



Project Homeless Connect (PHC)

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www.projecthomelessconnect.com

"It was an inspiring event to see the community coming together and providing multiple services to the homeless community," says Kerry Leung, Senior II BSN students got together for their Community Health class and contributed to the event. They provided medical services and street outreach.

According to PHC's website, 2497 individuals were connected to services with the help of 1598 volunteers. 22,727 pounds of groceries were given. 258 medical service interactions were made.

Pictured Above (Left to Right): Shayla-Mae Pamatigan, Armand McKeller, Minx Manuel, Chelsey Littleton.



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Two SMU students reflect on CAPHSA Lobby Day

Sacramento, Ca
BY: SARAH AQUINO & ROSY FOX, ELMSN-CM

Prior to participating in the California Health Professional Student Alliance (CAPHSA) Lobby Days, we did not have much knowledge about how the lobbying process worked. While we both are strongly in support of universal healthcare, we were uncertain as to how we could get involved and make a difference. Going to Lobby days gave us an opportunity to learn about the SB810 bill in depth, learn the power and value in meeting with our district assemblymen and women, and network with other health care students who believe in this important issue.

Not only were these two days informative and enlightening, they were truly fun. Getting to meet other students from all

over California created new bonds and friendships that may never have ever been had it not been for this experience.

The highlight of the two days was getting to sit down and meet with an actual assemblyman and his staff. Though he opposed the bill, we were still able to engage in dialogue, present research

findings and discover common ground.

The march through downtown Sacramento to the California Capital building was exciting, unifying and empowering. It was amazing to see that we were among 500 other students who were so passionate and

involved. We especially enjoyed seeing the California Nurses Association there to show solidarity and support. Both of us were so inspired by this event that we became members of CAPHSA, and plan on staying involved with upcoming activities.

"The march through downtown Sacramento was exciting, unifying, and empowering."

We are so glad that Samuel Merritt University encouraged us to participate in Lobby Days. We now feel more informed

about the single payer health care system, have made contacts, discovered resources and are better equipped to educate and advocate more effectively for our future patients and communities.

Click www.calauhc.org



Upcoming SMU Events

All are welcome and encouraged to attend school-wide events. For more information, contact sba@samuelmerritt.edu.

- **CSPM White Coat Ceremony Class of 2013 – March 12, 2010 @ 5:30PM – 7:30PM**
Ceremony in the Fontaine Auditorium. Reception in Bechtel Room.
- **Undergraduate BSN Pinning Ceremony Class of Spring 2010 – May 5, 2010 @ 4PM**
Location TBA.

L'EDITOR (L'etter from the EDITOR)

Tired of seeing the same people in the SCOOP?! Share your thoughts (and pictures) by emailing me, Rizel Santos, at Scoop@samuelmerritt.edu. Please submit requests one month in advance as space is limited. This has been a Student Body Association publication. **One more month people!**

SPECIAL THANKS: Craig Elliott, Juner Valencia, & Viewers Like You!



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TheScoop

BY THE STUDENTS, FOR THE STUDENTS

Project Homeless Connect (PHC)

SF Bill Graham Civic Auditorium
February 24, 2010

Juner Valencia, BSN

In February 2010, I was a volunteer for Project Homeless Connect. I saw every client and volunteer come in at registration. We guided the volunteers and helped pair them with a client. We were able to help homeless clients receive the necessity to gain assistance with finances, health, vision, massage, food, housing, and, importantly, a day to feel important. Mayor Newsom (pictured below with Juner Valencia) made an appearance to the volunteers and the clients PHC serves.

I was amazed to see numerous Samuel Merritt University (SMU) students from San Mateo, San Francisco, and Oakland campuses volunteering at PHC. Many students volunteered with the medical crew and provided clients with basic check ups and referrals. Overall, PHC was successful because of its many volunteers. It is great to see SMU students contribute their skills.

Please visit their website for upcoming volunteer opportunities throughout 2010.

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Remembering Patricia Harvey Webb, EdD, RN

BY: SARAH ERWIN, BSN SR II DECEMBER 2010

On Thursday, February 25, 2010, sixty faculty, staff and students gathered in the Fontaine Auditorium to mourn the loss of Dr. Patricia Webb. Webb was a beloved nursing instructor at Samuel Merritt University (SMU) and had been a part of the community for thirty years. Many of Webb's colleagues shared beautiful stories and memories of her, including her pride in her sons and grandson, her eloquence when explaining EKG strips to students, and her love of Fenton's. Those who attended the memorial were privileged to hear Pat Webb's youngest son, David, share his and his bothers' memories of their mother; as well as hear a few songs from Pat Webb's favorite music artist George Strait.

Dr. Webb was primarily recognized as the course manager for Medical-Surgical III: Critical Care, however, she also helped establish the Pathophysiology course as well as many other learning opportunities in the nursing program. She also had research focused on *Women's Knowledge of Risk Factors for Heart Disease*, in the United States and Japan. She was a member of and collaborated with American Nurses Association, American Heart Association, American Association of Critical Care Nurses, the Japanese Society of Nursing Research, and Sigma Theta Tau, the international nursing honor society. Dr. Webb was also a part of several charities and non-profit organizations. These included Project Pride, Shoes that Fit, Advanced Cardiac Life Support prep course, Women's Health Issues Seminar, evaluation courses for RN Nursing Student

Preceptors, elementary school classes, Cardiac Care workshops, March of Dimes, career days and Advice Nurse for Vacation Bible School.

SMU faculty members are currently working on establishing a scholarship fund in Patricia Webb's name. When the fund is confirmed please make your check payable to: *Samuel Merritt University* with a notation to *Webb Scholarship*. Send your contribution to Samuel Merritt c/o Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, 450 30th Street Suite 2840 Oakland, CA 94609. All benefactors will be acknowledged and Dr. Webb's family will be notified of your generosity.

For those of you who knew Dr. Patricia Webb either as a

colleague or a past student, please take some time to reflect on the time spent with her and the memories you have of her. A memorial book is currently being put together as a gift to her family. Letters and stories are being accepted by email until April 15th. Email Sarah Erwin at sarah.erwin@samuelmerritt.edu for more information or to submit a story.



EAR ON IT

Music Recommendations
By: Jared Cordtz, BSN SR11 Student

Miles Davis



Lately, I've been in a crime movie, who-done-it type mood, and I think the rain is adding this interest. Doesn't it always seem as though detectives are always at their desk with a dusty lamp barely lighting the room, trying to crack some case while rain is tapping on the window? If I were to make a movie like this I would put Miles Davis album "Nefertiti" as the soundtrack. It's gloomy, moody and perfect for a rainy day.

Papa M



The second recommendation I have is a recent re-discovery of mine by Papa M titled "Live From a Shark's Cage." Again it is another all instrumental album, I can't really explain the sound of this album, it's a lot of beautifully orchestrated haunting guitars, it's something you'll just have to take a chance on, and if you do, the song "Plastic Energy Man" do right by you. It's a thinking album.



A Day in the Life.

BY: BERGIT ARCTANDER,
BSN STUDENT DECEMBER 2010

Close your eyes and imagine that you are pregnant with your fourth child. Ambivalence is your first feeling. Your husband of ten years, a hard working house painter, suffered a career-ending fall from a ladder and is on disability. Your part-time job at McDonald's does not provide any benefits and you will need to quit before your baby reaches term. You are trying to imagine seven months into the future when you will be ready to give birth to this child. Resources in your community for pregnant women and families can make all the difference in the years ahead.

Nurses in Bay Area Hospitals working in the Labor and Delivery department are likely to deliver her fourth child. Are they aware of the resources available in her community to help her in a meaningful fashion? This is the scenario that four Samuel Merritt University (SMU) BSN Nursing Students in their Maternity Nursing rotation had on their minds as they visited the West Oakland Community. Honing their community assessment skills on site, they were able to experience first hand some of the options available. These students had to conceptualize what sorts of nursing interventions could add to the quality of life for pregnant women, their families, and neighborhood residents.

Putting together the community resources, family logistics is like a puzzle. One must provision for a family of five *without a car*. An onlooker will get an inkling of the challenges and frustration this family will face. Living on a paycheck from



Top: A run down park in West Oakland.
Above: Bergit Arctander, BSN SR11, takes a picture of the memorial for the fatalities of the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake which leveled the I-880 Cypress freeway.

McDonald's and a disability check, does not leave much money for food and fun. Better get on the bus to the big box store in Emeryville! Think about getting to Alta Bates Hospital to delivery this baby. On a weekday during commute hours, you could take the #19 bus and then switch to #51, which would get you about two blocks from the hospital. How close together are the contractions? At night or on a weekend? A cab would be necessary due to the shortened delivery time necessary for baby number four. On second thought, you would need a cab anytime, but you would need to have that arranged before hand since many cab companies do not pick up in West Oakland. Getting to Highland Hospital would not be any easier.

The West Oakland Community we roamed though for our project must have been beautiful in the time when Samuel Merritt was alive as evidenced by the aging Victorian homes in the neighborhood. Now, the air is laden with diesel fumes and soot from bordering rail yards, thousands of trucks entering and leaving the Port of Oakland daily, and tens of thousands of commuters and their cars. They add to the environment injustice, which wrought the community over the years, and continues unabated. Asthma rates in both children and adults exceed all other Oakland neighborhood. The West Oakland Health Clinic (www.wohc.org) provides a variety of health care services on a sliding scale including Obstetric services although their services are stretched thin due to the lack of alternative health care options for the many residents who lack health insurance.

As nurses, we many be able to help alleviate some of the strain on WOHC and work toward reducing levels of neonatal mortality in the West Oakland African American community. Some of the many ways to help are through collaborating with the local community foundation to provide local prenatal care, in the form of a mother's drop-in care center, information help line, and nutritional education workshops.

Active learning activities like our Maternity nursing case scenario provide an opportunity for us as students to spend some time walking in the shoes of someone with very different realities than our own. Walking around the neighborhood and talking to people gives one a much more real sense of their human experience than having someone in a classroom lecturing you on a similar phenomenon. Critical thinking does not come in a bottle, and assignments like this provide an excellent opportunity for us to think on our feet. SMU provides and prepares essential training and practices for future RN's of America!



2010 WINTER MIXER. BY: KAREN JARDINE, ELMSN

On Friday, January 15th, Samuel Merritt's Student Body Association (SBA) hosted the second annual student mixer at Mua, a restaurant and lounge in Oakland (www.muaoakland.com). The mixer was a great success, thanks to fantastic student turnout. Over 100 students attended, representing all the programs Samuel Merritt University has to offer, from podiatry to nursing, physical therapy to future Physician's Assistants (PA).

The greatest turnout, however, was from the first-year Master's in Occupational Therapy (MOT) class, who won a prize for the highest percentage of class members attending. The first-year PA and second-year Entry-Level Masters in Nursing (ELMSN) classes weren't far behind.



The purpose of the mixer was to encourage students from different programs to mingle and meet each other, as many students rarely get the opportunity to interact with students from other classes and programs while on campus. Another goal of the mixer was to welcome students back to school after winter break and to promote student involvement in the SBA. The purpose of the SBA is to provide a forum for representatives of each class or cohort to meet once a month and discuss concerns and ideas relevant to their class and organize fun events for students, like the mixer. Upcoming SBA events and programs include a running club and a BBQ. The SBA is always looking for more student involvement, so if you'd like to get involved with improving student life on your campus, e-mail the SBA: sba@samuelmerritt.edu.

All in all, the main purpose of the winter

mixer was for students to have fun. Student Yui Nishiike thought the mixer was a "grand time" and said, "I'll be there next year."

Click www.samuelmerritt.edu/SBA.

Below: Pomai Neil smiles for the camera.
Bottom Left: Kerry Leung, one of the organizers of the event, passes out tickets to SMU mixer attendees.
Bottom Right: Maria Maldonado, Rizel Santos (SBA President), Todd Yee (SBA VP), & Carol Mijares mix it up.



SMU Commencement 2010

Samuel Merritt University's 2010 Commencement ceremonies will take place on Friday, May 28th at The Paramount Theatre in Oakland.

A 10:00 AM ceremony will be held for Doctor of Physical Therapy and Doctor of Podiatric Medicine program graduates. A 2:00 PM ceremony will be held for graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN and ABSN), Master of Science in Nursing (Case Management, Family Nurse Practitioner, and MSN Online), Master of Occupational Therapy, and Master Physician Assistant programs. The University is pleased to announce that Arnold P. Gold, MD and Sandra O. Gold, EdD of [The Arnold P. Gold Foundation](http://www.smu.edu/arnoldgold) will deliver the Commencement address at both ceremonies. [The Arnold P. Gold Foundation](http://www.smu.edu/arnoldgold) aims to advance humanism in medicine. Through innovative medical education, the foundation promotes and affirms more compassionate medical care and caregivers.

Rehearsals will be held on Thursday, May 27th at The Paramount. The rehearsal for participants in the Bachelors and Masters Commencement ceremony will be held at 10:00 AM and the rehearsal for participants in the Doctoral Commencement ceremony will be at 12:00 PM.

Click [here](#) for answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Commencement.

[Family and friends of graduates, please click here for Commencement information.](#)

If you have additional questions about Commencement, please contact Amy Anderson (aanderson@samuelmerritt.edu, 510-869-6744) or Jamie Hirota (jhirota@samuelmerritt.edu, 510-869-6647) in the Office of Academic Affairs.