The resident research elective rotation has been designed to provide residents with research experience, be it basic science or clinical research. This one month rotation will allow the resident to meet the RRC requirements for research productivity. Given the limited time for research, it is essential that planning for the research rotation begin in the second half of the CA-2 year. A completed application for the research rotation should be submitted to Department of Anesthesia Research Advisory Group within a time frame that permits an appraisal of the merits of the proposal. All residents are eligible to participate in research rotations unless objections are raised by the resident’s Faculty Advisor, the Clinical Competence Committee, the Director of Education or the Residency Program Director.

Those residents that request a two month research elective rotation must first get approval from the Director of Education (Dr. Atwater) and from the Director of Residency Program (Dr. Manecke). The eligibility requirements for the two-month elective are more stringent than for a one-month elective. Specifically, the resident must have excellent clinical evaluations and there should be no doubt about their clinical capability and their clinical development. In addition, performance on the ABA In-training Exam should be above the 60th percentile.

Residents who wish to take advantage of the 6 month extended research rotation must first get approval from Drs. Patel, Atwater and Manecke. If approval is procured, a formal research proposal should be submitted (see below). A letter of support from the Faculty Advisor who will be responsible for oversight and supervision of the research rotation must accompany the application. Residents who are eligible for this rotation must demonstrate exceptional clinical competence. There should be no doubt about their clinical development. Performance on ABA In-Training Examination should exceed the 75th percentile. In addition, these residents must make a commitment to pursue a fellowship upon the completion of their residency training and to a career in academic medicine.

The proposal should contain the following items:

1) Title of research project
2) Faculty advisor(s)
3) Background and rationale
4) Experimental protocol and research methods
5) Interpretation of expected results
   Please include a preliminary plan for statistical analysis
6) Presentation of results
   It is expected that the research will be presented at:
   a) 6 minutes of science
b) Western Anesthesia Research Conference
c) National anesthesia meetings (if abstract is accepted)
For presentation at WARC and national anesthesia meetings, the Department will provide limited financial support.

7) Publication of manuscript
Please list the journal(s) targeted for publication of the manuscript

8) Funding requirements
The RAG does provided limited funding for resident research projects. A separate request for RAG funds should be submitted to the Chair of RAG.

9) Time line of the conduct and completion of project

10) Preparation prior to start of project
To maximize the probability of the completion of the proposed research within the allotted time, the components of the research project should be well in place before the resident starts the rotation. To that end, for clinical research projects, the institutional human subjects protocol must be submitted and approved prior to the start of the project. Given that protocols may well take a few months before they are approved, they should be submitted at least 3 months prior to the project. For basic science studies, the institutional animal care and use (IACUC) protocol must be submitted and approved and IACUC mandated training, if any, should be completed prior to the start of the project. Any equipment that is required should be readily available or should be procured well in advance.

11) Letter of Support from the Faculty Advisor who will be responsible for the oversight and supervision of the research rotation.

The complete proposal should be sent to the Research Advisory Group of the Department of Anesthesia. Electronic format is preferred. Please send the proposal to Dr. Patel by email. Dr. Patel will distribute the proposal to the RAG committee members: Drs. Yaksh (Chair), Roth and Hastings.

Approval of the research project and the completion of the necessary preparatory work must be completed at least two month prior to the start of the rotation. In the event that approval process is not complete and if the necessary preparation has not been completed, the privilege of the research rotation will be withdrawn and the resident will be assigned main operating room duties.

March 22, 2006