**Student Spotlight**

By Monica Masemer, RN, BSN  
_Student Representative to the AANA Foundation Board of Trustees_

The AANA Foundation is pleased to present Student Spotlight, a new feature that recognizes student registered nurse anesthetists (SRNAs) who have captured attention through their dedication to education, professional excellence, and overall commitment to advancing nurse anesthesia.

**Spotlighting Lt. Cmdr. Robert Roadfuss, CRNA, MSN, NC, USN**

I am honored to introduce the AANA Foundation’s “Student Spotlight” Lt. Cmdr. Robert Roadfuss. He does not enjoy the limelight and prefers to divert attention away from himself onto others. We had an amazing phone interview, but it wasn’t until I performed an extensive Google search that the “real” Roadfuss was revealed—a true hero!

After graduating from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1999, Roadfuss joined the Navy and began an extraordinary nursing career. His previous deployments include assisting local physicians with surgeries and complex medical procedures at Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, Africa, and delivering medical assistance to victims of Hurricane Katrina on USNS Comfort.

Always having had career ambitions to become a CRNA, Roadfuss applied and was accepted into the very competitive nurse anesthesia program at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Maryland. As an SRNA, Roadfuss and his colleagues received the 2011 Dean Hayden Research Grant from the AANA Foundation. Their study investigated the incidence of undiagnosed obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), and identified the relationship between OSA risk and the number of sedation provider interventions performed to relieve obstructive symptoms during sedation for colonoscopy.

For his first CRNA assignment Roadfuss will serve at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va. His immediate career goals are to gain his “sea legs” in anesthesia and obtain as much experience as possible to prepare him as a sole anesthesia provider during future deployments. “Providing care and developing an anesthesia plan that reduces pain and delivers comfort to patients who sustain injuries from IEDs, brutal wartime fatalities, and quad amputations is an honor,” he said. His long-term career plans are to pursue a DNP or PhD, and educate nurse anesthesia students. His advice for future students: “Listen, and learn as much as you can. Fly under the radar but always strive to do your best. Establish relationships and appreciate your preceptors. Strive for a work-life balance, organize study groups and help out your peers.” A sincere thanks to Lt. Cmdr. Roadfuss and all military men and women for their service.

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- Patient information brochures and videotapes for use by practicing CRNAs

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