The Rising Stars of Excellence & Research award was developed by Kappa Omicron to recognize dedicated nursing students, as teams or individually, for their research work. The award provides a faculty mentor to assist students in creating a research poster and presenting it at the STTI international biennial convention. This process was completed over a 11-month period.

This project offered student learning opportunities, such as:
- Collaborating with a research team
- Writing a scientific abstract
- Creating a research poster
- Presenting a poster in a professional setting

Kappa Omicron President, Dr. Gayle Kipnis, directly mentored the students throughout the 11-month process.
- Invited the students to submit an abstract to STTI.
- Guided the students as they created their abstracts.
- Oversaw the development of the posters.
- Practiced being a poster presenter at BBQ dinner at the home of the KO president.
- Assisted the students in applying for CSU Chico research grants. Two students received additional funds through this grant (total of $1,500).
- Attended the students’ presentations at the STTI Biennial Convention and introduced the Rising Star students to STTI leaders and researchers.

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Kappa Omicron Chapter Support

- Students learned how to write an abstract, apply for a research grant, and create a research poster for a professional nursing conference.
- Students presented their posters over multiple days at the 43rd STTI Biennial Convention in Las Vegas.
  - As Rising Star Researchers, they were allowed to be active participants in the convention.
  - They were introduced to global nursing and were in awe.
  - The students were amazed with the generosity of the STTI board of directors in meeting with them in small groups during the convention.
  - They learned about the many ways they can be involved in STTI.
  - One student was inspired to start a chapter in his home country of Russia.
  - The students added the Rising Stars award to their resumes and some obtained their first nursing jobs in prestigious magnet hospitals.

Kappa Omicron Chapter
Rising Star Students

In line with the STTI mission to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service, the Kappa Omicron chapter mentored and supported nine newly inducted BSN students as Rising Stars of Research and Excellence. These three teams of students submitted abstract and were invited to share their research design projects at the 43rd STTI Biennial Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada in November 2015.

Background

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- Fundraising to assist students with travel costs.
  - Students presented project at KO induction ceremony
  - Raffle held during the induction ceremony raised enough funds to grant $200 granted by KO to each student (total of $1,800).