President’s Letter
Update from Anna C. Mullins, President

Happy fall to everyone! I hope you got a chance to enjoy summer and can embrace the tranquil beauty of fall. I want to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on a number of things that have been going on in Nu Xi At Large and to tell you some of the exciting things planned for the year.

2011 Chapter Key Award

Our Nu Xi At Large Chapter received the Chapter Key Award from Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) this year. Award recipients are recognized at each biennial convention. The Chapter Key Award was established by STTI in 1991 to honor chapters who excel in chapter related activities such as: membership recruitment and retention, publicity and programming, professional and leadership development, and local, national and international collaboration. I am pleased to report that our chapter not only received the award this year but received the highest score that has ever been achieved. In fact, because of our outstanding work, the Board of Nu Xi At Large approved the posting of the paperwork we submitted on the STTI website to not only showcase our work but also to serve as an example to other applicants. Congratulations to Juli Maxworthy and all of those who worked so hard to achieve this award. Juli will be accepting the award for Nu Xi At Large at the biennial convention in October.

Annual Appeal Letter

In early October, each member of Nu Xi At Large will be receiving a letter from me asking for a donation to help the chapter provide scholarships for students, fund research grants, as well as programs of interest to members. This past year we were able to fund scholarships for nursing students at our three sponsoring schools: California State University East Bay, Holy Names University, and Samuel Merritt University. Funding student scholarships will be our highest priority this year. As you are all too aware, these are tough economic times for all of us and our partner schools tell us that the financial challenges for students have never been greater. The recession has had a huge impact on the availability of part-time jobs for students and scholarship support from hospitals has declined as the labor market for nurses has weakened. Contributions to our chapter are an investment in the future of nursing and a way to express gratitude for mentors and nursing colleagues who have encouraged and supported us and who have modeled so many of the values of Sigma Theta Tau.

Plans For Nu Xi At Large Chapter For The Year

I don’t know how many of you have ever read about the origin of the name Sigma Theta Tau International and its meaning, but I think it is relevant as we look to the future direction and success of our chapter. Six nurses founded STTI in 1922 at the Indiana University Training School for Nurses, currently Indiana State University. These women chose the name from the Greek words Storge, Tharsos, and Time meaning “love”, “courage”, and “honor”. And, the mission of STTI is “to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide. “In order to achieve this vision we must have chapters that are
dynamic and committed to the mission and vision of STTI. At the Nu Xi At Large Board retreat in August, we spent a considerable portion of the meeting discussing our strengths, areas for improvement, and the strategic plan for our chapter. To that end, the following are three areas that we will be working on this coming year:

- Support of community projects in a philanthropic way within our communities
  a. support of individuals in independent projects
  b. support for organizations
- Improve communication and involvement of chapter members
- Provide relevant educational programs with continuing education credit. Involve members in planning the programs.

You will be hearing a lot more about our strategic plan and actions throughout the year and we hope you will want to participate. Vibrant chapters are those in which members are actively involved. We will be creating more opportunities for feedback and we will be responsive to diverse member needs. As you will read later in the newsletter, we will be sending out a survey to you as members to determine your opinion in a number of areas.

I invite all of us to ask ourselves “What difference do I want to make in the Nu Xi Chapter At Large?” Consider the numerous volunteer opportunities that exist at the chapter, regional and international level. For example, you may decide that you wish to make a difference by serving as an organizer of a community service project, or as the chairperson or member of a committee, or as an officer of the organization. Maybe you will serve as a mentor in the chapter mentoring program. Or, you may choose to make a difference by making an annual donation to provide scholarships to nursing students. We are all very busy, but we make time for those things that are important to us. Key to this discussion is your decision to consider the question, irrespective of where you are in your career. You, we, can make a difference, and leave a legacy. Ask yourself, “What difference do I want to make starting today?”. I ask you to join with me and the Board of Directors to create an environment that excites current members and entices others to join. Please contact me at Amullins29@comcast.net to let me know how you would like to be involved. There is always room at the table.

—Anna Mullins, DNSc, RN
amullins29@comcast.net

### NU XI CHAPTER AT LARGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2011–2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41st Biennial STTI Convention</td>
<td>October 29-Nov 2, 2011</td>
<td>Check STTI website <a href="http://www.nursingsociety.org">www.nursingsociety.org</a></td>
<td>Gaylord Texan Hotel &amp; Convention Center, Grapevine (Dallas/Ft. Worth), Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall General Membership &amp; Board Meeting</td>
<td>November 15, 2011 Tuesday</td>
<td>Program: 6:00 PM Board Meeting: 7:30 PM</td>
<td>Holy Names University Bay Vista Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nu Xi Research Conference</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring General Membership &amp; Annual Business Meeting</td>
<td>March 6, 2012 Tuesday</td>
<td>5:00 PM Membership Meeting 6:30 PM Board Meeting</td>
<td>CSUEB Room TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Nu Xi Induction &amp; Installation of Officers</td>
<td>April 28, 2012 Saturday</td>
<td>Orientation 10:00 AM Induction, Luncheon 11 AM</td>
<td>Samuel Merritt University HEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STTI 22nd International Nursing Research Congress</td>
<td>July 30–August 3, 2012</td>
<td>Check STTI website <a href="http://www.nursingsociety.org">www.nursingsociety.org</a> Abstract deadline: December 7</td>
<td>Brisbane, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nu Xi Board Retreat</td>
<td>August 25, 2012</td>
<td>10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 6:30 PM Board Meeting</td>
<td>Holy Names University Room TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall General Membership Meeting &amp; Board Meeting</td>
<td>October 9, 2012</td>
<td>5:00 PM Membership Meeting 6:30 PM Board Meeting</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hall of Fame Event</td>
<td>January 2013</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Holy Names University Bay Vista Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Program &amp; Annual Business Meeting &amp; Board of Directors Meeting</td>
<td>March, 2013</td>
<td>5:00 PM 6:30 PM Board</td>
<td>CSUEB Room TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Board of Directors & Committee Chairs, 2011**

**President**
Anna Mullins  
amullins29@comcast.com

**President-elect**
Nancy Gibbs  
nangib@sbcglobal.net

**Vice President–HNU**
Marcia Canton  
drcanton@pacbell.net

**Vice President, CSUEB**
Kimberly Kim  
kimberly.kim@csueastbay.edu

**Secretary**
Sharon Swain  
sswain@ctdn.org

**Treasurer**
Nancy Haugen  
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**Faculty Counselor CSUEB**
Michelle Tellez  
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**Faculty Counselors SMU**
Tammy Valenta  
tvalenta@samuelmerritt.edu

Liz Sibson-Tuan  
esibson-tuan@samuelmerritt.edu

**Leadership Succession Committee**
KT Waxman  
ktwaxman@yahoo.com

**Past President & Leadership Succession Committee**
Juli Maxworthy  
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**Leadership Succession Committee**
Arlene Sargent  
asargent@samuelmerritt.edu

**Faculty Counselor HNU & Mentoring Committee**
Fay Bower  
bower@hnu.edu

**Governance Committee & Newsletter Editor**
Abby Heydman  
heydmanabfr@msn.com

**Newsletter Editor**
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**Leadership Intern**
Denise Scholz  
denisescholz@hotmail.com

**Retention Committee Chair**
Donna Ervin  
onetimeparalegal1@aol.com

**Awards Committee Chair**
Shirley Dostal  
Shirley.dostal@kp.org

**Research Committee Chair**
Denise Liu  
denise.liu@csueastbay.edu

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**2011 NU XI RETREAT**

President-elect & Region 1 Coordinator Nancy Gibbs

Nu Xi Board Members at 2011 Retreat: top: Michelle Tellez, bottom: Donna Erwin, and Marcia Canton
Fall Program on Hospitals with Magnet Status

This fall, Nu Xi At Large will sponsor a special program on hospitals which have achieved magnet status. A magnet hospital is one that has embarked on an extensive review and systematic evaluation of its nursing practice by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Magnet hospitals must meet stringent quantitative and qualitative standards that define the highest quality of nursing practice and patient care. Becoming a Magnet hospital means that the organization must meet over 65 standards developed by the ANCC. The standards must be demonstrated in a very extensive written document and validated and clarified by a site visit. The Magnet designation means that the hospital has created an environment that supports nursing practice and focuses on professional autonomy, decision making at the bedside, nursing involvement in determining the nursing work environment, professional education, career development and nursing leadership. The program is scheduled for November 15, 2011 at Holy Names University in the Bay Vista Room at 6:00 PM.

Leadership Opportunities Available on the Nu Xi Board

Volunteers to serve on the Philanthropy Committee, the Research Committee, and the Governance Committee are being sought at this time. In addition, a Chapter Archivist is also being recruited. The Archivist manages and conserves Chapter Historical records and documents. The Philanthropy Committee sponsors an annual silent auction at the Induction Ceremony and manages the sale of honor cords for new inductees each year in April. Proceeds from these sales benefit research awards and scholarships funded by the Chapter. A volunteer is also sought to serve on the Governance Committee which oversees revisions in Bylaws. Interested members should contact Anna Mullins, President, at Amullins29@comcast.net. The Research Committee reviews applications for research grant awards and plans an annual research event.

The Leadership Succession Committee is seeking candidates to nominate for officer and committee assignments for the 2012-2014 biennium. Candidates are being sought for the following offices: Secretary, Vice President-Holy Names, Vice
Inquiries or nominations should be sent to Anna Mullins, President, at Amullins29@comcast.net.

**Board Retreat and Officer Transition**

The Nu Xi at Large Board met on Saturday, August 13, 2011 in the Bay Vista Room at Holy Names University to work on officer transitions and strategic planning for the upcoming biennium. The Board approved partial funding for the following members to attend the Biennial Convention in late October: Juli Maxwothy (delegate), Sharon Swain (delegate), Fay Bower (past-President STTI), Abby Heydman, (candidate for Region 1 Coordinator), and Nancy Gibbs (Region 1 Coordinator). Also planning to attend are Anna Mullins (President) and Bobbie Richards (Newsletter Editor).

A survey will be sent by email to all Nu Xi chapter members later this fall to assess interest in programs, preferred meeting sites, and desires for member services. Members are encouraged to respond to assist the Board in providing programs of interest.

**Submit An Application for an STTI Nursing Research Grant**

With its continued mission of supporting the advancement of nursing research, the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is currently accepting applications until December 1, 2011 for international and collaborative nursing grants. Grants are made possible through contributions to the Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing's research endowment. Additional information can be found online at the Research Grant Opportunities web page at www.nursingsociety.org.

**Nu Xi Grant Award Application Deadline Announced**

Denise Liu, PhD, RN, Chair of the Research Committee, has announced that applications for Nu Xi Research Grants for 2012 should be submitted by November 28, 2011. The Chapter anticipates that it will have approximately $3,500 to award to support members’ research endeavors in the coming year. Junior faculty and graduate students are encouraged to apply. Inquiries should be directed to dliu@csueastbay.edu

**Nursing Research Congress & Academy of Nursing Science**

Focusing on Leading the Global Practice-Research Interface in the New Millennium, the STTI annual research Congress was held at Cancun, Mexico from July 11-15, 2011. Approximately 600 nurse researchers, educators, administrators, and practitioners from over 30 countries participated in two conferences. The objectives of the conferences were to: (a) Explore innovative strategies that support the education, practice and research interfacing in global, diverse nursing communities; (b) promote international dialogue and opportunities in nursing research, evidence-based practice and education for the new millennium; (c) promote global partnerships in demonstrating the

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**APPLY NOW! for the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy**

The Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (NFLA) is accepting applications until November 18, 2011. NFLA, presented with funding from The Elsevier Foundation, is an exciting, challenging and career-changing experiential learning program for new nurse faculty members who are committed to developing their leadership skills as they transition to the faculty role. For more information please visit the NFLA web page on the STTI website www.nursingsociety.org.

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Tammy Valenta, MS, RN, new Faculty Counselor, SMU

President-CSUEB, Leadership Succession Committee (1 position), Governance Committee, and HNU Faculty Counselor. Inquiries or nominations should be sent to Anna Mullins, President, at Amullins29@comcast.net.

Dr. Kimberly Kim, CSUEB, Presenter at STTI Research Conference

**Tammy Valenta, MS, RN, new Faculty Counselor, SMU**

President-CSUEB, Leadership Succession Committee (1 position), Governance Committee, and HNU Faculty Counselor. Inquiries or nominations should be sent to Anna Mullins, President, at Amullins29@comcast.net.
effectiveness of nursing research; (d) explore strategies for developing and evaluating new models of health care delivery; (e) promote nursing responsiveness to global health care needs; (f) international assembly for nurse researchers to network and share ideas; and (g) stimulate international collaboration in research for global health. There was a special session called, International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame event that awarded 15 international nurse researchers for their work. Two members of Nu Xi at Large, Dr. Kimberly Kim, CSUEB, and recent SMU graduate, Melissa Wong, BSN, presented posters at the Congress.

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 and newsletters.

Call for Abstracts

The 23rd Annual Nursing Research conference sponsored by STTI will be held in Brisbane, Australia on July 30 through August 3, 2012. Abstracts for posters and presentations are due no later than December 7, 2011. The theme of the upcoming conference is: Creating a Legacy through Nursing Research, Innovation and Global Collaboration. Please see the STTI website for more information: www.nursingsociety.org

Complete a Volunteer Interest Profile (VIP) with STTI

Interested in serving on an international committee, reviewing a grant proposal, or running for office? By completing an STTI membership profile and indicating your particular interests, a member's name becomes part of the international database that is used to select STTI members for invitations to serve in various roles. Go to the STTI website (www.nursingsociety.org) and click on the button on the left hand column of the Home Page (Volunteer Connect), then click on VIP profile.

Scholarships Awarded to Six Nursing Students

Nu Xi at Large Chapter awarded six scholarships in the amount of $500.00 each for six students enrolled in the nursing programs of our three member schools this year. Recipients include:

Jenna DeAraujo, a student in the CSU East Bay Nursing program, Concord campus, is 21 years old, from Ripon, California, and before CSUEB attended Modesto Junior College. When she is not traveling, she enjoys painting, bike riding and trying new foods. Jenna expects to graduate December 2012 and plans to seek a position in Medical-Surgical nursing. Her career goals are to do some travel nursing, and eventually get a master's degree.

Claudia Galan, a level 2 nursing student at CSUEB, is 21 years old, bicultural, and bilingual Latina. Enrolled at the Concord campus, Claudia was recently elected Vice President of the East Bay Student Nurses Association. She works as a tutor for impoverished and underprivileged Latino children through the Community College Foundation's 1-2-1 Tutoring Program. Happy and proud to serve her community, she is also a volunteer at the John Muir Concord Campus Emergency Department, and has helped lead the St. Bonaventure Catholic Church Life Teen program.

Two Samuel Merritt and Holy Names students have recently been selected for scholarships and their names, biographies and photos will be in the next newsletter.
**SCHOOL NEWS**

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY**

Michelle Telez, PhD, RN, has been appointed the Level 1 coordinator for the BSN Program at CSUEB Concord Campus. Michelle currently serves as the Vice President-CSUEB for Nu Xi at Large.

**HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY**

HNU’s department has enrolled the largest number of new master’s degree students in its history, with 72 new enrollees this fall. The LVN/BSN program, which was initiated last fall, is also continuing to grow, with a current enrollment of over 96 students and 24 new students expected to enroll in the spring term.

The department of nursing has purchased the new high fidelity SimMan and SimBaby for student clinical instruction. The University is working on the construction of a new Simulation Lab using funds from foundations and alumni to support the project. The goal is to have the new lab in operation for fall 2012.

**SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY**

**RWJ Foundation/AACN Funds Student Scholarships**

In July, the School of Nursing was notified that it had received an award of $150,000 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for student scholarships. SMU is among the 52 schools of nursing across the U.S. which have received funding through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN). NCIN was launched in 2008 to address the national nursing shortage, develop a demographically representative nursing workforce, and fuel the pipeline of nurse faculty and leaders. In this fourth year of awards, NCIN will provide scholarships in the amount of $10,000 each to 400 students entering accelerated nursing programs during the 2011-2012 academic year. To date, the NCIN program has distributed 2,317 scholarships at 109 schools of nursing. SMU has also received word that it will receive a Health Resources and Service Administration Award scholarship grant to support disadvantaged students in nursing. Funds will provide BSN scholarships in the amount of $154,675 and funding for MSN scholarships will amount to $67,319.

**California Board of Registered Nursing Site Visit**

The Board of Registered Nursing conducted a site visit for reapproval of nursing programs during the week of September 19 and will spend several more days visiting the campus in Sacramento. The Western Association of Schools and College will be visiting the campus in November for its Educational Effectiveness Review.

**Sacramento Campus to Move into New Facilities**

The Sacramento campus is moving into a new site which will provide facilities on a single floor in one building and more overall space to support nursing programs.

**Vigil for Michelle Le.**

At a vigil at Samuel Merritt University on September 27 attended by about 150 people, slain nursing student Michelle Le was remembered as an ambitious and organized, yet joyful and thoughtful young woman who wanted to dedicate her life to taking care of others. Michelle, 26, a student in the accelerated BSN program at the San Mateo campus, disappeared from Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Hayward on May 27. Samuel Merritt President Sharon Diaz announced that the university will provide $25,000 to endow an annual scholarship in Le’s name to help students pay their bills while they participate in the nursing program. Diaz said Le’s dream to be a nurse like her mother “was denied to her.” But she told those at the vigil, “Remember Michelle. Remember her dream.”
Ms. Alyssa Abraham, MSN, Clinical Nurse Instructor—Ms. Abraham received her MSN from University of New Hampshire, Durham. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in nursing at University of California, San Francisco. Her areas of interest include postpartum depression, transition to parenthood, family health and theory, partner relationships, and infant and child development. Ms. Abraham provided family-centered care for five years as an obstetrics and pediatrics Staff Nurse at Exeter Hospital in New Hampshire. This fall, Ms. Abraham will have primary responsibility for leading students through their maternity and pediatric clinical rotations at the Oakland, San Francisco, and San Mateo campuses.

Ms. Deborah Africa, MPA, RN, Clinical Nurse Instructor—Ms. Africa holds a MPA in Health Services Administration and a BSN from the University of San Francisco. A Betty Irene Moore Fellow, she is currently pursuing a doctorate in nursing at UCSF with research interest in the analysis of power dynamics particularly within the physician-nurse-patient triad and its impact on patient safety and quality of care. Clinically, she has served as Clinical Nurse Coordinator, Dept. Manager, and Director of Critical Care Services. Ms. Africa has served as Lecturer at CSU Humboldt School of Nursing and College of the Redwoods. An adjunct faculty at SMU since 2010, Deborah will have primary responsibility for teaching medical-surgical nursing and critical care nursing courses for the San Mateo Learning Center.

Ms. Catherine Coffey, Clinical Nurse Instructor—Ms. Coffey is a two-time Samuel Merritt alumna, receiving her diploma in nursing in 1979 and an MSN in 1994. In 1998, she completed a post-master’s pediatric nurse practitioner program at UCSF with a focus on pediatric developmental disabilities and children with chronic illness. Previously holding positions such as Staff/Charge Nurse, Director of Education, Care Manager, Independent Consultant, and Nurse Practitioner, she began teaching in 2004 as Assistant Professor. Ms. Coffey is currently pursuing her doctorate in nursing practice (DNP) at the University of San Francisco. Most recently, she served as Assistant Professor at Humboldt State University where she was lead faculty for Pediatric Nursing, Intro to Professional Nursing, and Nursing Research. Ms. Coffey will be teaching pediatric nursing for the Oakland, San Francisco, and San Mateo campuses this fall.

Ms. Karen Kelly, BSN, MPH, Assistant Professor—Ms. Kelly holds a BSN from Creighton University and an MPH from Johns Hopkins University. Ms. Kelly has assumed various positions as a public health nurse, including 26 years of service with the Kaiser Permanente organization in roles such as Home Health and Hospice Home Care Services Manager, Ambulatory Care Services Manager, and Home Health Clinical Supervisor. She first came on-board with SMU School of Nursing as the Kaiser Permanente Clinical Coordinator in 2006-2007, and has since transitioned to teach in the area of community health nursing as adjunct faculty for the San Francisco and San Mateo campuses. Returning in the full-time Assistant Professor role, Ms. Kelly will have primary responsibility of teaching community health nursing theory courses and clinical rotations for the San Mateo Learning Center.

Ms. Janet Mekonnen, MSN, RN, Clinical Nurse Instructor—Ms. Mekonnen obtained her MSN from Dominican University and also holds a Master’s degree in Health Care Administration from St. Mary’s College. Ms. Mekonnen has 25 years of nursing experience in institutions such as Princeton Medical Center, Kaiser Oakland, and Marin General Hospital. Since 1999, Ms. Mekonnen has been teaching as Clinical and Skills Lab Instructor at Contra Costa College. She began teaching as Adjunct Faculty for SMU School of Nursing in 2009. Ms. Mekonnen will have primary responsibility for teaching medical-surgical nursing clinical rotations for the San Mateo and San Francisco Learning Centers.

Ms. Christine Reardon, MSN, CNS-G, Assistant Professor—Ms. Reardon received her MSN in Nursing Education and a CNS certification in the area of geriatrics from Dominican University. She began teaching for SMU in 2008 as Assistant Professor, in courses such as Pharmacology/Pathophysiology, Introduction to Nursing, Research, Healthy Aging, and medical-surgical nursing. In 2010, she relocated to Southern California and transitioned to adjunct faculty. Christine is returning to full-time this fall to continue teaching Pharmacology/Pathophysiology, Introduction to Nursing, and Healthy Aging as Assistant Professor for the Oakland campus.

Dr. Nancy Smee, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor—Currently a post-doctoral fellow focusing on research in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment at University of California, San Francisco, Dr. Smee holds a PhD in Nursing and MSN from UCSF, and an MPH from University of California, Berkeley. She is a Certified Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwife. Dr. Smee comes with a wealth of experience in academia, including teaching with San Francisco State University, UCSF, and Stanford University. Since 2008, she has been teaching full-time at the University of San Francisco. Dr. Smee works globally on improving women’s health (focusing on Africa), and is a founding member of the non-profit organization “Insight World Aid” whose mission is to provide humanitarian medical care and services to impoverished communities globally. This fall, Dr. Smee will be primarily responsible for teaching in the area of community health nursing for the San Francisco Learning Center.

Dr. Paul Smith, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor—Dr. Smith obtained his PhD in Nursing and MSN from UCSF. His doctoral research focused on symptomatic hypotension, venous oximetry and outpatient hemodialysis, stemming from a history of clinical experience in acute hemodialysis and critical care nursing. His work experience dates back to 1985, assuming roles such as Travel Nurse, Flight Nurse, Clinical Nurse and Patient Care Manager primarily in the area of critical care nursing. Dr. Smith’s teaching experience includes instruction.
Fusae Kondo Abbott, DNSc, RN, Associate Professor, SMU School of Nursing; Wendy De Vreugd, MBA, FNP, Senior Director, Case Management, Western Region, Kindred Healthcare, Hospital Division, and Janet Rowland, MSN, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, presented a poster, Evaluation of an MSN New Graduate Orientation and Mentorship Program, at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University.

Suzanne August-Schwarz, DNP, FNP, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, has been elected President of the Samuel Merritt University Faculty Organization.

Audrey Berman, PhD, RN, Professor and Dean, School of Nursing, reports the following recent publications:


Cecily Cosby, PhD, FNP, PA-C, DFAAPA, Professor, and Director of Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, SMU, and Laurie Paolinetti MPAS, PA-C, Assistant Professor, SMU, presented a poster, “A Comparison of Genital Findings Between Sexual Assault and Consensual Intercourse” at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University. Cecily also gave a podium presentation, “Five Gender Cases across the Lifespan,” at the California Association of Nurse Practitioners 34th Annual Education Conference. San Francisco, CA. March 20, 2011.

Valerie Dzubur, EdD, RN, Associate Professor, SMU School of Nursing, reports the following publications and presentations:


Mariam Eisenhardt, MPH, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, and Marjorie Hammer, MSN, FNP, Assistant Professor, SMU, presented a paper, “The Spirit Seminars: Cultural Content Integration.”

Michelle Hampton, PhD, RN, Associate Professor of Nursing, SMU School of Nursing, was reappointmented as a postdoctoral fellow supported by NINR/NIH HIV/AIDS Nursing Care and Prevention Training Grant, July 2011–June 2012. Michele reports the following articles accepted for publication:


Nancy Haugen, PhD, RN, Associate Professor and Chair, ABSN Program, SMU School of Nursing reports the following recent publications:


Kimberly Kim, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, CSUEB, presented a poster at the 22nd STTI International Research Congress in Cancun, Mexico, July 11-15, 2010. “Clinical Competence of Se-
nior Nursing Students.” Its purpose is to describe the clinical competence of 130 culturally diverse nursing students enrolled in senior preceptorship and to examine the relationship between the levels of clinical competency skills and confidence of students. Kimberly also moderated two research sessions: ‘What is the Return on Investment (ROI) of Simulation;’ and ‘Using Simulation to Teach and Explore Ways to Conduct Research Using Simulation.’ Recently Kimberly was invited to participate in the National Institute of Health (NIH) research section as one of the scientific panel reviewers; and evaluated RFAs submitted for the Community Health Promotion Research Section during summer; and presented her review at Bethesda, MD on September 26 and 27, 2011.

**Jennifer McAdam, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU, presented a paper, Symptom Experiences of Family Members of High Risk of Dying ICU Patients, at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University. Jennifer, along with colleagues K. Dracup, D. White, D. Fontaine, and K. Puntillo also presented a poster on this topic, at the Society of Critical Care Medicine Annual Congress in San Diego, January, 2011.**

**Pamela Minarik, PhD, RN, PMH-CNS-BC, FAAN, Professor, SMU School of Nursing gave a peer reviewed presentation, “Depressive Symptoms, Sleep Disturbance and Chronic Illness in Diverse Midlife Women: a Longitudinal Study,” at the International Society of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses Annual Conference. Tucson, Arizona, April 2, 2011.**

**Rhonda Ramirez, EdD, FNP-BC, Associate Professor, has accepted the position of Director, Family Nurse Practitioner Program, at SMU School of Nursing. Rhonda is a 1996 alum from the SMU FNP program and completed an EdD in Organization and Leadership at the School of Education, University of San Francisco, in 2006. She has been a full-time member of the SMU faculty since the fall of 2007 and has served as interim FNP director for the past year.**


**H. Paul Smith, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, SMU School of Nursing, presented a paper, “Symptomatic Hypotension, Venous Oximetry, and Outpatient Hemodialysis,” at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University. Paul also presented this paper at the American Nephrology Nurses’ Association National Symposium. Boston, MA. March 28, 2011.**

**Michelle Tellez, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor & Level I Coordinator, CSUEB-Concord.**


**Paulina Van, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, SMU, and Anne Guptill, PhD, Associate Professor, CSUEB, College of Education and Allied Studies, presented a paper, “Reading Research Reports: A Technological Solution to an Age Old Challenge for Students,” at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University.**

**Karen Wolf, PhD, RN, Professor School of Nursing, and Margaret Early, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, presented a poster, “Nursing Faculty Clinical Teaching Knowledge Assessment,” at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University. Karen also presented a paper (with D. Rogers), “Toward Standards and Guidelines for Inter-professional Practice,” at the National Academies of Practice Annual Forum. Arlington, VA. March, 2011. More of Karen’s work on nursing history, Repaving the path to professionalism in nursing education: In remembrance of Isabel Hampton Robb, was published in Nursing Education Perspectives. April 2011, Vol. 32, No. 2, pp. 138-138. doi: 10.5480/1536-5026-32.2.138**

- Karen Wolf, PhD, RN, Professor, SMU; Cecily Cosby, PhD, FNP, Professor, SMU, and Arlene Sargent, EdD, RN, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, SMU, presented a poster, “The Doctor of Nursing Practice, A Degree Whose Time Has Come,” at the 2011 Spring Science Symposium at Samuel Merritt University.

**Melissa E. Wong, BS, ABSN Nursing Student, Samuel Merritt University, had a poster accepted for presentation at the 22nd SSTI International Research Congress in Cancun, Mexico, July 11-15, 2010. The title of her poster is: “Influences for Risk Reduction Surgery After BRCA Testing”. The poster summarizes a review of the literature and aids healthcare providers to assess different motivations for risk reducing surgery and identify areas where patients need additional education about risk reducing surgery.**

—School News continued from page 8 in medical surgical nursing with UCSF’s MEPN program, and guest lecturing for both UCSF and SMU’s nursing programs. In January 2011, Paul began teaching for SMU as an Assistant Professor with primary responsibility in the areas of medical surgical nursing and critical care nursing for the San Francisco Learning Center.