President’s Welcome

First, I would like to recognize the leadership of Dr. Gayle Kipnis, 2014-2016 President of Kappa Omicron. Thank you for keeping our chapter active and engaged. You have left big shoes indeed.

I follow the lead of Dr. Kipnis, and many other amazing past Kappa Omicron (KO) presidents, as our chapter sets on our future course. I also turn to the President of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) to provide a compass for our journey. In her presidential address at the STTI Biennium Convention last fall, Dr. Cathy Catrambone called on us to “Influence to Advance Global Health and Nursing.” President Catrambone proposed that we do this in four ways: 1) Influence through Advocacy, 2) Influence through Policy, 3) Influence through Philanthropy, and 4) Influence through Lifelong Learning.

I also hear the voices of our newest members who completed surveys at their induction ceremony. The overarching themes in their feedback included community service, member involvement, and learning opportunities. Here are their ideas as they apply to STTI President Catrambone’s call to “Influence to Advance Global Health and Nursing”:

- Influence through Advocacy: New members expressed interest in advancing emergency care, critical care, and public health. They are especially concerned about advocating for those who are homeless in our communities.

- Influence through Policy: New members want to influence policies that impact nurses and healthcare.

- Influence through Philanthropy: There was an overall desire to better the lives of others. This could be done through volunteering, being involved at the community level through community service, and globally through international work. Ideas for involvement included fundraising efforts, collaboration with community health clinics, and engaging in community service, especially addressing the needs of the homeless.

- Influence through Lifelong Learning: There was a great interest in attending educational conferences, informational sessions, and engaging in research.

Of the 21 surveys collected, 15 respondents indicated that they will be staying in the community and want to be involved in the work of Kappa Omicron. They would like to have peer mentorship. They want to network through activities such as dinner parties and to collaborate with other universities and with other countries. They want to engage nursing students through student mentorship. There was great interest in being involved with chapter programs and international work. They proposed offering scholarships so members can be involved in the work of the Kristina Chesterman Memorial Clinic in Nigeria.
Kappa Omicron 2016 Inductees

Kelsey Aguire          Carly M. Larson          Sherry Allen
Donna Larson           Rory J. Anderson          Christian G. Marano
Sarah Elizabeth Anderson Abby L. Mayr          Michelle Lee Ashurst
Aimee Lou Tangcray Balacy Lori A. Murasko        Sarah O’Malley
Donna Bell             Kennedy J. Power          Jessica Boettger
Gabrielle Camille Pressnal Jamie A. Bracewell    Hannah R. Rehnborg
Briana Briseno         Rebecca B. Rinard          Maria Cecilia Brown
Lucero Silva           Katherine M. Castro        Jennifer L. Stevens
Kaitlyn E. Elvidge     Kathryn C. Taylor          Ashley Nicole Freeborn
Megan Bridget Toppings  Salvador M. Gonzalez Arellano Hillary Tucker
Pheobe Tumbay           Jessica Leanne Hernanadez Hailey Nicole Van Sickle
Wyatt Hunt              Tatjana M. Vojnovic        Rachel M. Jackson
Racheal Louise Williams Katelyn Knipp            Carly M. Larson
Donna Larson

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Kappa Omicron extends congratulations to the California State University, Chico School of Nursing as they settle into their new home in Trinity Hall. The School of Nursing will be celebrating their recent move into one of Chico State’s oldest buildings with a Welcome Back Open House on September 7th from 11 am to 2 pm. Stop by Trinity Hall to see old friends, make new friends, and express your well wishes to the faculty and students on this newest chapter in the history of CSU Chico School of Nursing.
New Board of KO Chapter

The 2016 Induction meeting also introduced the new board.

President-Karin Lightfoot
Vice President-Gayle Kipnis
Treasurer-Susan Modlin
Web master/newsletter-Jane Scheer
Community Relations-Jan Ellis
Membership Involvement Chair-Vacant

President Elect-Fay Mitchell-Brown
Secretary-vacant
Faculty Counselor-Carl Pittman
Governance-Holly Kralj Director
Director Scholarship-Phyllis Salopek

Upcoming Meetings

9/7 KO sponsored “Welcome to the SON’s new home” 11-2
10/10 Dinner meeting-Food expert at Mom’s (tentative) from 5:15-8
12/2 Holiday Party/Progressive Dinner (Peggy, Carol, and Jen) TBA
2/16 Dinner meeting-speaker tba- Mom’s (tentative) from 5:15-8
3/23 Board meeting, Mom’s (tentative) 5:30-6:30
4/29 Induction 11-1, Enloe Conference Center.
Help Needed

Several positions on the board remain open. If you have something to contribute or are looking to be involved in a professional organization, these opening may interest you.

- Archivist. Organize and preserve historical documents.
- Leadership Succession Chair / committee member. Identify and promote individual member for leadership roles.
- Governance Committee Member. Assist in the oversight of bylaws compliance.
- Secretary. Attend board meeting, compile meeting minutes and maintain current documentation of chapter events.
- Membership Involvement Chair. Oversee the promotion of membership renewal and involvement.

President’s Welcome

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Based on the Call to Action delivered by STTI President Catrambone, and the feedback from our new members, our 2016-2017 calendar has been set. Please see the calendar in this newsletter for details.

Here are some highlights: To support student awareness, Kappa Omicron will sponsor a “Welcome to CSU Chico School of Nursing’s New Home” on September 7th. To advocate for those in need, KO will be forming a Food Insecurities Task Force, headed up by Jennifer Stevens and Carl Pittman. We will host a dinner meeting on October 10th with a guest speaker who can inform us about local food resources. Come early that day to attend our general meeting as we plan the details for the upcoming KO activities. To promote member networking, we plan to have a progressive holiday party in Chico on December 2nd. To help our members grow as life-long learners, we look forward to holding an educational meeting on February 16th. To support global health, we will formulate a Kappa Omicron Global Health Care Advocacy group and explore ways KO might support members interested in international travel and research. Finally, to continue to grow and serve our profession, we will induct another group of nurse scholars and leaders into our chapter on April 29th. We invite all KO members to attend induction to welcome our new members.

I look forward to working with all of you. Together we can ensure that Kappa Omicron continues to make excellent contributions to our profession, our communities, and our world.