



Kappa Omicron

Sigma Theta Tau ,Inc.
International Honor
Society
of Nursing

41st Biennial Convention

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) is holding the Biennial Convention in Grapevine Texas from October 29th – November 2nd, 2011. The convention is a great opportunity for chapter leaders to learn and network. Kappa Omicron typically sends two chapter delegates to each convention. If you would like more information on attending this great event visit the Society website at <http://www.nursingsociety.org>

The President's Message

This has been an exciting and very productive year for both me and the chapter. The chapter has raised over \$1000 for the local Esplanade House. Fund raising activities will be ongoing at each of our upcoming chapter events. The funds will be used to assist families in need within the Chico area. We have an outstanding array of speakers planned for our fall event "Chico Celebrates Nurses" on October 8th. There is also a

member social planned on September 22nd! More details on all of these activities are available online at <http://www.kappaomicron.org>. Thank you to the Board of Directors and membership of Kappa Omicron for empowering and encouraging me in my role as president of this great chapter. It has been a humbling experience and one that has provided me with tremendous per-

sonal and professional growth. I hope to share those benefits with the membership of the chapter through providing you with opportunities to get involved with this distinguished chapter and the immense Honor Society.



Debbie Clifton

We have an exciting opportunity for all of you!

The Kappa Omicron board of directors are looking for new members who would like to serve the chapter on its board in officer positions. The positions will begin in April. We are looking for candidates for President Elect, Vice President, and Treasurer. This is a wonderful opportunity to ex-

pand your horizon and volunteer in a leadership position. Please contact any current board member (names and contact details can be found in this newsletter) to discuss the possibility of you serving in this capacity. We really want members to get involved and support this great organiza-

tion! For a description of these positions visit the STTI website (http://www.nursingsociety.org/Chapters/Resources/Pages/roles_admin.aspx#pres).

- Janelle Gardner
- Jenny Lillibridge

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Kappa Omicron Chico Chapter

Spring 2011
Inductees

May 7, 2011

Robert Agnew
Brittney Bartram
Laurie Bowles
Carmel Buckhout
Lindsay Burrows
Kristine Bussell
Kristin Carroll
Kym Casperson
Courtney Cooper
Arbor Evans
Sophia Giusti
Isha Gregory
Kathryn Haught
Lindsay Heitzman
Katherine Holpuch
Jamie Humphreys
Jamie Jacobs
Kerry Jones
Andrea Kennedy
Marissa Kubota

Adriana Laughlin
Schsleen Lee
Daniel Linnen
Alice Litton
Brooklin Mayta
Mollie McCartney
Meghan McGrath
Karen Mintline
Lauren Murphy
Griselda Perez
Elyse Peterson
Carolyn Rees
Courtney Schmidt
Breanne Shelton
Yvette Stoufer
Hollie Anne Vrbeta
Chelsea West
Whitney Williams Salis
Taeko Williams-Toone

Cancun, Mexico

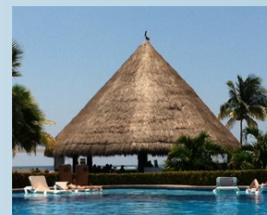
This summer, July 11-14, three Kappa Omicron members attended the Sigma Theta Tau International-22nd International Nursing Research Congress in Cancun, Mexico. This was the fourth international research congress I had attended and it was fantastic! (The other three congresses were in Toronto, Montreal, and Singapore.) It is always an excellent conference and it is so exciting to network with nurses from all over the globe!

At the conference, Peggy Rowberg gave a podium presentation titled, "Using Socratic Seminars to Teach Leadership and Management Principles to BSN students." Fay Mitchell-Brown did a poster presentation titled, "Promotion of Breastfeeding in China." I gave a podium presentation titled, "The Experience of HIV Positive Women Living in an African Village: Perceptions of Voluntary Counseling and Testing Programs."

We did find time to swim in the seven beautiful swimming pools, jog on the beach, dance at the disco, attend amazing entertainment, and eat way too much great food! We had fun! I would like to encourage all Sigma Theta Tau, International members to consider attending one of the yearly research congresses. Next summer the congress will be in Australia. I hope you will be one of the Kappa Omicron members attending the event! - Janelle Gardner



Work first... then play



Just one of seven pools!

Executive Board 2010/2011

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Kappa Omicron to Conduct Fundraisers for Esplanade House

Kappa Omicron began a one year fundraising effort to support the Esplanade House in May 2011. The Esplanade House provides transitional supportive housing program for homeless families with children in Chico, California. The mission statement for this organization is to provide a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for homeless families while implementing a goal-oriented program designed to help homeless parents and children move from crisis to self-sufficiency.

The Esplanade House began in an old motel on The Esplanade in 1991, and due to demand, has since grown to 60 apartments and administrative buildings located off north

Esplanade and East Shasta Ave. The majority of parents in the program are recovering from a lifestyle of poverty and addiction that eventually led to a downward spiral into homelessness. Many lost their children to a relative or Foster Care, and were reunited because of the safe and supportive environment provided by the Esplanade House.

When families are accepted into the two-phase (18-24 month) Esplanade House program, they are given everything they need to start over: a furnished apartment, food, clothes, supplies, case manager, counselor, and child care. They are surrounded by other families who all have

the same challenge and rules to follow, including curfews and housekeeping.

In the first phase, families live in apartments on the east side, and are fully engaged in a required daily program. Most families are overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of what is required to get their life on track, and need maximum support. In phase two, families move to apartments on the west side of the property for up to an additional year, and attend school or look for employment. It is supportive housing that offers participants the opportunity to “live what they have learned” in a safe, supportive environ-

ment that helps prevent relapse and keep friendships with other families who are committed to a healthy lifestyle. Currently, more than 70 adults with over 100 children live at the Esplanade.

Kappa Omicron’s first fundraising efforts, held as part of the spring 2011 induction ceremony, included a silent auction and raffle. More than \$1100 was raised from these efforts. Gloria Rodgers, Program Operations Director for the Esplanade House, was on hand to tell inductees and their significant more about the agency funds were being raised for. Additional silent auctions, raffles, and fundraising events are planned for fall 2011 events.

- Carol Huston

Save the Date! - Research Conference Day - October 8, 2011

**STTI Kappa Omicron’s
Research Conference Day
Saturday, October 8, 2011
Chico State University
Holt 170, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

“Chico Celebrates Nurses”

Kappa Omicron is hosting a special luncheon event to celebrate the outstanding contributions nurses make to health-care in the North State and beyond.

Our keynote speaker is Dr. Carol Huston, Director of the CSU, Chico School of Nursing and 2007-2009 President of Sigma Theta Tau International.

Dr. Huston will focus her presentation on emerging technologies which are likely to change the face of healthcare and nursing in the coming decade.

The conference will also include other regional nursing leaders, educators, and students who will provide participants with invaluable current and future perspectives on the nursing profession.

Payment by check or cash only
KO members: \$60 per person
Non-KO members: \$75
Current Students: \$15 (must verify enrollment)
CSU, Chico Preceptors: Free

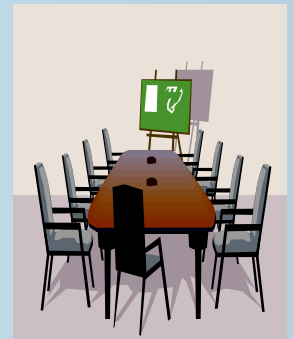
RSVP by Mon, October 1, 2011
Register now, space is limited!
No registration at the door.

Please RSVP to:

fmitchellbrown@csuchico.edu

Make checks payable to Kappa Omicron and mail to:

CSU, Chico
School of Nursing
Attn: Fay Mitchell-Brown
400 West First Street
Chico, CA 95929-0200



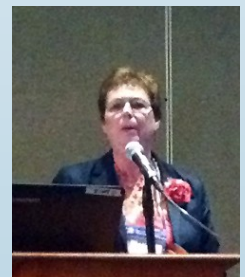
Rowberg runs for Region 1 Coordinator

I am pleased to announce that I have been nominated to run for Region 1 Coordinator. Region 1 includes most of the West Coast. Previously it also included the countries on the Pacific Rim but those chapters have now been moved to the international chapter. I am very excited about this opportunity and hope to be able to inform you that I have been elected after the biennial convention in November. I have been actively involved in Sigma Theta Tau since my move to Chico five years ago. I have served as a member of the Leadership Advisory Council and the Leadership Development Task Force for Sigma Theta Tau International. I am currently serving as President-elect for Kappa Omicron and looking forward to becoming the President in March 2012.

I have extensive experience in leadership having served on the Board of Directors for the California Association for Nurse Practitioners (CANP) for more than ten years and as an officer for more than 6 years. I was honored to serve as the CANP President from 2004-2006. I am currently a member of the CANP Past Presidents' Council which is an advisory group to the Board of Directors. Further experience included being the Academic Coordinator for a nurse practitioner program at a private university in southern California. My doctoral work focused on leadership and I have been the chair of Curriculum Committee for the School of Nursing and the College of Natural Sciences as well as a member of several other faculty-related committees.

Knowing that the "mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to support the learning, knowledge and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide," I feel that the lessons learned in my many leadership opportunities provides me with the needed experience to uphold this mission. I feel it is critical as the regional coordinator to reach out to the chapter leadership as well as its members to identify the needs of the chapter. If elected as regional coordinator, I would work with chapter leadership to establish goals that meet the strategic visions of the international organization. I believe it is imperative to improve member participation in chapter activities to help meet those goals through frequent communication and sharing of ideas. I would like to develop "partner" chapters within the region which would communicate on a regular basis to discuss issues or concerns. It would be my goal to mentor all chapter leaders and work to overcome barriers which many

With many health issues worsening globally, it is vital for nurses to use their knowledge and skills to influence people and governments worldwide. I believe that the chapters of Sigma Theta Tau can be an influential force to effect significant change. This change can be accomplished at the chapter level when members identify a significant need in their area and set goals to develop projects or programs that can help reduce or ameliorate the health issue. I look forward to this outstanding opportunity so keep your fingers crossed for me. We will let you know who wins.



Peggy Rowberg

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass...

It's about learning to dance in the rain..

Kappa Omicron Spring Program - Thursday Feb. 16, 2012

Marc Lyde will be the guest speaker for the spring 2012 Kappa Omicron general meeting. Mark has 23 years of experience as an attorney and is the owner of Leonard & Lyde law practice in Chico. He completed his legal education at the University of San Diego School of Law. Mark will be speaking about healthcare law, legal malpractice, and what nurses can do to reduce their risk of being sued for negligence. Tentative meeting site- Panighetti's restaurant: 2760 The Esplanade. Order dinner from the menu beginning at 6 p.m. The speaker will begin at 7:00 p.m. One CEU will be provided.

Add These Important Kappa Omicron Dates to Your Calendar!

- 9/22/11 - Annual Member Social
- 9/29/11 - Board Meeting
- 10/8/11 - Chico Celebrates Nurses! Kappa Omicron Biennial Research/Conference Day
- 11/10/11 - Board Meeting
- 12/8/11 - Annual Christmas Chapter Party
- 2/2/12 - Board Meeting
- 2/16/11 - Spring Program and General Meeting
Mark Joacobs to speak about Malpractice Claim Provention
- 3/1/12 - Board Meeting
- 3/31/11 - New Member Induction
- 4/12/12 - Board Meeting
- 5/23/12 - Annual General Board Meeting

