



# Distinguished Alumna

Beverly Khnie Philip, MD '73

**B**everly Khnie Philip, MD '73 is professor of anaesthesia at Harvard University and founding director of the Day Surgery Unit at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Dr. Philip is the current vice president for scientific affairs of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. The focus of her clinical, teaching, research, and administrative contributions are in the field of ambulatory anesthesia.

Philip was born in Manhattan to parents who immigrated to the United States as adults around World War II. Their goal for their children was the American dream—success through education and hard work. The elder of two daughters, Philip went to PS 75 and Hunter College High School in Manhattan, and continued her all-public education at Queens College CUNY, where she majored in biology and informally minored in phys ed. Her “minor” experience at Queens introduced her to the sports that have enlivened her life.

Public education was the only affordable option for her medical education, and, accepted to all the New York state schools, Philip chose SUNY Upstate Medical University. At Upstate, she met a group of like-minded young adults who were the “back-of-the-room crowd” during medical school lectures. They formed long-term friendships and camaraderie, helping each other to make their medical education and themselves successful. At Upstate, she also met the love of her life — her classmate James Philip, MEE, MD '73. They married in their third year, and she continues to lean on his strength, smarts, and class.

Beverly and Jim both chose to specialize in anesthesiology. Jim had come to Upstate with a master's in electrical engineering from Cornell, planning to combine the two fields to develop new science and technology. Beverly chose anesthesiology because of the role models she met in that SUNY Upstate department—Drs. Peter Byles, Alan Grogono, Peter Kane, Gabor Racz—who she considered both professionally and personally outstanding.

After graduating from Upstate, Beverly and Jim moved to Boston for training. They were both accepted for one-year medicine internships at New England Deaconess Hospital, the teaching hospital for the Joslin and Lahey Clinics. Braving convention, they applied to the same residency program in anesthesiology. Dr. Leroy Vandam, professor and anesthesiology chair at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital of Harvard Medical School, saw their individual potentials and accepted

both for the same program year. They have become the only married couple who are both full professors of Anaesthesia at Harvard.

Beverly Philip's academic career has been the creation, development, and expansion of ambulatory anesthesia in the United States and worldwide. In 1980, she saw the need for an organized ambulatory surgery program for the newly-formed Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH), and established the Day Surgery Unit there. She remained the unit's active medical director until 2008. Her experience in administrative leadership began with writing the medical policies for the program, covering preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care. These policies have been updated and advanced continually, with the goal of innovative, effective, provider- and patient- friendly service. The BWH Day Surgery Unit is a national and international leader in the field.

Ambulatory anesthesia is her personal clinical practice as well. Philip continues to work in the operating room, personally providing care for her patients, so that they return to normal as soon as possible and can return to life as usual. It's one of her real pleasures to hear, multiple times every working day, her patients clearly say “Thank you” when they awaken in the operating room.

In the early years of the BWH program, Philip developed educational programs for residents, highlighting the pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics that underpin her subspecialty. Ambulatory anesthesia requires a high level of technical expertise and efficiency in clinical anesthesia management, coupled with a caring, team-based, patient-centered approach. The other major focus of ambulatory anesthesia is leadership and management. Philip developed fellowship-level training in operating room administration that includes leadership, negotiation, business management, efficiency, and quality improvement.

In 1984, Philip began a research program in ambulatory anesthesia. Her investigations included identifying the most appropriate drugs for ambulatory anesthesia practice, studying hemodynamic and respiratory responses both during anesthesia and in the early postoperative period, subjective and objective psychomotor recovery, and patient satisfaction with anesthetic techniques. Identifying the outcomes of these agents enabled research about the value obtained for the cost spent [cost effectiveness].

She's worked with the development of every modern anesthesia drug relevant to her subspecialty, garnering a total of 37 research funding grants from multiple sources.

Built on this clinical, administrative and research expertise, Dr. Philip has published and spoken widely. Her CV lists 48 peer-reviewed papers, 17 review articles and 38 peer-reviewed short communications, letters and case reports. She's edited seven books and wrote 38 book chapters, 43 other reviews and clinical communications, and 17 non-print publications, as well as media interviews. She has developed and led international preceptorship and train-the-trainer courses for anesthesiologists and multidisciplinary professionals about how to organize, provide and teach ambulatory surgical practice. Philip has given more than 700 invited lectures and presentations on ambulatory anesthesia and other professional topics, nationally and around the globe.

Philip is a founding member of the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia, which has become the international leader advancing the subspecialty's scientific progress and education, and is a past president of that society, a presenter of the keynote Frontiers Lecture, and has received its distinguished service award. She also served 10 years on the Board of Directors of FASA, the pioneering predecessor of the Ambulatory Surgery Center Association. Philip has served on the standards writing groups of the Joint Commission and the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. As an outgrowth of these activities, Philip developed expertise and is making ongoing contribution to national anesthesiology policy related to quality and regulatory issues. She was a founding participant of the CMS Advisory Panel on Ambulatory Payment Classification Groups that helped launch the Medicare ambulatory prospective payment system. Currently, Philip is president of the International Association for Ambulatory Surgery (IAAS), a multi-disciplinary, multi-national organization based in the EU that promotes the benefits of ambulatory surgery on six continents.

Philip has also been active in organizational leadership in anesthesiology as a whole. She is a past president of the Massachusetts Society of Anesthesiologists. Her leadership service with the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), has included the ASA Board of Directors representing Massachusetts, Chair of



**Above: Dr. Beverly Philip advocating for Anesthesiology in Washington. Right: Drs. Beverly and Jim Philip at a BWH Anesthesiology Department holiday party.**



the ASA Quality Management and Departmental Administration Committee, Chair of the ASA Ambulatory Surgical Care Committee, and she was Chair of the ASA Annual Meeting for 2009. Currently, Philip is ASA's elected vice president for scientific affairs, with responsibility for all of the educational and scientific activities of the 52,000+ member organization. She facilitates the professional activities of more than 700 ASA members who serve on the society's committees and editorial boards, advancing the specialty's clinical care, subspecialty practice, research and education, and publications, as well as the program for the 14,000-attendee annual meeting.

But that's all “just work.” Philip learned to ski while at Upstate, and she has been a ski patroller since then. She and Jim are current senior members of the National Ski Patrol, telemark skiing at Bromley Mountain, Vermont. They are also certified inline skating instructors, and have scuba dived together since medical school. Their other spare time together is occupied with ocean kayaking, trekking, and dancing. They have two married sons and the family remains close. Noah Philip, MD, is a psychiatrist and associate professor at Brown University, where his federally-funded laboratory uses non-invasive brain stimulation and functional neuroimaging to develop next generation treatments for posttraumatic stress disorder and depression. He has two creative, curious children. Benjamin Philip, PhD, is a neuroscientist and instructor of occupational therapy at Washington University in St. Louis, where his laboratory studies the brain mechanism of handedness and how to use it to aid rehabilitation of patients who injure their dominant hands. Under the pen name Benjamin C. Kinney, he has published more than 10 science fiction and fantasy short stories, and is a Hugo Award finalist as assistant editor of the science fiction audio magazine Escape Pod.

*Bio submitted by Dr. Khnie Philip*