The Haiti Nursing Project

Global Connections in Nursing Education: Haiti and the United States, Students from the University of Notre Dame in Jacmel, Haiti come to the USA • 5 – 18 July 2014

By Eileen Specchio and Mary E. Kelley

Meeting Global Needs

According to the International Council of Nurses priorities, Strategic leadership “is to empower nurses and nursing organisations to advance nursing worldwide through coherent, efficient, effective and judicious advocacy by and for nurses, nursing and health”


The Haiti Nursing Project was an example of this global need.

The College of St. Elizabeth (CSE) and Trinitas School of Nursing (TRI SON) offered “The Haiti Nursing Project”, a short-term educational program for twelve (12) junior students from the University of Notre Dame in Jacmel, Haiti in July 2014. This summer’s experience was conceived by Sr. Janet Lehmann, a Sister of Charity (SOC) of NJ who is currently Dean of Nursing at the University in Jacmel and had worked previously with Dean Mary Beth Kelley of TRI SON and Dr. Eileen Specchio of CSE.

Competency-Based Learning

Sr. Janet Lehmann was concerned that the principal method of teaching in Haitian Nursing Schools is memorization. She wanted students to experience a simulation experience to improve the competence of the nurses. The award winning simulation lab at TRI was used for classes using scenarios created for health concerns common in lower economic countries. These scenarios provided opportunities for students to practice their skills with feedback and to increase the opportunities to use critical thinking skills.

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Content Development and Program Planning

The educational content of this program was based on needs identified from the World Health Organization and the International Council of Nurses goals and from the planners past experiences with global health. The social determinants of health were considered in designing the program including health promotion, reducing disease burdens, and lowering risk factors. During the planning stages, we focused
on the emotional and social preparations. Meetings were held frequently during the year prior to the experience. The majority of volunteer faculties were alumni of TRI and CSE. Our search for translators led to a high number of Haitian alumni volunteering. The Haitian volunteers taught, translated for non-Haitian faculty and facilitated socialization. Many took time off from work because they felt so deeply committed to “giving back to their country”. After much discussion, the objectives and content were planned.

### Haiti Program Objectives

1. **Provide opportunity for students to become active learners through simulation learning.**
   
   (Rationale: Education in Haiti is frequently based on memorization due to lack of educational resources and due to passive education strategies with little precepting on clinical areas).

2. **Provide opportunity to learn one on one to increase familiarity and confidence with basic concepts and to practice clinical decision making in the simulation labs.**

3. **Provide learning opportunities in the key areas of health concerns identified through World Health Organization and the International Council of Nurses.**
   
   a. Hygiene, Sanitation/waste control
   
   b. Infectious disease, asepsis, and wound care
   
   c. Maternal emergencies - hemorrhage, eclampsia, and dystocia
   
   d. Women’s health - STD’s, HIV, Condom use, self-breast exam, breast feeding
   
   e. Cardiac disease - hypertension, stroke prevention, CHF- hydration/dehydration - fluid management
   
   f. First Aid and Disaster Management: infant, child and adult CPR, choking
   
   g. Mental health - communication/active listening, empathy, learned helplessness, domestic violence, parenting principles
   
   h. Children issues: malnutrition, assessment, diarrhea prevention and management, and choking

### Student Empowerment

The Haitian volunteers made a significant contribution to the education because they not only covered the content but also were passionate about empowering the student nurses to make a difference and to become advocates and leaders. In terminating the experience, time was devoted to preparing the students to return to school to consider ways of judicious use of their learning experience in an education system and government, which is more autocratic than the collaborative experience that they participated in here.

### Transforming Practice

During the experience, we noticed how we all developed such deep commitment to these 12 wonderful women who were trying to apply principles that they had memorized and had little previous feedback. During the focus group at the end of the experience, we noted the deep emotional response of the students to the experience. Many students expressed that they had learned many of the principles that were covered but did not have much information about interventions and had little opportunity to practice. None of the students knew Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). By the end of the experience, all of the students were certified in CPR.
None of the students knew Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). By the end of the experience, all of the students were certified in CPR. One student spoke of the significance of learning how to prevent, identify and treat postpartum hemorrhage. She stated “the next time I see a woman hemorrhaging I will know that there is something we can do to help her.” While stating this she became emotional because she knew people personally who had died of this. This experience transformed not just the Haitian students but it also transformed each of us who participated in the experience.

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Nightingale Initiative for Global Health

Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) has supported The Nightingale Initiative for Global Health (NIGH). The Haiti Project was consistent with two of the goals of this initiative: to identify, share and actively encourage ‘approaches that work’ to create a healthy world; and to contribute positive solutions to the worldwide nursing shortage (Dickenson-Hazard) (n.d.).

Philanthropic Support

The SOC/CSE/TRI collaboration was able to raise over $40000 in donations through the Sisters of Charity network. We kept the expenses of the summer experience to the minimum. To this end, we are grateful to the support that we received from nursing professional organizations and agencies. Mu Theta-at-Large Chapter, NJSNA Region One, CSE Nursing Alumni, Trinitas Health Foundation, staff from Genesis Morris Hills Nursing Center, Morris View Nursing Center, Trinitas Regional Medical Center, St. Anne’s Villa, Morristown Medical Center, TRI staff and TRI SON students, the Seton Associates, Sisters of Charity of NJ, St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Jersey City and Crossroads Church in East Orange. All contributed in a variety of ways, such as hosting dinner, buddy students, donations, and translating to name a few. TRI SON Student Nurse Association hosted lunch every day. On a Spirit of NJ cruise around the tip of Manhattan, each Haitian student had a buddy from TRI SON to guide them aided by volunteer translators.

Sustaining Progress

A task force is currently developing future goals to continue to enhance the education at the Université de Notre Dame in Jacmel, Haiti, including purchasing simulation equipment for the school. All classes during their visit were videotaped and the PowerPoints were translated and sent to the school. The current task force aims to establish a framework for partnership and sustainability in global health based on a model developed by DeSantis (1995) that tries to avoid being culturally inappropriate, raise unmet expectations, impose burdens on local health care facilities, and fails to engage the host partner’s perspective, which inevitably ends with neither parties needs met. We feel that we have the key components to make this model work.

This article was submitted by Eileen Specchio, PhD, RN, Professor at College of Saint Elizabeth and Mary E. Kelley, LL.D, MSN, MEd, RN, CNE, ANEF, Dean of Trinitas School of Nursing at Union County College.

References


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MEMBER’S PAGE

Essence of Nursing Award

Kathleen Motacki, MSN, RN, BC is the recipient of the Mary Anne Rooney Essence of Nursing Award. She accepted this honor during the 2013 New Jersey Consortium Annual Founders Day Dinner and Education Program. Kathy has mentored students and prospective STTI inductees by introducing them into a wider network of nurses who are actively engaged in the organization beyond the local level. Kathy belongs to Epsilon Rho and Mu Theta-at-Large Chapters and she has served on both boards of directors in several voluntary leadership capacities including that of president.

Nursing Excellence Awards

Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) has more than 135,000 active members in more than 90 countries. It has more than 490 chapters located at institutions of higher education around the world. Every two years during the Biennium, the Honor Society of Nursing recognizes 4 chapters. Recipients of the STTI International Awards for Nursing Excellence presented in 2013 are as follows:

- **Chapter Communications Award**
  - Recipient, Mu Theta-at-Large, New Jersey

- **Chapter Global Community Building Award**
  - Recipient, Phi Gamma, Indiana

- **Chapter Research Advancement Award**
  - Recipient, Rho Delta, Pakistan

- **Chapter Spirit of Philanthropy Award**
  - Recipient, Delta Psi, Kentucky

CHAPTER 2014

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- **SHAAKIRA ABDUL-RAZZAQ Award Recipient**
  - College of Saint Elizabeth

- **NICOLE CHAMPAGNE Award Recipient**
  - Felician College

- **LAUREN HERAGHTY Award Recipient**
  - Saint Peter’s University

Note: The application and submission due date as well as award criteria are available on our website. Kindly direct all other queries to members of the Research/Scholarship Committee or Nursing Faculty.

Go to: www.muthetaatlarge.org

BEST WISHES!

Scholarship Campaign—Patron Program Donors

2014 Benefactors

- Teru Coleman
- Clare Cruz
- Elaine M. Kopp
- Kathleen Motacki
- Sandra Ooms
- Dr. Eileen C. Specchio
- Dr. Sara Thompson
- Dr. Anne Tritak
- Elaine T. Walsh

For program details: Visit: www.muthetaatlarge.org
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara Carrig, RN, MSN, ANP-C was elected to Passaic County Coordinator for Region 1 of the New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA). Barbara participated in the installation ceremony last month at the Brownstone Restaurant in Patterson, NJ.

Clare Cruz, MSN, RN completed a Post Graduate Certificate on Nursing Informatics in August from Chamberlain College of Nursing. Clare is the Clinical Information Systems Design Coordinator at Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth, NJ.

Marie T. Duffy, DNP, MSN, FNP-BC, NE, NEA-BC received the Sigma Theta Tau International and Hill-Rom Quality/Improvement Patient Safety Nursing Research Grant.

Corinne Ellis, DNP, ANP, RN, BC, Assistant Professor and Director of the RN-BSN program at Saint Peter’s University (SPU) in Jersey City, NJ received a Kenny Fellowship from her academic institution to write during the summer months. In addition to applying her literary skills toward this end, Dr. Ellis has been instrumental in guiding masters and doctoral students to prepare and submit their own manuscripts for publication.

Elaine M. Kopp, BSN, RN is succeeding Lolita C. Jacob, DNP and APN as the next elected Program Coordinator of the New Jersey Consortium of STTI chapters. Elaine currently chairs its award selection subcommittee and serves on its programming and planning committee.

Cheryl Krause-Parello, PhD, RN is the recipient of the American Nurses Association (ANA) Jessie M. Scott Award in 2014, which recognizes significant and sustained achievement in nursing research.

Shaakira Lateefa Abdul-Razzaq, BSN, RN has assumed her new role and responsibilities as Vice President for the College of Saint Elizabeth serving a first time, two-year term on the chapters’ executive board.

Kathleen (Kathy) Motacki, MSN, RN, BC presented an interactive lecture entitled The ABC’s of Peer-reviewed Publishing on 10 May 2014 at the College of Saint Elizabeth. Upon completion of this Lunch and Learn activity hosted by Mu Theta-at-Large Chapter, attendees received a certificate of achievement awarding 1.0 contact hour. Summative evaluation results for the session reflected very positive ratings overall.

Patricia Munno, MSN, CPN, RN is a now a voting member of the chapters’ board of directors having begun an elected, two-year term in July. Patricia will serve as the new Faculty Counselor for Felician.

Mary E. Norton, BA, MA, EdM, EdD, RN accepted an invitation to participate on the STTI Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing (GAPFON). The work of this prestigious, expert panel will proceed over time and membership requires a two-year commitment. Dr. Norton joined her colleagues for an inaugural, three-day meeting (with high-level facilitated discussion in English), at the Hotel Kurhaus Kreuz at Mariatein, (outside of Basel, Switzerland) from 27-29 March 2014.

Ottilie Rung, MS, RN, RNC-OB recited the officer’s pledge completing installation to Vice President representing Felician College during the Transition of Officers Meeting held in June. She has functioned as Faculty Counselor as well as Master of Induction Ceremonies. Ottilie is a Department of Prelicensure Nursing Instructor at Felician.

Muriel M. Shore, EdD, RN, NEA-BC delivered a speech entitled “Community Service: The Challenges and Rewards of Elected Office” during the chapters’ 24th Annual Induction. Dr. Shore has held multiple executive leadership positions throughout her career. She is a strong public advocate who works tirelessly for the Advancement of Nursing. Dr. Shore is Dean and Professor of Felician College School of Nursing.

Eileen Carrigg Specchio, PhD, RN is a Professor at College of Saint Elizabeth. Dr. Specchio provided doctoral dissertation advisement on and co-authored the article Integrating Acupuncture in an Inpatient Setting published in Qualitative Health Research.
REGIONAL BRIEFS

INVITED EVENT
NEW JERSEY CONSORTIUM of Sigma Theta Tau International Chapters
Annual Founders Day Brunch

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Hester C. Klopper
2013 – 2015 STTI President

05 OCTOBER 2014
Sunday: From 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

The Liberty House Restaurant
76 Audrey Zapp Drive, Jersey City, NJ 07305

Registration Deadline is: 21 September 2014
Go to: http://goo.gl/uzoFAP

• Guest: $75.00 per person with registration
• Guest: $40.00 per chapter president
• Guest: $40.00 per chapter designate

(Note: One president or one designate per chapter at $40.00 will be permitted. All others pay $75.00)

Award Presentation
• Mary Anne Rooney Essence of Nursing Award

Keynote Podium Presentations
• Hester Klopper, PhD, MBA, RN, RM, FANSA
• Kathleen Bratby, MSN, RN,

Meal
• Brunch Buffet in Liberty Room

Parking
• Note: Ticket must be validated upon arrival

STTI.NJConsortium@gmail.com

NORTH AMERICA REGION 14
of Sigma Theta Tau International Chapters

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

SERVICE...LEADERSHIP...
TRANSFORMING...and
BEING TRANSFORMED:
Locally, Regionally, and Beyond

07 December 2014
Sunday: From 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Regina McGinn Education Center
Staten Island University Hospital
475 Seaview Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305

Keynote Podium Presentations
• Hester Klopper, PhD, MBA, RN, RM, FANSA
• Mary E. Norton, BA, MA, EdM, EdD, RN

Poster Presentations
• Individual Author Submissions
• Regional Chapter Projects

Continuing Education Certificate
• Contact Hours Pending

Meal
• Brunch Buffet

Parking
• On campus

Kindly contact Teri Torsney, Region 14 Coordinator at sttregion14coordinator@gmail.com for questions

SAVE THE DATE!
INTERNATIONAL LENS

STTI NELL J. WATTS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN NURSING AWARD

Mary E. Norton, BA, MA, EdM, EdD, RN
2013 Biennial Recipient, STTI Nell J. Watts Lifetime Achievement Award in Nursing

Dr. Norton is Professor and Executive Director
The Center for Global Academic Initiatives at Felician College

UNITED NATIONS MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

► Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
► Achieve universal primary education
► Promote gender equality to empower women
► Reduce child mortality rate
► Improve maternal health
► Combat HIV / AIDS, Malaria, and other diseases
► Ensure environmental sustainability
► Develop a global partnership for development

65TH ANNUAL UNITED NATIONS DPI/NGO CONFERENCE

A STTI—PRESENTED WORKSHOP
Beating the Drum for Maternal-Child Health in Africa • Strengthening the Health of Mothers and Children Through Quality Improvements in Nursing and Midwifery

MODERATOR
Dr. Mary E. Norton, Felician College • The Franciscan College of New Jersey

SPEAKERS
Cynthia Vlasich, STTI Education and Leadership Director • Raissa Lynn Sanchez, STTI Youth Representative to the U.N. • Gaudiosa Tibaijuke • Jhpiego Maternal Health and Midwifery Workforce Development • Tanzania, Africa

SPONSORS
Sigma Theta Tau International • Felician College • The Franciscan College of New Jersey • The Johns Hopkins University Program for International Education in Gynecology and Obstetrics

VENUE
United Nations Headquarters • New York, NY

LOCATION
Conference Building • Conference Room C

DATE
Thursday • 28 August 2014

TIME
4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For additional program information please visit: http://www.ed.com
WORK / LIFE BALANCE

Highlights from Hong Kong

By Elaine M. Kopp

“Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us, or we find it not”. —Ralph Waldo Emerson

The majority of STTI congress registrants stayed at the Renaissance Hotel conveniently located next to the Hong Kong Convention Hall—the venue for the plenary and concurrent sessions. The trade center was five minutes from the ferry terminal and had an on-site taxi stand that made getting around town a tad easier. Travel weary guests had access to in-building art galleries and boutiques as well as a spectrum of amenities featuring leisurely lounges, spas, and an aqua hued, organically shaped pool that countered the tropical heat and humidity. Nearby botanical and podium gardens (see photos in left column), a jogging path, and a recreational park for children invited relaxation. The international canteen was a cozy spot that enabled society members to have breakfast together and engage colleagues over coffee. The opportunity to connect with nurses from around the globe helped to deflect thinking about the 16-hour, in-air transit time and resultant jet lag. Book signings, roundtable buffets, and poster receptions permitted attendees to speak face-to-face with researchers during the meeting.

Traditional Lion Festival Dancers

The opening festivities literally began with a bang as a welcoming troupe of dramatic dancers’ paraded wildly to waves of hard-hitting percussion. The lucky dragons, lions (above center) or tigers viewed as a harbinger of good fortune and prosperity customarily perform at large-scale events such as the Research Congress or on ritualistic, celebratory occasions like the Chinese New Year.
The International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame Award Presentation celebrated the achievements of its 25 recipients. A Conversation with the Honorees facilitated by STTI President Hester Klopper helped the audience understand the degree of perseverance it actually takes to become a serious investigator. She queried the researchers about their practice and the most memorable aspects of their journeys. These esteemed individuals spoke candidly giving answers that were not only pointed but also telling. It was evident from their responses that a research career demanded tremendous, intermittent self-sacrifices. Sometimes personal compromises were suboptimal. Obtaining project funds could be precarious and preparing grant proposals highly competitive and time consuming. Over the long stretch there were dark days wrought with disappointment from serial rejection and feelings of failure. Nonetheless, most shared the belief too, that the ongoing desire to contribute to the greater good kept them from giving up on the dream of discovery and ushered them safely to their current destinies (crystal sphere award hardware—photo above center).
Dim Sum Dining Culture and Tea Tasting

City Hall Maxim’s Palace was the place to savor Dim Sum, a popular pastime throughout Southeast Asia. Once seated, a steady flow of servers arrived offering dishes from bamboo baskets neatly stacked on heated, mobile carts. Culinary treats appealing to our mostly conservative, western palates included pan-fried or steamed meat and vegetable dumplings and dipping sauce, stuffed lotus leaves, custard tarts, and assorted buns, spring rolls, and rice cakes. These tiny bites were a tasty accompaniment to the sweetly scented jasmine tea on every table.

Regional Social and Networking Night

The Maimonides Medical Center of Brooklyn, New York sponsored the dinner arranged by Gloria Chan, Immediate Past President of STTI Upsilon Chapter at NYU College of Nursing. Gloria made more than twenty reservations at American Restaurant, which fellow regional attendees quickly filled. It was ‘game on’ as soon as the chicken and cashew lettuce wraps landed on the ‘Lazy Susan’. After appetizers, sizzling shrimps, sautéed broccoli florets, and pancakes with shredded pork followed. For the grand finale the waiter delivered a large, full-headed, crispy fish and not surprisingly, plenty of take-away cartons!

Beyond the obvious complimentary meal, the dine-out encouraged people to move past the meet-and-greet and to chat, exchange business cards, and strengthen relationships. Beyond the obvious complimentary meal, the dine-out encouraged people to move past the meet-and-greet and to chat, exchange business cards, and strengthen relationships. The nurse to my left was a practitioner of Reiki. We discussed the nature of energy work and the techniques related to spiritually guided healing. Conversations also revolved around the sightseeing adventures to the Big Buddha, Man Mo Temple, Stanley Peak, and unseen attractions. Some of us intended for example, to participate in the off-site healthcare and university campus tours.
The Sanatorium and Hospital Tour

This 480-bed facility was not visible from the street level or reachable without ascending several flights of stairs. The Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital (HKSH) as its name implies was formerly a treatment center for patients’ with respiratory ailments such as Tuberculosis (TB). Established in 1922, the institution has since earned a reputation for offering a scope of private healthcare services that are continuously expanding. While in-house, we walked through a number of well-organized specialty clinics. We visited the Day-Care Center for Chemotherapy, Intensive Care Unit (ICU), a very pleasant pediatric reception and play alcove and a comprehensive Department of Physiotherapy.

Nurses conveyed a unified presence and took great pride in their professional appearance. They wore striped caps connoting rank and dressed in tailored white uniforms.

We met with the Nurse Matron and her second in command. They provided a futures perspective on the direction of the hospital center. Nurses conveyed a unified presence and took great pride in their professional appearance. They wore striped caps connoting rank and dressed in tailored white uniforms. Soft-spoken staffs were courteous and knowledgeable. All were pleased to show us the range of newly configured patient accommodations. Also displayed was the variety of premier technology available for each private or semi-private room. Interiorly calm, ultra modern and modestly decorated, the ambiance on general wings was similar to that of a sanctuary. It was uncommonly hushed with a noticeable absence of auditory and visual noise. Huge tinted windows overlooking the water provided an ample source of light and a panoramic view of the sailboats in Victoria Harbor, adding to an already serene environment.

Cloistered Markets and Mainland Crafts

After touring the sanatorium, several members of the group decided to look for souvenirs at Central Market. This small and seemingly obscure open-air conglomerate wedged between many towering high-end retailers would have remained hidden had it not be for our guide. She escorted us along cramped backstreet corridors while greeting the Cantonese-speaking shopkeepers. Her signature bartering and translation proved invaluable when we painstakingly selected, and purchased our prized collectibles—jade-like bangles, glass beads, cloisonné charms or carved pendants, embroidered totes with tassels, clusters of ceramic wind chimes, laminated chopsticks, silk table runners and much more! No one left empty-handed or without a sense of satisfaction for that matter, although the possibility of sitting on our suitcases loomed ever large before flying home!

Editor’s Note: Elaine Kopp produced the newsletter content editing and layout. She thanks all STTI members for their submissions and encourages you to share your contributions in upcoming editions.
REFLECTIONS

Giving and Receiving the Gift of Life
By Barbara Carrig

My daughter Michele Lawson works as a registered nurse at the Chilton Memorial Hospital in Pompton Plains. In representing her facility, Michele recruited me to walk in the fundraiser held by the New Jersey Sharing Network in early June. My husband James and grandson Mathew, granddaughter Ashley and her friend Ruba joined us (see photo below).

Standing above left to right: Michele, Mathew, Ruba, Ashley, Barbara, and James

A crowd of nearly 10,000 people comprised of family and friends of donors as well as runners, walkers, and volunteers were present. It was an impressive turnout and an emotional experience. There were overwhelming displays of loyalty expressed by the families—many of whom exhibited photographs of beloved donors. Pictures embedded in quilts served as comforting remembrances. Donor images also appeared on tee shirts worn by family members including infants and children. These were ways to honor donor legacies and to celebrate their lives despite the insurmountable loss.

New Jersey Sharing Network

- To learn more about organ and tissue donation
- To register as a donor
- To become a certified volunteer
- To sponsor an event
- Go to: https://www.njsharingnetwork.org/

This was our first 5K event and understandably, we did not know what to expect but wished to support the organization because my husband was a liver recipient in 2004 and 2008. For a significant period in our lives (over 25 years), our family dealt with his illness, which entailed awaiting the decision for a liver transplant since placing his name on the list in 2003. We recognized the gravity of the situation and knew that someone had to die in order to save his life. It was difficult to process this particular fact so in order to cope we focused less on the donors and more on being thankful for having received the organs.

“Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near”. Hebrews 10:25 ESV

Until that day, we thought of ourselves. After seeing the cherished photos and listening to the touching stories of those who donated life to us however, we felt differently. Next year, we plan to walk again and anticipate raising more funds to contribute to the New Jersey Sharing Network whose motto is 'saving lives through organ and tissue donation, to remember, to honor, to give hope'.

The motto of the New Jersey Sharing Network is ‘Saving lives through organ and tissue donation, to remember, to honor, to give hope’.
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WEBSITE
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CHAPTER

2014 Meeting Calendar

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Board of Directors Meeting

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Board of Directors Meeting

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Note: Calendar is subject to change

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