



# ALPHA ETA

## President's Column

*William R. Frey, Ph.D. OTR, FACHE*

I write this after several nights of watching the 2008 Olympics from Beijing.

For 2 weeks, I've been a couch potato even more than usual. But how can one not be captivated by observing such excellence? From relays, to gymnastics to triathlons; athletes are at the top of their sports. We cheer the excellence we see on our TVs each night of the Summer Olympics. To many of us excellence in professional education is something worth cheering about too. **Excellence in allied health education is our rallying cry and the reason we support the Alpha Eta Society.**

During difficult economic times, we are challenged



with cuts to our budgets and it is not always easy to focus on excellence.

We find that our list of tasks grows but our resources shrink. Yet we know that we must create. We must search for better ways to prepare the next generation of professionals.

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## SEPTEMBER, 2008

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*"Together We Serve"*

## Annual Meeting, 2007

The 2007 Annual Meeting was held at the Catamaran Hotel in San Diego, California on October 19, 2007.

President Vincent Gallicchio presided over the meeting. Minutes and Financial report were approved.

The next order of business was the presentation of the Sidney Rodenberg and Lee Holder Awards for outstanding academic performance, leadership and scholarship by undergraduate and graduate students in the allied health profession.

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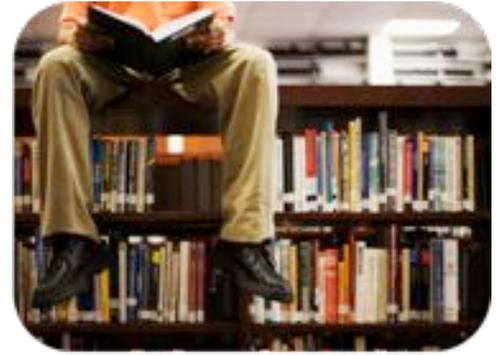
## President's Column

As members of the Alpha Eta Society, we remain focused on scholarship. We are motivated by a higher sense of purpose.

For Alpha Eta Society members, the future is not just about career opportunities but more about preparing our students to have the critical thinking skills needed to shape the kind of society in which they want to live. Our graduates face a world both remarkably complex and increasingly interconnected. How to provide health care, basic and innovative, to growing populations of unserved and underserved, will be their challenges. Our members are learners, practitioners, researchers working side by side by side with the Alpha Eta Motto, "Together We Serve".

Our annual meeting is just around the corner, Friday, October 31 in Baltimore. I hope many of us will be able to come "Together to Serve". In addition to an full agenda of new business, we will announce the recipients of our three awards: President's Award to acknowledge the accomplishments of a local chapter; the Rodenberg Award, recognizing outstanding achievement by a graduating allied health student; Lee Holder Award, for outstanding academic achievement by an allied health graduate degree student.

**Let's come together in Baltimore and celebrate excellence!**



*"The future is not just about career opportunities but more about preparing our students to have the critical thinking skills needed to shape the kind of society in which they want to live."*

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## Secretary/Treasurer's Column

*David A. Lake, PT, Ph.D.*

It has been quite an experience this year taking over the position of Secretary/Treasurer. In his many years as Secretary/Treasurer, Lee Holder has done so much for Alpha Eta. But we owe him more than what he has accomplished in this one position over the years. Because as Jim Repella, a former Alpha Eta President, stated, "Lee Holder is not just a member of Alpha Eta, not just an officer of Alpha Eta, but he is Alpha Eta".

The New York concert impresario Charles Wadsworth, after developing and hosting for over

50 years the chamber music series at the Spoleto Arts Festival first in Italy then in Charleston, SC, jokingly asked the question, "Should I be called an icon or a legend?" Well, to Alpha Eta, Lee Holder is both an icon and a legend.

Lets not just focus on the past, but lets look to the future. With two new chapters this year, we have ambitious growth plans to serve students and faculty in even more allied health programs throughout the country.

**Stay tuned and watch us grow!**

## Featured Chapter: Gwynedd-Mercy College

This issue's featured chapter is one of the newer chapters in Alpha Eta, Gwynedd-Mercy College.

The Gwynedd-Mercy College chapter was founded on October 1, 2004. The College includes allied health programs in Cardiovascular Technology, Health Information Management, Medical Technology, Radiologic Technology, Radiation Therapy and Respiratory Care.

This past year the chapter has been very active.

Alpha Eta co-sponsored a luncheon on October 10, 2007 for Pennsylvania and New Jersey High School Counselors and any interested students attending the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) National Conference held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



**AHIMA Luncheon**

They sponsored activities for Allied Health Professions Week in November, 2007.

They co-sponsored the Red Dress Day Celebration, February 2, 2008. Because of the focus on heart disease in women, the Cardiovascular Technology students provided posters, checked blood pressures, and had a speaker on issues of heart disease in women.

They sponsored some events at Radiation

Therapy's Eileen McClough Memorial Continuing Education Day in March, 2008.

The chapter's Fourth Induction Ceremony was held on April 17, 2008 in conjunction with the second induction into Lambda Nu, National Honor Society for the Imaging Sciences.



**New Inductee receives certificate/  
pin/honor cord from Dr. Linda Reilly**

The speaker at the Induction Ceremony was Christine Eberle, Director of the Campus Ministry at Gwynedd-Mercy College



**Induction Ceremony Speaker,  
Christine Eberle**

Congratulations to the Gwynedd-Mercy College chapter for strong support of the allied health professions during this past year.

## Annual Meeting

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This year's Rodenberg award was presented to Nina Higgins, a student in Respiratory Therapy at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Georgia. Ms. Higgins was unable to attend as she was pregnant and her physician asked her not to fly. Dr. David Lake, the representative from Armstrong Atlantic State University accepted the award on her behalf.

The Holder award was presented to Michelle Menke, a Physician's Assistant graduate student at Wichita State University. She gave a brief synopsis of her work on breast cancer and thyroid hormone.



**Michelle Menke receiving the Holder Award from Alpha Eta President Vincent Gallicchio**

Elections for Secretary/Treasurer (3-year term) and Board Members (4 positions for 2-year term and 1 for a 1-year term) were held.

David Lake (Armstrong Atlantic State University) was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Elected for a 2-year term on the Board were: James Temme (University of Nebraska), Mike Paquet (Thomas Jefferson University), Lynn Little (University of Texas Southwestern at Dallas) and Linda Reilly (Gwyneed-Mercy College).

Elected to a 1-year term to replace William Frey who became president at the end of this meeting was Peter Cohen (Wichita State University).

President Gallicchio closed the meeting with the presentation of a special service award to Lee Holder, celebrating his many years of service to the Alpha Eta National Honor Society.



**Incoming Alpha Eta President Bill Frey congratulating Lee Holder on receiving the Service Award for his many years of service to Alpha Eta (from right to left Lee Holder, Ms. Holder and Bill Frey)**

## NEW CHAPTERS



### Utica College

Utica College's School of Health Professions and Education is located in Utica, New York. It has degree programs in Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Therapeutic Recreation, Child-Life Psychology & Gerontology



### Long Island University

The new School of Health Professions is located on the Brooklyn Campus of Long Island University. It has degree programs in Occupational, Physical and Respiratory Therapy, Athletic Training, Health Science and Community Health among others



