

SPECIAL ODYSSEY 2011 EDITION

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October 2011

Joint Southern California STTI Chapters

The annual Regional Conference (Odyssey), "Nursing in Transition: A Call to Action" took place on Thursday and Friday, October 20 & 21, 2011 at the Sheraton Hotel, Cerritos, California.

Gwen Sherwood's address, "Forging a new mindset in quality and safety: A call to action," discussed the need to improve patient care outcomes by instituting new educational paradigms emphasizing the use of teamwork and collaboration to deliver patient-centered care. Nursing care needs to be evidenced-based by applying continuous quality improvement strategies from a safety systems perspective, with increased use of informatics for documentation and decision support.

Louise Selanders is an internationally recognized nurse historian who passionately believes that the history of nursing offers answers to current and future issues of nursing education, practice and research. She seeks to accurately identify the contributions of Florence Nightingale in the areas of nursing theory, leadership, and the philosophical development of the profession. Her address, "'Nursing's call to action: Heeding Nightingale's enduring message," kept the audience spellbound.



Gwen Sherwood PhD RN FAAN, Thursday keynote speaker from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Louise Selanders EdD, RN FAAN, Friday keynote speaker from Michigan State Univ.



"It may seem a strange principle to enunciate as the very first requirement in a hospital that it should do the sick no harm."

Florence Nightingale

2011 Gamma Alpha Odyssey Poster Presenters



Left: Ellen D'Errico, "Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Youth Alternative Solutions Program"

Right: Asma Taha, "Global outreach course in undergraduate nursing education"



Left: Patti Radovich and the LLU nurse research group, "The impact of flexible visiting hours on nurse job satisfaction in the surgical ICU"

Right: Delores Wright and Kathie Ingram, "Simulated home visits for PHN Education"



2011 Odyssey Podium Presenter: Jan Nick PhD, RNC-OB, CNE, ANEF

"Using Open Access to Increase Evidence-Based Practice in Paraguay"



KUDOS to all Gamma Alpha presenters! You did our chapter proud!

GAMMA ALPHA SPONSORS STUDENTS TO ATTEND 2011 CONFERENCE

Our chapter leadership believes strongly in the importance of mentoring the next generation of nurses. One way to do this is to sponsor students to attend professional conferences such as Odyssey. With the high cost of tuition and books, it is hard for students to fit the cost of registration fees into their already tight budgets. This year four students were selected for sponsorship. Each one expressed the deepest appreciation for having the opportunity to attend such a high quality event. They were able to network with other students and seasoned nurses. It was an unforgettable experience! We hope to raise funds to send even more students to next year's conference. Keeping your membership active helps us accomplish this goal!



Left: Pauline Roces RN to BS student

Right: Tiffany Marshall, undergraduate nursing student, junior year



Left: Lilibeth Fabra, Graduate student



Right: Christine Tedjasukmana, sophomore year nursing student

CONFERENCE SCENES: NETWORKING, LEARNING, INSPIRATION, POSTER AWARDS, GOOD FOOD!



A big THANK YOU to Dean Marilyn Herrmann for sponsoring Jan Michaelis' work time to attend the conference to help us with the technology set-up and trouble shooting and for purchasing exhibitor space for both days of the conference.

GAMMA ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS

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We're on the web!

www.llu.edu/nursing/gamma-alpha

HELP WANTED!

Do you desire to take a more active part in our chapter? Do you wish to hone your leadership skills? We invite you to consider the positions below:

Newsletter and communications

Leadership succession committee

Governance Committee members

Board member positions needed for next year (elected in April 2012)

- Treasurer
- President Elect
- Vice President
- 1st year faculty counselor

Contact: Ellen D'Errico at: ederrico@llu.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS—SAVE THE DATE

October 29-November 3, 2011—Sigma Theta Tau International Biennium Convention, Grapevine, Texas

November 10, 2011—Gamma Alpha Chapter Board Meeting, West Hall 12-1PM

December 8, 2011—Gamma Alpha Chapter Board Meeting, West Hall 12-1PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

February, 2012—“Film Night” supper, fellowship and discussion, Date TBA

March, 2012—Gamma Alpha Invitational Tea, Date TBA

April, 2012—Gamma Alpha Annual Business Meeting, Date TBA

June 6, 2012—Gamma Alpha Induction Ceremony, 4:30-5:45PM

(Basic Sciences 1st Floor Amphitheater)

