



# Gamma Alpha Chapter Newsletter

Volume 36 Issue I

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## Inside this issue:

<i>June Induction</i>	I
<i>New Logo</i>	I
<i>Biennium &amp; New Call to Action</i>	2
<i>Believe Walk</i>	2
<i>2019 Odyssey</i>	3
<i>BANI Funds raised</i>	3
<i>Foster Adolescent Christmas Gift Drive</i>	4

## 43rd Annual Induction Ceremony



Seventy-one students eligible for membership in STTI accepted their invitation and were inducted June 13, 2019. That is an 83% acceptance rate! Over 300 friends and family watched as our newest Gamma Alpha Chapter members proudly signed the membership book. The keynote speaker was Dr. Barbara A. Anderson DrPH, CNM, FACNM, FAAN. She provided an inspiring message about health disparities. Congratulations to all!

## New Look for STTI Logo

Sigma Theta Tau International has a new look! See the new logo at the top of this newsletter. The trend now is to refer to our honor society as "Sigma." It rolls easily off the tongue. STTI leadership engaged marketing experts to study the society's image by sending out questionnaires and forming focus groups. The official change was announced at this year's 44th Biennium held in Washington D.C. Many long-time members are excited about the change. Even Sigma's email is updated.

The new one is: [sigma@sigmanursing.org](mailto:sigma@sigmanursing.org)

There is a "grace" period where promotional and other items with the old logo may be used. Within two years, the old logo should be completely retired.

*"Leadership is an action, not  
a position."*

*Donald McGannon*

## 45th Biennium News—New leaders, Call to action



Our Sigma President for the next Biennium is Richard Ricciardi PhD CRNP FFANP FAAN, a professor at the George Washington University School of Nursing. Dr. Ricciardi's call to action is "Infuse Joy."



Our new call to action is certainly something around which nurses can rally. With so much talk about burn-out, compassion fatigue and stress, learning how to infuse joy into our work is essential. It would do us good to remember why we went into nursing in the first place, and rekindle that commitment. It is also noteworthy to know that the year 2020 is the year of the nurse and nurse midwife. Nurses are essential to the health of the world's people.

## 12th Annual Believe & Walk for a Cure

The Believe Walk that raises money for patient care support in the Inland Empire is in its 12th year. Gamma Alpha members have participated every year! This inspirational event is held in downtown Redlands, CA and has grown every year. They now have to cap off participants at 10,000! Gamma Alpha members love participating in this wonderful event. Note our newest prospective Gamma Alpha member, little Evelinh Truax, daughter of Fay and Bill Truax. She is the cutest!



## 25th Annual SOCAL Region 2 Odyssey Conference

On October 10 & 11, 2019 Gamma Alpha Chapter of STTI joined with 14 other chapters to present the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Odyssey Research conference for nursing at the Doubletree Inn in Ontario, CA. Over 200 nurses and students attended this valuable educational conference one or both days to learn from the presentations and network with colleagues. Our school was well represented at this important conference.

### Podium presentations:

Brandie Richards and Dr. Shirley Bristol presented on Antibiotic stewardship: Decreasing antibiotic overuse.

Dr. Zelne Zamora presented on Reducing free water volumes using standardized Med Practices.

Dr. Lisa Roberts did a podium presentation on Fostering Undergraduate Nursing Research.



### Poster presentation:

Ramesh Kelly, recent Master's degree graduate won a second place award in the innovative poster division for his poster entitled, Fall Reduction on a Neurosurgical Step-Down Unit.

Nancy Sarpy, Jan Nick—planning committee

Zelne Zamora—Podium Presenter

Eight students were sponsored by the chapter to attend.

## Successful Fundraiser for Bangladesh Adventist Nursing

BANI (Bangladesh Adventist Nursing Institute) reached out to LLUSN and Gamma Alpha Chapter to help with the acquisition of critical supplies, equipment and books needed to equip their skills lab. Gamma Alpha Chapter matched \$500 to the fundraising efforts among faculty/students at the LLU school of nursing. Total raised was \$2400! Examples of items purchased were reference books, Maternal-Child birth simulators, human torso models, and several anatomy teaching models such as brain, heart, cell, urinary systems, just to name a few. Dr. Marian Llaguno was able to take all the items with her when she served in this mission last December.





#### **GAMMA ALPHA BOARD MEMBERS**

President—Lisa Roberts  
President Elect—Karen Ripley  
Past President—Iris Mamier  
Secretary—Michelle Ballou  
Treasurer—Janet Donnelly  
Counselors—Kimberly Hansen, Lisa Hansen  
Governance Chair—Patricia Radovich  
Leadership Succession Chair—Anne Berit Petersen  
Governance Committee members—Erin Heim, Kathi Wild  
Leadership Succession Committee members—Allison Bell, Lena Dailey  
Membership Ambassador—Ellen D'Errico



*An honor to belong. A benefit to join*

**We're on the web!**

**[www.sigmanursing.org](http://www.sigmanursing.org)**

#### **Upcoming Events**

Transitional Luncheon for Senior Nursing Students: January, 2020

Gamma Alpha Invitational Tea—February 26, 2020 West Hall

Annual Business Meeting—April 20, 2020 West Hall 5-7PM

LLUH Nursing Research and EBP Day—May 14, 2020 Wong Kerlee

44th Induction Ceremony—June 11, 2020 Damazo Auditorium

31st Annual International Nursing Research Congress—July 23-27, 2020  
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

I am committed to excellence

I change lives and advance  
healthcare

I am the future of nursing

I am a Sigma Nurse!

## **Foster Youth Christmas Gift Drive**



Gamma Alpha Chapter members have generously provided gifts geared for adolescent foster youth. This is a project we have done for several years now. This year our donations were presented to the Children's Fund of San Bernardino. This is the time of year for giving, and many toy drives are operated by many wonderful organizations. However, many of these drives attract gifts and toys for children. Adolescents have special needs, especially adolescent boys. We focused on this sometimes forgotten population of young people. Donated goods were worth approximately \$800. Board members brought the items to the Children's fund December 14, 2019 in plenty of time for Christmas!