Nursing Praxis
Graduation Edition

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School of Health Sciences

A word from the Dean, Dr. Lorie Wild

Dear SHS Alumni, Students, Faculty and Friends,

We are excited to bring you this “special edition” of Nursing Praxis, our SHS/Lydia Green Nursing Program newsletter, featuring highlights from our end of year graduation-related events. For the alumni and college grads among us, I’m sure most of you can still remember your own graduation—the ceremonies, the celebration, the cheers and the tears!

Following closely on the heels of Ivy Cutting (where our graduates were easily identified by their stethoscopes), our traditional nursing program ceremonies brought together graduates, families and friends for Pinning and Hooding. These, along with the Sigma Theta Tau induction ceremony—were beautiful events!

I hope you will enjoy seeing the love, honor and joy that filled the room as we celebrated our 2013 graduates. What a privilege it is to launch these exceptional nurses into their new or expanded practice. Each is poised to provide compassionate, evidence-based clinical care and to be leaders in our profession.

On behalf of the entire SHS community, to our supporters please accept our thanks for everything you contribute to our students and these graduates. And, to the graduates--please accept our heartiest congratulations and prayers for your emerging practice! Please be sure to stay in touch—we want to hear about the many ways that you are engaging the culture and changing the world!

Blessings!
The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) was founded in 1922 by six nurses at the Indiana University Training School for Nurses, now the Indiana University School of Nursing. The founders chose the name from the Greek words Storgé, Tharsos and Timé meaning “love,” “courage” and “honor.” STTI became incorporated in 1985 as Sigma Theta Tau International Inc., a nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) designation.
tax status in the United States.

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. The vision is to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world’s people.

STTI publishes quarterly, the Journal of Nursing Scholarship, a leading, peer-reviewed scholarly journal with a global circulation of 125,000 as well as scholarly books on various topic in nursing and health care, Reflections on Nursing Leadership, STTI’s award-winning, online member magazine communicating nurses’ contributions and relevance to the health of people worldwide, and Worldview on Evidence-Based Nursing, a global source of best research and evidence available.

Membership is by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing. STTI has more than 130,000 active members who reside in more than 85 countries.

**The Significance of Pinning**

The nursing pin is a symbol of the school the nurse attended. Each school’s pin is different, and is a readily recognizable mark indicating from where the nurse graduated.

Symbolically, the logo unites the academic identity of Seattle Pacific with its mission as a Christian institution. This is carried out through the following elements:

THE TORCH: The torch has long been a symbol of learning. It reminds us that education is a process of enlightening the mind.

THE FLAME: A design that has multiple interpretations adds interest. The flame can also be seen as a descending dove, indicating the power and inner illumination personified by the Holy Spirit.

THE CROSS: Jesus Christ is central to the University’s vision. Therefore, the cross, symbolizing Christ’s ultimate sacrifice to redeem a lost world, is placed at the center of the torch handle.

**Pre-Licensure Ceremony**

Pinning – The Prelicensure Undergraduate Nursing Program celebrates graduation from Nursing School each year with a “Pinning” celebration. Graduates are awarded an SPU nursing pin symbolizing their graduation from the Seattle Pacific University Lydia Green Nursing Program. Students are “pinned” by a significant family member or friend who has supported and encouraged them throughout their nursing education. The Pinning Ceremony is held each year at First Free Methodist Church, across the street from the University and around 400-500 are normally in attendance. Pinning is a long celebrated tradition in nursing and many alumni still wear their SPU nursing pin at the hospitals where they work. SPU graduates are sought-after in the hospitals and medical organizations.
Adriana Maybin, Professor Jim Mitre, Melissa Han

Faculty Speaker Professor Mary Coucoules - Student Speaker Maddy Allen - Dr. Lorie Wild, Dean

Katie Pitt and Sara Nguyen - Joan Ngarachu and Professor Kelly Marley, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Program
On June 7, 2013 students graduating from the School of Health Sciences Masters of Science in Nursing Program gathered to celebrate their achievements and receive their Masters’ Hood as part of the regalia of their graduation cap and gown. The morning began with the Seattle Pacific University Graduate Hooding Ceremony, led by the University Provost, Dr. Jeff Van Duzer, and SPU President, Dr. Daniel Martin. At the Graduate Hooding Ceremony MSN graduates were recognized along with the other SPU master’s degree recipients for their hard work and welcomed into the world of advanced degree holders. In the afternoon, six MSN students were inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Psi Chapter at Large and welcomed formally into nursing’s professional honor society.

Later, that evening, SHS had the pleasure of celebrating the MSN Class of 2013 at the annual Graduate Achievement Celebration. All twenty-seven of the MSN students from the Class of 2013 were honored by a ceremony and reception held at First Free Methodist Church. Especially touching were the Invocation, Student Reflection, Hymn, and Benediction offered by graduating MSN students Megan Kilpatrick, Hannah Mielke, Graham Crozier, and Jocelyn Halverson, respectively. In addition, the guests of the graduates got a glimpse of what graduate school looked like for their loved one through the reflection and congratulations of Dr. Gaylene Altman (Graduate Nursing Faculty), Dr. Susan Casey (Associate Dean, Graduate Nursing), and Dr. Lorie Wild (Dean, School of Health Sciences). As the graduates were hooded by their faculty and as their hands anointed and blessed by Dr. Bob Drovdahl (SPU School of Theology) pride beamed from their faces. These graduates, now alumni, have been equipped with advanced skills and knowledge to go out in to their communities, engage the culture, and change the world. Congratulations MSN Class of 2013!
Maria Sugui being hooded by her faculty, Dr. Gaylene Altman - Erich Kirsch receiving congratulations from Dr. Lorie Wild

Kalyan Men, Megan Kilpatrick, Divina Abella, Amy Christian, Maria Sugui, Dianne Discolo, and Erich Kirsch

Kalyan Men being hooded by her faculty, Dr. Gaylene Altman
Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to all 2013 Graduates. We look forward to our continued relationship with you as a Seattle Pacific University School of Health Sciences Alumni. Drop us a note at nursingnotes@spu.edu to let us know what you are doing, jobs, life events, missions trips, we would love to hear from you.

Save the date Saturday, February 1, 2014 for the School of Health Sciences Alumni Coffee.