

OR Today Live Plans to Rock Music City

BY JOHN WALLACE, EDITOR

Confucius is credited with saying “Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.” OR Today feels the same way about continuing education. If you are going to attend a conference, you might as well enjoy yourself, and that is why the magazine holds the annual OR Today Live Surgical Conference.

In 2018, OR Today Live is headed to Music City. The conference runs from August 26 to August 28 when perioperative nurses and SPD professionals from across the country will gather to discover new opportunities, broaden their knowledge and exchange ideas.

Whether you need an extra boost of motivation in your career or are looking to earn CE credits – OR Today Live is the conference for you. The annual event brings together world-class speakers in an environment designed to motivate and empower perioperative professionals. Attendees can earn up to 11 CEUs, but that is just one reason to attend. Additional benefits of attendance include a CCI CSSM prep course, super sessions, signature networking events, vendor exhibit hall and a Music City rooftop party featuring live music!

“In preparation for the 2018 conference, we compiled a team of industry experts to consult on the education being offered. The chairman of the educational advisory board, David Taylor,



MSN, RN, CNOR, brings not only the knowledge gained from over 30 years in the perioperative field, but also the experience from helping plan and coordinate his local AORN Chapter meeting in San Antonio for several years,” Vice President Kristin Leavoy said. “Weston ‘Hank’ Balch is a sterile processing department (SPD) guru! He has written over 100 articles on sterile processing and even hosts a weekly podcast to discuss the latest in industry topics. Pair Hank with Elbridge ‘Eb’ Merritt and the expertise he brings from his military and perioperative background and you have an unstoppable sterile processing duo!”

Dawn Whiteside, director of education at the Competency & Credentialing Institute (CCI) has been invaluable in directing the education so that it can help attendees earn continuing education credit and Chris Bolton, clinical educator at St. Rose Dominica Hos-

pital, and Giselle Peters, clinical nurse manager at Sahara Surgery Center, have helped to create a balance of education attractive to professionals from all walks of health care.

“Overall, attendees should walk away from the Nashville event with a feeling of accomplishment in earning the continuing education credits they need to renew/maintain their license, knowledge on the latest tools and resources available to them from speaking with the vendors in the exhibit hall, and a renewed passion in their field from talking and networking with their peers in the industry,” Leavoy added.

OR Today Live is a well respected conference with rave reviews

“I enjoyed the entire conference. It was nice to hear that the problems of my facility are not unique,” Carmen B., a director of surgical services, said after a previous OR Today Live.

“High caliber of speakers, intimate



learning sessions,” Director of Clinical Services Elizabeth C. said.

“Learned more than I thought I would and met some amazing people too. It was very affordable and exceeded my expectations,” Jenifer N., RN, said.

When asked about a previous conference Perioperative Educator Becky S. said, “This was a wonderful experience! Well run with very pertinent, and timely educational topics.”

The 2018 version of OR Today Live looks to exceed the high expectations attendees and vendors have after participating in previous years.

Pre-conference activities begin on Saturday, August 25 with sign-in and registration as well as the CCI CSSM Exam Prep Course. The purpose of CCI’s CSSM Exam Prep Course is to develop the knowledge and skills required to prepare for the CSSM certification exam. This course focuses on the seven subject areas covered in the CSSM exam including strategic management, professionalism, human resource management, operational management, leadership, communication and financial management. Attendees will be eligible for 12 contact hours upon successful completion of the course, including participation and completion of post-course evaluations.

Participants in the course will be provided with electronic copies of CCI’s CSSM Exam Prep book and presentation slides. Participation in this course is not required to apply for the CSSM certification exam. The cost of the two-day CCI CSSM Exam Prep Course is \$225.

On Sunday, August 26 OR Today Live shifts into a higher gear with registration and exhibitor set up followed by three CE Super Sessions from 1 to 4 p.m. On Sunday evening, a Welcome Reception will be held in the exhibit hall from 5 to 7 p.m. The Welcome Reception is an outstanding networking opportunity as leaders reconnect and make new professional acquaintances in a relaxed setting with delicious food and beverages.

OR Today Live continues on Monday with more educational sessions and a complimentary lunch in the exhibit hall followed by the afternoon’s educational session. After a break to recharge, OR Today Live delivers a signature Nashville event with live music at a rooftop party sponsored by AIV.

The final day of OR Today Live 2018 features more top-notch educational offerings including a Keynote Luncheon Address by Omnicell Vice President of Healthcare

Policy Ken Perez. In his presentation, Perez will cover the most salient health policy developments during the first year and a half of the Trump administration and forecast policy changes for the next few years. ■

Additional information about OR Today Live, including registration and hotel information, is available online at ORTodayLive.com.

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