



Sigma Theta Tau International

Honor Society of Nursing

Chapter Newsletter

This school year has brought many changes to the school of nursing on the Mississippi College campus. This May we will have one of the largest classes graduating from the Mississippi College School of Nursing. With that in mind, we will also be inducting the largest number of new members in to Omicron Lambda Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. This spring we will be inducting 26 RN students, 3 RN-BSN students and 9 community leaders. Nursing has changed so much over the last twenty years and these new leaders are needed as change continues. What a great future these inductees face. Plans for our Spring Induction Ceremony are beginning to come together. Our guest speaker for the Induction Ceremony will be Dr. Kim Hoover, Dean of the School of Nursing at the University Medical Center. If by chance some of you would like to sponsor one of our new inductees by purchasing their honor cords, the cost is \$15.00/ cord. This past month Omicron Lambda, Theta Beta and Chapter 13 of the Mississippi Nurses Association had a joint meeting at the Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency. Dr. Debbie- Konkle Parker was the guest speaker for the evening. The attendance at this meeting was exceptional , more than 70 nurses and nursing students attended this gathering. Please continue to pray for our organization and our University as we conclude this calendar year.



SPRING 2013 INDUCTION SPEAKER: DR. KIM HOOVER



Dr. Kim Hoover is **Dean and Professor** at the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing in Jackson and holds a dual appointment as professor in the School of Health Related Professions.

Dr. Hoover holds a bachelor's degree in nursing from Northeast Louisiana University and a master's in nursing and PhD in Clinical Health Sciences, both from the University of MS. She began her nursing career as a hospital staff nurse and managed an ambulatory care unit before moving into nursing education in the early 90s. She was instrumental in building the Mississippi Office of Nursing Workforce – where she served as project director, director of research and research consultant.

Dr. Hoover is often sought as a data consultant at the state, regional and national levels. She has facilitated strategic planning for statewide professional organizations, the MS Nursing Faculty Shortage Task Force and the Governor's Task Force on Nursing Retention and Graduation.

Dr. Hoover holds a gubernatorial appointment to the State Health Data Advisory Board and was recently appointed to the Healthcare Workforce Advisory Committee to the MS State Department of Health . She has numerous publications and presentations on workforce issues, research, evidence-based practice and strategic effectiveness and is active on state and national committees.

Member Updates

- **Andrea Breland (2012)** is currently working as an Adult Intensive Care nurse at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.
- **Greg Tisdale (2012)** is currently working as a nurse on 1 North at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.
- **Brittany Clark (2012)** is currently working as a nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.
- **Pamela Jenkins (2012)** is currently working on 3A at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.
- **Jenny Thagard (2012)** is currently working in the emergency department at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.
- **Sarah Sable (2012)** is currently working in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at St Dominic's.
- **Heather Mangum (1997)** is now President of Peak Health Care Center.
- **Kaylan Duggar (2012)** is currently working the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: LYNN BUCKALEW, MSN, RN



Lynn Buckalew is a second semester instructor at MCON. This past fall she started William Carey's Nursing Education and Administration PhD program and is enjoying learning new concepts in nursing education. Lynn spoke on Evidence Based Nursing Practice at the Jackson VA Hospitals Spring 2012 Research Conference. Lynn has 2 children, Olivia and Nathan. Olivia has 2 daughters Bentleigh and Ella Grace. Nathan will graduate from MC this May and has been accepted into UMC's PT program. Her husband Keven will be retiring this May and they plan on doing some traveling and fishing with their granddaughters this summer.

OMICRON LAMBDA MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN MISSIONS

On June 7, 2013, faculty, students, members of Omicron Lambda Sigma Theta Tau International and graduates of the Mississippi College School of Nursing will be participating in the summer mission program sponsored by the School of Nursing. This year the team will be traveling to Leticia, Republic of Columbia. Leticia is located on the left bank of the Amazon River, and is located at the point where Columbia, Brazil and Peru come together. The medical team will be providing health screenings, assisting with setting up medical clinics and providing care in a small hospital located in Leticia. The team will be divided into two groups, one group will be traveling to a small village located outside of Leticia called Santa Sofia. In this village, the team members will be providing basic care and health promotion to members of the village. The other team will be working in a small hospital that has a small emergency department, surgical suite, labor and delivery suite as well as 20 medical beds. If you would like to become a member of this team as a prayer warrior or if you would like to sponsor a team member a check can be sent to the School of Nursing, Box 4037, Clinton, Mississippi, 39058.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

I trust that you are having a wonderful beginning to 2013. I hope that you will be able to join with us in Omicron Lambda during this year – we need each of you to become active in activities of the chapter. We also need some of you to step forward and serve in leadership positions. We are looking forward to many exciting events during 2013, including our Induction Ceremony in April. At that time, we will see many of our current students and several community leaders inducted into our Omicron Lambda chapter of STTI. I hope you will make plans now to attend the next Biennial Convention, to be held in Indianapolis in November, 2013. If you are able to go, I know you will be inspired, will meet all of your continuing education needs, and will have networking opportunities that will be important in your future - and make long-lasting friendships. I hope you will join me and our chapter leaders in attending this meeting.

WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT OUR PROGRESS! The Omicron Lambda Newsletter is available to our membership primarily via electronic format. Please go to the international website at

Officers for Omicron Lambda 2012-2013

President: Rick Lewis
President Elect: vacant
Vice President: Lacy Carpenter
Secretary: Tara Follum
Treasurer: Bryan Williamson
Faculty Counselors: Lynn Buckalew/Allison Hayes
Leadership Succession Chair: Landa Strum
Governance Chair: Mary Jean Padgett

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