

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
MICHAEL J. HABECK LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
PRESENTED OCTOBER 11, 2011



The Michael J. Habeck Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to an individual who has provided sustained, exceptional service and leadership to the PSPA and has contributed to the advancement of the PA profession as an advocate in the public and private arenas.

Today we honor Linda Sekhon, physician assistant, who is truly deserving of this award.

She has from the early days of her PA career been educating every employer, nurse or physician in what a PA is and how a PA functions in healthcare. The many frustrating times of being misunderstood as what a PA can actually do, led her to become politically involved in the profession, working to change legislation and improve PA practice. Once she became involved in PSPA in the early 1990's serving on the membership committee, she moved forward steadily and took PSPA along for the ride. She was Membership Committee Chair for several years then continued to volunteer as Director at Large for six years. She took on the challenge of President of PSPA from 2007 to 2009, and afterwards became more involved in AAPA's House of Delegates as well as Governmental Affairs Committee. She continued to give PSPA 100% in the last 2 years being co-chair for Gov. Affairs and Liaison for State Board of Medicine. Her PSPA involvement also included participating on the Conference Committee, being a conference presenter, and member of Leadership, Finance

and Standing Rules and Regulations Committees. If there was a vacancy in a committee that she herself could not fill, she would effectively pursue and encourage a willing or gullible candidate for the position. Yes Linda, you found me for Awards Committee and here I am! Linda's work for PSPA has been a non-stop fulfilling ride. PSPA will continue to build on and succeed because of the knowledge and devotion that Linda has shared with us.

Linda has also been instrumental in doing everything possible for the PA profession in the clinical and didactic setting. She has worked at several PA programs and has touched numerous student lives as a mentor and role model. Her teaching style inspires students. Recently, she furthered her own education attaining a doctorate degree which will continue to help her in advancing the education of future PA's. Linda excels in her clinical skills as well, having maintained a clinical position in Rheumatology. She is respected by physicians, staff and patients alike. When not being a PA or professor, Linda is a dedicated mother and wife. She truly is the "cream of the crop" of our PA profession here in Pennsylvania and we will greatly miss her as she pursues a new position as director of a PA program in North Carolina. Congratulations Linda on your Lifetime Achievement Award that you have earned with your consistent, steady and productive years with us at PSPA. We wish you all the best because you have been the best for us.

MICHAEL J. HABECK LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The PSPA Michael J. Habeck Lifetime Achievement award honors an individual who has provided sustained, exceptional service or leadership to the Pennsylvania Society Physician Assistants, and who has contributed to the advancement of the PA profession, as an advocate in the public and private arenas.

The Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants (PSPA) was established in 1976. As a growing nonprofit organization, the PSPA strives to be representative of all physician assistants within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The goals and objectives of the Society are to enhance quality medical care to the people of Pennsylvania through a process of continuing medical education, both to the membership and to the public; to provide loyal and honest service to the public and to the medical profession; to promote professionalism among its membership; and to promote understanding of the PA profession.

The PSPA is a constituent chapter of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). The Society sends delegates to the AAPA House of Delegates which meets annually to perform policy making activities under the Academy's bylaws.

The elected Board of Directors of the Society include the president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, and six Board members. Two of the six Board members are student members.

There are standing committees in the Society that perform its many functions. Each committee has a Board approved chairperson and is comprised of interested members from the various regions in the state. The Society encourages members to become involved by volunteering some time and energy to one of these important committees.