

Sigma Theta Tau

Gamma Alpha Chapter News

Volume 31 Issue 3

"Championing Nursing Excellence"

Nov. 2012

ODYSSEY SPECIAL EDITION

17th Annual SOCAL Regional Chapters Research and Innovation Conference—"Give Back to Move Forward"



This year's conference was at the Double Tree Hotel in Ontario, CA. There was record attendance—500 registrants over both days of the conference!

November 1 & 2, 2012—Odyssey was an overwhelming success this year. Gamma Alpha was well represented in both attendees, poster presentations and winners! Our chapter sponsored 10 LLU students to attend. There were 47 posters and 15 podium presentations. Keynote speakers were of the highest quality. There was a record number of students participating in the program. It is great to see the researchers and innovators of the future!



L—Dr.
Susanne
Prevost,
President
STTI

R— Dr.
Prevost
answering
ques-
tions of
attendees



Dr. Prevost's address—"Give Back to Move Forward: A Call to Action" centered upon the privilege we have in doing nursing work. Our profession is in demand, offers us a good way to earn a living, and provides us unlimited opportunities to help others every day in the workplace and in our communities. Each of us needs to increase our span of influence to help improve the health of people locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. STTI provides ways for us to do this via initiatives such as the STTI Foundation, Global initiatives, Leadership Academies, and other philanthropy.

Ten students sponsored by Gamma Alpha To attend 2012 “Odyssey”



L—
undergradu-
ates Erin
Banks, Eri
Kuromoto



R—
undergradu-
ates Cynthia
Tan, Erica
Llamas

During orientation week, students were invited to sign up at the ‘Get to know Gamma Alpha’ information table to be considered for sponsorship by the Gamma Alpha Chapter. Names were chosen at random for the selected number of slots available. The chapter also sponsored two new inductees to attend. The convention was “in our own back yard” this year, therefore, we wanted to send as many students as our budget would allow. The students LOVED this conference. For most of the undergraduates, this was the first professional nursing conference they had ever attended.



Sponsored undergraduates L—R: Christine Tedjasukmana, Pam Albaugh, Deborah Premus. Students expressed great appreciation for the opportunity to attend. One student wrote, “Thank you for sending me to this conference. I learned so much! I was amazed at all the wonderful projects nurses are involved in!”



L—DNP student Debbie
Bobst (sponsored new
inductee)

R—Lisa Highton, Joana
Shedd (LLU grad
students, and Alycia
Bristol (LLU grad stu-
dents and sponsored
new inductee).



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS PRESENT THEIR EXPERIENCES AND WISDOM



Thursday afternoon keynote speaker: Deborah Velez, GNP, MN, PACT Coordinator, Veterans Administration, San Diego. Her inspiring talk centered on the work being done with returning veterans and how nurses are helping wounded warriors with care coordination so they can put their lives back together. She also talked about the American Nurses Project, an inspirational tribute to nurses in every area of specialty. Nurses are truly, “everyday heroes.” For more information click on:

<http://americannurseproject.com/about/>

Right—Linnea Axman DrPH, FAANP, faculty at Cal State University San Marcos gave the keynote on Friday morning. She talked about the development of a nurse run clinic that reaches out to the uninsured and underserved, and how CSU San Marcos students participate.



Left—Friday afternoon’s keynote address was by Colleen Lener, “Leadership and Autonomy in a Nurse Managed Clinic.”

Gamma Alpha Members Participate!



Eileen Fry-Bowers RN, PhD, JHD, CPNP (with Sally Maliski, PhD, RN) won a **First Place** poster award for the research category. Her poster is entitled, "Health Literacy as a Predictor of Interactions with Providers."



Patricia Radovich, RN, MSN, PhD (c), CNS, FCCM and Ellen D'Errico RN, PhD, NEA-BC won a **Third Place** poster award for the research category. Their poster was entitled, "Participation in a Research Collaborative: One Site's Experience."



Michelle Ballou, RN, MS and Asma Taha RN, CPNP, PhD poster was accepted for presentation and was entitled, "Patient Registries: Relevance for Advanced Practice Nurses."

Other highlights



L—Gamma Alpha members with Dr. Prevost: Lana Kanacki, Nancy Sarpy, Eileen Fry-Bowers, Eva Miller, Dr. Provost, Ellen D'Errico, Jan Nick, Asma Taha, Debbie Premus (sponsored student). R—BIG turnout from area schools this year. The young students infused the conference with energy and enthusiasm! Below—Lots of networking opportunities!



Next year Odyssey will be in San Diego. We want to send students next year. Keeping your dues up-to-date enables us to have the resources to send students to this career enhancing, TOP QUALITY conference. Renew your dues today!

See you in San Diego Next Year!



Upcoming Events

December 4, 2012 12Noon-1PM—Gamma Alpha Board Meeting, West Hall Rm. 1123

December 27, 2012 8AM-4PM Pasadena, CA—Decorate the nurses float— "Healing Places "

February 15, 2013 12Noon-1PM "Publish Don 't Perish " Webinar, West Hall (lunch served)

March, 2013—Gamma Alpha Invitational Tea (Date TBA)

April, 2013—Annual Business Meeting, West Hall (Date TBA, supper meeting)

May 9, 2013—Research Day LLUMC

June 12, 2013, 4:30-5:45 PM—Gamma Alpha Induction Ceremony

2012-2013 Gamma Alpha Board Members

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PRESIDENT ELECT

Vacant

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VICE PRESIDENT ELECT

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Peggy Burns—2nd year faculty counselor

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