



Sigma Theta Tau International  
**Honor Society of Nursing**



**GAMMA SIGMA CHAPTER**

**WINTER 2007**

*President's Message*

*Happy New Year! This is the time of year when we look at ourselves and make resolutions for self-improvement. Whether we resolve to eat right, exercise more, pick up new hobbies or get organized, it is also time to consider your resolutions about your nursing career. Do you want to learn more, go back to school? Do you want to contribute to the nursing profession, either by research or financially? Do you want to become more involved in Sigma, either the local chapter or internationally? Whatever your professional hopes for the future, Gamma Sigma can help. In this edition of the newsletter, we have information on how STTI can help with your goals and links to STTI.*

*It is time to look at your membership. When does it expire? Is it soon? Make sure you mark the date in your calendar. If you want to know whether STTI has your current address, e-mail me at Meichorn@Yahoo.com, and I will check our active member printout and let you know the address on record. If you need to change your address at national, now is the time to do so.*

*It's also time to look at collaboration. The theme of Gamma Sigma's programs this year has been on collaboration. Our next general membership meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2007, where Linda Martinez is presenting on "Collaboration in Practice: An APRN CHF clinic". This will be presented at the*

*It is not necessary to be a member of STTI to enjoy this meeting, so please bring a guest. If you would like to attend, please contact Patsy Duphorne at Pduphorne@salud.unm.edu*

*The cost of the meal is \$20.00 and includes a sandwich assortment, salad, beverage and group dessert (yum!). We will enjoy seeing you there.*

*Following the theme of collaboration, we are working with the American Heart Association by having a Gamma Sigma team walking at the heart walk this year on March 17. Please join us and contribute to preventing heart disease.*

*Finally, it was good to see all who attended our Winter Program at the Elegante restaurant. The silent auction made \$395.00, which will be used towards awards and scholarships from our chapter. Thank you for making this possible! Have a wonderful winter and we look forward to seeing everyone of you soon!*

Mary L Eichorn, MSN, RN, CEN  
 Gamma Sigma President  
 Sigma Theta Tau International  
[Meichorn@Yahoo.com](mailto: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: February 8, 2007 (6 pm)**

**Flying Star's Mucho Grande Rm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 723 Silver SW (downtown)**

**Linda Martinez will present on "Collaboration in Practice: An APRN CHF Clinic"**

**To register for this event, please contact Patsy Duphorne at Pduphorne@salud.unm.edu**

**The cost of the dinner will be \$20 to include assorted sandwiches, a group salad beverage and group dessert.**

## 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)	Patsy Duphorne	272-4841 (W)
Second Vice President (Membership/Mentorship)	Jean Giddens	272-2766 (W) / 797-5391 (H)
Treasurer	Cheryl Duran	281-6018 (H)
Secretary	Linda Martinez	275-6048 (W)
Leadership Succession Committee	Sookie Escandon (Chair) Pauline Welborn-Brown Karen Carlson	272-4556 (W) / 896-8592 (H) 272-8187 (W) / 922-10842 (H)
Governance Committee	Debby Smith (Chair) Peter Guarnero / Ruth Nichols Razvan Preda	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)

### Accountant Needed

The finance committee is having difficulty finding an accountant to perform a formal audit of our books. We need an "audit," in contrast to a financial "review" or "compilation." If anyone knows and can recommend a reasonably-priced, conscientious certified public accountant that is willing to perform an audit for a small account (less than \$20,000), please contact Pat O'Brien at 821-4102 or at obspecial@aol.com. Thanks!

### Chiron: A Mentored Leadership Program

Participation in the 2007 Chiron program gives chapters the opportunity to expand the leadership potential of their officers and members. Participants will be guided through personal leadership activities including:

- Creating a leadership development plan
- Participating in a three-day leadership institute
- Gaining real-world leadership experience
- Strengthening leadership skills
- Obtaining career advice
- Earning up to 50 hours of cont. education credit

The next program begins June 2007 and runs through May 2008. Applications are due by 7 March 2007. To learn more about this program as well as how to apply, visit:

[www.nursingsociety.org/programs/chiron.html](http://www.nursingsociety.org/programs/chiron.html)

### Honorary Members

Our chapter *cannot* induct individuals as honorary members. Only the Sigma Theta Tau International board of directors has authority to approve and induct honorary members. However, our chapter can submit an honorary member nomination to the board for individuals who have made a *national or international impact* on nursing. If you know someone, who is not a STTI member, but who has had a impact on nursing, please send their name to me, Mary Eichorn at Meichorn@yahoo.com. Thanks!

### News from STT International

Analysis of a recent STTI audit has found that the top five revenue categories for 2005/2006 were:

<u>Category</u>	<u>% of All Revenue Generated</u>
Membership	54.2
Sales	13.9
Contributions & Grants	10.5
Registrations	9.8
Rental Income	4.2

Of international's membership goals for July 06-July 07 most are about 1/3 -1/2 of the way of being completed. Some of these goals included: inducting 18,500 members in FY 06-07 (6,032 were inducted as of Nov.- 33% of the goal) and renew 98,000 active members (35,350 were renewed as of nov.30, 2006-36% of goal). For all of the STTI goals (metrics) please see STTI's website.

## ***Collaboration in Service as Part of President Picard's Call-to-Action***

The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is dedicated to fulfilling this biennium's "Vision to Action: Global Health Through Collaboration." President Carol Picard has a defined strategic plan for achieving the mission and vision of the honor society through increased collaboration in five areas of focus: knowledge, leadership, service, communities and sustainability. Gamma Sigma is working on collaboration by fielding a team to the American Heart Association Annual Heart Walk on March 17, 2007.

## ***Annual Giving Opportunities***

The STTI Foundation for Nursing supports the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International by actively raising money to fund research and scholarship, leadership and the honor society's future. These funds support programs and services benefiting members, the profession and the global populations they serve. Contributions, no matter what size, are welcome. Your support will make a difference! You may also choose how you want to give — cash; check; checking account, savings account or credit card deductions; membership renewal form; or planned through wills, trusts, life insurance, stocks and annuities.

Members of the board have donated, you can too! Participate in any one of these annual giving levels and you will receive an acknowledgement letter and be recognized in honor society and foundation publications, including the foundation's donor list on the honor society's Web site. Visit [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org) and click on Nursing Foundation to donate.

Founders' Circle*	\$1,000
President's Circle*	\$500
Leadership Circle	\$250
Friends' Circle	\$100
Honor Circle**	\$25

\*Includes engraved brick paver

\*\*Recognizes new honor society members (5 or fewer years)

## ***International Awards for Nursing Excellence 2007***

The 2007 International Awards for Nursing Excellence recognizes achievements in the fields of technology, media, chapter excellence, research and leadership. Award recipients will be honored at the honor society's 39<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention in Baltimore, Maryland on 3-7 November 2007.

Criteria and important submission requirements for the following awards can be found at:

[http://stti.awards.confex.com/stti\\_awards/intl2007/index.html](http://stti.awards.confex.com/stti_awards/intl2007/index.html)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Audrey Hepburn Award</li> <li>■ Chapter Awards</li> <li>■ Clinical Scholarship Award</li> <li>■ Daniel J. Pesut Spirit of Renewal Award</li> <li>■ Founders Awards</li> <li>■ Honorary Membership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Media Awards</li> <li>■ Melanie C. Dreher Outstanding Dean Award</li> <li>■ New Member Awards</li> <li>■ Research Awards</li> <li>■ Technology Awards</li> <li>■ Virginia K. Saba Nursing Informatics Leadership Award</li> </ul>
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**General Information:** All submissions must be done online and by March 1, 2007 (except the Chapter Key Award which has a July 16, 2007 deadline). Each submission requires a US\$45 entry fee and a non-refundable. Membership is not a qualification for all awards. Members of the Honor Society of Nursing board of directors or staff are ineligible. Self-nominations are accepted.

### **Chapter Award Nominations Due March 1, 2007**

Have someone you admire and would like to recognize? Nominate them for a Gamma Sigma Chapter Award. The Chapter sponsors the following annual awards: Nursing Practice Award, Nursing Research Award, Estelle H. Rosenblum Educator Award, Marion Fleck Mentor Award. Each award consists of recognition at our annual Induction Ceremony in April or May, a certificate, and \$100. Nomination forms and instructions may be found on the Chapter Web site (on UNM CON website under "Current Students" and "Sigma Theta Tau"), or by contacting Beth Tigges, Research and Awards Chair, [btigges@salud.unm.edu](mailto:btigges@salud.unm.edu), or 821-6693.

### **Chapter Research Grant Applications Due March 1, 2007**

The Gamma Sigma Chapter provides research grants each year in the amounts of \$500-3,000 depending upon the merit of the proposal and available funds. All proposals go through a blinded peer-review. Funding is awarded at the annual Induction Ceremony in April or May. Proposal guidelines may be found on the Chapter Web site (on UNM CON website under "Current Students" and "Sigma Theta Tau"), or by contacting Beth Tigges, Research and Awards Chair, [btigges@salud.unm.edu](mailto:btigges@salud.unm.edu), or 821-6693.

**If you are interested in serving on the 2007 Committee,  
please contact Beth Tigges, Chair.**

**Call 272-6787 or e-mail [btigges@salud.unm.edu](mailto:btigges@salud.unm.edu) by February 20, 2007.**

### **Students Receive Chapter Awards**

Congratulations to our Fall 2006 Student Award Recipients! Lisa Feely BSN was the recipient of the Gamma Sigma Chapter Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award. Ms. Feely was the 2005-06 SNA President at the UNM College of Nursing and also received the 2006 Nursing Excellence Award for Outstanding Student from the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence. Laura Brennaman MSN, RN was the recipient of the Gamma Sigma Outstanding Graduate Student Award in recognition of her superior academic achievements and the leadership she demonstrated in Web-based classes.