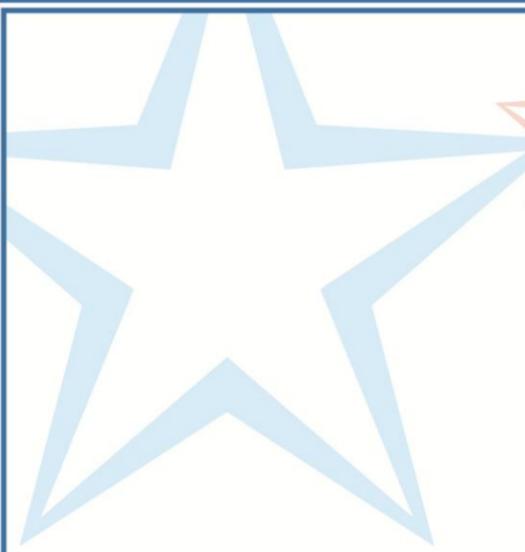


Nu Lambda – Creating your legacy and engaging in collaboration

The Nu Lambda chapter of STTI hosted the Region 8 conference in October of 2012. This event was important for our chapter on two different levels: 1) Creating our Legacy, and 2) Engaging in Collaboration.

Nu Lambda has existed as an STTI chapter at Union University for 20 years now. To my knowledge, we had never hosted a conference before. But in order to fully appreciate the information I am about to provide, I must first tell a story. In February of 2008, just after the start of the spring semester, Union University was hit by an F5 Tornado. The tornado decimated most of the undergraduate dormitory buildings and significantly damaged several other buildings. Since we were there having classes, our nursing faculty members and students were the first responders on the scene. When the local, head paramedic arrived at the scene he immediately notified our hospitals to prepare for 50 to 100 fatalities. Thankfully, there was not a single person that lost their life on this campus that fateful night. We stopped, cried, cleaned up the rubble, and rebuilt. The campus has beautiful new, and safer, dorms; and a fabulous new conference center. In the spring of 2009, one year after the tornado, the Nu Lambda Chapter met and discussed hosting a regional conference. After collaboration with Dr. Buckner, we received approval from the members of Region 8 represented at the conference in Hattiesburg in 2010 to proceed. The two year efforts to plan the conference caused a renewal within the Nu Lambda chapter. The board members became highly involved in the process, and as a result, got the Union University students involved in the process. In the end, we had multiple Union students present posters, and one even did an oral presentation. There were several faculty board members who had never been to an STTI conference. When they saw the wealth of information that they were able to receive, and the exceptional networking that occurred amongst the RN professionals: It caused increased efforts to grow the chapter in both size and quality (mission work, conference support, community involvement, etc.). The number of faculty members that are involved on the board has tripled between 2010 and 2013. Because of the conference, we were also able to financially support several people to go on mission trips as well as support our delegates to attend the 2013 Biennial STTI Conference planned for November of 2013. In addition, we were able to purchase gifts to thank two retiring Nu Lambda board members that we recognized at one of the induction ceremonies in late 2012.

The Region 8 Conference in 2012 planning committee was a collaborative effort between 22 members representing different chapters (8 of those 22 members were Nu Lambda board members). The efforts of this planning committee resulted in an exceptional conference. The atmosphere of collegiality and the networking that occurred were, without exaggeration, the best I have ever seen. Dr. Karen Morin provided 3 keynote addresses that inspired us with her knowledge, but even more she inspired us with her humanity. Dr. Ellen Buckner led the efforts to help us all advance our chapters and engage our membership ambassadors. Dr. Olivia May set the stage with her introduction to the conference theme focusing on "The Heart of Healthcare: When Disaster Strikes Home." I (Dr. Sharon Evans, Program Conference Chair) stated at the conference that the conference was a success because of the multiple presenters from across the region and because of their collaboration at the meeting: That is the truth!



Showcase
of Regional
Excellence

Presented to

NU LAMBDA CHAPTER

Recognizing Outstanding Achievement for

Presidential Call to Action – Engaging in Collaboration



8 October 2013

Date



Suzanne Prevost

STTI President