University of South Florida College of Nursing

Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation (CAMLS)

124 South Franklin Street

Tampa, FL 33602

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941-224-4188

**Personal Statement**

Sierra Gower, PhD, CRNA, APRN is currently the Chief CRNA at the James A. Haley Veteran’s Hospital in Tampa, Florida. She has been involved with the Nurse Anesthesia Program at USF since its inception in 2006 serving as Program Director the first six years of the program, and part time faculty since that time. Her experience as a CRNA spans over 27 years in various areas of practice, with a total of 32 years of experience as a professional nurse. Her interests are focused in cardiothoracic research, and safe, quality anesthesia for U.S. Veterans.

**Academic Appointment**

Instructor, Nurse Anesthesia Concentration College of Nursing University of South Florida

**Clinical Appointment**

Chief Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Veterans Affairs Medical Center

**Military Appointment**

Commander, Florida Medical Detachment Florida Army National Guard

**Education**

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| **Institution** | **Degree** | **Year** |
| University of South Florida  Tampa, Florida | Ph.D. | 2004 -2012 |
| SUNY @ Buffalo  Buffalo, New York | Master Science  Nurse Anesthesia | 1990 – 1992 |
| University of Central Florida  Orlando, Florida | BSN | 1982 – 1987 |

**Licensure and Certification**

Florida State Board of Nursing Dual License ARNP expires July 2021

Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetist Recertification expires July 2021

Certified Health Simulation Educator expires 2019

Basic Life Support expires April 2020

Advanced Life Support expires April 2020

**Hospital Affiliations/Privileges**

James A. Haley Veterans Administration Medical Center

**Hospital Research Sites**

James A. Haley Veterans Administration Medical Center

**Professional Memberships**

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists

International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation & Learning

Sigma Theta Tau International

National Guard Officer Association

**Professional Experience**

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| --- | --- |
| **Professional Academic Experience** |  |
| December 2011 to Present  .35 FTE | Instructor, Nurse Anesthesia Program  University of South Florida  12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. MDC 22  Tampa, FL 33612 |
| August 2006 to Present | Clinical Instructor and Preceptor  James A. Haley VAMC  Programs: Barry University CRNA Program, 2006-2008;  USF CRNA program, 2008-present; US Army CRNA program 2006- present |
| August 2006 to December 2011  .75 FTE | Director, Nurse Anesthesia Program  University of South Florida  12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. MDC22  Tampa, FL 33612 |
| **Professional Clinical Experience** |  |
| February 2019 to present  FTE 1.0  February 1999 to 2019  1.0 FTE | Chief CRNA  Department of Veterans Affairs, James A. Haley  13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.  Tampa, FL 3363  Staff Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist  Department of Veterans Affairs, James A. Haley  13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd  Tampa, FL 33613 |
| February 1993 to 1999  1.0 FTE | Independent Contractor, Staff Nurse Anesthetist  Premier Anesthesia at Manatee Memorial Hospital  206th 2nd Street East  Bradenton, FL 34202 |
| May 1988 to August 1990  1.0 FTE | Registered Nurse Clinical Level II  Cardiovascular Intensive Care  Holmes Regional Medical Center  1350 Hickory Street  Melbourne, Florida 32901 |
| July 1987 to April 1988  1.0 FTE | Registered Nurse  Progressive Care Unit  University Community Hospital  Tampa, Florida 33612 |

**Research Completed**

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| --- | --- |
| PhD Research 2008-2012 | Randomized Clinical Trial: The Effect of Tight Glycemic Control on Surgical Site Infection Rates in Patients Undergoing Open Heart Surgery.  Gower, Sierra, "The Effect of Tight Glycemic Control on Surgical Site Infection Rates in Patients Undergoing Open Heart Surgery" (2012). *Graduate School Theses and Dissertations.*  <http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/etd/4325> |
| Master Project: October 1992 | Effects of Continuous infusion intrathecal bupivicaine compared with intermittent bolus injections of intrathecal bupivicaine on hemodynamic stability. |

**Research Project Participation**

Assistance in development of medication profile worksheet, data collection, and subject recruitment in The Women’s Health Study

Principal Investigator: Dr. Theresa Beckie Tampa, FL

January 2005 – April 2005; August 2005 – May 2006

**Publications/Grants**

June 2007- 2012 American Association of Nurse Anesthetist $10,700

Research Grant Ph.D. Study

Principal Investigator

July 2007- June 2008 Department of Health & Human Services (HRSA) $268

Nurse Anesthesia Traineeship

Principal Investigator

July 2007 – June 2009 Department of Health & Human Services (HRSA) $10,861

Nurse Anesthesia Traineeship

Principal Investigator

July 2008 - June 2012 Department of Health & Human Service (HRSA) $648,275

CRNA Program for the Underserved

Co-Principal Investigator

**Professional Service**

**National** U.S. National Guard Medical Command Board Reviewer 2013

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Grant Reviewer 2010

**University**

University of South Florida Chair Master’s Curriculum Committee 2010-2011

College of Nursing Assistant Chair Master’s Curriculum Committee 2009-2010

Master Curriculum Committee Member 2006-2012

CRNA DNP Task Force Member 2011-2012

**Clinical**

James A. Haley VAMC Ad Hoc Board Member 2019-current

Ancillary Testing Board Member 2019-current

Competency Development Leader Guardianship Project Member 2020

Project Leader Lean 6 Sigma Anesthesia Competency Methods 2019

Peer Reviewer, Department Anesthesia 2010 - 2016

Committee: Guidelines on Glycemic Control 2016

Quality Assurance, Anesthesia Department 2010-2014

**Military Experience**

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| --- | --- |
| February 2012 to Present | Reservist Colonel  Commander, Florida Medical Detachment  Florida Army National Guard  Florida Medical Detachment  Camp Blanding Joint Training Center  5629 State Road 16 West Building 2300  Starke, Florida 32091-9703 |

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| --- | --- |
| January 2010 to January 2012  March 2005 to December 2009 | Reservist Lieutenant Colonel  Chief Nurse  Florida Army National Guard  Florida Medical Detachment  2305 State Road 207  St. Augustine, FL 32086  Reservist Lieutenant Colonel  Officer in Charge Plant City Physical Exam Station  Florida Army National Guard  Florida Medical Detachment  2305 State Road 207  St. Augustine, FL 32086 |
| Active Duty  February 2004 to March 2005 | Reservist Major  Case Manager, Family Support Officer  Florida Army National Guard  CBHCO Florida  4004 Airport Road  Plant City, FL 33567 |
| January 1994 to February 2004 | Reservist Captain  Staff ARNP  Officer in Charge Laboratory Services  Florida Army National Guard  Florida Medical Detachment  2305 State Road 207  St. Augustine, FL 32086 |
| August 1990 to January 1994 | Reservist, 1st Lieutenant  Staff Nurse  Assistant Officer in Charge of Mentorship Program  United States Army Reserve  338th General Hospital  9400 Porter Rd.  Niagara Falls, NY 14304 |

**Professional Presentation**

**Gower, S.** (2019) Avoiding Crises in the Endoscopy Suite. Presented Regional Conference Society of Gastroenterology Nurses. January 12, 2019, Tampa, FL

**Gower, S.**, Beckie, T.M., Beckstead, J., Groer, M. Eichler, D., Jimenez, E., Kokocki, S., Bronleewe, S., & Kambam, J. (2013). The effect of intraoperative tight glycemic control on surgical site infection rates in patients undergoing open-heart surgery. Presented at the Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetist (AVANA) National Meeting May 24, 2016, St. Petersburg, FL.

Schultz, P, **Gower, S.** (2014). Anesthesia Implications in the Gastroenterology Suite. Presented at the National Conference Society of Gastroenterology Nurses, May 21, 2014, Tampa, FL

**Gower, S.**, Beckie, T.M., Beckstead, J., Groer, M. Eichler, D., Jimenez, E., Kokocki, S., Bronleewe, S., & Kambam, J. (2013). The effect of intraoperative tight glycemic control on surgical site infection rates in patients undergoing open-heart surgery. Presented at the James A. Haley Veteran’s Hospital Research Day April 25, 2013, Tampa, FL.

**Gower, S.**, Beckie, T.M., Beckstead, J., Groer, M. Eichler, D., Jimenez, E., Kokocki, S., Bronleewe, S., & Kambam, J. (2013). The effect of intraoperative tight glycemic control on surgical site infection rates in patients undergoing open-heart surgery. Presented at the Association of VA Surgeons 37th Annual Meeting, April 22, 2013, Milwaukee, WI.

**Gower, S.** (2011). Intraoperative glycemic control, where are we now? Presented at the National Meeting Association of Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetist (AVANA). Presented May 26, 2011, St. Petersburg, FL.

**Gower, S.** (2010). Dream a Little Dream: A CRNA is by Your Side. Presented at the National Student Nurse Association (NSNA) Convention, April 10, 2010.

**Gower, S.** (2010). Making yourself a successful candidate for CRNA school. Presented at the National Student Nurse Association (NSNA) Convention, April 10, 2010.

**Courses Taught By Semester**

Semester Credit Hour Course

Fall 2006 3 NGR 6931 Pharmacology Nurse Anesthesia I

Spring 2007 3 NGR 6931 Principles Nurse Anesthesia across the Lifespan

Summer 2007 3 NGR 6931 Principles in Nurse Anesthesia I

Fall 2007 3 NGR 6931 Principles in Nurse Anesthesia II

1 NGR 6931 Clinical Correlational Conference

Spring 2008 3 NGR 6931 Pharmacology Nurse Anesthesia

1 NGR 6931 Clinical Correlational Conferences

Summer 2008 1 NGR 6931 Clinical Correlational Conferences

2 NGR 6931 Clinical Residency III

Fall 2008 4 NGR 6931 Clinical Residency IV

1 NGR 6931 Clinical Correlational Conference

Spring 2009 1 NGR 6931 CRNA Clinical Correlations

4 NGR 6391 Clinical Residency II

Summer 2009 1 NGR 6931 CRNA Clinical Correlations

4 NGR 6391 Clinical Residency III

Fall 2009 3 NGR 6404 Anatomy & Physiology Nurse Anesthesia

4 NGR 6434 Clinical Residency IV

1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlation Conference

2 NGR 6491 Nurse Anesthesia Practice Comps

Spring 2010 1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlation Conference

4 NGR 6432 Clinical Residency II

Summer 2010 3 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlation Conference

3 NGR 6433 Clinical Residency III

Fall 2010 4 NGR 6431 Clinical Residency I

4 NGR 6434 Clinical Residency IV

1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlation Conference

Spring 2011 2 NGR 6432 Clinical Residency II

1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlational Conference

Summer 2011 4 NGR 6433 Clinical Residency III

1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlational Conference

Fall 2011 3 NGR 6404 Anatomy & Physiology Nurse Anesthesia

2 NGR 6431 Clinical Residency I

2 NGR 6434 Clinical Residency IV

1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlational Conference

2 NGR 6491 Nurse Anesthesia Practice Comps

Spring 2012 2 NGR 6432 Clinical Residency II

1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlational Conference

Summer 2012 3 NGR 6492 Nurse Anesthesia Role Development

Fall 2012 2 NGR 6434 Clinical Residency IV

1 NGR 6491 Nurse Anesthesia Practice Comps

Spring 2013 1 NGR 6929 Clinical Correlational Conference

Summer 2013 3 NGR 6492 Nurse Anesthesia Role Development

Fall 2013 3 NGR 6404 Anatomy & Physiology Nurse Anesthesia

Spring 2014 2 NGR 6442L CRNA Simulation Lab II

Summer 2014 2 NGR 6442L CRNA Simulation Lab III

Fall 2014 1 NGR 6434 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency IV

2 NGR 6491 CRNA Practice Comprehensive

Spring 2015 2 NGR 6441 CRNA Simulation Lab III

1 NGR 6929 CRNA Clinical Correlational Conferences

Summer 2015 2 NGR 6442L CRNA Simulation Lab III

Fall 2015 3 NGR 6404 Advanced Anatomy & Physiology Nurse Anesthesia

Spring 2016 2 NGR 6442L CRNA Simulation Lab II

Summer 2016 2 NGR 6442L CRNA Simulation Lab III

Fall 2016 2 NGR 6002C Advance Health Assessment

2 NGR 6442L CRNA Simulation Lab III

Spring 2017 4 NGR 6152 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology

Summer 2017 2 NGR 6441L CRNA Simulation Lab II

Fall 2017 3 NGR 6002C Advanced Health Assessment

2 NGR 6931 Theoretical Foundations in CRNA Practice II

Spring 2018 3 NGR 6152 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology

Summer 2018 3 NGR 6803 Advance Research & Evidence Based Practice

Fall 2018 4 NGR 6931 Theoretical Foundations in CRNA Practice II

Spring 2019 3 NGR 6152 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology

Summer 2019 3 NGR 6803 Advance Research & Evidence Based Practice

Fall 2019 4 NGR 6931 Theoretical Foundations in CRNA Practice II

Spring 2020 3 NGR 6152 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology

**Military Presentations**

**Gower, S.** (2016). Medical Readiness State of Florida. Presented at the National Meeting National Guard Officers Association: AMEDD. Presented July 2016 Daytona Beach, FL.

**Gower, S.** (2016) Case Management: The Way Ahead. Presented at the Medical Readiness Conference, Florida Medical Detachment. Presented November 2016 at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center (CBJTC).

Annual HIPPA Briefing, Florida Medical Detachment. Presented at annual training event 2008-2012

Women’s Resources Health Brief Florida Medical Detachment, Florida National Guard 2009, 2010, 2011

**Gower, S** (2009) Foreign Military Assistance. Presented at Fort Dix, NJ at ILE Training.

Airway Management. Annual Medic Training Florida Medical Detachment. Presented at CBJTC 2001, 2006, 2008, 2011, 2012

Intravenous Access & Fluid Resuscitation. Medic Training Florida Medical Detachment 2006, 2008, 2012

Family Readiness & Support. Annual Training, Florida Medical Detachment June 2003, 2005, 2011

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder & Suicide Brief. Presented to various units Florida Army National Guard, Community Based Health Care Organization 2004

Deployment Issues and Preparation, Florida Medical Detachment December 2003

Medical Trauma & Military Medicine” Florida Medical Detachment June 2002

Army Organization” Command Control & Communication Leadership October 2000

**Selected Professional Development**

Leadership Engagement Leadership Series January 2020

Competency Development Leadership Training in progress September 2019-June 2020

Cleveland Clinic Perioperative Update in Anesthesia December 2020

Lean 6 Sigma Green Belt Training October 2019

Florida National Guard Medical Symposium March 2019

Lean 6 Sigma Yellow Belt Training January 2019

John Hopkins Peri-operative Update in Anesthesia 2017

National Meeting International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning 2014, 2015

Duke University 6th Annual Emerging Technologies in the Operating Room 2013

National Guard Officer Association Annual Conference 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018

National VA Surgeons Conference 2013

Military Medical Team Training Conference April 2012

Assembly of School Faculty AANA February 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011

National Student Nurses Association 2010

Command & General Staff Intermediate Leadership Education 2008, 2009

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists National Meeting 1992, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2013

Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetist Annual Meeting, 2003, 2007-2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018

Research Symposium 2010

Premier Anesthesia Conference 2011

Council on Accreditation for Nurse Anesthesia Education New Director Workshop 2007

Twenty fifth Annual Nurse Anesthesia Faculty Associates meeting, Orlando, Florida 2005, 2006

Annual AMEDD Military conference, Orlando, Florida 2006

Current Issues in Anesthesia, Orlando, Florida 2004

Case Manager Course Camp Robinson, Arkansas 2004

Contemporary Anesthesia Orlando, Florida 2003

C.J. Reddy Leadership Conference, Washington, D.C. December 2002