Greetings to all the members of the UIW Student Nurse Association (SNA).

This is a newsletter updating information about the SNA and all of its activities and awards during the Spring 2014 semester.

Please let us know if there is more information that you would find helpful in this publication. Send all feedback and comments to kaherna2@student.uiwtx.edu.

Congratulations to all who are graduating; wish you all much success in your future nursing careers! Good luck to all students taking finals and have a great, well deserved, refreshing summer!

- Kimberly Hernandez, Editor, Historian

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SNA officers would like to thank you all for a successful year!

2013-2014 was a successful year for the UIW SNA. We participated in several health fairs, participated in UIW’s annual Trunk-or-Treat Feast, attended the TNSA annual convention where our first resolution was approved, won awards, granted scholarships (Nursing Lounge $1,000 Scholarship) and funding, and hosted a UIW Career Fair.

Guests to the SNA Meetings included: Guide Dogs of Texas, Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, Air Force Academy for Nursing, Affordable Care Act speaker, SANE (sexual assault nurse examiner) nursing speaker, and our own faculty Dr. Munoz speaking about “life after the BSN”. Thank you to all our key speakers and to all the nursing students for your participation. Remember that staying active in SNA each semester is a great way to form networking connections with other classmates and nursing students. Plus, it’s a great way to stay connected with your nursing community and make a difference through our various volunteer activities!

Meet the New SNA Staff!

On April 28th, the SNA membership elected their new executive board. The results of the election are:

**President**
Kayleigh Witcher

**Vice President**
Atlantis Moya-Ward

**Secretary**
Michelle Pineda

**Treasurer**
Mariah Cannon

The new staff will be transitioning with the guidance of the outgoing staff and will be working throughout this summer to plan events and activities for the fall 2014 semester. Feel free to contact your newly elected staff if you have ideas or requests for any new activities.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers and thank you for a successful year to the outgoing officers!
In February, UIW had the privilege of attending the 2014 Texas Nursing Student Association (TNSA) Convention here in our home town, San Antonio, Texas at the Omni Hotel. Several of the SNA officers and members were appointed to serve as delegates at the convention to vote on and implement, or oppose, four different resolutions. Resolutions are position statements that the TSNA wishes to advocate nationally. Thanks to Minh Lucas (author) and Kathryn Mendez (co-author), UIW School of Nursing had created its first resolution to go before TNSA for approval. The resolution topic was entitled: “Encourage traditional nursing students to participate in professional student nursing organizations such as the Student Nurses’ Association (SNA), Texas Nursing Students’ Association (TNSA) and National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) by establishing a method for promoting professional growth and leadership as part of the nursing curriculum.”

Other topics included: increasing community awareness and education on the use of defibrillators, providing nursing preceptor education, and the use of evidence based clinical stimulation.

After much vigorous discussion and three amendments passed, our resolution was approved before the TNSA board and student delegate panel. The other three resolutions were approved as well.

Each year at the convention, the TSNA issues several awards to recognize school programs and individual member achievements.

The UIW SNA was awarded the TNSA chapter of the year for the third time in a row! Two of our very own UIW Nursing students, Ryan Ogle and Carmina Cardona, were elected to the State Board of TNSA. Ryan Ogle is the Southern Regional Director and Carmina Cardona is the Nominations Chair for 2014-2015.

Congratulations to all!
Our leaders proudly represent UIW at the NSNA Convention!

Kathryn Mendez, a UIW nursing student and the TSNA President, was also elected to the National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) Council of State Presidents Planning Committee.

Congratulations and a job well done ladies!

Spring 2014 Career Fair

On April 14, UIW hosted its annual Career Fair at the UIW Nursing School front lobby. Students were able to network with various services, companies, and hospitals present such as: Air Force, Army, & Navy recruiters; HealthSouth Rios Hospital; Hendrick Medical Center; Methodist Hospital; Southwest General Hospital; Classic Uniforms; and UIW & UTHSCSA Nursing programs.

The Career Fair had a successful turnout, with over 50 students attending the fair. Prizes and free popcorn were given out at the event and one lucky winner won a new stethoscope. The vendors were also pleased with the crowd of interested students.

Thank you to all who helped out with this awesome event and a big thank you to the vendors for your time, effort, and interest in networking with the UIW student body.

We appreciate your service!
Get to Know...

Dr. Mary M. Hoke

~By Betzany Perez
4th Semester UIW Nursing Student, STMU ROTC Assistant S5

Dr. Mary M. Hoke, Dean of the Ilia Faye School of Nursing and Health Professions at the University of the Incarnate Word is not only accomplished in her civilian profession, but was equally accomplished in her military career as an officer in the Army Nurse Corps. Dr. Hoke served honorably for more than twenty years before retiring and attaining the status of Dean to one of Central Texas premier nursing schools. Dr. Hoke serves as a wealth of knowledge not only to current or future military nurses, but also to civilian nurses. The amount of dedication and persistence that Dr. Hoke has put into her career is something any nurse, nursing student, future Army officer or nursing cadet can learn from and apply to their newly starting career.

Betzany was given the opportunity to interview Dr. Hoke and asked her the following questions:

**What would be your biggest piece of advice for nursing cadets?**

Be sure you are a strong nurse. When you’re a strong nurse, both in knowledge and experience, you’ll have the leadership qualities for which the Army is looking. When you advocate for your patients it’s much the same as advocating for your soldiers that you’re working with as an officer. So it’s building what you know from advocating as a nurse that will help you as an officer.

**What do you feel is the most important to know as an Army Officer?**

Know your chain of command. Know what is meant by the integrity of an Army officer, things such as this are things that a commissioned Army lieutenant should know. Recognized what you know, what your limits are, and asking for the advice that will allow you to move forward. Also, not being afraid of failure. If you never fail you will never succeed. When you have a failure, try to learn from it as you’re going forward. It will help you in the long run.

**What do you feel is most important to know as an Army Nurse Corps Officer?**

PASS YOUR NCLEX! Know the history of the Army, and how you can grow with it, and add to its history. Try to remember the things you are learning along the way. The Army has a support system, of mentors and peers, available that you can draw from and learn. Model the things you see other successful people doing and try to get to know them as individuals.

**If you could go back in time and have a conversation with yourself as a newly commissioned officer, what would you tell yourself?**

Be specific at what you want in going forward with your career. Also, I grew up in a small town in Illinois, only leaving Illinois a couple of times to go to Arizona. The Army is going to be a new adventure, so accept that as you go forward. You’ll learn new things, you’ll meet many new people, and expand you horizon. You’ll also make many new friends who you will probably know the rest of your life. In all I would say, just relax and enjoy the many adventures and challenges.

**How do you feel your 22 years in the Army Nurse Corps has prepared you in running the University of the Incarnate Words Ilia Faye School of Nursing?**

I learned in my years in the Army the practice of organization. I also went through Command of General Staff where I had a lesson in humility related to writing. I believe that really helped me in my writing abilities today. Ultimately, the organization piece from setting priorities and building on strengths, has really assisted me in becoming a better dean.

Interviewed on April 28, 2014