



Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing



GAMMA SIGMA CHAPTER

WINTER 2006

President's Message

Sigma Theta Tau is an international nursing leadership organization. But what makes a good leader? We were privileged to hear Carol Picard, RN, PhD, the new President for Sigma Theta Tau International for 2005-2007, individual members and the chapters can do to make a difference. As we enter the new biennium, we must ask ourselves as individuals and members of our chapter the following critical questions:

- *How can I make a difference in achieving the mission and vision of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International?*
- *What is the one thing I can do this coming biennium that would contribute to the success of the defined strategic plan?*
- *Is my vision that of the honor society's?*

She went on to discuss the concept of collaboration...in knowledge, leadership, service, sustainability and the community...in order to meet the challenge of ongoing globalization. Dr. Picard addressed some of the concerns of leading in a globalized world—from macroeconomics, migration and trade to reform, technology, demographics and personal choice. She emphasized the importance of collaboration within the honor society and within nursing, to not just meet challenges, but to lead nursing, the largest segment of healthcare, in making a difference.

Dr. Picard offered a selection of ways that we can collaborate. Please review the "Presidential Call to Action, 2005-2007" (handout) and ask yourself, "How can I contribute? What can I do?"

None of us have much free time to spend. But if all of us do just a little, it would be so much more than what we have now. We all are leaders at heart; we lead in a myriad of ways every day. Let us lead through collaboration within our profession. Thank you!

*Mary L Eichorn, MSN, RN, CEN
 Gamma Sigma President
 Sigma Theta Tau International
 Meichorn@yahoo.com*

Vision, Mission & Goals

A Vision to Lead

To create a global community of nurses who lead in using scholarship, knowledge and technology to improve the health of the world's people.

A Mission to Serve, Support and Improve

Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing provides leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research to enhance the health of all people. We support the learning and professional development of our members, who strive to improve nursing care worldwide.

Strategic Goals

- Develop members across the span of their careers.
- Build strong chapters and foster collaborative leadership.
- Advance global linkages at the organizational and member levels.
- Prepare and position nurses to lead in diverse, complex, health-related environments.
- Advance the scientific base of nursing practice through the scholarship of research.
- Stimulate scholarly practice in the professional lives of members.
- Identify, secure and use a variety of resources to ensure the organization's future.

**Next General Membership Meeting - Tuesday, February 21, 2006 (6 pm)
 El Pinto Restaurant (10500 4th Street NW in Albuquerque).**

**Lorena Beeman, RN, MS, CCVT will present
 Appropriate Application of Human Simulation Technology Utilizing Benner's Model of Novice to Expert**

To register for this event, please contact Meg Dahrling at 272-5476. The cost of the dinner will be \$30.

**ANNUAL INDUCTION & AWARDS CEREMONY - Sunday, April 23, 2006 (1– 3 pm)
 UNM College of Nursing Auditorium**

SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL – GAMMA SIGMA CHAPTER OFFICER / COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

President-elect	Lorena Beeman	272-0326 (W) / 271-1368 (H)
President	Mary Eichorn	254-2448 (H)
First Vice President (Programs)	Meg Dahrling	272-5476 (W) / 299-0325 (H)
Second Vice President (Membership/Mentorship)	Jean Giddens	348-9382 (W) / 821-4102 (H)
Treasurer	Cheryl Duran	281-6018 (H)
Secretary	Dorothy Posey	888-5737 / 821-4058 (H)
Leadership Succession Committee	Debra Brady (Chair) Sookie Escandon Pauline Welborn-Brown	272-3996 (W) / 856-3408 (H) 272-4556 (W) / 896-8592 (H) 272-8187 (W) / 922-1084 (H)
Governance Committee	Jan Wayland (Chair) Debby Smith Ruth Nichols Razvan Preda	272-0850 (W) / 254-4969 (H) 272-0860 (W) / 294-1809 (H)
Finance Chair	Pat O'Brien	248-9382 (W) / 821-4102 (H)
Research and Awards Committee Chair	Beth Tigges	272-6787 (W) / 821-6693 (H)

NOTE: The Governance Committee is planning its first meeting to review Chapter Bylaws in February.

APPLY FOR A GRANT OR NOMINATE YOUR PEERS FOR AN AWARD

Beth Tigges, Chair, Research and Awards Committee

The 2006 Application for Gamma Sigma Research Grants and 2006 Guidelines for Chapter Award Nominations have been sent to all members and are posted on the Chapter's web page. Research grant proposals (\$500-\$3,000) and nominations for chapter awards are due on March 1, 2006 to Beth Tigges, Chair, Research and Awards Committee, College of Nursing, MSC09 5350, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001. The following are our 2005 recipients of awards and research grants:

Research Award..... Paula Meek, PhD, RN, FAAN
Marion Fleck Mentor Award..... Patsy Duphorne PhD, RN
Estelle H. Rosenblum Educator Award Jean Giddens, PhD, RN
Nursing Practice Award Yolanda Jaramillo MPH, BSN, RN

Undergraduate Student Awards:

Randall Rouckus BSN, RN (Spring 2005)
Emily Carey BSN, RN (Fall 2005)

Graduate Student Awards:

Hanna Krieger MSN, RN (Spring 2005)
Jean Latham MSN, RN (Fall 2005)

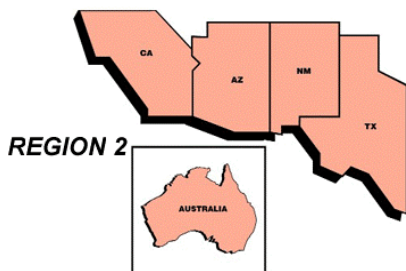
2005 Chapter Research Grants:

Judy Liesveld Ph(C), RN, "Teachers' Beliefs and Values Regarding Children with ADHD" (\$3,100)

Jean Giddens, PhD, RN, "A Survey of Physical Examination Skills Taught in Undergraduate Nursing Programs" (\$2,100)

Thanks to our 2005 Committee members: Drs. Marie Lobo, Paul Clements, Mark Parshall, and Cindy Mendelson. If you are interested in serving on the 2006 Committee, please contact Beth Tigges, Chair, 272-6787 or btigges@salud.unm.edu by February 20, 2006.

Meeting with Kathie Taylor, Region 2 Coordinator



Background Information

On January 18, 2006, Lorena Beeman, Gamma Sigma President Elect, and I had the opportunity to meet with the region 2 Coordinator, Kathie Taylor. Region 2 is the region to which that Gamma Sigma chapter belongs. It consists of southern California, Arizona, New Mexico, West Texas Alaska and Australia. Talk about a wide spread area! This is total of 22 chapters, which includes the University of Phoenix, a nation wide chapter.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Regional Coord.	Kathleen Taylor (kltwtrswmr@msn.com)
Awards/Recognition	Janet Noles (jnoles@phssn.edu) Jan Welborn (jwelborn@hendrickhealth.org)
Communications	Karen J. Saewert (Karen.Saewert@asu.edu)

REGION 2 CHAPTERS

058 – Beta Mu – AZ	154 – Zeta Mu-at-Large – CA	339 – Xi Epsilon – CA
066 – Beta Upsilon – AZ	221 – Iota Eta – CA	342 – Xi Theta – CA
071 – Gamma Alpha – CA	226 – Iota Mu – TX	349 – Xi Omicron - Australia
073 – Gamma Gamma – CA	232 – Iota Sigma – CA	362 – Omicron Delta – AZ
088 – Gamma Sigma – NM	277 – Lambda Omicron – AZ	364 – Omicron Zeta – TX
089 – Gamma Tau – CA	322 – Nu Mu – CA	406 – Pi Omega – NM
098 – Delta Delta – TX	330 – Nu Upsilon – AZ	408 – Rho Beta - CA
104 – Delta Kappa – TX		

The region chapters meet primarily by conference call, as the entire budget for the chapter is \$750.00. Each region also has it's own committees. In addition to the committees listed above, Loren Beeman is the new chair of the program development committee. If you wish to help Lorena, please contact her at LEBeman@salud.unm.edu.

Also a new newsletter committee, headed by Mary Hardwick is being developed. As Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) does not support the newsletter, they are looking for ways of getting it up and going. If you have ideas, please contact Kathie at her above e-mail address.

Meeting Goals

Our goals for meeting with Kathie were in accordance with my personal goals for the chapter, that is, to increase membership involvement. My questions to her centered around what were other chapters doing in this area. Some of the ideas included:

- A student leader intern as a liaison between the Student Nurses Association and the chapter. This is not necessarily a SNA board member but someone who can report to both groups about the doings of the other association. This person also has the responsibility for planning the chapter(s) involvement with a community fund raising such as the annual Alzheimer's Walk. The student liaison applies for the position by writing an essay as to what they wish to achieve in that position and presents a brief summary of their experience at induction. They are also encouraged to write up their experience for the chapter newsletter. There is a new student leader intern every year and this person is an applicant for or inducted into Sigma Theta Tau.
- Community involvement as an important way to increase membership involvement. Gamma Sigma are interested in participating in a community organization walk or other type of fund raising. If you have a community organization that you are involved with and would like to coordinate Gamma Sigma's involvement, please contact Mary Eichorn at MEichorn@yahoo.com.

- Membership involvement can also include involvement in more than one organization. Gamma Sigma is interested in collaborating with local nursing organizations. If you are a member and have an idea of how our membership can bridge the gap between the University of Phoenix STTI membership and/or other local nursing organizations, please contact Mary Eichorn at MEichorn@yahoo.com.
- As a member in STTI, we all would like to share best practices and clinical pearls. Please contact Mary Eichorn at MEichorn@yahoo.com with these or if you want to mention a fellow member's (or your) activities in the Chapter newsletter. Remember that you may now access nomination forms on the website if you would like to nominate someone as a mentor, etc. The winners receive a small monetary gift.
- Finally, family functions, where STTI chapter members and their families get together as a group to attend a play, a baseball game or a picnic is a good way for us to meet each other. I think that this is my favorite!! Please contact Mary Eichorn at MEichorn@yahoo.com if you have an idea of way to do this.
- Remember, that you can involve yourself in Gamma Sigma by presenting at our annual research day either with a poster or a presentation, even if you have not graduated yet!! For more information, please contact Mary Eichorn at MEichorn@yahoo.com

Kathie would like to increase membership involvement in the region area; if you can offer her help, please contact her. For those of you who went on the STTI website and filled out a VIP volunteer profile, Kathie has the print outs from International and is slowly going through them to see where each person could be of best use.

Lorena and I enjoyed our meeting with Kathie and have hopes for progress with Gamma Sigma. An organization is only as good as its member involvement. Gamma Sigma is not the only nursing organization that is facing this problem but, with your help, we can improve ours!!