Nu Xi at Large received its sixth Chapter Key Award at the 2014 STTI Biennial Convention in Indianapolis. Susan Cantrell, President-elect accepted the award on behalf of the Chapter. The award was given in recognition of the Chapter’s efforts at collaboration with other chapters and professional organizations, active engagement of members in the leadership intern program, philanthropy to groups such as the Davis Street Clinic, and the award of six scholarships annually to nursing students enrolled in the three affiliated universities. Chapter officers remain committed to achieving excellence in chapter operations and will be reviewing new guidelines for Chapter Key Awards at their next meeting.
First President from Outside of North America Installed

Between 1929 and 2013, 29 presidents have served (some for more than two years) and in November, Hester Matthee Klopper, PhD, MBA, RN, RM, FANSA, of South Africa was installed as the 30th president of an organization now known as Sigma Theta Tau International and the first person to serve in that role from outside North America.

A leader in her Chapter, Tau Lambda at large, with more than 2800 members from 18 universities across South Africa, President Klopper’s installation was greeted as a major step in the globalization of STTI. Her election and recent installation are seen as a good day for her friends and colleagues in South Africa, who celebrated the occasion seven time zones away; a good day for the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town, where Klopper recently served as dean of the Faculty of Health and Community Science; a good day for the Forum of University Nursing Deans in South Africa (FUNDISA), where she currently serves as chief executive officer; and a good day for the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International. Members attending the convention were thrilled with a warm African dance performed to celebrate the beginning of Dr. Klopper’s term.
Erin Matsuda DNP, RN, PNP Presents Poster at STTI Convention

“I graduated from Samuel Merritt University in December 2012. Towards the end of my schooling, Dr. Cecily Cosby, DNP Chair for Samuel Merritt, nominated me for the Rising Stars of Scholarship and Research student poster presentation and requested I submit an abstract for review. I submitted an abstract to STTI, which was accepted for a poster presentation at the 42nd Biennial Convention. With the help of Dr. Patricia Brennan and Chelsea Bangert from Samuel Merritt, we created a beautiful poster. I was able to attend the convention for the weekend of November 16th and 17th. I participated in various speaking sessions and the three poster presentation viewing session.

“My abstract and poster are based on the culmination of my Doctor of Nursing Practice project. I utilized the Joanna Briggs Institute as the framework for my review. My area of interest was a systematic review assessing the effectiveness of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices in adolescents with type 1 diabetes who were utilizing an insulin pump. I compared CGM to the gold standard of self-glucose monitoring alone. Through my research I determined there was no statistical difference between the intervention and comparator in relation to improving hemoglobin A1C levels. I learned compliance with the device was directly correlated to improved metabolic outcomes. However, in the adolescent population there are several barriers to use. I am currently working to publish the manuscript of my project in its entirety.(Article contributed by Erin Matsuda. Partial support for attendance at the Convention was provided by Nu Xi at Large.)
Aisha Mays, MD has a passion for working with vulnerable youth stemming from her years as Medical Director of Juvenile Hall of Alameda County. Invited to be guest speaker at the Nu Xi Chapter At Large fall general meeting on November 13, 2013, Dr. Mays presented and discussed the topic of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) with an audience comprised of Nu Xi members, RN and FNP students, and faculty from California State University East Bay, Samuel Merritt, and Holy Names University. Additionally, patient advocates from Asian Health Center were among the audience. Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is a commercial transaction that involves the sexual exploitation of a child, such as the prostitution of children and child pornography.

In 2009 while Medical Director of Juvenile Hall, Dr. Mays became aware of the issue of CSEC when she realized that 64% of the female residents were sexually exploited youth. Her work in juvenile detention inspired her to become more involved in community advocacy for sexually exploited youth and she currently focuses her efforts on the medical implications of childhood commercial sexual exploitation, CSEC community education, and CSEC prevention.

Dr. Mays brought an awareness of CSEC issues to healthcare providers in order to better assist in screening, assessing, and working with vulnerable adolescents. H.E.A.T. Watch (Human Exploitation and Trafficking Watch) cites Oakland as “a thriving underage sex market, and is the epicenter of a trafficking triangle between San Francisco & Contra Costa counties.” Organizations such as MISSSEY (Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting, and Serving Sexually Exploited Youth), GEMS (Girls Educational and Mentoring Services), and Banteay Srei (working with Southeast Asian women and girls) provide direct services to youth or collaborate with organizations committed to helping young women and girls who have been affected by commercial exploitation.

Dr. Mays provides CSEC trainings and talks throughout the state of California and in 2012 she created a school based health center CSEC Screening Protocol to help identify at-risk and affected youth. This screening protocol is being used and is now recommended for screening in all of Oakland Unified School District’s middle and high school based health centers. Dr. Mays is also working with other community research partners to further identify and evaluate the physical and mental health indicators of youth who are affected by commercial sexual exploitation and to validate a screening tool to identify at-risk youth. (Article contributed by Rhonda Ramirez, EdD, FNP.)
Spring 2014 Annual Business & Program Meeting Dinner

Nu Xi at Large Chapter

March 6, 2014 (Thursday)
6:00 PM

Speaker: Jennifer Winters, PhD, RN, GNP

Topic: The Experience of Newly Licensed Registered Nurses in Caring for Older Adults During Acute Hospitalization

California State University East Bay- Concord Campus
4700 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Concord, CA 94521 (925) 602-6700

Redwood Room in the Campus Union Building

Food & drink will be provided gratis with response (RSVP!) by February 25 to Susan Cantrell: scantrell@samuelmerritt.edu

Faculty members bringing a group of students are asked to notify Susan with numbers so food can be ordered.

Parking is available in the Student Lot. Pay with cash or credit card-$2 per hour at the pay station located in the lot. Parking fees are enforced in the evening.

Need a map? Access the CSU East Bay Campus Map at this site: http://www20.csueastbay.edu/about/visitor-information/maps-campus-locations/concord-campus-map/index.html
Elizabeth Sy was selected by the CSU East Bay faculty as the recipient of a Nu Xi at Large Scholarship for 2013-14. Elizabeth, a student in the BSN program, is dedicated to helping women empower themselves so that they can empower their communities. Elizabeth is cofounder and Board President for Banteay Srei, an organization based in Oakland, CA that works with young Southeast Asian women that are impacted by the underground sex trade. When Elizabeth is not studying or fundraising, she can be found outside, exploring and reconnecting with the land. Elizabeth is a wilderness instructor for Balanced Rock Foundation and helps to guide the only nationally organized backpacking trip for women of color.

Workshop for CSUEB Nursing Students – Hayward Campus

A career event workshop was held for nursing students on December 3rd, 2013. The event was successful and drew 40 participants. Six students who graduated from the CSU program and are working in local hospitals were invited to share their portfolios and the process of getting a job. An interview skills event is planned for February 2014.

CSU Students Pinned

The CSUEB Concord Level 3 cohort enjoyed a Pinning Ceremony on December 13, 2013. The Hayward Level 3 cohorts’ Pinning Ceremony is scheduled for March 22, 2014.

East Bay Student Nurses Association

(EBSNA) has been a chapter of National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) since 1980s. This year, for the first time, representatives from EBSNA were able to attend the NSNA Midyear Conference and represent California State University, East Bay. The conference provided an opportunity to learn about innovative strategies to support medical missions. EBSNA strives to empower both our community of student nurses and the members and non-profit organizations of our local communities.

With approximately ninety student volunteers, EBSNA has successfully coordinated and/or participated in various events held at CSUEB, including American Red Cross Blood Drives and the 2013 Bay Area Science Festival. During the 2013 Science Festival, CSUEB student nurses provided basic health screenings (e.g. blood pressure, BMI, blood glucose) to over two hundred community members!

Volunteers have also assisted various non-profit organizations (e.g. MedShare, Project Homeless Connect) and have worked with Kaiser Permanente to promote health education on such topics as the Flu and Diabetes at local community festivals. Ultimately, these opportunities enrich the students’ learning experiences by offering a realistic setting to reinforce and broaden their knowledge and practice their basic nursing or interpersonal skills.

EBSNA also believes in the importance of giving back to the students. Currently, the board is working on establishing a scholarship fund for the student. This year, the EBSNA has secured a $500 grant, and is currently securing an additional $1000 donation to utilize for its scholarship foundation. The scholarship is awarded to a deserving candidate who demonstrates financial need, academic excellence and serves the community. (Article provided by Shivneel Sen, President, EBSNA-Hayward and Nichole Maharaj)

California State East Bay Student Nurses Association – Concord

During January and February, EBSNA and other Concord nursing students will take part in Nursing/Health Sciences Info Day at the Concord campus. Over 150 local high school students will visit the university to learn about various careers in health sciences through interactive demonstrations and workshops. Also in February, EBSNA members will be panelists at the Pre-Medical and Pre-Health CSUEB and American Medical Association Conference.

EBSNA Concord has also teamed up with a representative of “Free Wheelchair Mission” to help raise funds to build, ship, and provide free wheelchairs to those unable to walk or afford wheelchairs in developing countries. “Free Wheelchair Mission” works with local vendors to bring the cost of production down for each wheelchair, totaling $71.88 per chair, which allows the non-profit to make and distribute even more chairs. The organization also teaches those receiving the wheelchair how to build and care for their unit. EBSNA is collaborating with other students from the Concord Campus to host a blood drive for the Red Cross in spring of 2014. Last summer, our students participated in “Relay For Life” in the summer.
of 2013, raising $1,300.00 for cancer research. Donations and participation made by our classmates and their family members made this event a huge success. (Article contributed by Jennifer Villareal, President, EBSNA, Concord & Nicole Laurent, Community Relations Director, EBSNA, Concord)

CSUEB Hayward Promise Neighborhood Initiative

CSUEB nursing students have been participating in the Hayward Promise Neighborhood initiative. This initiative is a neighborhood based partnership of CSUEB and Hayward community partners with the goal of enhancing educational outcomes for students “cradle to career” in the Jackson Triangle neighborhood. Recognizing that good educational outcomes are dependent on the health of the community, families and children, the nursing students have been partnering with Americorp and the Hayward Unified School District to provide health education activities in the Parent Centers and Youth Enrichment centers. Students have also participated in health screening, community assessment, and family health fairs. The Hayward Promise Neighborhood initiative is interdisciplinary and funded by a Promise Neighborhood $25 million grant to university. To date, 30 nursing students have participated in providing over 50 presentations to more than 130 families. Claire Valderama Wallace and Mimi Akaba provide the clinical supervision for the nursing students in this project and Dr. Lynn Van Hofwegen is the faculty lead in nursing for this university wide project. This interdisciplinary project is providing a great way for students and the university to contribute back to the local community.

HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY

New HNU Faculty Appointments

This spring we are delighted to welcome Tricia Nwokocha RN, MSN to our full time clinical faculty. Tricia has a MSN in health care informatics and comes to us with strong medical-surgical and geriatric teaching skills. Tricia taught for us as an adjunct faculty and already she has shown how much she enjoys a challenging and progressive learning environment. She is teaching med/surg and geriatric clinical this semester, both in the new Nursing Simulation Center and in various acute care settings. The students are excited to have her in their classroom and we are excited to have her join the team. Jennifer Winters, PhD, GP, RN, has also accepted a full time faculty position at Holy Names University. Jennifer will be the keynote speaker for the Spring Program Meeting on March 6 at CSU East Bay, Concord campus. Her topic is: The Experience of Newly Licensed Registered Nurses in Caring for Older Adults during Acute Hospitalization.

New Sim Center Opened

Since our last report to Nu-Xi we had a grand opening of our Nursing Simulation Center, which was funded by foundation and private donors. It was a fun event, all simulators were breathing and talking, and guests were suitably impressed with the amount of technology we can squeeze into two modular units on campus! Two simulation rooms, two debriefing rooms, a 6-bed nursing bay, a multi-purpose classroom, 2 offices and a control room have been incorporated into the facility, making this an excellent working lab for students at all levels. Our FNP students can have their standardized patients as well as use of the high fidelity simulators in the center, while the pre-licensure students benefit from real-life high and low tech scenarios to gain confidence and promote safe, effective care for their patients when they enter practice settings. The center has been in constant use since it opened, including students requesting evenings and weekends to practice!

New RN-MSN Option

Programmatically, HNU has added a RN-MSN program to our Master’s offerings, with both nurse educator and nurse administrator tracks. We will kick off the program this semester with 16 new ADN students enrolled, which makes a total of 27 new nurse educator students since this time last year!

LVN-BSN Pinning Ceremony

Our LVN-BSN program has suspended admissions while we reexamine student needs, as well as the curriculum, in order to provide the highest quality program of study. The
program has undergone many changes since its inception, and evaluative reflection will guide future decisions. In the meantime, we had a lovely pinning ceremony for 22 graduates in December 2013, and we anticipate the same amount of students graduating in May.

**SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY**

**Robert Wood Johnson Grant Awarded**

Samuel Merritt University (SMU) was awarded a $100,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to provide scholarship funds for underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students in the University’s accelerated nursing programs.

The award will fund 10 scholarships of $10,000 each for the 2013-2014 academic year, supporting SMU’s continued efforts to reduce financial barriers to enrollment and further diversify the nursing program. It is the fifth year in a row that SMU has received a grant from the New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN), an initiative of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Diversifying the healthcare workforce is a top priority for Samuel Merritt University and we recognize our responsibility for graduating nurses who are reflective of the communities we serve,” said Aara Amidi-Nouri, PhD, the director of diversity for the SMU School of Nursing. “These scholarships make a huge difference in our students’ ability to attend school.”

Notes & News from the Program in Nurse Anesthesia

The PNA Class of 2013 had a 100% pass rate on their first attempt at the National Certification Exam for CRNA’s. All 25 graduates are now CRNA’s. The PNA is hosting the Third Annual Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Conference on March 22 and 23rd. After a national search, alum’s Ora Bollinger, CRNA, MSN and Erick Pierce, CRNA, MSN have been hired as faculty. PNA Director, Marc Code’s DNP Capstone Abstract was selected as a poster presentation to be displayed at the International Medical Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH) Conference in San Francisco in January.

SMU Welcomes New and Returning Faculty

Recent faculty appointments in the School of Nursing include returning faculty: Brandy Beazley (ABSN Oakland); Loretta Camarano (ABSN SFPLC); & Valerie Dzubur (FNP Oakland). New faculty appointments to teach in the Accelerated BSN program at the San Francisco Peninsula Learning Center include: Susan Forsyth, Donna Ocampo, Brenda Rengstorff.

Transition to Practice Program to be Offered

Samuel Merritt University School of Nursing and California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) in San Francisco have partnered to sponsor a Transition to Practice program for 18 newly graduated RNs from various Bay Area nursing schools. The 12 week program will begin in February 2014 with Brandy Beaz-
ley, RN, SMU faculty coordinating the clinical experiences of the program. The T2P interns will be assigned across several of the CPMC campuses for their clinical portion of the program.

Sister School Relationship Established

Six representatives from Samuel Merritt University went to Hamamatsu, Japan, in early November for a signing ceremony that celebrated the official launch of a sister university relationship between Seirei Christopher University and Samuel Merritt University. Seirei Christopher University is a health sciences university with comparable health science programs to Samuel Merritt University. Representatives from SMU included Sharon Diaz, University President, Kate Haynor, Chairperson of Occupational Therapy, Cynthia Ulman, Vice President of Strategic Planning, and three members from the School of Nursing: Audrey Berman, Dean; Arlene Sargent, Associate Dean, and Fusae Abbott, Director of Case Management, who served as the primary interpreter and tour director. Initial exchange opportunities between the two universities are being explored in nursing, physical therapy and occupational therapy. The School of Nursing has established a task force to explore and identify opportunities for faculty, staff and students that will capitalize on this sister university relationship. One of the goals of this relationship is to provide students, staff and faculty with an international experience that promotes good global citizenship and greater insight into different types of health care systems.

Scholarships Awarded to SMU Students

Approximately 90 Providence College of Nursing alumni gathered at the Bechtel Room at the Samuel Merritt University (SMU) campus in Oakland on Friday, December 13, 2013. Representatives from classes of 1945 to 1970 attended. Tanya Grigg, Director, Financial Aid, presented Micha Machina and Shanda Williams (pictured below) with the Providence College of Nursing Alumni Scholarships. In 1998, following the merger of Providence Hospital with Merritt Peralta Medical Center, SMU established the Providence College of Nursing Alumni Scholarship Fund.


Robert Durham, PhD, RN, Professor, CSU East Bay, is on a one year sabbatical leave working on a number of scholarly projects including final revisions in the Maternal Health Nursing textbook she wrote in collaboration with colleague, Dr. Linda Chapman.

Monika Eckfield, RN, PhD, Assistant Professor, CSU East Bay, is involved in two hoarding intervention research projects that are set to launch in January and February, 2014 in the San Francisco Bay Area. Dr. Eckfield is spearheading the implementation and evaluation team for a San Francisco pilot of the Hoarding Intervention/Tenancy Preservation Program, which has successfully helped over 80 households in the greater Boston area come into compliance with local health and safety codes and preserved the residents’ housing. This 18-month pilot will be implemented by San Francisco’s Adult Protective Services in partnership with the Department of Building Inspection, the Department of Aging and Adult Services and the Mental Health Association of San Francisco. Dr. Eckfield is also a member of the research team for the Hoarding Intervention/Tenancy Preservation Program, which has successfully helped over 80 households in the greater Boston area come into compliance with local health and safety codes and preserved the residents’ housing.

Grace Lopez-Cox, RN, MSN, Assistant Professor at Samuel Merritt University, has her abstract, The RN Experience of Transition from Clinician to Academic, accepted to present at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Masters Education Conference in Scottsdale in February, 2014.

Abby Heydman, PhD, RN, Professor Emeritus, SMU, participated as a trainer of new site visitors for the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education in Alexandria Washington in December, 2013. Abby recently completed a term as the STTI North America Region 1 Coordinator, and is serving as the Co-chair of the Planning Committee for the Greater Bay Area/Region 1 Consortium of STTI Chapters which is sponsoring a research day event on June 7, 2014 in San Francisco. The title of the event is, “Promoting a Healthy Work Environment.”

Denise Li, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, CSU East Bay has completed the first semester of the acute care nurse practitioner program at UCSF.

Juli Maxworthy, DNP, MSN, MBA, RN, CNL, CPHQ, CPPS, Assistant Professor, University of San Francisco, was elected to the position of STTI North America Region 1 Coordinator at the
STTI Biennial Convention. Juli accepted a full time faculty appointment at the University of San Francisco School of Nursing in September, 2013. (Insert Photo of Regional Coordinators here.) Pamela Minarik, PhD, RN, Professor, Samuel Merritt University was recognized as a member of the team which received the 2013 UCSF Medical Center 2013 Patient Safety Award Honoring the Patient Behavior Management Team. Dr. Minarik was also recognized in 2013 by the Japanese Association of Nursing Programs in Universities which conferred on Dr. Pamela Minarik the title of Steering Committee Advisor for Advanced Practice Nurse (From August 14, 2012 to the conclusion of the annual general meeting of members in 2014). Pamela has been busy with numerous presentations including: “Advanced Practice Nursing Providers: Innovators in Integrated Care” panel presentation representing American Nurses Association & American Academy of Nursing Expert Panel on Mental Health and Substance Abuse on panel titled “Drawing on the Depth and Breadth of the Mental Health/Substance Abuse Provider Workforce” at Behavioral/Mental Health Innovations: Best Practices in Mental Health Integration and Intervention conference developed by Strategic Solutions Network (SSN), Las Vegas, Nevada. October 29, 2013

Michelle Tellez, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor, CSU East Bay, is beginning a two quarter sabbatical in January 2014. She will conduct research in informatics (nursing documentation) using data from Brazil, which will include research activities in Brazil.

Arlene A. Sargent, MSN, EdD, RN, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs at Samuel Merritt University, has been selected by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Directors to serve on the CCNE Report Review Committee for a three year term. This is a 12 member committee that is responsible for making recommendations to the Board regarding continued compliance of CCNE-accredited programs. The Board selects four members from CCNE team leaders each year to serve for a three year term.
Topic: "Evidence-Based Practice: Implementing Best Practice Guidelines in Your Organization"
### NU XI AT LARGE INDUCTION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, 201

Nu Xi at Large members are invited to the Annual Induction Ceremony.

**Saturday, April 26, 2014**

10:00 AM Orientation for new members, 11:00 AM -1:00 PM Ceremony with Reception to Follow

Samuel Merritt University

Please RSVP and prepay your lunch reservation.

For more information, contact Dr. Rhonda Ramirez, Vice President, SMU: rramirez@samuelmerritt.edu or Tanya Earls, MS, RN: Tanya.Earls@johnmuirhealth.com.

A silent auction and raffle will be held to benefit our scholarship and research fund.

Please contact President, Anna Mullins, amullins29@comcast.net, if you have items which can be donated for the auction which benefits the student scholarship fund.
Board of Directors, 2014

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- Denise Scholz, Webmaster denisescholz@hotmail.com
- Letitia Reynoso, Leadership Intern
- Yardana (Dana) Gill, Leadership Intern

Position Open
Applications Being Accepted

Chairperson-Department of Nursing at Dominican University, San Rafael.

Earned doctoral degree, current California RN license, progressive experience in teaching & administration required. Nominations and resumes may be sent to Luanne Linnard-Palmer, PhD, RN, Chair of the Nursing Chair Search Committee luanne.linnard-palmer@dominican.edu

IS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION UP TO DATE WITH STTI?

Please remember to call Membership Services 1-888-634-7575 to update your email address and current contact information if this has recently changed so that you will continue to get newsletters, program information, and renewal notices.

Also, do you want to serve on an STTI International Committee? Don't forget to submit a VIP:Profile on the STTI website at www.nursing-society.org. This tool is used to select members for committees, for review of research grant applications, and to review for chapter awards.