

Sigma Theta Tau International

Honor Society of Nursing

Chapter Newsletter

Message from the President

What a great year we have before us! As the new president of Omicron Lambda, I am excited about the possibilities that we have to increase our



membership in our local Sigma Theta Tau International Chapter. This past April, Omicorn Lambda

inducted 25 new members. Twenty of those new members were students enrolled in our School of Nursing and five were community leaders. Our first scheduled meeting is September 10, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the School of Nursing. Tara Follum BSN, RN, will be presenting research that she completed during her honors program will attending the Mississippi College School of Nursing (MCSON). Tara and Nikki Forst, BSN, RN, will also be attending the Sigma Theta Tau International Leadership Conference this month in Indianapolis, IN. I encourage all members to consider attending the Region 8 conference which will be held October 26 - 27, 2012 at Union University in Jackson, TN. Two of our MCSON faculty will be presenting at this conference. Deborah Welch, MSN, RN will be presenting a poster presentation entitled, "Using ... Artistic Expression as an Evaluative Tool of Self Concept" and I will be presenting a lecture entitled, "Providing Mass Prophylaxis and/or Vaccination to one Hospitals' Employees, Their Household • Members, and Physician Staff: Plans, Implementation and Evaluation. Please join us at this great conference -Rick Lewis

Member Updates

- Rick Stevens (2010) is currently working as a Transition Specialist with Pressure Management Resources and involved in medical marketing related to specific products the company has to offer. He and his wife, Alison this past summer were able to join MCSON and do medical missions in the Dominican Republic.
- Elysia Helton (2011) currently works at St. Dominics Memorial Hospital on 6 East, Neurology and also works PRN at King's Daughters Hospital in her hometown of Yazoo City. She is currently anticipating getting married on September 29, 2012 to Ramon Jackson.
- Kristen Hagen (2010) is currently working at University Medical Center in the Adult Emergency room.
 She is interested in going back to school for Adult-Gerontological NP and wants to lead this ambition with CHF teaching in the forefront.
- Zachary Adams (2011) Recently has been accept into the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Samford University in Birmingham, AL. Zach is currently working in the Intensive Care Unit at St. Dominics Memorial Hospital, Jackson, MS.
- Rob Tadlock (2011) Currently employed at Springhill Memorial Hospital in Mobile, AL. Rob in working in the Intensive Care Unit.
- Tara Follum (2011) Currently employed at St.
 Dominics Memorial Hospital on 2 South, Cardiac
 Telemetry; soon to be working Cardiac Rehab. She
 has been married for 3 years to Mike Follum. She is
 also the Secretary for Omicromn Lambda Chapter.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Well, a new year has begun for Mississippi College, and for the School of Nursing. Last year was an eventful year as we had accreditation visits by both the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning. We have not heard the final report of that accreditation review, but anticipate that we will be receiving good news in December. We are busy at the School of Nursing this fall. We are continuing with a major revision of our curriculum to include courses in a different format than previously taught, includ-

ing stand-alone courses for content areas such as psychiatric, pediatric, and maternal-infant nursing. Additionally, we are moving to a more concept-based curriculum than we have had, and are including a lot of additional content related to geriatrics, informatics, and ethics. We hope to have this revised curriculum approved this fall for implementation in fall of 2013. We also are going to conduct a feasibility study over the next few months to determine whether to begin a graduate nursing program. I would love for you to join us at an Omicron Lambda meeting and look at the building while you are here. This fall we have the opportunity to participate in our chapter activities, as well as both regional and a regional meeting that is in a location near to us. In October, our Region 8 will host a professional development opportunity at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. Members from throughout our Region 8 will gather for professional opportunities related to research and to network with other nursing professionals. We have several of our Omicron Lambda members who will be presenting at this conference. Why don't you plan to join in supporting them as they present their research, and enjoy networking with other nurses from our Region.

-Mary Jean Padgett

renew today

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MARLIE LAWRENCE, BSN, RN



My name is Marlie. I will be moving to Clinton in September with an absolutely rotten Welsh Corgi named Matilda. I have been working at University Medical Center (UMC) on 5 South (adult hematology /oncology) for the past year. On September 4, I will begin a new adventure, I will begin working at the Batson's Children's Hospital with the hematology/oncology/neurology/rehabilitation children. I was nominated for UMC Nurse Rookie of the Year in May, and while I did not receive this award, I was honored to simply be nominated. I completed the nurse residency program in May 2012 compiling evidence-based practice.

The official topic for my poster was "Reducing Anxiety in Actively Dying Oncology Patients' Families". I researched best methods on educating families and then researched the content they needed to know in order to assist them in reducing the anxiety associated with caring for a dying oncology patient. I created a pamphlet containing the signs and symptoms of active dying patients so that the family could learn from this information. On a totally different note, I have applied for graduate school at UMC in the Nurse Educator tract and hope to start in January!

OMICRON LAMBDA MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN MISSIONS

On June 21, 2012 twenty Mississippi College students, three faculty, two former students (and one wife) traveled to San Victor, Moca in the Dominican Republic. There we worked with Medical Ministries International. Our first job was to organize the medications in the makeshift pharmacy. The students learned about classification of medications and the importance of expiration dates. This was a true educational experience. Some of our group traveled to remote villages in the area to set up health clinics for individuals who had no access to health care. The remainder of the group traveled to a hospital, with very limited facilities and equipment, and assisted with surgeries and cared for pre and post-op patients. Although care was provided for numerous people during our time in the DR, and hundreds of prescriptions were filled for necessary medication, and patients underwent minor or major surgeries and families took part in health teaching, one of the most important outcomes from this trip was to welcome so many new brothers and sisters into the family of Christ. The three faculty, two former graduates and two of the students are all members of Omicron Lambda.

-Mary Ann Henriques

MCSON NEW FACULTY: LISA GOFORTH, MSN, RN & SUE BRYANT, MSN, RN, CFNP

Lisa Goforth attended Mississippi College 1976-1978, obtained her BSN from University Medical Center 1981 and her MSN from Grand Valley State University 2010. Most of her 25 years of experience was in the Maternal/Newborn field as a Labor and Delivery nurse. Before teaching at MC, she taught Maternal/Family Nursing at Hinds Community College 2011-2012. She has been married to Philip Goforth for 33 years, has a son and twin daughters, and four grandsons who they try to see as often as possible.

Sue Bryant graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with her BSN in 1983 and obtained her MSN from MS University for Women in 1990 and certified Family Nurse Practitioner in 1990. She lives in Yazoo City with her husband David Bryant who is the Pastor of First Baptist Church and three children. She has practiced as a FNP in Family Practice Clinics, School Based Clinics and in various family practice settings for the last 20 years.

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

http://www.nursingsociety.org/Membership/MyMembership/Pages/my_membership.aspx to update your contact information and make sure we have your email address. If you need a hard copy, you will need to let Rick Lewis, President, know in writing, including your name and address. lewis13@mc.edu

Officers for Omicron Lambda 2012-2013

President: Rick Lewis

President-Elect: Sadie VanGorder 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 Please send Newsletter information to
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