



SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL

The Honor Society of Nursing Iota Sigma Chapter Newsletter

Spring 2012

Chapter Officers and Leaders

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President Elect:	Jennifer Ewell, MSN, RN
Vice President:	Patricia Perry, MSN, RN, CNS, CNE, OCN
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Student Leadership Intern:	Erin Warner, SN
Newsletter:	Vicky Bowden & Cathy McPhee
Webmaster:	Cathy McPhee

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IOTA SIGMA CHAPTER 232 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Alison Riggs MSN RN ONC

This year has started off with a bang for our chapter and we believe that it will be a great one for our members. Many of our members are engaged and enthusiastic about furthering nursing and improving health through knowledge, leadership and service in a variety of programs and activities.

With the New Year, there are several activities to report on and the Board is resolved to encourage involvement of members in a variety of ways. Often members feel they are not able to participate in Iota Sigma enough and we hope to change that!

Below are some of the numerous activities that our chapter was and is involved in:

- In December we held an induction and 98 new members were installed in the organization
- At the December induction Marcia Harris- Luna was awarded the Phyllis Esslinger Scholarship. She is in the DNP program at APU and works as a PNP. She is also our newest Student Leadership Intern Board member.
- Iota Sigma donated to the Faith Community Nursing program which is educating students to be parish nurses and who will work in ministries.
- Our Board also approved a donation to sponsor the annual Faculty-Staff Appreciation Luncheon which will be held on March 9 and will be catered by Green Street restaurant.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- On February 13 we held our annual Freshman Welcome to meet and greet new students and inform them of the benefits of Sigma Theta Tau membership and to encourage them to maintain their GPA and look forward to joining. Erin Warner, one of our Student Leadership interns on the Board spoke to the students about her experiences in Iota Sigma and other Board members added their thoughts about the organization. More students attended the event this year than last which was welcome.
- The mentor- mentee program for entry level master students is operational again this year and many members of Iota Sigma are mentoring students. More events are planned and the chapter always welcomes new mentors.
- On April 12, 2012 the members of the Western Conservancy of Nursing History led by Phyllis Esslinger will hold a tea immediately following the Research Symposium to highlight and discuss their ongoing projects.

Please note the events and stories that will be highlighted in this newsletter and are outlined here:

- Alumnae Reunion Connection – Monday, March 12, 2012
- Azusa Pacific University Annual Research Symposium – “Nursing’s Role in Symptom Management Across the Lifespan” – Thursday, April 12, 2012
- Update on the APU Homeless Healthcare Clinics this winter season by Connie Brehm.
- Iota Sigma Induction – Saturday, April 28, 2012
- Silent Auction to be held in conjunction with Iota Sigma’s induction.
- Odyssey Research Conference – November 1 and 2, 2012 in Ontario, Ca.
- Read about the San Diego Regional site’s Christmas outreach
- Keep the calendar of Iota Sigma events handy for reference.

We look forward to seeing you often this spring and during the whole year!

APU SCHOOL OF NURSING 8TH ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
“NURSING’S ROLE IN SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT ACROSS THE LIFESPAN”
APRIL 12, 2012, 8 AM TO 2:30 PM

Each year, the School of Nursing and Iota Sigma cosponsor a Research Symposium to

- Provide an avenue for dissemination of evidence-based research and linkages to clinical applications.
- Utilize researchers as role models to encourage excellence in students and colleagues.
- Provide networking opportunities and promote collegiality among students and nursing professionals.
- Provide a forum for students and nurses from the community to present their work.

Featured Speaker

Patricia M. Davidson, RN, BA, MEd, PhD, FRCNA

*“Improving Symptom Management Through Creating an Interface
Between Policy, Practice, Education And Research”*

Professor of Cardiovascular & Chronic Care

Professor of Cardiovascular Nursing Research

St Vincents Hospital, Sydney



Professor Davidson is the director of the Centre for Cardiovascular and Chronic Care at the University of Technology, Sydney and Curtin University. She is a cardiovascular nurse, and her clinical and research specialty focuses on chronic cardiovascular conditions and chronic disease management. She is particularly interested in developing and evaluating models and systems of care and has been successful in obtaining competitive funding as principal investigator from the National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Research Council, Medical Benefits Fund of Australia and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Davidson was the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International’s 22nd International Nursing Research Congress Opening Keynote Speaker in Cancun, Mexico, July, 2011.

APU SCHOOL OF NURSING 8TH ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Featured Speaker

Francine R. Kaufman, M.D.

“Diabesity - Across the Ages”

Chief Medical Officer and Vice President

Global Medical, Clinical & Health Affairs, Medtronic Diabetes

Distinguished Professor Emerita of Pediatrics and Communications at USC

The Center for Diabetes, Endocrinology & Metabolism

Childrens Hospital Los Angeles



Dr. Kaufman is a Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics and Communications at the Keck School of Medicine and the Annenberg School of Communications of USC, and Head of the Center for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism at CHLA. She has published more than 120 peer-reviewed publications, as well as more than 200 articles and abstracts. Additionally, she is the author of more than 30 books or book chapters, including the best-selling book, “Diabesity.” A former president of the American Diabetes Association®, Dr. Kaufman has served as a delegate to the World Health Organization and was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Kaufman has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

since 1980 and is the current Chair of the National Diabetes Education Program, which is jointly sponsored by the NIH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She has consistently been included in the annual “Best Doctors in America” list, and was named Woman of Valor for 2003 by the American Diabetes Association in recognition of her outstanding dedication and commitment to diabetes. Dr. Kaufman is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Chicago Medical School

Another session will feature faculty, community members and doctoral students who will present their research. Topics to be determined based on a competitive call for abstracts.

Throughout the day, there will be many opportunities to network and to view posters submitted by all levels of students, faculty, and nurses in the community.

The Research Symposium stands as an important outreach event for the School of Nursing targeting Iota Sigma members, preceptors, nurses in collaborating healthcare facilities, and alumni as well as students and faculty. Please watch for your email invitation and plan to attend this exciting event. If you have any questions, contact Marilyn Klakovich, mklakovich@apu.edu, Chair Research Symposium Subcommittee.

SPRING INDUCTION CEREMONY FOR IOTA SIGMA CHAPTER



It is that time of year again, the Iota Sigma Spring 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: April 28, 2012 (Saturday luncheon event)
Arrive 11:30 am

Time: 11:45 am – 12:35 pm
Welcome and Buffet Luncheon
12:35 AM -2:30 PM
Induction ceremony

Location: East Campus - Upper Turner Campus Center

Cost: \$30 per person (Inductees and guests)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!



Inductees RSVP through your personalized Sigma Theta Tau International email invitation

Iota Sigma members, community preceptors, community members welcome!

Check your email for the Spring Induction Flyer/RSVP!

Questions: Patricia Perry MSN, RN, CNS, CNE, Vice President - Iota Sigma Chapter

Email: pperry@apu.edu



HELP IOTA SIGMA CHAPTER RAISE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS!

By: Kathy Van Allen, MSN, RN, CPN
Fundraising Chairperson

April 28th is just around the corner – it has been an Iota Sigma tradition to hold a silent auction during our spring induction. Through our annual silent auction, we have been able to raise thousands of dollars to be able to offer scholarships to promising nursing students each year. Your support in donating items for the auction such as gift baskets, books, art, jewelry, as well as gift certificates from a variety of venues such as restaurants, coffee houses, movie theaters, sporting events and travel excursions will help us carry on this tradition. In addition to the silent auction, we will be having a raffle and selling Iota Sigma t-shirts. All proceeds from these fundraisers go toward funding student scholarships.

Remember to bring your checkbooks! Your enthusiasm in bidding (and outbidding your friends) on the silent auction items is encouraged. Please contact Kathy Van Allen at 626-851-2741 or via e-mail: kvanallen@mail.cvhp.org by April 24 if you are able to donate an auction item or would like to arrange for pick up of your donation.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE APU SAN DIEGO REGIONAL CENTER

By: Gilbert Agyemang-Boakye
SNAP Rep Lead-Operations Coordinator
San Diego Regional Center



In 2011, Iota Sigma added liaison positions to represent each of our regional sites at board meetings. With each newsletter, we hope to have an article representing activities going on at one of our regional sites. The San Diego representative is Janet Wessels, Director of the Entry Level Master's (ELM) program at the San Diego Campus.

Janet Wessels, Director ELM Program, San Diego

Most recently, a community project was sponsored by the Student Nurses of Azusa Pacific (SNAP), San Diego Regional Center in collaboration with Entry Level Masters (ELM) cohort 16 and Prof. Sarah Fox. On Tuesday, December 13, 2011, the students and faculty donated age appropriate toys to Monarch School in San Diego. The school serves K-12 students impacted by homelessness. From the experience, the nursing students agreed that it is always refreshing to put a smile on the face of the sorrowful.

*“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction”
James 1:27 (KJV).*

Pictures below from the donation event and of Sarah Fox, faculty sponsor of the event.



*Left to right: Joseph, Ursula & Gilbert
(Cohort 16)*



Professor Sarah Fox (Pediatric Nursing)

Odyssey 2012

Where: Doubletree by Hilton Hotel • Ontario Airport
222 North Vineyard Avenue • Ontario, California 91764-4431

When: Thursday, November 1, 2012 • Friday, November 2, 2012

Who: Joint Southern California STTI Chapters' Conference



Keynote Speaker November 1

Suzanne Prevost PhD, RN, COI • President, STTI

Dr. Prevost is the 29th president of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). She will lead the 125,000-member, global organization for the next two years and will call on members to “Give Back to Move Forward”. She explains, “Through global collaboration, we can bridge the gap between research and practice, share our wisdom across generations and join forces with like-minded organizations to address critical health care issues for populations around the world.”

Dr. Prevost started her career with an RN diploma from South Side Hospital School of Nursing in Pittsburgh, PA., USA. After, she went on to receive her bachelor's degree from Villa Maria College in Erie, PA, USA, and master's degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, S.C., USA. Prevost received her PhD from Texas Woman's University in Houston, Texas, USA. Since 2008, Dr. Prevost has served as the associate dean for practice and engagement at the University of Kentucky's College of Nursing, in Lexington, Ky., USA. In this role, she is responsible for managing the faculty's practice plan and continuing education programs and serves as a liaison between the College of Nursing, UK HealthCare and other collaborating clinical facilities. Dr. Prevost is an accomplished author and presenter. She previously served two terms as secretary of STTI, and also chaired the national board of directors for the Critical Care Nursing Certification Corporation.

ODYSSEY 2012, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

She is the clinical editor for the journal *Nursing Clinics of North America*. Dr. Prevost is a certified online instructor (COI), as well as a certified trainer with both the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association and the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC). Her current research programs focus on increasing the use of technology in colleges of nursing and improving end-of-life care. She is currently serving as co-investigator on two HRSA grants focused on increasing the use of educational technologies. In 2008, she received the National Research Abstract Award from the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.



Watch for the call for abstracts in your email and registration information will follow.



APU SCHOOL OF NURSING HOMELESS HEALTHCARE OUTREACH

By: Dr. Connie Brehm PhD, FNP, RN
Professor of Nursing

Upon arrival at the shelter site at 6:30 pm last Thursday evening, the nurses of APU School of Nursing were called right away by shelter staff to evaluate a man who was not looking well. After interviewing and performing physical assessment of the man who was in his late 50s, the nurses determined that he may be having a cardiac irregularity. The nurses directed the shelter staff to have the man transported to a local hospital emergency department. Next the nurses were called over to see another gentleman in the shelter and discovered he was just released from county hospital after having surgery and ICU care for a gunshot wound to his abdomen that occurred only 10 days before. The man requested the nurses to furnish him with saline and dressings so he could care for his wound, but he assured the nurses he had access to follow-up care (one of the rare clients with health insurance). On inspection of the man's abdominal area the nurses observed a drain still in the wound! Such ill clients at the Winter Shelter Program are becoming all too common in recent years, and unfortunately, not all of them recover. Last month the nurses learned that two regular shelter clients died suddenly from exacerbations of their asthmatic conditions, and a third long time client was found dead on a sidewalk (possibly of alcoholism). Week after week the nurses of APU and shelter staff of the East San Gabriel Valley Coalition for the Homeless (ESGVCH) are confronted with the reality of lives hanging by a thread as they seek refuge at the shelter. Although the needs can seem overwhelming, the APU nurses visit the shelter faithfully every week during the winter shelter season (note: winter is the only time this shelter operates due to scarce funding). APU nurses (3 faculty and 12-15 students) bring what medications, treatments, and vaccines that can safely be provided in an outreach setting (antibiotics, inhalation therapy, skin treatments, pain medications, first aid supplies, and flu vaccine). During an evening clinic session the nurses also provide many written referrals for the clients to connect them to on-going primary care or specialty care through local community health centers and county health services. The nurses find the work rewarding, though at times discouraging, because the fact remains that access to permanent housing is the real answer for persons who are seriously ill and homeless.

APU nurses have been bringing care to shelter on a weekly basis Thursday evenings from December 1 to March 15 for the past 14 years. The efforts by the APU nurses allow clients to receive much needed healthcare on site at the shelter, and to be linked with primary care and specialty care services as are available to them in the community. For the past two years APU School of Nursing has received substantial financial support from the Iota Sigma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau to help support additional NP faculty to accompany the Outreach Director who is Connie Brehm PhD,

APU SCHOOL OF NURSING HOMELESS HEALTHCARE OUTREACH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

RN, C.FNP. This year the APU nurse practitioner faculty who accompany Dr. Brehm are: Virginia Hart-Kepler R.N., C.FNP; Renee Pozza C.FNP, and Rose Sakamoto C.FNP made possible by the support of Sigma Theta Tau. The additional faculty enable the nursing students who are drawn from all APU programs (BSN, ELM, RN-BSN, and MSN) to provide a higher level of care for the clients and for themselves to have a quality educational experience under direct supervision by nurse practitioners as they provide care to the shelter clients. For these reasons, Dr. Brehm wishes to express deep gratitude to Sigma Theta Tau – Iota Sigma Chapter for their on-going support that enhances client care and the education of nursing students. With heartfelt gratitude from: Connie Brehm PhD, RN, FNP, Professor of Nursing, Azusa Pacific University. For more about East San Gabriel Valley Coalition for the Homeless see: www.esgvhomeless.org

MEMBERS “IN THE NEWS”

PRESENTATIONS

A paper written by Dr. Annie P. Odell, School of Nursing, was given at a national conference

Odell, A.P. (2011, November). *Connections and Hawaiian culture: Evaluators as boundary spanners*. Presentation at the annual conference of the American Evaluation Association. Anaheim, CA.

GRANTS

An external award was granted to APU via recipient Dr. Annie Odell, School of Nursing.

Odell, A.P. (2012, January). [Recipient for APU], California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Song-Brown Program, \$99,981 grant for the Family Nurse Practitioner Program.

From the Song-Brown Program Notice:

“Annie Odell, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Nursing and Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program was awarded a grant in the amount of \$99,981 from the California Song Brown Health Care Workforce Training Act. Professor Odell has enhanced the Family Nurse Practitioner program for a total of \$267,755 over three years. California Song Brown Health Care Workforce Training Act has funded the School of Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner program since 1998. Originally initiated and maintained by Felicitas A. dela Cruz, DNSc, RN, FAANP from 1998-2008. The Faculty Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program helps students gain knowledge and clinical expertise in assisting underserved Hispanic populations. The grant will assist further expansion and improvement of APU’s three-site patient laboratories. The laboratories allow students to practice in a primary care examination setting and while being observed by faculty. The grant allows students to exercise “real-life” experiences with selected patient types at the USC Keck School of Medicine in their Standardized Patient program. Part of the monies will fund the Medical Spanish courses, guest speakers, and Nurse Practitioner Grand Rounds. The California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission and Healthcare Workforce Development Division target educational programs that help increase primary care in areas where health disparities exist within the State.”

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Jennifer Huson, MSN, CNCP, CNF was featured in the January 16, 2012 issue of *Working Nurse Magazine*. Jennifer was recognized as a Cherokee Comfort award winner. Jennifer works in the ICU of Children's Hospital, Los Angeles, and is a volunteer nursing director for a nonprofit community organization, Dream Street, which seeks to improve the lives of children suffering from chronic and life-threatening illness.



Katie Skelton, CNO and Vice President of Patient Care Services at St. Joseph in Orange, CA was featured in the November, 2011 issue of *Nurseweek*. St. Joseph recently received Magnet hospital redesignation under Skelton's leadership. The hospital initially was designated a Magnet hospital in 2007. It was the first Catholic hospital to receive this distinction, according to a hospital news release.

PUBLICATIONS

A research article written by Dr. Leslie Van Dover and Mrs. Jane Pfeiffer, School of Nursing, was published in a journal.

Van Dover, L. & Pfeiffer, J. (2011, November). Patients of parish nurses experience renewed spiritual identity: A grounded theory study. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2648.2011.05876.x.

This article gives the patients' perspectives of the process of receiving spiritual care from a parish nurse. It is the twin to another grounded theory study of the parish nurses who cared for them, titled: "Spiritual care in Christian parish nursing" published by the same journal in January, 2007. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2648.2006.04081.x

2012-2013 IOTA SIGMA CALENDAR

		FEBRUARY '12						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
13	Information Meeting & Freshman Welcome + Board Meeting Presidents Day				1	2	3	4
20		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		26	27	28	29			

		MARCH '12								
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		
						1	2	3	11	Daylight Savings Time Begins
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	Board Meeting
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

		APRIL '12						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
2-6	Spring Break	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	Easter	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	Board Meeting	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	Research Symposium & Annual Meeting	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	Spring Induction TBD	29	30					

		MAY '12								
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		
				1	2	3	4	5	4	Pinning
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	Board Meeting
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	28	Memorial Day
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
		27	28	29	30	31				

		JUNE '12						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
							1	2
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Transition Meeting TBD

		JULY '12								
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	4	Independence Day
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	30-31	INRC, Brisbane, Australia
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
		29	30	31						

2012-2013 IOTA SIGMA CALENDAR

		AUGUST '12						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
20	ELM Mentorship Dinner TBD INRC, Brisbane, Australia				1	2	3	4
1-3		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		26	27	28	29	30	31	

		SEPTEMBER '12								
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		
								1	3	Labor Day
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	Board Meeting
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
		30								

		OCTOBER '12						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
8	Board Meeting		1	2	3	4	5	6
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		28	29	30	31			

		NOVEMBER '12								
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		
						1	2	3	1-2	Odyssey Conference
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Ontario, CA
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	Veterans Day
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22-23	Board Meeting
		25	26	27	28	29	30			Thanksgiving Break

		DECEMBER '12						
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
10	Board Meeting Induction / Pinning Winter Break							1
14		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17-31		9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31						

		JANUARY '13								
		S	M	T	W	Th	F	S		
				1	2	3	4	5	1	New Year's Day
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1-6	Winter Break
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	Board Meeting
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	M.L. King Jr. Day
		27	28	29	30	31				