Connecting and Engaging STTI Members Regionally to Advance World Health and Celebrate Nursing Excellence

Symposium Organizer: Jacqueline Cassagnol, RN, MSN, PMC; Presenters: Teresa Torsney, RN, MSN, CCN; Jacqueline Cassagnol, RN, MSN, PMC; Steven Baumann, PhD, MS, MSN, BSN, RN; Joanna F Hofmann, EdD, ANP/GNP-BC, RN.
The purpose of this symposium is to share the work of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) North America Region 14.
STTI Region 14: Connecting and Engaging Members Locally and Globally

Teresa Torsney, MS, RN-BC; Jacqueline Cassagnol, MSN, PMC, RN; Ronn M. Callada, MS, BS, RN, ANP; Kirstin Patragnoni-Sauter, MSN, APN, FNP-BC
The purpose of this presentation is to describe how the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Region 14 Coordinator and Chapters incorporated STTI Mission and the 2013 Presidential Call to Action in their activities and events.
Learning Objectives

• The learner will be able to describe how the Region 14 Coordinator encouraged chapter leaders to incorporate the STTI mission and 2013 Presidential Call to Action into their events and activities.

• The learner will be able to discuss how Region 14 members incorporated the STTI Mission and 2013 Presidential Call to Action in their events and activities.
STTI Region 14
Experience

Connecting and engaging STTI members to meet the mission of STTI “to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service”

From Left to Right: Sally Sobon Wilson, Dr. Connie Sobon Sensor, Dr. Mary Norton, Teresa Torsney, Dr. Hester Klopper, Cathy Bratby, Gloria Chan
STTI Mission and 2013 Presidential Call to Action

STTI Region 14 Coordinator and Chapters incorporated STTI Mission and the 2013 Presidential Call to Action in their events and activities.

2013-2015 Call to action
Serve locally, transform regionally, lead globally

Dr. Hester Klopper
Region 14 Committee

- Region 14 Coordinator
- Region 14 Treasurer
- Region 14 Secretary
- Conference Planning Committee
- Communication Committee
- Global Initiatives Committee
- Awards and Judges Committee
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Region 14 Members

Connecting and engaging members locally, regionally, and globally are important goals of STTI.

Region 14 members initiated multiple projects ranging from:

- Promoting Health
- Disaster Preparedness Training
- Empowering Nurses

In each of these initiatives, members from the region have collaborated with STTI members and nurse leaders from different leadership levels locally, regionally and globally.
Connecting & Engaging Members Locally & Globally

Roles of:

• Region 14 Coordinator
• Region 14 Committee Members
• Region 14 Chapters Leaders
• Region 14 Volunteers
Engaging Chapter Leaders

• Through electronic mail, "The Circle" on the STTI website, Skype, teleconferences and phone calls, the Region 14 Coordinator was able to engage the region chapter leaders and support them as they created educational and social opportunities for the members at large.

• Examples of chapter initiatives that included these themes were presented at the Founder's Day event of the New Jersey Consortium, the Long Island Consortium in New York, and in the Region 14 Biennial Conference.
Region 14 Biennial Conference

**Title:** Service...Leadership... Transforming and Being Transformed: Locally, Regionally and Beyond

**Purpose:** To integrate activities within Region 14 of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (STTI) that address aspects of both the mission of the STTI and the 2013 – 2015 Presidential Call to Action in relation to advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership and service.
Call for Abstracts

North America Region 14 Biennial Conference
Hosted by Upsilon Chapter
Co-Sponsored by Region 14 Chapters and Staten Island University Hospital

Date: Sunday, December 7, 2014
Time: 9:00am - 3:30pm
Title: Service...Leadership... Transforming and Being Transformed: Locally, Regionally and Beyond
Location: Regina McGinnis Education Center at Staten Island University Hospital
475 Seaview Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2014

Members of Sigma Theta Tau International and Region 14 Chapters are invited to submit abstracts for oral and/or poster presentations related to activities conducted by chapters or individuals that address the conference theme, which is founded upon both the mission of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing and the 2013 - 2015 Presidential Call to Action with attention to advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service. Abstract topics may include:

- Activities related to Serving Locally, Transforming Regionally, Leading Globally
- Sharing ways to transform and be transformed related to the theme
- Research related to the themes
- Global missions/Study Abroad Activities
- Service and/or Philanthropy
- Program development/evaluation
- Global Health Issues

Guidelines:
- Abstracts have a 250 word limit
- Should include:
  - Purpose/Aim of the presentation
  - background significance
  - methodology
  - Results/Description
  - Findings
  - Implications

FORM FOR ABSTRACTS OF ORAL PRESENTATIONS AND/OR POSTERS
NORTH AMERICA REGION 14 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE
Complete & Return by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2014

Date: Sundays, December 7, 2014
Times: 9:00am - 3:30pm
Title: Service...Leadership... Transforming and Being Transformed: Locally, Regionally and Beyond

Dear Submitter: Complete the author contact information and abstract. If the abstract is accepted, this information will be used in the brochure/program/handouts. For questions or to submit this form, contact...!

Acceptance Notifications will be made by November 15, 2014.

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Presentation Needs: Check one: Easel or Table for Poster

ABSTRACT: (Please limit to 250 words, please use an additional sheet if necessary)
## Agenda

**Title:** Region 14 Biennial Conference: Service...Leadership... Transforming and Being Transformed: Locally, Regionally and Beyond  

**Date & Time:** December 7, 2014 from 0900-1530  

**Location:** Regina McGinn Education Center, North Shore-LIJ Staten Island University Hospital, Staten Island, NY  

**Provider Number:** NYP257.12/31/14-4

### AGENDA

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<th>TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>0830 - 0900</td>
<td>Registration and Breakfast and Poster Set Up</td>
<td>Teresa Tormey, MS, RN-BC, Region 14 Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>0900-0915</td>
<td>Welcome and overview of objectives</td>
<td>Hester Kleinig, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, FANSN, STTI President</td>
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<td>0915 - 1000</td>
<td>STTI and Presidential Call to Action</td>
<td>Mary Norton, EdD, MEd, MA, BA, APN-C</td>
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<td>1000 - 1030</td>
<td>Scholaristic Opportunities in the Fulbright Scholars Program</td>
<td>Mary Norton, EdD, MEd, MA, BA, APN-C</td>
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<td>1030-1100</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>1100-1130</td>
<td>Poster Presentations</td>
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<td>1130 - 1215</td>
<td>STTI, NGOH and the UN</td>
<td>Region 14 Global Initiatives Committee</td>
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<td>1215-1315</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td>1315-1415</td>
<td>Panel Discussions and question &amp; answer: Hybrid FNP Education in Haiti: An International Collaboration Model</td>
<td>Steven L. Baumann, RN, PhD &amp; Jeann F. Hoffmann, RN, EGD</td>
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<td>1415 - 1500</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions: (main auditorium) Mentoring Workshop, Activities for Community Service (Diabetic Conference Rooms) Haiti (Side Hall)</td>
<td>Facilitated by Gloria Chan, Raissa Lynn Sanchez and Timoehy Shi.</td>
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<td>1500-1530</td>
<td>Wrap Up and Synopses with Evaluation of Program and distribution of certificates</td>
<td>Teresa Tormey</td>
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Various topics pertaining to global health included but not limited to:

• Reflections on Teaching Abroad for the First Time: Connecting, Being Transformed, and Learning to Lead Globally.
• Breast feeding.
• Service to underdeveloped countries such as Tanzania through book donation for nursing program.
• Fall Prevention Program.
• Clinical experience in a culturally diverse society.
• WHO information on the Ebola virus epidemic.
Results

• The STTI Mission and Call to Action were made the basis of the Region 14 Biennial Conference to give all members an opportunity to engage in the topics.

• The Region 14 Coordinator and Chapters were effective.

• Region 14 members incorporated the STTI Mission and Call to Action into their events and activities.
Region 14: Connecting Through Social Media

- The Circle
- Facebook
- Twitter
Connecting Through The Circle

The Circle
The professional networking site of Sigma Theta Tau International

Region 14 Chapter Officer Connect

Announcements
Region 14 Delegates' Night Out in 'Vegas'
By Teresa Tonney, one second ago
Please expect an invitation to participate in a survey to assess interest in a 'delegates' night out.' I would like to invite Region 14 Delegates to join me for a possible networking/gathering for our 'last night' in Vegas on Tuesday, November 10...

Upcoming Events
2015 Founders' Day Celebration Long Island Consortium
Oct 7, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)
Farmingdale, NY

The New Jersey Consortium of STTI Chapters Annual Founder's Day
Oct 13, 5:30 PM - 9:30 PM (ET)
New Brunswick, NJ, United States

Discussions
Tentative TeleConference Meeting this September
By Teresa Tonney, 2 minutes ago

Library Files
Connecting Through Facebook

Reach a new milestone
100 Likes

Nursing is hard. Unaddressed ethical issues make it even harder.
Connecting Through Twitter
Region 14 recognizes and celebrates its:

- Volunteers
- Committee Members
- Chapter Leaders
Recognition

From Left to Right: Communication Committee Chair, Jacqueline Cassagnol and Region 14 Coordinator Teresa Torsney.
INSPIRING MEMBER STORIES

Donna M. Nickitas

PHD, RN, NEA-BC, CNE, FNAP, FAAN

Donna Nickitas realized her calling to be a nurse at a young age. During the summer of her freshman year of high school, when she was just 14 years old, Nickitas volunteered with the American Red Cross in lower Manhattan, New York. She was placed at St. Vincent Medical Center, where she experienced daily interaction with both nurses and nursing students. Admiring their professional and caring attributes, Nickitas decided then that she wanted to become a nurse herself. The next summer, she applied to become a "Vincente," volunteering again for St. Vincent through a program especially geared toward high school students who wanted to be nursing assistants. She was accepted into the program and worked as a Vincente every summer thereafter until graduating from high school. "It was an amazing experience that provided basic introduction into the profession," she says.

As a young Italian woman from Brooklyn, New York, and one of the first members of her family to go to college, Nickitas leveraged the love and support of her family and community to serve society as a nurse. While a young graduate student at New York University, she was inducted into the Upsilon Chapter of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), in 1979. "As a graduate student, I succeeded academically and had the grade point average to be accepted as a member of the honor society, but more than that, I had several opportunities to serve the division of nursing on a variety of committees," says Nickitas. "It was this service experience that allowed me to appreciate how one can use her strengths and talents.
Recognition

Gloria Chan
North America
Region 14 Accomplishments

2013 – 2015 Biennium:
✓ Chapter Key Awards
✓ Showcase of Excellence Awards
✓ Biennial Conference
✓ Founder’s Day Celebrations
✓ NJ Consortium
✓ Long Island Consortium
✓ Medical Missions
✓ United Nations
✓ Educational Support/Nursing Programs
✓ Networking
✓ Mentoring
Love, Honor, Courage

ΣΘΤ

STTI’s Founders; nursingsociety.org
Providing Health Education & Disaster Preparedness Training: A Global Collaboration

Jacqueline Cassagnol, MSN, PMC, RN
The purpose of this presentation is to describe how a Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Region 14 member collaborated with STTI members and nurse leaders to provide health education and disaster preparedness training in the USA and Haiti.
Learning Objectives

• The learner will be able to describe the collaborative experience of a Region 14 member with STTI members and nurse leaders providing health education and disaster preparedness training locally and globally.

• The learner will be able to recognize why collaborations between STTI members and nurse leaders are important to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence.
Collaborating with STTI members and nurse leaders to provide health education and disaster preparedness training in the USA and Haiti.

Current Positions:
- STTI - Connect and Engagement Taskforce Member
- STTI Region 14 - Communication Committee Chair
- STTI “The Circle” Website - Community Health Community Group Facilitator
- STTI “The Circle” Website – Disaster Preparedness Community Group Facilitator

Past Positions and Recognitions:
- STTI Zeta Omega-at-Large Membership Ambassador
- STTI Zeta Omega-at-Large Chapter Leader
  ***Chapter Leader Highlight***
- STTI Zeta Omega-at-Large Chapter Website Administrator ***Website Chapter of the Month***
- STTI Region 14 ***Appreciation Award***
How do you prepare for chaos?

An STTI member launched nonprofit to train healthcare workers on how to respond to international disasters.

News reports of 2010’s devastating earthquake in Haiti had personal significance for Jackie Cassagnol, MSN, RN, PMC—she feared for the safety of her uncle and other relatives in that country. She wanted to volunteer for disaster relief but didn’t have specialized emergency training.

Cassagnol, a nursing instructor at Helene Fuld College of Nursing, found another way to volunteer. She’s the founder and president of Worldwide Community First Responder (WCFR), a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing deaths worldwide through education and training. During her most recent trip to Haiti, she initiated a disaster preparedness project with students at the Faculty of Nursing Science of the Episcopal University of Haiti. Read her story.
Providing Health Education & Disaster Preparedness Training

• STTI Region 14 member initiated community health projects and disaster preparedness projects in the United States of America (USA) and Haiti, in collaboration with STTI members and nurse leaders.

• From 2012 to 2014, over 15 projects were initiated in New York, USA and Leogane, Haiti.

• The projects were conducted through Worldwide Community First Responder, Inc.
• Worldwide Community First Responder (WCFR) is a 501(C)(3) non-profit/charitable organization based in New York, founded in 2011, with a mission “to prevent deaths worldwide through education and training”.

• WCFR provides health education, and worldwide community-based first response and first aid training.
WCFR Board of Directors & Advisors

• Jacqueline Cassagnol, RN, MSN, PMC – Founder & President
• Hans Cassagnol, MD, MMM – Vice President, Membership Ambassador
• Jeff Hudson, MS – Treasurer
• Avion Urbain-Brammer, RN, MSN – Board Member
• Steven Lee, MS, JD – Legal Adviser

From Left to Right: Steve Lee; Roxanne Watson (Heart Recipient & WCFR Partner); Jacqueline Cassagnol; Paul Cadichon (WCFR Adviser) at WCFR Walk for Health 2015.
Projects in USA

• Projects in USA were supported by STTI Zeta Omega-at-Large Chapter (including College of New Rochelle, Dominican college, Mercy college, and Pace University), **Nyack College, Rockland Community College, Volunteer New York**.
Projects in Haiti

- Projects in Haiti were supported by a grant from Haitian American Nurses Association (HANA) of Florida, and engaged the Faculté des Sciences Infirmières a Léogâne (FSIL), a nursing school in Haiti.
Collaboration

- STTI members and nurse leaders from different levels of leadership collaborated in the projects.
The community health projects consisted of conducting community health assessments through surveys; analyzing data collected and recommending interventions to improve community health.

Spring Valley Community Health Assessment (Spring Valley, NY)

Leogane Community Health Assessment (Leogane, Haiti)
Disaster Preparedness Projects

The disaster preparedness projects consisted of community risk and vulnerability assessments for disasters; developing disaster preparedness plans including first response and first aid training.

“Be Prepared for the Next Disaster” Presentation (Spring Valley, NY)

FSIL Disaster Preparedness Project (Leogane, Haiti)
Evaluation & Results

• The projects were evaluated through pre and post questionnaires given to the participants on community health and disaster preparedness.

• The results were very positive.

*FSIL students presenting their Leogane Community Health Assessment (Leogane, Haiti)*
Evaluation & Results

• The community health projects engaged participants in promoting healthy lifestyles in their community.

• The disaster preparedness projects engaged participants in making their community safer, better prepared, and more resilient to disasters.

Jacqueline Cassagnol providing health education at Spring Valley Community Health Fair (Spring Valley, NY)
The STTI Region 14 member connected and engaged STTI members and nurse leaders in providing health education and disaster preparedness training locally, regionally, and globally.

The collaboration between STTI members and nurse leaders has proven to be beneficial for all stakeholders.
Jacqueline Cassagnol (on right) and FSIL Dean, Hilda Alcindor (on left) with poster presentation titled “WCFR: Improving Health in Haiti through Education” at HANA Convention 2014 in Miami, Florida.
Jacqueline Cassagnol presented a symposium titled “Improving Health Outcomes in Haiti through Nursing Education” with HANA members Odiane Medacier, Louise Aurelien, Marie-Carole France at the STTI Research Congress 2014 in Hong Kong.
FSIL Class of 2015
Jacqueline Cassagnol (with black cap and gown) attended her FSIL students graduation in Leogane, Haiti.
STTI Region 14 Member presented appreciation awards to STTI Members and nurse leaders.

Jacqueline Cassagnol presented WCFR Appreciation Award 2013 to Maureen Doyle (on left) and Akia Blandon (on right).
Region 14 Member: Presented Appreciation Awards

- STTI Region 14 Member presented appreciation awards to STTI Members and nurse leaders.

Jacqueline Cassagnol (in the middle) presented Avion Urban-Brammer (second on Left) WCFR Appreciation Award 2014.
Region 14 Member: Received Awards & Honors

- STTI Region 14 Member received awards and honors from STTI Members and nurse leaders.

Jacqueline Cassagnol received HANA Nurse of the Year Award 2015; Volunteer New York Safe Community Award 2015; March of Dimes Nurse of the Year Finalist 2015.
The goals of the community health projects and disaster preparedness projects are: to improve the quality of pre-hospital care; and to lessen the adverse medical effects created by natural disasters.

These collaborations between STTI members and nurse leaders are important to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence.
References


Hybrid FNP Education in Haiti: A Global Collaboration

Steven Baumann, PhD, MS, MSN, BSN, RN; Joanna F Hofmann, EdD, ANP/GNP-BC, RN; Jacqueline Cassagnol, MSN, PMC, RN
Purpose

• The purpose of this presentation is to describe how Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Region 14 members and nurse leaders developed and operated two Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Master’s Degree programs in Haiti.
Learning Objectives

- The learner will be able to discuss how to develop sustainable international nursing collaborations to provide quality advanced practice nursing education in very low resource countries.

- The learner will be able to critique the use of technology to engage STTI members with graduate nursing students in the US and Haiti to improve Haiti healthcare.
“The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti has been affected by political violence for most of its recent history. Poverty, corruption, lack of export industries, a large deficit and severe environmental deterioration and deforestation, are among Haiti’s most serious disadvantages.”

(De Ville de Goyet, Sarmiento, & Grünewald, 2010)
DISASTER in Haiti

- January 12, 2010  7.0 Magnitude Earthquake
- 227,000 people killed, 300,000+ injured
- Over 600,000 people left their home in Port-au-Prince were living in overcrowded tent cities
- Outbreak of cholera in October 2010 has killed 8,448 and infected 689,448
Presidential Palace
(National Palace) Port-au-Prince
2015: pervasive severe poverty, almost no middle class, little or no safety net of any kind.

- 78% of the population of Haiti make less than $2 per day,
- 56% of the population make less than $1 per day (Fatton, 2014).
Nursing Challenges in Haiti

• Most nurses in Haiti are educated at the diploma level only.

• Profound disconnect between the health needs of the Haitian people and nursing education.

• Nurses are largely trained to provide care to hospitalized patients.

• However, most people in Haiti are not in hospitals.
Major indicators of public health remain bleak

- Infant and child mortality are the highest in the Western hemisphere,
- Rates of immunization for common childhood diseases are extremely low,
- 69% of teenage girls become pregnant,
- the highest cervical cancer rate in the world.
- Close to 90% of health care in Haiti is delivered by nurses.
- **Nurses with advanced education can reverse these grim statistics!**
PROMOTING HEALTH IN HAITI, INC.

Critical to the function of this 501(c) NGO is its interprofessional board

Carol Roye, President  (Pace University)
Carmelle Bellefluer, VP  (Nassau CC)
Joanna Hofmann, Treasure  (Nyack College)
Steven L, Baumann,  Secretary (Hunter College)
With Lucile Charles, President of ANIHL (Haitian Nurses’ Association)
Solution

• Hybrid Master’s level Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) programs in Haiti.

• NPs can reduce the health disparities in Haiti
First Day of classes: 18 Students enrolled

18 FNP students, Dean Hilda Alcindor, Judith James-Borga, Carmelle Bellefleur with Sophia Martelly, Haiti's First Lady, since 2011 (wearing yellow scarf).
Innovation

- The first master’s degree in nursing and the first FNP program in Haiti, started Sept. 2013
- it is also an innovative hybrid program,
- with intensive 4-day face-to-face instruction, followed by the use of a variety of educational & clinical technologies, and clinical experiences.
Partnership with:
The FNP program run by PHH is

• an innovative international hybrid graduate program, with the Episcopal University of Haiti (UNEPH), the Faculté des Sciences Infirmières de l’Université Episcopale d’Haïti (FSIL) in Léogâne, and PHH.
• We were able to get, thanks to the generosity of President Jennifer Raab, of Hunter College, college email addresses.
• Which gains them access to the College and CUNY online electronic library holdings.
The Expected Impact

- To increase the access to quality primary care, prenatal care, and newborn care, in Haiti, and by so doing reduce the high rates of maternal and infant mortality in that country.

- Nine of the students in the first FNP program are already teaching for Episcopal University of Haiti (UNEPH), (FSIL) in Léogâne.
A Study of Success and Retention in the First Graduate Nursing Education Program in Haiti, August 2015

Study questions:
A. What are the factors that have supported your success and retention in the program so far?
B. What are the factors that have restricted your success and retention in the program so far?
C. Tell me about one obstacle to your success in the program that you have faced, and how did you overcome it?
D. What do you think would strongly affect your chance of success in the program?
White Lab Coat Ceremony

at PHH Fundraiser, NYC May 15, 2015
The Second FNP Program

• FNP program at the University of Haiti, April 2015 (de l'Université d'État d'Haïti),

(PROGRAMME DE L’INFIRMIERE PRATICIENNE DE FAMILLE)

• This program requires a bridge program to provide the BSN for RNs, faculty from Molloy College
• MOU: Pace University, PHH, U.of H. & Minister of Health and Population, Haiti
Special thanks: PHH, Board of Directors and Contributors

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<th>Stephen Hofmann, Esq.</th>
<th>Martin Dornbaum, MA,</th>
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<td>Marjorie BonHomme, PhD</td>
<td>Gracia A. Jean, MD,</td>
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Connecting and Engaging STTI Members Regionally to Advance World Health and Celebrate Nursing Excellence

Thank you! Questions?