgical, general surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, podiatry, GI, OB/Gyn

- Stand independent in-house call for OB performing CLEs/SABs and c-sections

Mar 2012 to  
Aug 2014

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist**

Benefis Health System  
Benefis Medical Group  
1101 26<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Great Falls, MT 59405

- Stand independent in-house call for OB performing CLEs/SABs, anesthesia for c-sections and various other obstetric surgeries and emergencies (cerclages, postpartum tubal ligations, postpartum hemorrhage procedures, etc.)
- Approximately 2500 deliveries per year

Nov 2006 to  
Oct 2011

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist, GS**

Dewitt Army Hospital  
9501 Farrell Road  
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

- Stand independent in-house call for OB performing CLEs/SABs and c-sections
- Approximately 150 OB deliveries/month
- Perform all regional to include CLEs, SABs, and peripheral nerve blocks, general anesthetics, and local/MAC cases
- Services include ENT, general surgery, gynecologic, ophthalmology, urologic, podiatry

Nov 2005 to  
Oct 2006

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist**

Northern Virginia Anesthesia Associates/Potomac Hospital  
12285 Pondwater Ct.  
Woodbridge, VA 22192

- Stood independent in-house call in hospital covering OB and all surgical caseload
- Approximately 2000 OB deliveries/month
- Performed regional (CLEs/SABs, peripheral nerve blocks), general and local/MAC cases, performed approximately 80-100 cases/month to include general, ENT, orthopedic, ortho/spine, gynecologic, ophthalmology, urologic

May 2003 to  
Oct 2005

**Assistant Clinical Site Director, Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program**

Naval School of Health Sciences  
San Diego, CA 92134

- Adjunct Clinical Faculty appointment to Georgetown University
- Adjunct Clinical Faculty appointment to Uniformed Services University of The Health Sciences
- Supervise and instruct 12-15 Navy Nurse anesthesia students and 30 civilian students in clinical phase of training, ensuring that each student meets certification requirements. Clinical instruction consists of 4-5 days/week in operating room. Evaluate student performance growth patterns and potential. Assist in management of administrative duties concerning Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program to include the development of daily, monthly, and yearly schedules. Orchestrate educational activities to enhance clinical skills of the students. Function as liaison for rotating students from outside institutions and coordinate outrotations for Navy students. Prepare and present didactic information to enhance learning process.

Develop daily/monthly/yearly schedules. Serve as ongoing role model and resource person for student nurse anesthetists.

June 2002 to  
May 2003

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist**  
Naval Medical Center  
San Diego, California

Full-time independent anesthesia provider in large teaching facility. Staff preceptor for Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists in main operating room and obstetrical suite.

**\*\*WESTPAC Deployment:** July 2002 to May 2003 aboard USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN in support of **Operation Iraqi Freedom** and **Operation Enduring Freedom**. Sole anesthesia provider for aircraft carrier of 7500 personnel and battlegroup members. Conducted total of 350 anesthetics while onboard to include regional, general and local/MAC. Obtained Surface Warfare for Medical Duty Officers (SWMDO) qualification while onboard.

April 2000 to  
May 2002

**Staff Nurse Anesthetist**  
Naval Hospital  
Camp Pendleton, California

Full time independent anesthesia provider in medium sized hospital, which conducted approximately 8,000-10,000 surgical cases/year. Functioned once/week as anesthesia floorwalker – functioned as resource for emergency room and ICU intubations as well as pain management. Stood duty as sole anesthesia provider including an active obstetrical department with approximately 1,500-2,000 deliveries/year. Clinical instructor for rotating dental and family practice residents who orient to airway management skills. Division Officer for anesthesia corpsmen. Clinical Coordinator/Liaison for Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program student nurse anesthetists rotating to Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton. Scheduling Officer for 12 anesthesia providers. Instructed Basics of Anesthesia to Perioperative Nursing Students. Instruct Family Practice residents in regional/intravenous analgesia for obstetric patients.

August 1997 to  
Feb 2000

**Full-time Master's Degree Student**  
Navy Nurse Corps Anesthesia Program  
Georgetown University School of Nursing  
Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Postgraduate student in Nurse Anesthesia. Graduated Summa Cum Laude. Clinical rotations spent at Jacksonville Naval Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida (focus: regional, general, ENT, orthopedics, obstetrics/gynecology, pediatrics, ophthalmology, oral/dental) and Shands University Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida (focus: vascular surgery, trauma, neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery, high-risk obstetrics, and pain management). Scholarly Project/Research: "The Use of Nalmefene for Control of Intrathecal Opioid-Associated Nausea in Postpartum Patients" published AANA journal February 2002.

Dec 1995 to  
July 1997

**Shift Charge Nurse, Medical/Surgical Intensive Care Unit**  
Naval Medical Center  
San Diego, California

Shift charge nurse/team leader in Navy's largest intensive care unit. Managed unit's daily missions and supervised 8-10 ICU nurses, LVNs, and hospital corps staff per 12-hour shift. Additional responsibilities included participation in orientation and preceptorship programs, narcotics/pharmacy liaison. CCRN certified. ACLS instructor. Educator in variety of critical care topics. Clinical experience included wide range of critically ill patients including an active cardiothoracic/open heart program.

May 1994 to  
Dec 1995

**Division Officer, Cardiac/Cardiothoracic Stepdown Unit**  
Naval Medical Center  
San Diego, California

Charge nurse for 26-bed cardiac/cardiothoracic stepdown unit. Supervised and managed 50 military and civilian personnel, including nurses, LVNs, and corps staff. Responsibilities included scheduling, orientation program, staff education and development, performance appraisal, performance improvement, and customer service team. Additional accomplishments included implementation of clinical pathway on care of the cardiothoracic patient, instruction in corpsmen critical care course, implementation of same day admission program for patients undergoing cardiac catheterization and cardiothoracic surgery, initiation of a multidisciplinary team to standardize/improve discharge planning, revision of unit's standards manual, and direction/preparation for Joint Commission on Accreditation for Hospitals evaluation. Trauma Nurse Critical Care certified. Acted as interim Director of Nursing watchstander, coordinating nursing staffing for all nursing service areas in the hospital.

Dec 1993 to **Assistant Division Officer Medical Oncology Unit**  
May 1994 Naval Medical Center  
San Diego, California

Assistant charge nurse on 34-bed medical oncology unit. Responsibilities included scheduling, patient contact representative, assistance in staff development, and interim Director of Nursing watchstander. Clinical experience included direct patient care and administration of chemotherapeutic agents to all levels of oncology patients. Assisted in orientation and training of other RNs, LVNs, and corps staff.

July 1992 to **Staff Nurse, Medical/Surgical Intensive Care Unit**  
Nov 1993 Naval Medical Center  
Portsmouth, Virginia

Full time staff nurse in large military intensive care unit. Acute management of a wide array of critically ill patients including multi-system failure patients and post-surgical patients. Directed unit activities and managed nursing personnel and corps staff as shift charge nurse. Additional responsibilities included patient liaison representative, corps staff scheduling and anecdotal officer/performance appraisal for corps staff. Educator in variety of critical care topics.

February 1991 **Staff Nurse, Surgical Pediatric Unit**  
to July 1992 Naval Medical Center  
Portsmouth, Virginia

Staff nurse on 14-bed surgical pediatric unit. Aside from direct patient care, participated as member of nursing standards committee, patient liaison representative, and assisted in orientation/preceptorship of nurses and corps staff.

June 1990 to **Staff Nurse, Coronary Care Unit**  
Dec 1990 Deaconess Medical Center  
Billings, Montana

Full time staff nurse involved in direct patient care for coronary and medical intensive care patients.

#### **HONORS/AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS:**

##### Rush University

- Recipient, The Luther Christman Unification Model Award for Excellence in Nursing Research 2018
  - Awarded by The Graduate College, Rush University. This award is named after the first Dean of the College of Nursing and honors a graduating PhD in nursing science student who exemplifies excellence in research, clinical practice and education.
  
- Recipient, The Diane Cronin-Stubbs Memorial Award 2016

- Awarded by Rush University's Golden Lamp Society which awards this scholarship to PhD program students in the Advanced Clinical Research Practicum for pre-dissertation work with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75, and documentation of scholarly publications and activities
- Graduate College Council, Rush University, PhD Student Representative, 2014 to present
  - Serve as student liaison to Dean, Graduate College
  - Monthly conference calls with Graduate College Council, which consists of voting rights regarding faculty and university issues within the Rush University Graduate College; curriculum issues, student learning, State of the College, and reports from Program Directors of all specialties within the Graduate College (Nursing, Medicine, Clinical Research, Biomedical Sciences, Biotechnology)

#### Military Awards

- Navy Commendation Medal awarded 2003, 2005
- Navy Achievement Medal awarded 1995, 2002
- Navy Unit Commendation awarded 2003
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal 2003
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal 2003
- Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon (2 awards)
- National Defense Ribbon (2 awards)
- Rifle Medal/Pistol Medal

#### INVITED PROFESSIONAL LECTURES:

- 2019: Poster Presentation, *Assessing the validity and reliability of computer-based case simulations in a nurse anesthesia specialty*. Midwest Nursing Research Society, Kansas City, MI
- 2018: Speaker – AANA Foundation State of the Science, Boston, MA: *The Perceived Value of Certification in Nonsurgical Pain Management*. Poster for the same.
- 2016: Speaker – Continued Professional Certification (CPC) Update, New York State Association of Nurse Anesthetists, New York, NY, April, 2016
- 2014: Speaker – CPC Update, Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists, McLean, VA, September, 2014
- 2012: Speaker NBCRNA State Presentation, Utah Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Salt Lake City, UT, January 2012
- 2010: Speaker NBCRNA State Presentation, New Jersey/Delaware Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Atlantic City, NJ, October 2010
- 2010: Speaker NBCRNA State Presentation, Montana Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Three Forks, MT, June 2010
- 2007: Coordinator, Epidural Hands-On Workshop, AANA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, August 2007
- 2006: Instructed Upper Extremity Block Workshop, AANA Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH, August 2006

- 2006: Instructed “Local Anesthetic Pharmacology”, “Regional Anesthesia for the Lower Extremity” Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists Conference, Fort Worth, TX, March, 2006
- 2005: Instructed Spinal/Epidural Workshop, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Oct 2005
- 2005: Instructed “Local Anesthetic Pharmacology”, “Regional Anesthesia for the Lower Extremity” Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists Conference, Ocean City, MD, Oct., 2005
- 2005: Instructed “Obstetrical Applications of Regional Analgesia/Anesthesia” Spinal/Epidural Hands-On Workshop, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Annual Meeting, August 2005
- 2005: Instructed Spinal/Epidural Workshop, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, May 2005
- 2004: Lectured “Preeclampsia in the Parturient/Implications in Anesthesia” California Association of Nurse Anesthetists Conference, Berkeley, CA, Oct., 2004
- 2004: Instructed Spinal/Epidural Workshop, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, May 2004
- 2003: Lectured “Regional Anesthesia for the Lower Extremity” California Association of Nurse Anesthetists Conference, La Jolla, CA, Oct., 2003

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS and ACTIVITIES:**

### Professional Memberships:

- Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS), Member
  - Dissertation selected for poster presentation, MNRS 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, March 27-30, 2019, Kansas City, Missouri
- National Board of Certification Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (NBCRNA)
  - Research Advisory Planning Committee, Fall 2017 to present
  - CPC Exam Oversight Committee, 2016-2018
  - CPC Practice Exam Committee, 2015-2016
  - NBCRNA Board of Directors: 2006 – 2012
    - Mission: To promote patient safety through credentialing programs that support lifelong learning.
    - Vision: To be recognized as the leader in advance practice nurse credentialing
    - 2010-2012: Served as Secretary/Treasurer for NBCRNA
    - 2012 to 2015: Chair, Exam Subcommittee of the Continued Professional Certification (CPC) program for NBCRNA
  - National Certification Exam (NCE), Item Writer 2009 - 2010
  - Self-Evaluation Exam (SEE); Item Writer 2005-2009; Chair, 2009 – 2010
- American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), Member: 1997 – present
- Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Member: 2016 to present
- Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Member 2005 to 2016
- Montana Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Member 2011-2014
- California Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Member 2000-2006

#### Professional Activities:

- 2016 September: Attended AANA Annual Congress, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 August: Attended AANA Annual Congress, Orlando, FL
- 2012 August: Attended AANA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- 2011, Nov: Attended AANA Fall Assembly, Newport Beach, CA
- 2011, August: Attended AANA Annual Meeting, Boston, MA
- 2011, February: Attended Assembly of School Faculty, Orlando, FL
- 2010, November: Attended Fall Assembly, CO Springs, CO
- 2009: Member/Exam Writer, Certification Exam Committee/Innovative Items Committee, Council on Certification, NBCRNA
- 2005 to 2009: Member and Chair SEE Committee, Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists, NBCRNA
- 2009: Attended AANA Conference, San Diego, CA
- 2007: Attended AANA Conference, Denver, CO
- 2006: Attended AANA Conference, Cleveland, OH
- 2005: Attended AANA Conference, Washington, DC
- 2004: Attended AANA Conference, Seattle, WA
- 2003: Attended AANA Conference, Boston, MA
- 2003: Attended Item Writer's Workshop, AANA, 2003
- 1997 to present: Member American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- 2002: Attended Dannemiller "Anesthesia Update Seminar", Orlando, FL
- 2001: Attended AANA Conference, San Francisco, CA
- 2000 to present: Member California Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- 2000: Attended "Issues in Clinical Anesthesiology", Las Vegas, NV
- 1999: Attended AANA Conference, Boston, MA
- 1997 to present: Member Navy Anesthesia Society
- 1995 to 1997: Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor
- 1993 to 1997: Member American Association of Critical Care Nurses

#### Expert Witness Activities:

Fall 2013 to present     Garlington, Lohn, Robinson  
                           Attorney, Peter Stokstad  
                           350 Ryman Street  
                           PO Box 7909  
                           Missoula, MT 59807

**PhD Dissertation:** Assessing the Validity and Reliability of Computer-Based Case Simulations in a Nurse Anesthesia Specialty

\* Primary focus: examining the psychometric performance of a novel computerized simulation-based clinical scenario question. The Nonsurgical Pain Management (NSPM) certification examination is given to CRNAs seeking the NSPM certification, a specialty of nurse anesthesia.



\* Secondary focus: examining the perception of CRNAs who are certified and not certified in the NSPM specialty (utilizing a previously validated tool, the Perceived Value of Certification Tool [PVCT]).

**Master's Degree Research:** Scholarly Project, completed 2000: "The Use of Nalmefene for Control of Intrathecal Opioid-Associated Nausea in Postpartum Patients"; published in *AANA Journal*, February, 2002.

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

Spence, D., **Ward, R.C.**, Wooden, S., Browne, M., Song, H., Hawkins, R., & Wojnakowski, M. (2019). Use of resources and method of proctoring during the NBCRNA continued professional certification assessment: analysis of outcomes. *Journal of Nursing Regulation*. doi: 10.1016/S2155-8256(19)30147-4.

**Ward, R.C.** (2018). *Assessing the validity and reliability of computer-based case simulations in a nurse anesthesia specialty* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global database. (Publication No. 10746481).

**Ward, R.C.**, Krogh, M.A., Kremer, M.J., & Muckle, T.J., & Schoeny, M.E. (2019). The perceived value of certification in nonsurgical pain management. *AANA Journal*, 87(1), 29–36.

**Ward, R.C.**, Muckle, T.J., Kremer, M.J., & Krogh, M.A. (2017). Computer-based case simulations for assessment in health care: a literature review of validity evidence. *Evaluation & the Health Professions*, 42(1), 82–102. doi: 10.1177/0163278717718609.

**Ward, R.C.**, Lawrence, R.L., Hawkins, R.J., DiChiara, S.E., Biegner, A.R., & Vacchiano, C.A. (2002). The use of nalmefene for intrathecal opioid-associated nausea in postpartum patients. *AANA Journal*, 70(1), 57–60.

#### **LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION:**

Texas Board of Nursing: License #ARNP: AP143456 Exp. 7/21

Texas Board of Nursing: RN# 977974 Exp. 7/21

State of Florida Department of Health: RN #9448346 Exp. 7/20

State of Florida Department of Health: License # ARNP 9448346 Exp. 7/20

Virginia Board of Registered Nursing: RN# 0001197266 Exp. 7/21

Montana Board of Nursing: RN# 144625 Exp. 12/20

Montana Board of Nursing APRN # 101055 Exp. 12/19

NBCRNA Certification: # 50614 Exp. 7/20

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Exp. 11/21

Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider "C" Exp. 11/21

Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Exp. 11/21