



# Communicator

A newsletter for faculty and friends of CALS

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## Congratulations to our new CALS Hospitals!

After nearly four years, the CALS Hospital recognition program is going strong! Last month, CALS was pleased to welcome three new hospitals to the program.

**Tri-County Hospital**  
Wadena, Minnesota

**Luther Midelfort Northland**  
Mayo Health System, Barron, WI

**Mayo Health System – Chippewa Valley**  
Bloomer, WI

The CALS Hospital Recognition Program was designed to give credit to hospitals that meet CALS standards for

training, procurement, and staffing.

“We are eager to fuel the success of the CALS Hospital program by raising its visibility,” explains Sharon Lukach, who manages the program. “We know CALS Hospitals perform better in a number of performance metrics. It’s time that became the standard for quality care in rural emergency rooms.”

The new CALS Hospitals join existing facilities in Long Prairie, Granite Falls, and Aitken in Minnesota and Osseo, Wisconsin. Several additional hospitals are currently under consideration. Visit our website to learn more.



*To date, seven hospitals in Minnesota and Wisconsin have earned recognition as CALS Hospitals.*

*To see photos or to learn more, visit [calsprogram.org](http://calsprogram.org).*

**“The need for CALS instructors continues to grow as demand for courses increases around the country.”**

## CALS welcomes new class of instructors

On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16 physicians and nurses completed CALS instructor training and joined our faculty. They came from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Texas, and Canada, representing a diverse group both geographically and professionally.

The one-day course was designed to review the fundamentals of the CALS approach, while presenting a clear and actionable paradigm for adult learning and education. The day included role playing, hands-on instruction, and feedback.

“We were impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of this new group of instructors,” remarked Kari

Lappe, CALS program manager. “I’m confident they will transition smoothly into our class schedule and work well with our existing faculty.”

Part of the urgency of recruiting new instructors is the growing demand for classes across the United States and Canada. Courses can be more efficiently run with help from local instructors.

“As CALS expands, we’ll need more instructors, across a wider geographic area,” explained Martha Johnson, CALS executive director. “We’ll likely be holding additional Instructor Courses in the year ahead.”

*(continued on next page)*

## New class of instructors (con't)

Over the coming year, the following instructors will join the CALS Faculty. Please join us in welcoming them to the team!

Christina Bartholomew, RN  
Luther Midelfort Oakridge

Sarah Becker, RN  
CentraCare - Long Prairie

Gordon Brock, MD  
Centre De Sante De Teminscaming  
Toronto, Ontario

Wade Homuth, RN  
Owatonna Hospital

Donald Lum, MD  
Northfield Hospital

Jeanna Machacek, RN, HCMC

Karla McCall, RN, HCMC

Luis Martinez, MD  
Hutchinson Area Health System

Jay Myers, MD, Olmsted Medical  
Center

Terry Parr, MD, Hendricks Hospital

Sharon Roy, RN  
Cuyuna Reg. Medical Ctr / HCMC

Nate Selstad, RN, Children's Hospital

Brett Steffen, RN  
St. David's HealthCare, Austin, Texas

Larry Strate, MD  
Paynesville Area Health

Nicole Sweet, RN  
Luther Midelfort Oakridge

Becky Von Bank, RN  
HCMC / Fairview Southdale



### CALS and Global Health at the University of Minnesota

CALS is pleased to be featured again this year as part of the University of Minnesota's Global Health Summer Course. In placing more of its content online, the University's program has freed up time to focus more on skills and scenario training. CALS will be included as a critical piece of the program curriculum.

To learn more, visit [globalhealth.umn.edu](http://globalhealth.umn.edu).

## CALS across the country (and around the world)

In recent months, CALS education has attracted the interest of many new groups, both locally and globally. Where will we be going next? Here's a quick summary.

This month, Dr. Darrell Carter will be making a poster presentation to medical staff at EUCOM and AFRICOM – branches of the Department of Defense tasked with managing regional cooperation and security. Dr. Carter will describe the potential impact of CALS education on health care capacity in Africa. He'll use specific examples of how CALS can make a difference in Kenya, and try to raise interest in financing larger programs in the developing world.

This July, CALS will hold its first provider course in Iowa – in Osage. We



hope this will be the first of many courses in that area!

This September, CALS will present a condensed version of its provider course to attendees at the AAFP Annual Meeting in Orlando. This pre-conference session will feature an overview of the universal approach, training in airway management, the FAST exam, and the use of the easy I/O.

Finally, in October, CALS will participate in the "Best of Hennepin" event, sponsored by Hennepin County Medical Center. For three days, HCMC will bring together specialists in patient- and family-centered care to provide key updates and discussions. CALS program director Dr. Darrell Carter and executive committee member Dr. Mike Wilcox will provide their insight on the event's Transition of Care panel discussion. Hope to see you there! (To learn more visit [hmc.org/bestofhennepin/](http://hmc.org/bestofhennepin/).)

If you are aware of any opportunities to publicize CALS or increase our visibility, please share your ideas! Email them to [mjohnson@calsprogram.org](mailto:mjohnson@calsprogram.org).

# Could a committee role be in your future?

by Martha Johnson, executive director

CALS has been a busy place lately! Not only have we held a record number of courses this year, we've also embarked on a rebranding strategy, a new web site, and an overall board reorganization. All of these efforts are designed to help us keep pace with demand, and to stay true to CALS mission.

Ever wondered how you can get more involved? *The time is now.* As part of our reorganization, there are more opportunities than ever before to serve on a committee, help out an an event, or provide ongoing course input. We require only your ideas, energy and enthusiasm.

Specifically, CALS will be depending upon the vision and leadership of eight separate divisions, or committees – to divide and clarify its work. *See diagram below.*

What does it mean to serve on a CALS committee? Each one will be different, but it will usually entail participating on a monthly teleconference, lending expertise when needed, or helping us find others whose expertise we need.

Are you interested in helping us develop new courses? Evaluate our impact? Plan our next conference, or strengthen our web site? These are just a few of the openings we have.

In addition, we are opening up several new spots on our board, making room for specialists in the areas of finance, human resources, and fundraising. If you know someone who would be good for our board, be sure to let us know.

To learn more, call me at 612-626-4299. It's very likely that a committee role is in your future!



**“Does something look different here?”**

Indeed it does. CALS has launched a new logo, new colors and a new look. Over the coming months, you'll begin to see our new identity more and more, in course materials, forms, mailings, and our web site.



## Watch for our updated web site...coming soon

Behind the scenes this spring, an all-new website for CALS has been in the works. Visually, it will feature CALS' new logo and color scheme, accented by clear, new photography and visuals.

Inside, the site will include new automation to expedite many aspects of course registration, payment and evaluation.

“Our new site has been designed with all of its users in mind,” explains Kristine Lekander, CALS administrative manager. “Course participants will be able to register and access materials online. Instructors will have access to more materials and course information. Finally, the whole platform will help make CALS an ongoing resource – not just a course you take once every four years.”

One of the most exciting things about the new site will be the availability of the provider manual online. By this fall, course participants can access the full manual in user-friendly HTML, made



even more valuable through embedded videos, useful links, and simple feedback loops. In addition, the online platform will allow the manual to be updated on an ongoing basis, rather than yearly as it has been in the past.

Our goal is to make the CALS website a robust, responsive and relevant resource to rural emergency providers across the country.

Watch your email for updates on the new site's debut!

### Coordinator Update!

If you haven't taught or taken a course for a while, there's a good chance you don't know our newest course coordinators.

In recent months, **Jean Thompson**, **Sharon Lukach**, and **Mickey Erickson** have joined existing coordinators **Joe Martinez** and **Andrew Hebdon** to complete our team.

Each one brings great experience in emergency medical training and course management. We're thrilled to have them all on board!



RURAL EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL EDUCATION  
*Comprehensive Advanced Life Support*

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**Don't Forget!**  
*CALS Courses are now being scheduled for 2011-2012!*  
**Encourage your training coordinator to book course dates soon!**