

# The History of the School of Nurse Anesthesia

**1950:** Kansas City General Hospital School for Nurse Anesthetists began under the direction of Dr. Samuel Allen. It was one of three schools in the Kansas City, MO area

**1953:** The non-degree, certificate program was accredited by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

**1964:** Dr. Hugh Mathenson named as Director. The program graduated 3-4 students per year

**1965:** Dr. James Elam named as Director

**1966:** Dr. Nina Beatty named as Director

**1976:** Institution and program name changed to Truman Medical Center

**1978:** Affiliation began with the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC) School of Biological Sciences

**1980:** Students had option of completing a Master of Arts in Biology simultaneous with the Certificate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice

**1997:** MA in Biology degree required for graduation

**1984:** Chandler Bowser, MA, CRNA named as Director. Mr. Bowser established the first clinical training affiliation with St. Luke's Hospital of Kansas City. The program graduated 8-10 students per year

**1986:** TMC SoNA hosts the 1st Annual Fall Education Conference to provide continuing education for the recertifying CRNA

**2001:** Mark Lipari, DNP, CRNA named as Director. During Dr. Lipari's tenure, he established six additional clinical training sites, which are all still active today. He also increased the class size to 12-15 students per year

**2005:** Truman Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia (TMC SoNA) was awarded the maximum accreditation approval of ten (10) years by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA)

**2007:** Gerard Dunham, DNP, CRNA (Asst. Director of Education) opened a high-fidelity simulation laboratory to introduce skills and procedures and experience high-mortality, low-frequency situations in anesthesia practice

**2013:** TMC SoNA is the 1st nurse anesthesia program in MO approved to award a Doctorate degree. This new degree is offered in affiliation with the UMKC School of Nursing and Health Studies



**2014:** Amber Davies, DNP, CRNA named as Director. Dr. Davies established one additional clinical training site while leading the school through the transition to Doctoral education

**2015:** TMC SoNA was again awarded the maximum 10-year accreditation for the new Certificate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice and DNP degree program. This year also marked the final class of students graduating with a certificate and MA in Biology degree

**2016:** Inaugural Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree graduates

**2017:** New affiliations established with four additional clinical training sites. Approved to increase class size to 18 students per year

