Building Nursing Research Bridges at STTI—Brisbane, 2012

In August I was privileged to attend the 23rd STTI International Nursing Research Congress. After a long trip of some 17 hours by way of Sydney, I landed in what felt like an upside down state, and mild weather much like my home in Oakland. The beautiful city of Brisbane and many Australian Nursing colleagues hosted the over 800 nurses who attended from over 25 countries. As the conference was launched, the key note speaker Tracey McDonald, AM, PhD, RN, RM, MSc(Hons), DHA, DipEd, (Professor and Chair of Ageing at Australia Catholic University, Faculty of Health Science) spoke of the importance of nurses in influencing policy making. She noted that “deciding not to act at a critical moment is, itself, a political action”. Two highlights of the Congress were the recognition of new members into STTI and nurse researchers into the Hall of Fame. New members were inducted from not only the US and Australia, but also from Rwanda, Turkey, Philippines and Jamaica. Some fourteen researchers were entered into the third cohort of the Hall of Fame from the US, Australia and China. The US members included former UCSF professor Bill Holzemer, now Dean at Rutgers. I had the opportunity to hear his presentation on 25 years of AIDS research and meet with his colleagues from South Africa. They were inspiring in their ongoing commitment to building global capacity for nursing research with a strong community participatory approach.

The Congress reflects STTI’s growing interest in developing research and evidence based practice. Posters and presentations reflected an growing expanding diversity of approaches to research and attempts to change practice based on evidence. While there was a heavy focus on hospital practice, there were wonderful glimpses of diverse healing and nursing practices, educational approaches and challenges in workforce development across nursing. I enjoyed being able to browse the many posters and talk with selected presenters. It is clear that we share many interests across the globe and that there is a need to find ways to share our evidence for practice and educational change.

My own presentation on the development of the first generation of nurse practitioner programs provided me a chance to share with colleagues some of the factors that are perceived to support successful program development and role implementation. I was greeted with many questions at the end of the session, as many of our nursing colleagues in countries such as Australia and Japan are striving to develop advance practice roles.

Finally, one of the best aspects of the conference was meeting new friends and seeing some longstanding colleagues. Cards were exchanged, invitations were extended and lunches were shared with colleagues around the globe. The common culture of nursing helped us to transcend the boundaries of language and or nation. Thank you to the members of Nu Xi at Large for the partial funding of my travel to this important event.

Two other Nu Xi members, Claudia Pineda Benton, MSN, RN-BC, PHN, Maternal Infant Mortality Review Coordinator for Ventura County Public Health Department, and Geri Berkvan, MS, RN and also presented papers or posters at the STTI Research Congress. (Contributed by Karen Wolf, PhD, RN, Samuel Merritt University)
For ten days 25 Californians, all connected to Samuel Merritt University in some way, traveled to Ghana under the auspices of Global Medical Brigades (GMB), an international student-led global health and sustainable development organization. The mission of GMB is “to work with licensed medical professionals and community health workers to provide comprehensive health services in rural communities with limited access to healthcare” (GMB website). And, indeed, that is what we 25 individuals did.

The several months of planning that preceded the trip involved fund-raising to purchase medications and medical supplies, learning about the culture and people of Ghana, and gaining awareness of the predominant medical conditions that afflicted the people we were anticipating caring for in the village of Ebuakwa. Much appreciated donations from Nu Xi Chapter-At-Large, MedShare, and Brother’s Brother supplemented funding from family, friends, and colleagues.

Current Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Case Management, and Registered Nursing students were accompanied by newly graduated FNPs and Case Managers, seasoned FNPs, faculty (Rhonda Ramirez, Director of the FNP Program and Vice President Nu Xi-at Large), and family members. Planning such an undertaking was an immense time commitment from the planning committee comprised of Stephanie Fassu-Noulaheu, Hongan Le, Ong-Dee Liu, and Natalie Spiller—time spent above and beyond their already full final semester of the FNP program. Communication with the in-country contact, crucial to the success of the mission, was maintained by the planning committee, sometimes via Skype from Ghana.

Under the leadership of Maame Afua Kumi-Takyiwaa, Medical/Dental Brigades Director, the in-country team provided us not only with comfortable living accommodations, but also valuable guidance to assist us in understanding the Ghanaian —continued on page 9
Nu Xi at Large Partnership with the Davis Street Primary Care Clinic Targets Vulnerable Populations

Those who have drastically transitioned from having medical insurance coverage to having none find some comfort in accessing the Davis Street Primary Care Clinic in San Leandro for follow up of their chronic illnesses, for treatment of acute conditions, and for children’s immunizations. In 2008, the Davis Street Family Resource Center (DSFRC) partnered with Samuel Merritt University’s Family Nurse Practitioner Program to provide primary care to uninsured adults and children.

Since starting the faculty practice in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), it has become easier to actively encourage graduates to continue to work with the underserved as they work side by side with their faculty. One of the stated outcomes of the Davis Street project is to compare the number of students who rotate through the clinic with the number of graduates who eventually work with the underserved to determine whether such an experience positively influences the graduates to seek employment with these populations. The results remain to be seen.

The mission of the DSFRC is to help low income people in the Eden area and surrounding communities improve their quality of life through short and long-term assistance. Their vision is that of a community that comes together to support efforts in helping disenfranchised people with services designed to help improve their quality of life. This philosophy matches that of Samuel Merritt University and the School of Nursing. The Primary Care Clinic has served 1200 people each year since its inception. Over 60% of people seeking our medical and dental services are children. The clinics are staffed entirely by volunteer nurse practitioners, doctors, nurses, physical therapists, and dentists to provide quality, essential medical and dental services to individuals who otherwise would not be able to access adequate health care.

Donations of funds are one manner of sustainability. We are grateful to all of those who contribute to the good work. Included among the donors is Nu Xi At-Large Chapter, of Sigma Theta Tau International, the Nursing Honor Society of Nursing, with leaders from 90 countries whose mission it is to use knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world’s people. (Article contributed by Rhonda Ramirez, EdD, FNP, RN, Samuel Merritt University)
A Member’s Perspective: 23rd STTI Research Congress

In July, I attended the 23rd Sigma Theta Tau International Research Congress: Creating a Legacy Through Nursing Research, Innovation and Global Collaboration in Brisbane, Australia and was honored to present my research on “Nursing Students’ Perceptions of Satisfaction and Self-Confidence with High Fidelity Simulation”. Additionally, I moderated a symposium, The Culture of Poverty. Thank you Nu Xi at Large Chapter for your generosity and support to help me attend the research congress.

Attending the conference and presenting my research was a valuable experience, and now I am very pleased my research will be noted in the Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library. Presenters, like me, had a unique opportunity to meet other nurses who have done nursing research. Nurses were eager to discuss their research and share their experiences, insights, and results. The passion and enthusiasm of these nurses was inspiring.

The conference sessions and poster and exhibit viewing sessions provided up-to-date research and evidenced-based nursing practice from around the globe. Formal and informal opportunities abounded to network and collaborate about nursing practice and to forge professional relationships and friendships. As an example, one of my colleagues was offered the opportunity to partner with another organization to duplicate her research study in another country. The 24th Sigma Theta Tau International Research Congress will be held in July 2013 in Prague, Czech Republic. Submit your abstract for presentations and posters by December 5, 2012. (Article contributed by Geraldine Czech Republic. Submit your abstract for presentations and posters by December 5, 2012. (Article contributed by Geraldine)

Board Retreat and Officer Transition

The Nu Xi at Large Board met on Saturday, August 13, 2012 in the Bay Vista Room at Holy Names University to work on officer transitions and strategic planning for the upcoming biennium. Emphasis on activities in the coming year will be on engaging members, membership renewals, and leadership development. The Board approved partial funding for the following members to attend the Leadership Forum in September, 2012: Juli Maxworthy, Denise Scholz, Liz Sibson-Tuan, and Tammy Valenta.

News From Our Clinical Partners

Stanford Hospital & Clinics has achieved Magnet Status for the second time from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Less than 7% of US healthcare organizations achieve this designation. Stanford provides clinical sites and preceptors for schools of nursing throughout the Bay area.

Nu Xi At Large Research Committee Announces Grant Award Application Deadline for 2013

Denise Liu Li, PhD, RN, Chair of the Research Committee, has announced that applications for Nu Xi Research Grants for 2013 should be submitted by January 7, 2013. The Chapter anticipates that it will have approximately $3,500 to support members’ research endeavors in the coming year. Junior faculty and graduate students are encouraged to apply. Inquiries should be directed to Denise.liu@csueastbay.edu. The amount of $1,500 was awarded in August, 2012 to Nancy Haugen, PhD, RN & Abby Heydman, PhD, RN, for a research project, titled, “Professional Impact: An Honor Society Sponsored by Three University Schools of Nursing During Its First Twenty Years 1992-2012.”

STTI Fall Membership Renewal Reminder

Members are reminded that membership renewals are typically due between May and September each year. Members should have received both electronic and mailed notices. If you do not recall if you have renewed your membership and wish to remain active, contact membership services (telephone 1-888-634-7575 for assistance) or log on to the STTI website at www.nursingsociety.org for electronic renewal. Recent graduates who have not yet secured employment who need financial assistance to maintain membership should contact the Chapter President, Anna Mullins (Amullins29@comcast.net) to explore possibilities for a membership sponsored by a senior member of the chapter. Please be sure to inform STTI of your email address in order to receive meeting notices, newsletters, and STTI publications for members.

Leadership Opportunities Available on the Nu Xi Board 2012-2013

Members interested in serving as Chapter Officers or as committee members for Nu Xi or STTI are encouraged to submit a Volunteer Interest Profile (VIP) online on the STTI website. The Nu Xi Leadership Succession Committee is seeking candidates to nominate for officer positions and committee assignments for 2012-2013 and will use the VIP listings resource to identify candidates to fill these positions. Inquiries or nominations should be sent to Juli Maxworthy, Chair-Leadership Succession Committee, at withmax@comcast.net

Nominations Sought for Hall of Fame Awards 2013

Nu Xi members are encouraged to submit nominations for the Hall of Fame Awards Event which is scheduled for January 12, 2013 at Samuel Merritt University, at the Health Education Center Bechtel Room from 1:00 noon to 3:00 PM. Excellence in Nursing Awards may be given in the following categories: Education, Research, Practice, Philanthropy, Leadership, Lifetime Service

Nominations should be submitted to Shirley Dostal, Chair, Awards Committee at Shirleydostal@comcast.net. Nominations may also be submitted on the Samuel Merritt University, School of Nursing, Nu Xi at Large website.
2012 Scholarships Awarded to Six Nursing Student

Nu Xi at Large Chapter awarded six scholarships this year in the amount of $500.00 each to six students enrolled in the nursing programs of our three member schools this year. Recipients include: Lindsay Simpson, BSN, RN and Ie Jung, LVN; both students are enrolled at Holy Names University.

Lindsay Simpson grew up in the Bay Area and went to Castro Valley High School, where she graduated with high honors. The inspiration for becoming a nurse sprung from her attendance at Medical Explorers Program at Eden Hospital. She started the nursing program at Holy Names University with an academic scholarship and completed the 2+2 BSN program at Samuel Merritt University, graduating in the spring of 2010. Immediately after graduation, Lindsay completed the RN Residency Program at CSU East Bay Lindsay is currently in the second year of the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner program at Holy Names University where she will graduate in May, 2013. For the last year she has been working at Eden Hospital on the Surgical-Trauma Unit. In addition to being at the bedside, she is training to be a super user for the new electronic health record system and actively participates on development committees for the new hospital. Lindsay also works at the Castro Valley Unified School District as a School Nurse Consultant, conducting health screenings and monitoring acute and chronic health conditions of the student body and faculty.

Ie Jung has been working as a nurse for about 30 years since graduating from Choon-Hae Nursing College in Korea in 1982. She started at a local Korean hospital right after graduation, working in the Medical-Surgical/oncology unit, and ICU. In 1987 she moved to America and after taking an English second language course, Ie started work as a CNA at Alameda County Medical Center at the Fairmont campus. After six months Ie passed the LVN test and worked as a LVN until 1994 when she got an RN license. Ie is currently the night shift charge nurse and relief supervisor, and hopes to continue to work her way up and become manager. Comforting patients and being able to help people has been a very rewarding job according to Ie and she cherishes the experiences she has had with patients and their families, as well as the skills acquired through them. She loves her job and the impact she can have on people by simply communicating, being kind and respectful and sharing love and warmth. Ie is enrolled in the RN to BSN program. She feels this program has reignited her drive to better herself and keep persevering until her limit is reached. Quoting Ie, “With the resources and confidence this program has given me, I dream to one day open my own nursing home.”

42nd STTI Biennial Convention
Indiana November 16-20, 2013

Over 2,000 attendees visited Grapevine, Texas for the 41st STTI Biennial Convention. The upcoming event promises to be even better. Start planning to submit an abstract to present a paper or poster at this event. Abstracts due January 30, 2013. The House of Delegates will meet to elect new officers and approve updated Bylaws. Region One Chapters will have a special event which is still being planned. Members who serve as delegates or present a paper are eligible for Chapter funding. Please contact President Anna Mullins for more information: amullins29@comcast.net

Upcoming Research Conferences

Mu Chi Chapter, Inc. of Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, Inc.
Workshop on “Innovative & Collaborative Nursing Practices”
Saturday, September 22, 2012, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Kaiser West Los Angeles, 6041 Cadillac Ave., Los Angeles, California, Basement Classroom B & C
*6 Contact Hours Provided by Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. Chi Eta Phi Sorority. Please make check payable to Mu Chi Chapter, Inc. and mail to: Rogena Burrus, Education Chair, 9516 So. 3rd Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90305 323-422-6162

Region 7 & STTI Research Conference—Call for Abstracts
The Honor Society of Nursing- Sigma Theta Tau International Region 7 Conference
February 15 & 16, 2013
The Westin Fort Lauderdale
Fort Lauderdale, FL
The abstract deadline for oral presentations and poster presentations is October 5, 2012.
Contact: Jeanne Gottlieb, CNM, MSN President, Beta Tau Chapter at University of Miami (Host Chapter)
jgottlieb@miami.edu, 305-284-6256
HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY

Sabbatical Awarded to Fay Bower, Professor

Professor Fay Bower, DNSc, RN, FAAN, has been awarded a one year sabbatical, which she will use to complete a new book, Every Nurse A Leader, and to conduct site visit for approval of Magnet Status at hospitals and medical centers around the country.

New Chairperson-Department of Nursing Appointed

A new chair person has been appointed to lead the nursing program at HNU. She will begin this new role on October 1, 2013. A photo and more information will be in the next newsletter. Enrollments in the master’s degree and LVN to BSN program are higher this year. Strategic plans are being put into place to provide a new facility to house the department of nursing and to provide expanded faculty offices.

SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY

San Francisco Learning Center Moving to San Mateo

This fall, the San Francisco Learning Center will complete the education of its last cohort of Accelerated BSN students and will transition to new facilities at the San Mateo Learning Center. New construction on the San Mateo site will provide for a full simulation lab, instructional space, and faculty offices. Four cohorts of ABSN students (around 200) will be served at the center. Dr. Mileva Saulo-Lewis, Managing Director of the San Mateo Learning Center, will assume responsibility for all instructional programs on this site. Nancy Haugen, Director of the ABSN program has been overseeing the San Francisco Learning Center during the transition.

Faculty Development Program Starts Off New School Year

Faculty in the School of Nursing joined faculty from other SMU departments for a full day workshop preceding the start of the school year on September 4. The 2012 – 2013 academic year began with Preview Week, on August 27 and 28. Activities included a one-day faculty orientation and a one-day faculty development program. Sessions opened with a welcome by President Diaz and a “state of the university” update. The featured speaker for the faculty development program was Dr. Ike Shibley. His seminars centered on “Emerging Trends and Technologies for Classroom Teaching and How to Build a Hybrid Course.” Other sessions conducted by staff included Curriculum Visualization, How to use WebEx, Link, RefWorks, Turn It In and Canvas FAQs. A wine reception sponsored by the President concluded the event.

Diversity Initiative in the CRNA Program

In early August, the program of nurse anesthesia hosted a joint conference at SMU with Diversity CRNA, a national group who sponsors a conference three times a year in tandem with a leading and nationally recognized program of nurse anesthesia to directly engage critical care nurses of color interested in the profession of nurse anesthesia and seeking admission. SMU hosted eighty attendees from across the country to hear a variety of panels consisting of California nurse anesthesia program directors, students, and practicing CRNAs of color to provide them critical information to increase their likelihood of acceptance into schools and eventually, the profession. The second day of the conference, attendees spent in the Health Sciences Simulation Center gaining practical experience in the operating room environment, specifically gaining skills with a variety of airway management techniques.

CLF Services at Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

Members of the Community Learning Forum (CLF) have begun to provide community information sessions to members of the Allen Temple, Senior Ministry, Oakland California. This is part of an ongoing contribution SMU has made to continue its outreach mission to the community. The first educational session was held May 10, 2012 on topics related to diabetic care, including pathophysiologic implications and pharmaceutical strategies. Due to the success of that venture, the professors have been asked to provide the ministry with monthly talks starting in September on a variety of health education topics. Faculty also participated in the Allen Temple Annual Health Fair on Saturday, August 18 from 10 am - 3 pm. At this event, a SMU information booth was available to provide health education on a variety of topics, including diabetes, asthma, healthy lifestyles, and additional topics requested by attendees.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY

New Chairperson Appointed

Paulina Van, PhD, RN, Professor, has been appointed the new Chair of the Department of Nursing and Health Sciences at CSUEB, following a two-year search. Dr. Van is an active member of Nu Xi at Large and served as Vice President, representing Samuel Merritt University from 2009-2011. Expect more details and a photo in the next newsletter.

SCHOOL NEWS

6 • Eye on Nu Xi
Audrey Berman, PhD, RN, Professor & Dean, SMU School of Nursing was selected to attend the inaugural AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership Program for nursing deans and senior faculty leaders. The event was held at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, designed exclusively for top academic leaders in nursing who are prepared to make a lasting impact on how nurses are educated and how they practice.

Jan Boller, PhD, RN, Associate Professor & Director DNP Program, Health Systems Leadership, has been named the Fletcher Jones Foundation Endowed Chair for Quality and Safety at Western University of Health Sciences University in Pomona. Jan is a former faculty member at SMU.

Trish Brennan, PhD, MS, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, has been invited to continue on the editorial board for the Genetics and Genomics Competency Center at the National Institutes of Health National Genomic Research Institute for a second year. Trish was also elected as a Fellow - National Academy of Practice inductee as a Distinguished Practitioner and Fellow, March 2012.

Jennifer Winters, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, has completed requirements for a PhD in Health Services. The degree was conferred at the end of May, 2012 by Walden University. The title of her dissertation is, “The Experience of Newly Licensed Registered Nurses in Caring for Older Adults during Acute Hospitalization.”

Scot Foster, PhD, CRNA, Professor & Academic Vice President, SMU, was the keynote speaker for the Diversity Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Conference June 9-10, 2012 an event hosted by Samuel Merritt University and HSSC. The purpose of the conference was to convene critical care nurses of color from across the United States to learn, engage and support each other as they prepare to either apply for or matriculate through programs of nurse anesthesia. The plenary session was also enhanced by a one-day workshop on Difficult Airway Management, at the simulation center. Kathleen Roberts, CDO and several of SMU’s students of color who are now in active clinical practice joined the program to relate their perspectives and experiences on being successful in graduate school and in clinical practice.

Oral & Poster Presentations:

Claudia Pineda Benton, MSN, RN-BC, PHN, Maternal Child Adolescent Health Coordinator, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Coordinator, & Fetal Infant Mortality Review Coordinator (FIMR) for Ventura County Public Health Department presented a paper at the STTI 23rd International Nursing Research Congress in Brisbane, Australia in July 2012, “Health Behaviors of Nursing Students”. Claudia, a graduate of Holy Names University, is a part-time faculty member at California State University Northridge (CSUN).

Geri Berkvam, MSN, RN, FNP, Clinical Nursing Instructor for Community Health Nursing at California State University, East Bay (CSUEB), presented a paper titled, “Nursing Students’ Perceptions of Satisfaction and Self-Confidence with High Fidelity Simulation”, at the Sigma Theta Tau Research Conference in Brisbane, Australia in August, 2012. In addition, Geri moderated another session of papers presented at the conference. Geri retired from the San Francisco Department of Public Health in 2011. She is a graduate of the MSN program at Holy Names University.

Fusae Abbott, DNSc, RN, Associate Professor, SMU & Janet Rowland, MSN, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, & DeVreugd, W. “New Graduate Orientation and Mentorship Program for Case Managers Who Have Minimal RN Work Experience.” Case Management Society of America 22nd Annual Conference and Expo, San Francisco, CA, 2012.


Nancy Haugen, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, SMU, & Abby Heydman PhD, RN, Professor Emeritus SMU. “Professional Impact: An Honor Society Sponsored by Three University Schools of Nursing during its First Twenty Years.” Presented at the International Nursing History Conference, Kolding, Denmark, 2012.

Lori Rosa, MSN, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU & Diana Jennings, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU. Publication: Rosa, L.M., & Jennings, D.L. (Nov. 14-16, 2012). Implementation and evaluation of obstetric high-risk hybrid simulation in an Entry Level Masters of Science in Nursing program. 9th ICOWHI Congress on “Women’s Health 2012:
Partnering for a Brighter Global Future,” Bangkok, Thailand.

**Pamela Minarik, PhD, RN**
Professor, SMU, APN Issues: Practice and Education in the USA. Kochi University Kochi, Japan, June 2012. & Minarik, P. Palliative Care: Thinking Outside the Cure. Aomori University of Health and Welfare, Aomori, Japan, June 2012.

**H. Paul Smith, PhD, RN**
Assistant Professor, SMU, Poster presentation. Changes in central venous oxygen saturation during outpatient hemodialysis. Poster presentation. Western Institute of Nursing Conference, Portland, OR, April 20, 2012.

**Celeste Villanueva, MS, RN, CRNA**
Assistant Professor, SMU. Invited poster: Arresting Sepsis through Interprofessional Education. National Academies of Practice Annual Meeting, March 2012.

**Karen Wolf, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, DFNAP**


**Refereed Publications**

**Patricia Brennan, PhD, RN**

**Loretta Camarano, PhD, RN**

**Valarie Dzubur, EdD, RN, FNP**
Associate Professor, SMU. Dzubur, V. A Woman of Merit: building the silk road of Lao PDR through space and time. Paper publication. Thammasat University Press. Bangkok, Thailand, Fall 2012.

**Kate Shade, PhD, RN**

**Karen Wolf, PhD, RN**

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**24th International Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Research Congress**

Prague, Czech Republic

The 24th International Nursing Research Congress sponsored by STTI is scheduled for July 22-26, 2013 in Prague, Czech Republic. This international forum is the place for the exchange of evidence-based practices and solutions among nurse researchers, clinicians, educators, policy makers and administrators. Participants will have the opportunity to network while learning more about what nurse researchers from all around the globe are doing to advance the science of nursing using innovation and new technologies.

Call for Abstracts Deadline: December 5, 2012 Members who are serve as delegates or present a paper are eligible for Chapter funding.

Please contact President Anna Mullins for more information: amullins29@comcast.net
Ghana continued from page 2

people, their culture and health beliefs. Preparation was key to the successful operation of the 4 clinic days during which we provided triage, medical and dental care to children and adults, public health workshops (clean drinking water via an affordable water filtration system, family planning, and good body mechanics in the agricultural fields), and delivery of pharmaceuticals. Alongside Ghanaian doctors, a dentist, a pharmacist, a radiologist, nurses, assistants, and countless interpreters and volunteers, we provided care to hundreds of patients whose ailments included malaria, GI parasite infections, elephantiasis, chronic back pain, and chronic headaches.

After each day’s work we gathered to debrief—to discuss what went well, what needed improving. Comments and suggestions did not go unheeded, which made for positive changes for us and for future brigades. During the 2-week interval between brigades, the in-country team maintains relationships with the communities to provide follow-up and to conduct Community Health Worker (CHW) trainings for local leaders.

At one of our day’s end gatherings, Maame paid us the best compliment: we were the first group of brigadiers ever that consisted of nearly all health professionals who did not need any training to carry out our work; she was mighty grateful for that. Earlier that day, Nana Asamoah (whom we affectionately referred to as “the most right reverent bishop”), Director of Global Brigades—Ghana, demonstrated deed over words by working beside us at our makeshift multi-room clinic housed in the village's school.

As Americans we often take what we have for granted including our health care. What an eye-opening experience it is to see that others in the world have nothing close to how we live. It is an experience that for some is a desired involvement to expand one’s horizon, to do good deeds. For students in nursing and advanced practice nursing such a medical brigade becomes praxis, a valuable opportunity to move from the academic setting to real life, feeling and touching people. For this group of 25 individuals whose commitment to the mission proceeded unwaveringly from start to finish, eyes and hearts were opened.

Note: This program was supported by Nu Xi at Large in part, to respond to President Suzanne Prevost’s Call to Action to work with fellow chapter members to respond to the poor and underserved. Volunteer for free clinics or disaster relief programs (Article contributed by Rhonda Ramirez, Director of the Samuel Merritt Family Nurse Practitioner Program)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STTI Leadership Forum Event</td>
<td>September 20–22, 2012</td>
<td>8:00 AM–5:00 PM</td>
<td>Hyatt Regency Indianapolis One South Capitol Ave. Indianapolis, Indiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington Hospital Healthcare System &amp; Nu Xi Research Conference</td>
<td>September 24, 2012</td>
<td>8:00 AM–4:00 PM</td>
<td>Washington Hospital Health System, Fremont</td>
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<td>Nu Xi at Large 20th Anniversary Celebration &amp; Hall of Fame Event</td>
<td>January 12, 2013</td>
<td>9:00 AM–3:30 PM</td>
<td>Samuel Merritt University Bechtel Room 400 Hawthorne Avenue</td>
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<td>Spring Annual Business Meeting</td>
<td>March 5, 2013</td>
<td>6:00–7:30 PM</td>
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<td>Nu Xi at Large Induction</td>
<td>April 27, 2013</td>
<td>10:00 AM–1:00 PM</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Region STTI Research Conference</td>
<td>June 17-19 2014</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Goteburg, Sweden, hosted by the Tau Omega Chapter</td>
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<td>24th STTI Research Congress Abstracts due Dec 5, 2012</td>
<td>July 22-26, 2013</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic Visit STTI website for more info</td>
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RESERVE THE DATE!

Nu Xi at Large Chapter
20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
& HALL OF FAME EVENT
Saturday, January 12, 2013
9:30 AM–3:30 PM
Samuel Merritt University School of Nursing
400 Hawthorne Avenue
Health Education Center

More information will come via email and invitations.

NU XI AT LARGE & WASHINGTON HOSPITAL HEALTH SYSTEM

EBP Research Conference
Monday, September 24, 2012
Monday
8:15-4:30 PM

Our Work: What Nurses Need to Know
About Evidence Based Practice & Research
& Celebrating Our Work

Featuring Evidenced-based practice research
and other nursing scholarship.

Washington Hospital-Washington West
2500 Mowry Ave-Anderson Auditorium
Fremont, California

Registration $30.00 Lunch provided

For information contact Chris Gerstein
Phone: 510-818-6213/chris_gershtein@whhs.com

6.5 contact hours by the California Board of Registered Nursing
provider # CEP 3467.