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Chapter Officers and Leaders

President: Alison Riggs, MSN, RN, ONC
President Elect: Jennifer Cooper, MSN, RN
Vice President: Patricia Esslin, MSN, RN, CNS, CNE
Secretary: Lidia Pusnik, BSN, RN
Treasurer: Pam Cone, PhD, RN
Governance Chair/ Counselor: Rose Liegler, PhD, RN
Leadership Succession Chair: Marilyn Klakovich, DNSc, RN, NEA-BC
Fund Raising Chair: Kathleen Van Allen, MSN, RN, CPN
Immediate Past President: Lourdes Salandanan, MSN RN-BC, FNP
Graduate Student Intern: Marcia Harris Luna, FNP-C, CPNP
Student Leadership Intern: Lauren Warner
Newsletter: Erin Warner, BSN, RN

Iota Sigma’s 25th Anniversary…Celebrating A Quarter Century
of promoting scholarship, leadership and service!
We hope you had a good summer and Iota Sigma is anticipating a busy and productive Fall season and we hope you will be able to join us in our activities!

First of all we are pleased to welcome a new member to the Board who is Lauren Warner, undergraduate student intern, who will be with us until she graduates this December. We have been fortunate to have her sister, Erin, as our undergraduate intern for the past year and now that she is an RN is staying on our Board to help coordinate our newsletters for which we are very grateful.

This Fall along with several other chapters we are sponsoring the Odyssey Research Conference on November 1 and 2, 2012 at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario, Ca. This should be a very excellent program and among other offerings will feature Suzanne Prevost as a speaker who is the President of STTI this year. You were sent an email recently with a registration form for the conference and we hope to see you there!

On Monday, November 12 we will be hosting a member reunion evening at APU from 5-7 PM. Last Spring we had our first get-together and want to repeat it. There will be food, networking and professional interactions and so come and join us and get to know your fellow Iota Sigma members. Prior to the reunion we will be having a guest named Juli McGowan Boit who will be speaking on Global Health. She previously was given the Community Award by Iota Sigma for her work. The events will be held in the VIP Room at Felix Event Center.

Once again this year Iota Sigma will be participating in the Operation Christmas Child program that is organized by Samaritan’s Purse. This organization collects shoe boxes filled with many every-day items for children in third world countries who are in need of school supplies, toys and other essentials. You are asked to join and submit a shoebox and our member Kathy Van Allen takes care of the delivery. A lovely way to help some celebrate the holiday season! Watch your email for details!

Last, but certainly not least, Iota Sigma will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary as a chapter in 2013 and we are proud to have achieved that milestone. Throughout the year we will be having events and activities to acknowledge our past and present. Once again we invite you to join us and help us to make it a successful year and make us a better and better chapter.

Thank you.
Report from The “Land Down Under”

STTI International Nursing Research Congress (INRC), Brisbane, Australia

By: Marilyn Klakovich, DNSc., RN, NEA-BC

My journey started a few days prior to the conference with a trip to Sydney, Australia. I was invited along with other faculty and nurse researchers from the United States to visit the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) to attend a special session titled “Collaborations and Partnerships: The Future for Health.” This project is a joint venture with the Faculty of Health at UTS and the School of Nursing at Johns Hopkins University (JHU). Renee Pozza, PhD, CNS, FNP, RN, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Anna Marie Hefner, MSN, MAEd, CPNP, RN, Director of Academic Support also attended to represent the School of Nursing at Azusa Pacific University and Iota Sigma.

UTS has a special department for Nursing, Midwifery, and Health with Centers that focus on Cardiovascular and Chronic Care; Health Services Management; and Midwifery, Child and Family Health. In addition, they are a World Health Organization (WHO) collaborating center for Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Development. [http://www.nmh.uts.edu.au/](http://www.nmh.uts.edu.au/

Following short presentations on research initiatives and strategic directions for the schools of nursing in attendance (Renee Pozza presented on behalf of APU) and research presentations by UTS and JHU faculty and students, we had an opportunity to tour the skills lab at UTS and spent the afternoon in discussion about the special challenges faced by nurse educators and researchers in Australia. These include such things as huge class sizes (about 500 per lecture class), inability to apply simulation hours toward clinical time, and challenges and restrictions when doing research with indigenous groups. UTS reported that they have a Distinguished Scholars program for visiting faculty and a Global Student Exchange. One of the faculty at UTS who is also the Editor of the Journal of Clinical Nursing published by Oxford University, Debra Jackson, reported on the need for patients’ voices to be heard in our research. She reported that in the UK, funding organizations require that consumers be involved in the conception and design of research projects in order to be funded. In addition, there was a special session about World Health Organization Activities at UTS and JHU with a discussion of ways to encourage collaboration with others. JHU reported that they have a leadership development program for faculty from small nations. Our discussion continued at a reception that evening where we were joined by other faculty, students, and program administrators.

See photo above for group attendance at Sydney event

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Report from the “Land Down Under,” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Of special note is that out of 14 nurse researchers to be inducted in the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame at the INRC in Brisbane, 6 were in attendance at this special meeting in Sydney (5 from Johns Hopkins and 1 from UTS). I felt so honored to be there to learn more about the outstanding work they have done and will be doing in the future. Please click on link below for more information.

http://www.nursingsociety.org/Media/Pages/NRHOF_Inductees.aspx

My INRC experience began the day before the congress started. In the shuttle to my hotel, I met a young nurse from Seoul, South Korea who was attending her first international conference. She was so excited and pleased to meet someone who would be there. We reconnected several times throughout the coming week, and I now have a new friend and colleague. In addition, I was asked to present the First Time Attendee session. This gave me an opportunity to meet nurses from many different countries who were excited to be attending this important research conference for the first time.

Pat Thompson, CEO of STTI 2nd from left
Hester Klopper, President Elect of STTI 4th from left with international attendees at INRC welcome reception

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
Report from the “Land Down Under,” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Iota Sigma had twelve members who presented their work at the Congress.

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<td>Patricia Frohock Hanes, PhD, MSN, MAEd, RN, CNE</td>
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<td>Anna Marie Hefner, RN, MSN, MaEd, CPNP; Julia Pusztai, RN, BSN, MSN; Catherine Heinlein*, EdD, RN, PHN, RD, CDE; Renee Pozza, RN, MSN, CNS, CFNP; and Tarek Hassanein, MD, FACP, FACG</td>
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<td>Marilyn Klakovich, DNSc, RN, NEA-BC</td>
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<td>Rosemary Mwangi RN, BS, MSN (see Rosemary’s highlights below)</td>
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<td>Geneva Oaks, PhD</td>
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<td>Erlinda Castro Palaganas+, PhD, RN; Amelia B. Rosales, PhD, RN; and Carmelita Dela Cruz Divinagracia, PhD, RN</td>
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<td>Julia Pusztai, RN, BSN, MSN; Catherine Heinlein*, EdD, RN, PHN, RD, CDE; and Anna Marie Hefner, RN, MSN, MaEd, CPNP</td>
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<td>Josefina A. Tuazon+, RN, BSN, MN, DrPH and Joan Valera, RN, BSN, MPH</td>
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<td>Community Awareness: Nutritional Patterns</td>
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<td>Student and Faculty Collaboration: Development of a Practicum Mentorship Model</td>
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<td>Kenyan Women Living with HIV/AIDS: A Mixed Method Study</td>
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<td>The Lived Experience of Struggling Through a Difficult Time for Women Survivors of the Rwandan Genocide</td>
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<td>Nurse Licensure Examination Performance of Graduates of Philippine Colleges of Nursing in the Philippines: Policy Implications</td>
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<td>Community-Based Wellness Center: Getting People to Move</td>
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<td>Assessing Core Competencies of Senior Nursing Students and Faculty as Input to Philippine Competency-Based Education</td>
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*Unable to attend because of study abroad trip with students in India; +Iota Sigma members in Philippines (see special report from EC Palaganas on p. 8 of this newsletter).

See photos on p. 6 of APU/Iota Sigma presenters

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
In addition to attending plenary sessions, multiple presentations, and poster sessions, I attended the International Induction and Welcome Reception, and the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame Induction and reception.

It was an amazing experience to have opportunities to hear about research and evidence-based projects presented by researchers from 40 different countries. There were almost 800 nurses at this event, and the opportunities to network were boundless! I hope to see many more of our Iota Sigma members at the 24th International Nursing Research Congress in Prague, Czech Republic July 22-26, 2013 to share in an amazing experience.

Note: To read the daily highlights of this

http://www.nursingsociety.org/STTIEvents/ResearchCongress/Pages/2012_23_INRC_home.aspx
INRC Highlights

By: Rosemary Mwangi, RN, BS, MSN, Iota Sigma Member

My conference highlights were meeting Dr. Holzemer and Dr. Greeff, both Hall of Fame honorees. They are part of the scholars who developed the instrument I am using to measure the stigma perceptions, and it was an honor and to have had them among those who attended my presentation. Dr. Greeff suggested that when I am done with the dissertation she would wants us to compare a similar South Africa study with my Kenyan findings. I had no prior knowledge they were going to be at the conference!

I also found it was amazing how much Aussies walk and how safe it felt to walk the streets in Brisbane even late into the evenings, but it was also shocking to observe how much smoking happened in public places and in general many people seemed to be smokers. It was interesting and exciting to see the news this week on Australia: The world's tobacco giants have failed to get an Australian court to overturn a law banning branding on cigarette packets!

I had a most wonderful time and was able to visit a friend in Perth and also be in Sydney two days. I have never seen birds as magnificently beautiful as those ones I saw in the Zoo both in Brisbane and Sydney! I guess we could keep on going about what this conference added to our professional and personal growth!

Rosemary Mwangi on right
An “Inspiring” Special Report
on the STTI International Nursing Research Congress
By: EC Palaganas, Iota Sigma Member

If there is one word I would use to describe my participation in the 23rd International Nursing Research Congress, it is nothing but INSPIRING! From the first to the last day, I never left the convention centre except when the sessions for the day were officially over. There were many sessions to attend and learn from, more so, I volunteered to moderate a session per day of the congress not only in exchange for 5 koala/kangaroo key chains but for the honor of moderating in a STTI congress and the learning experience.

I have many inspiring stories to share from my participation in the research congress. The most INSPIRING for me however, was the session on the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame, especially with the session where they were asked to share their insights and perspectives on various topics of interest. While listening to their stories and seemingly walking with them on their journeys, there was an inner energy from within…an inner voice whispering challenges to what a researcher like me can also do. A vision of myself and four colleagues from the Philippine Nursing Research Society Inc. which we founded 5 years ago, starts to unfold. Thank you for being excellent role models and for the inspiration you provide to those who will come after you…the next generation of nurse scientists to emulate and soar to greater heights.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9
Witnessing colleagues from around the globe being inducted as members to the STTI during the International Induction Ceremony brought back memories when I had mine. And I got more excited when I met our former Iota Sigma President, Dr. Marilyn Klakovich who was the inducting officer then at the Azusa Pacific University. With the reminiscing came the challenge that as a member of STTI, there are so many opportunities yet to maximize and so many expectations from me still to deliver. One thing I realized quite late is the opportunity to mingle with other Iota Sigma members who attended the Congress.

One of the things I like in attending activities like this, be it local, regional, national or international level, is the great opportunity for networking. Indeed I found new friends and caught up with “old” friends from various countries. Interestingly, it was great networking with my co-Filipino delegates from various parts of the USA. Indeed an INSPIRING experience…inspiring to mingle and learn from novice to expert nurse researchers, academicians and practitioners. I found it truly inspiring to listen to renowned nurse leaders. I thank Dr. Suzanne S. Prevost, for her simplicity and for her vision in guiding STTI toward attaining Vision 2020 for a global society. I get challenged every time I hear her say, “Give Back to Move Forward.” Listening to her makes me feel I belong to the society…though I am from a not so developed country, I feel the connection. I particularly enjoyed her participatory summing up of the congress during the closing ceremony. I also derived inspiration from Dr. Patricia Thompson’s support in our society’s vision as our CEO; Dr. Tracey McDonald, one of the plenary speakers, for reminding what power is all about and how it should be used towards getting things done and instituting structural changes for more equitable health services. More inspiring though was listening to my colleagues from various parts of the world - novice to experts - as they humbly shared their work. I am particularly drawn to colleagues whose work focuses on indigenous peoples and women, and on highly marginalized members of society. I have great respect for colleagues doing work for these sectors.

Brisbane is such a beautiful place to hold an inspiring congress. The next Congress in Prague is something to look forward to…would be a dream come true…as all STTI Congresses are.

Thank you, Iota Sigma, for keeping me in the loop. I know I have much more to give and will continue to do my share in this part of the universe.
I was very pleased and honored to attend my first Sigma Theta Tau International Leadership Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana this September 20-22. The focus of this conference was “Nursing Leadership: Impact at Every Level”. It was amazing and inspiring to see the work that our colleagues have done as nursing leaders. Two poster presentations that stood out for me were work that is being done to decrease ageism in our aging population by utilizing a health fair to involve nursing students in activities with very active senior citizens. Ageism is something that unfortunately is alive and well with our aging population. Another poster presentation used the analogy of baking a cake to demystify and explain in very simple terms the process of nursing research as a means of encouraging more nursing research.

I enjoyed very much attending the leadership sessions, which were personalized to meet the needs of the various nursing leadership roles: student track, academic track, and clinical track. Since I am new to the faculty role, I chose the academic track and was very excited to learn about current issues in academia, such as how to deal with incivility in the academic setting and the increasing role of simulation equipment for nursing education.

The general sessions were uplifting and informative as well. I believe we were all inspired and moved by the talk that Dr. Loretta Sweet Jemmott* gave describing her journey from her humble roots, battling poverty and racism to her success as a professor and nurse researcher. Her message was to respond to challenges in our lives and careers with an “I can” attitude and to understand that “If it’s going to be, it’s up to me.”

I was also very moved by the Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters tour. Viewing all of the nursing memorabilia and especially the photos of the founders of STTI and Florence Nightengale, renewed my spirit and I left Indianapolis feeling pride, honor and humility knowing that I have a long journey ahead of me to fulfill my mission as a nurse and servant of God.

*Dr. Loretta Sweet Jemmott was the keynote speaker at our APU/Iota Sigma Annual Research Symposium in 2008.
Iota Sigma Fall Induction

By: Patricia Esslin, MSN, RN, CNS, CNE

Hi everyone!

It is that time of year again, the Iota Sigma Fall Induction Ceremony. The induction of eligible students and community members is always a special and honored time of reflection. The details are as follows:

**Date:** December 14, 2012

**Arrive** 7:30 AM

**Time:** 7:50-8:40 AM [Welcome and Banquet Breakfast]

8:45-10:15 AM [Induction ceremony]

**Location:** East Campus - Upper Turner Campus Center

**Cost:** $30 per person (Inductees and guests)
The Phyllis Esslinger Endowment Scholarship

Offered by Iota Sigma Chapter of STTI

By: Pam Cone, PhD, RN

Every fall semester at the Azusa Pacific University School of Nursing, the Iota Sigma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International honor society offers a scholarship to chapter members and new inductees. The purpose of this annual award is to recognize nursing students who contribute to the ongoing goals of STTI – Iota Sigma by supporting our California nursing heritage. The $500 to $1500 scholarship is awarded to one or more members or inductees who meet the eligibility criteria and who agree to contribute to the chapter by actively promoting the Western Conservancy of Nursing History by choosing one of the suggested options.

In order to be eligible for the scholarship, the nursing student must be:

1) A current nursing student at APU-SON with the following stipulations:
   a. Enrolled in the Baccalaureate program with at least a 3.5 GPA
   b. Enrolled in a Higher Degree program with at least a 3.5 GPA
2) A member or inductee of STTI – Iota Sigma
3) Provide a letter of endorsement and support for the application

The student must also provide a statement of personal and professional goals in nursing, one on financial need, and one on planned involvement in the Iota Sigma Chapter of STTI. In addition, the nursing student needs to complete the Scholarship Application (available on request from the School of Nursing office), and, if requested, agree to meet the Scholarship Committee for a personal interview.

Those who receive a Phyllis Esslinger Endowment Scholarship Award are expected to promote the heritage of California Nursing in one of the following ways:

1) Writes an original research based paper on some aspect or person in the history of California nursing (or)
2) Contributed a collection of historical documents, items, or memorabilia to the Western Conservancy of Nursing History that she or he discovers and catalogues (or)
3) Works as a Heritage Intern for the Conservancy program for 30 hours over a semester or an academic year.

Phyllis Esslinger is a Professor Emeritus at APU-SON who is passionate about nursing and about preserving the history of California’s nurses. There may be other ways for a nursing student to promote the history of California nursing that are not listed, but they must be approved by the Iota Sigma Board. Please be sure to fill out applications by the November 30th deadline in order to be considered to receive the Phyllis Esslinger Endowment Scholarship at the Fall 2012 STTI Induction Ceremony in December.
Alabaster Mobile Clinic

Kenya Update

By: Shannon Fernando, RN, BSN, BS
Founder & President, Alabaster Mobile Clinic

On behalf of Alabaster Mobile Clinic and our team, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to you for all your support as we traveled to Kenya this summer. Our team of seven returned safely from Kenya with incredible stories to share of the amazing people of Kenya and the mobile clinics we ran during our two-week stay there.

Our team traversed all across Kenya, working mainly in the Maasailand, three to six hours away from city regions. Traveling via auto, we visited remote villages of the Maasai tribe. Alabaster’s team cared for and treated close to 1400 patients throughout the Maasailand. We also administered 300 typhoid vaccines mainly to children and pregnant women.

Our team treated many acute illnesses, including: malaria, amebiasis, worm infestations, fungal infections, upper respiratory infections, sexually transmitted diseases, and urinary tract infections. We were also able to administer pregnancy tests for those desiring this and assess fetal heart tones using doppler equipment.

In addition, our team engaged in health education campaigns, focusing on preventing major illnesses we saw and disseminating information to lay caregivers within each region.

Attached you will find pictures of our mobile clinics and the resilient, hard-working, and loving Maasai people. It was a true honor to walk alongside them in meeting their health needs.

We want to thank you again for your incredible support and for making this trip possible! Your generosity and partnership with us impacted over 1000 men, women, and children in Kenya.

Please visit our website and Facebook page as we will be launching more photographs and video footage of our trip. In addition, we will be sharing more intimate stories of our time in Kenya and will have opportunities for you to donate directly to the people we cared for.

We look forward to sharing more with you soon!

www.alabastermc.org

Note: Shannon Fernando is an Iota Sigma member and her Alabaster Mobile Clinic received the 2012 Iota Sigma Community Service Award.
Chapter Key Award Progress

By: Jennifer Cooper, MSN, RN

Iota Sigma is in the process of putting together information for the 2013 Chapter Key Award. The Chapter Key Award honors STTI chapters who excel in chapter-related activities such as:

- Membership recruitment and retention
- Publicity and programming
- Professional and leadership development
- Local, national and international collaboration

Please help us to continue receiving this prestigious award by allowing us to highlight your accomplishments. If you would like to participate please send a list of your scholarly activities to Jennifer Cooper at JMorielCooper@gmail.com with the words CHAPTER KEY AWARD in the subject of your email. We have a particular need in the following categories for the time frame of July 2012-June 2013:

- Involved-retired members
- Members who volunteer for other organizations
- Members who participated in philanthropic activities at the international level
- Global accomplishments of members
- Chapter participated in financial or in-kind support/contribution at the international level
- Members who have collaborated with community partners for health promotion and/or prevention of illness projects

If you would like to share your accomplishments for the time frame of July 2011-June 2012 we are still collecting information for that time frame as well. Thank you very much for your support and willingness to share with us your accomplishments!
Clinical Corner

By: Lauren Warner, Undergraduate Student Intern

At Azusa Pacific University students are offered the amazing opportunity to reach out to the homeless population through clinical rotations. Azusa Pacific’s professor, Constance Brehm PhD, FNP, RN, coordinates and directs a homeless outreach clinic to the homeless of the Winter Shelter Program of the East San Gabriel Valley Coalition for the Homeless. Brehm leads her clinic, which functions on grant support, and is staffed by family nurse practitioner (FNP) students, nursing faculty, FNP alumni, and undergraduate nursing students. The clinic operates from one to three evenings per week during the months of December through March. Through this outreach clinic the certified nurse practitioners and students are able to provide health care for the homeless, which includes assessment and management/treatment of common acute and chronic illnesses. This outreach clinic provides many with the rewarding opportunity of reaching out to the homeless population in need.
Members “in the News”

Publications


Presentations


**Expertise Shared**

The expertise of Dr. Felicitas Dela Cruz, School of Nursing, was shared in her work as a research grant reviewer for a professional organization.

2012-2013 IOTA SIGMA CALENDAR

**AUGUST '12**
1-3  INRC, Brisbane, Australia

**SEPTEMBER '12**
3  Labor Day
10  Board Meeting
20-22  Leadership Forum, Indianapolis

**OCTOBER '12**
8  Board Meeting

**NOVEMBER '12**
1-2  Odyssey Conference
Ontario, CA
11  Veterans Day
12  Member Networking Dinner
14  Career Forum
22-23  Thanksgiving Break

**DECEMBER '12**
10  Board Meeting
14  Induction/Pinning
17-31  Winter Break
31  New Year’s Eve

**JANUARY '13**
1  New Year’s Day
1-6  Winter Break
14  Board Meeting
21  M.L. King Jr. Day
**FEB '13**

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**Information Meeting & Freshman Welcome + Board Meeting**

**Presidents Day**

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**MARCH '13**

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**Daylight Savings Time begins**

**Board Meeting**

**Spring Induction**

**Spring Break**

**Easter**

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**APRIL '13**

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**Research Symposium & Annual Meeting**

**Board Meeting**

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**MAY '13**

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**Pinning**

**Board Meeting**

**Memorial Day**

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**TBD Transition Meeting**

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**Independence Day**

**INRC, Prague, Czech Republic**
Save the Date: Thursday April 4, 2013

Azusa Pacific University
School of Nursing
& Iota Sigma Chapter
of the Honor Society of Nursing
Sigma Theta Tau International
Present the 9th Annual Nursing Research Symposium

Building Bridges Across the Globe:
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