



Sigma Theta Tau
International Honor Society of Nursing
THE DELTA REPORT
DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER



Spring 2009

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The Delta Report is published three times yearly for Delta Omega Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. The Delta Report welcomes information about members' accomplishments in research, promotion, publication, and/or presentation. Correspondence to the Delta Report should be sent to the editor Marcia Cornell via e-mail cornelm@summa-health.org.

Sigma Theta Tau, International www.nursingsociety.org
Delta Omega <http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/>

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members of Delta Omega,

My journey... It's amazing that a simple request from Joe Foley, Past President to assist with Induction Ceremony some seven years ago would lead to me serving as your President. He must be a great fisherman because he reeled me in pretty easy and I've had a great time. I've had the wonderful opportunity to develop professional and personal relationships with individuals that I most likely would have never met. These individuals are board members, members and students. My board... it was exciting to have such an energetic, supportive group to work with. The many successes we've shared over the past two years are reflective of their dedicated, **voluntary** commitment to our chapter. I anticipate this same enthusiasm and dedication will be reflected during Barb Brunt's presidency. I look forward to assisting her during her journey as president.



As I've mentioned in the previous newsletter our chapter will celebrate its 30th anniversary as a chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International in 2010. I look forward to working with the Board to commemorate this milestone. Look for announcements regarding scheduled events to commemorate this milestone later this year. If you are interested in helping plan these events please contact myself or Barb Brunt.

The Induction Ceremony held on April 18, 2009 at the Martin Center was a wonderful celebration of newly inducted members. Additional information has been published in this newsletter regarding

those inducted and members who received Chapter and International awards at the ceremony. Many thanks go to Cheryl Buchanan, Faculty Counselor and Paula Thrasher, 2nd Vice President for all their hard work coordinating the event.

The chapter continued our annual recognition of area nurses during National Nurses Week with the Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice. Barb Brunt and I enjoyed participating in various events held at Akron City Hospital – Summa, Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital – Summa, Akron Children’s Hospital, Robinson Memorial Hospital and Akron General Medical Center. It’s exciting to hear the accomplishments of other nursing professionals. Additionally, the chapter had a press release and ad in the Akron Beacon Journal to share information regarding STTI and announce our newly inducted members during National Nurses Week.

The submission for our 9th Chapter Key Award is nearly complete. Thanks to Barb Brunt for working so diligently to compile the information needed. I would also like to thank the members of our chapter that submitted information to assist us with points for several of the criteria on the application. Throughout the year please continue to send any information to either Barb Brunt or myself regarding your individual accomplishments. This will help us to prepare for future award submissions.

I leave you with my final encouraging thoughts... We’ve already put bait on the hook for you. The choice is yours. Will you be reeled in by a service project, mentoring opportunity, educational offering or attendance at a Board Meeting? Be your own fisherman and make the most of your membership. Had I not been reeled in my membership would have never been this meaningful or beneficial. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President.

Many Blessings,
Dina

Important Message from International

The location for the 20th International Nursing Research Congress, 13 – 17 July 2009, has been changed to Vancouver, Canada.

With the recent outbreak of Influenza A [H1N1] (“Swine Flu”) in Mexico and its spread to various countries, the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) has been carefully evaluating plans for the 20th International Nursing Research Congress.

The safety and health of attendees at congress is undoubtedly the top priority of STTI. With that in mind, congress had moved from Cancun, Mexico to Vancouver, Canada. The event dates will remain the same.

Induction Ceremony **April 18, 2009**

Community Leaders

Meenu Bansal
Beverly Bokovitz
Carolyn Schooley
Vivian Thornton

Graduate Students



Belinda Bridges
Monica Ann Caruso
Laura Crouse

Jennifer Diluciano
 Daelle Gearhart
 Tiffany Good Witmer
 Julie Goulardres
 Amy Suzanne Hiner
 Jennifer JohnTony
 Kathryn Laforest
 Jennifer Laign
 Tiffany McCourt
 Christina Mills
 Sarah Pierce
 Rebecca Rusario
 Anita Sanford
 Christopher John Schoch
 Frances Snell
 Alicia Emily Woo-Clark
 Alexandra Yatras

Julie A McKenzie
 Stephanie Marie Miller
 Whitney Moore
 Elizabeth Muntean
 Renee Nisly
 Jessica Lynn Prokop
 Heather Toneff
 Denise Ann Watkins

Awards



Undergraduate Students



Cassandra Appleby-Sparks
 Nicole Biltz
 Stephanie Bodjanac
 Tonya Campbell
 Charlotte Cannon
 Gina Rose Caserta
 Tiffany Chatmon
 Cheryl Ann Davis
 Mark Garretson
 Kelly Ann Haight
 Sheila Jacobson
 Christopher J Kretschner
 Nicholas Kroll
 Kathleen Kubicza
 Kelly Jo Linn

Lillian DeYoung Research Reward – Stephanie Woods, UA CON
Marilyn “Jinx” Grelson Community Research Award – MaryHelen Kreidler, UA CON
Excellence in Nursing Leadership – Dina Dornack, Children’s Hospital of Akron
Excellence in Nursing Practice – Diane Pitts, Summa Health System
Excellence in Nursing Education – Martha Conrad, UA CON
Excellence in Nursing Research – Carol Korman, Children’s Hospital of Akron
Utilization of Nursing Research – Jocelyn Davis, Summa Health System
Excellence in Nurse Mentoring – Anne Doane, Summa Health System
Outstanding Undergraduate Student- Charlotte Cannon
Outstanding Graduate Student – Lisa Barnes

National Nurses Week Excellence in Nursing Practice Awards

In the weeks leading up to National Nurses Week area hospital Chief Nursing Officers are contacted regarding an Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice. The individual is chosen by the hospital. The awardee can be a current member of STTI or a non-member who possesses traits for possible induction as a nurse leader. The award is to recognize a dedicated clinical nurse who provides high quality care. This nurse does some, if not all of the following:



- ❖ Demonstrates knowledge in area of clinical nursing practice
- ❖ Develops creative approaches to nursing practice that contribute to quality client care
- ❖ Possesses the clinical expertise and the attributes of a clinical scholar
- ❖ Advances the scope and practice of nursing
- ❖ Serves as mentor/preceptor that inspires peers' practice of nursing
- ❖ Influences the practice of nursing through communication
- ❖ Enhances the image of nursing through one's nursing practice
- ❖ Participates in community affairs, legislation, or organizations that affect nursing practice

Congratulations to the following awardees for 2009: Sarah Cord (Akron City – Summa), Linda Faris (Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital – Summa), Paula Thrasher (Akron General Medical Center), Phyllis Coll (Robinson Memorial Hospital) and Laurie Varga (Akron Children's Hospital). Each awardee was presented with a certificate from the chapter and a \$50 monetary gift.

Spring Program May 18, 2009

Presentation: Practice Pearls: Research and Evidenced Based Practice Presentations

The Spring Business Meeting and Program was held at the Considine Center at Children's Hospital of Akron on May 18, 2009 and was well attended.

We had four research presentations. **Poetry Writing: Intervention for Family Caregivers of older Adults with Dementia** presented by Lori Kidd RN, PhD (c), MSN, CNS Clinical Instructor – The University of Akron, College of Nursing. **A pilot study to examine the relationship among external counterpulsation, heart failure and the quality of life** presented by Linda Shanks PhD, DNP RN Assistant Professor – The University of Akron, College of Nursing. **Simulation Scholarship: the effect of simulation learning on critical thinking and self confidence when incorporated in a critical care course** was presented by Diane Brown MSN< RN, CCRN faculty – The University of Akron, College of Nursing and Connie Chronister MSN< RN, CCRN clinical instructor – The University of Akron, College of Nursing. **I could use a cat nap...Napping during shift work** a literature review presented by Dina Dornack BSN, RN Clinical Coordinator Children's Hospital of Akron.

Buisness Meeting Annual Reports

2nd Vice President Report

For 2008 -2009 48 individuals accepted membership: 4 Community Leaders, 21 Graduate students, and 23 undergraduate students.

Goals for 2009-2010:

Refine process for membership information sessions provided to students.

Continue to survey new inductees about their membership experience approximately 6 months following induction. Update survey questions.

Redesign induction ceremony process/procedures.

Treasurer's Report

Checking balance = 16,371.82
 CD totals = 32,542.25
 1096 Taxes filed February 2009

Secretary's Report

Meeting minutes were kept and maintained for the 2008- 2009 academic year. Current meeting minutes and announcements posted to website. Updates to the Delta Omega website were on hold because the University of Akron is updating the University website. The College of Nursing website is in progress right now and the Delta Omega site should be done the same time. The secretary Linda Shanks has answered emails that have arrived through rontpage, regarding chapter membership or grants.

Goals for 2009 – 2010:

To prepare and maintaing meeting minutes for Board meetings.
 To post meeting minutes and other announcemnts of the Delta Omega Website.
 To serve on the website tak force and work to update the Delta Omega website in conjunction with the College of Nursing.
 To assist with maintaing the cahpter website.
 To assist the president with chapter correspondance, especially requets for information about chapter membership.

Counselor Report

Implemented the new configuraton of selecting students for inductions. Information program held in November 2008 for prospective students.

Goals for 2009 -2010:

Participate in on line membership certificates
 Have 2 informational meetings in fall 2009 for prosepective members.
 Send invites out for Spring 2010 Induction.

Research Grants & Recognition Chair Report

The following members served on this committee and reviewed grants and nominations: Elaine Fisher, MaryHelen Kreidler, Patrice mcCarthy, and Kathleen Tusaie. Two research grants were reviewed for funding in the fall. The committee did not fund either proposal. No grants were reviewed for funding in the Spring.

Awards and recognition were given at Induction as listed above.

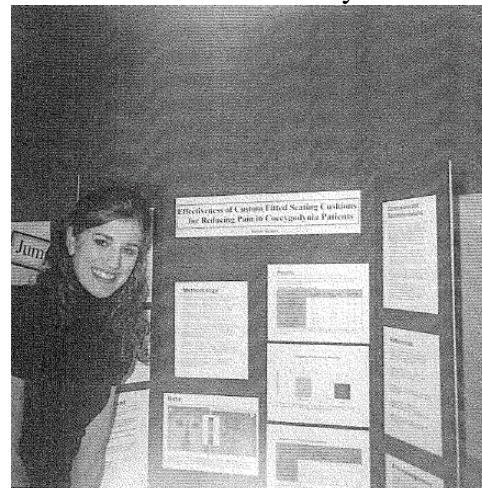
Two scholarships were awarded to students studying in Germany through the College of Nursing at the Universtiy of Akron. Four applications were receieved. The recipients were Emily Bernard and Molly Schroeder.

Goals for 2009 – 2010:

Continue to promote research grant oppourtunities to membership. Research grant submission deadlines set for September 15, 2009 and February 15, 2010.
 Continue Delta Omega Awards & Recognition.
 Continue to provide scholarships for students to study nursing in Germany.

Science Fair Award Given

Submitted by Barb Brunt



Delta Omega provided a sponsored award for the best nursing-related health/medicine project for the Western Reserve District science fair. The winner was Karen Kruger from West Geauga High School in Chesterland, Ohio. Her poster was "Effectiveness of Custom Fitted Seating Cushions for Reducing Pain in Coccygodynia Patients." She studied pressure points and even had x-rays taken to determine the effectiveness of a special cushion she designed to relieve pressure for patients experiencing pain in the coccygeal region.

There were a variety of other posters represented at the fair done by students from the 5th grade through 12th grade. Some of the topics are listed below:

Factors that influence the use of spectacles: A web based study
 OTC Antacids or Home Remedies? Which is More Effective in Relieving Heartburn?
 Does Swimming Affect Sunscreen Protection?
 Effects of Brand Name Mouthwash versus Generic Mouthwash on Bacteria in Saliva
 Rot or Not: Sugar's Impact On Dehydration
 Prevention of: Communicable Disease
 Measure Up! The effect of playing a stringed instrument on the length of fingers.
 "Curcumin?" Can Curcumin Be Used As a Chemopreventive Agent in Breast Cancer?
 A Study of Obesity's Link to Alzheimer's Disease
 Effect Of Caffeine On The Heart rate of a Daphnia Pulex
 How Does an Energy drink Affect you?
 Highest Jump
 The Prevalence and Severity of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy in Patients with Abdominal Overweight
 Cross your heart. Hope to die...Stick a needle in your eye?
 Examining the Affects of Probiotics on Gut Flora
 Identification of neurons requiring the alpha1u channel in Drosophila for larval phototaxis
 Is obesity associated with high blood pressure? Phase III
 "Stressing" Your Blood Pressure
 Whose Ice Is Nice?
 Do You Have Perfect Pitch?
 Tracking Tracks
 Organic and Processed Foods
 Which Hand is Bigger?
 When Are Your Test Taking Abilities At The Absolute Best?
 Williams' Theory
 How Does Caffeine Affect Reaction Time

Delta Omega Leadership Intern/Extern Program

Delta Omega is developing a Leadership Intern/Extern Program under the direction of Wanda Franklin. The purpose of this program is to develop future leaders in Delta Omega and STTI, develop leadership skills, provide mentorship and networking opportunities as well as a means for participation at local, regional and national levels.

An Intern is an undergraduate pre-licensure student. An Extern is a graduate student or licensed nurse. The position is for a two year term. Interns and Externs are appointed by the Board after an application process.

Interested individuals need to have an interest in STTI and Delta Omega Chapter, show evidence of service, scholarship and dedication to nursing and aspire to strengthen their leadership skills.

The Intern and Extern will be expected to attend business meetings, board meetings and special events. They will participate in the Induction ceremony planning and activities along with other special event planning and implementation. They should plan on being available to take roles in future leadership positions. They will also have the opportunity to attend chapter, local, regional and national events via chapter sponsorship.

For more information on this program please contact Wanda Franklin. Wjf5@uakron.edu

Research Corner

Focus on International Collaborative Research
 Submitted by Barbara Brunt, MA, MN, RN-BC,
 NE-BC

Did you read the first quarter 2009 issue of *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*? There was an article titled

“International Differences in Nursing Research: 2005-2006” which was fascinating.

The authors included an adjunct professor from a school of nursing in Australia, as well as a distinguished professor from a school of nursing in Connecticut.

They compared the characteristics of nursing research being done in different countries, using data from eight non-specialty, English-language nursing research journals. Over 1,000 studies from 15 countries or regional groupings were reviewed.

Their findings included the following:

- ❖ International difference in authors, participants, and study characteristics were typically large and statistically significant
- ❖ Studies that were focused on nurses were especially prevalent in Europe, Australia, and Canada
- ❖ Patient-centered studies were most common in Asian countries and the United States (US)
- ❖ Qualitative studies were predominant in Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom (UK)
- ❖ Asian nurse researchers undertook mostly quantitative studies and were especially likely to conduct intervention research
- ❖ Significant country differences existed in the omission of demographic (age and sex) information about participants, with omissions most prevalent in the UK and Ireland and least prevalent in Asian countries.
- ❖ Research funding was reported for 62% of all studies, ranging from 13% in Turkey to over 75% in Canada and the US (Polit & Beck, 2009, p. 44)

Tests of significance for country differences were all two-tailed test that included analysis of variance, chi-squared tests, and Kruskal-Wallis tests. The country was the independent variable, and study characteristics were the dependent variable. Over

625,000 people served as participants in the 1,072 studies and researchers from 30 different countries were represented. Results were presented for 15 countries or regional groupings to ensure that each subset had a minimum of 10 studies per cell.

The most popular study focus in the US comprised topics coded as community health or health promotion, accounting for 30% of the studies, whereas several countries, such as Ireland and Norway had no studies in that area. Studies focusing on clinical practice ranged from a low of 3.4% (Korea) to a high of 47.3% (Australia/New Zealand), with an average of 25.7 % overall.

Despite the limitations and ambiguity with regard to sample bias, it is important to note that the authors hope this study has broken new ground and will be a good starting point for further comparative analyses and dialogue about nursing research in different countries. With the focus on global nursing and collaboration, more international, interdisciplinary studies are needed.

Reference: Polit, D. F. & Beck, C. T. (2009). International difference in nursing research, 2005-2006. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 41(1), 44-53.

Community Corner

Member News

Barbara A. Brunt, MA, MN, RN-BC, NE-BC will be presenting a poster "Creating Agency/Academic Partnerships", at the 40th Biennial Convention (October 31st- November 4th, 2009).

Plan on attending and the Biennial Convention and supporting Barb. The convention is a great opportunity to collaborate with nursing Scholars from around the world involved in the advancement of nursing Science. This promises to be a rewarding and stimulating convention.

News from Summa Health System

Reporter: Barb Brunt

Summa Health System ACH and STH campuses received the Nurses Choice Award from the Ohio Nurses Foundation in April. This award is given to an organization that values nurses.

Summa Health System had a weeklong celebration for Nurses Week. Donuts were delivered one morning, pizza was delivered another day, many nurses received "Care Beyond" awards, there was a formal awards reception for the nurses, and there were concerts where the administrators and divisional management teams sang and danced for the staff.

Sarah Cord, RN from T3 ICU received the Sigma Theta Tau award for Nursing Excellence.

Summa awarded full-tuition nursing scholarships to the following individuals for RN programs: Amy Cunningham and April Triola.

RN Preceptor excellence awards were announced for both the ACH and STH campuses. Angel Risby, BSN, RN from Main 7 East was the recipient for the STH campus, and Valerie Pope, BSN, RN, OCN, from Oncology was the recipient for the ACH campus.

Continuing Education scholarships were presented to the following individuals: Amy Goddard, Juantia Rich, CST, Patty Walter, Cindy Topp, Sharon Boggs, and Megan LoParo

Carolyn Holder, MSN, RN, GCNS-BC, Lyn Benedict, MSN, RN, CNS, Denise Boville, MSN, RN, CRNP, Karen Griffiths, RNC, IBCLC, and Janice Weinhardt, MSN, RN, CGNS-BC received the 2009 Barbara Donaho Distinguished Leadership in Learning Award from Kent State University.

Marcia Cornell, BSN, RN, EMT-P received the Excellence in the Role of the Nursing Professional Development Educator award and Barbara Brunt,

MA, MN, RN-BC, NE-BC received the Outstanding Mentor award from the National Nursing Staff Development Organization (NNSDO). These awards will be presented at the 20th anniversary celebration in Philadelphia in July.

The opening of the Cooper Cancer Center with the first patients seen and treated 10/01/08 has elicited strong positive feedback from patients, community, and business partners. Recent awards received include the American Institute of Architecture design and innovation award and the University Park Neighborhood investment award. In addition, Summa received two national awards from Healthcare Marketing Report's annual healthcare advertising competition--the gold for the patient treatment journal and the bronze for the cancer advertising campaign

Kathy Wright, MSN, RN was featured in an article in the John A. Hartford annual report on "A Call for Leadership in Aging." She was selected to be part of the first cohort of the Geriatric Nursing Leadership Academy, and the article outlined some of the research and other work she has done with older adults. She also had a poster on "AD-LIFE Trial: Testing another Chronic Care Model" at the Annual Conference of the American Society on Aging and the National Council on Aging in March in Las Vegas.

Carol McClusky, RN and Carrie Scotto presented a paper presentation on "The Effects of Earplugs on the Quality of Patient Sleep in the Intensive Care Unit" at the NTI Critical Care Conference in New Orleans in May.

Marcia Cornell, BSN, RN, EMT-P had a poster presentation on "Rethinking Diversity Education," at the Driving the Future '09 - Rethinking Clinical Education: Working Together toward Quality and Safety in March at Kent State University in March.

Barbara Brunt, MS, MN, RN-BC, NE-BC, did a keynote presentation on "Breaking the Cycle of

Horizontal Violence” at the 4th Annual CE and Staff Development Educator’s conference in Columbus in May.

Eileen Fleming, MSN, RN, CNS, Ann Jacobson, Andrea Warner, and Bruce Schmidt were awarded the Excellence in Clinical Practice writer’s Award at the 36th annual course of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates in May in St. Louis for the article “Factors Influencing Nurses’ Participation in Clinical Research”, which appeared in *Gastroenterology Nursing*.

Linda Gleespen was invited by Eclipsys to be a member of their outcomes Advisory Board.

Patricia Walter, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CCRN was elected President-elect of the Greater Akron AACN chapter.

Summa Health System had 8 posters on a variety of topics accepted for the American Geriatrics Society Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago on April 30th and May 1st. Three of those posters were presented by nurses.

News from Wooster Community Hospital

Reporter: Debra Lehr

Wooster Community Hospital in Wooster, Ohio, was again ranked one of the “Top 100 Hospitals” by Thompson Reuters in a national benchmark study. The award is based on clinical and operating indicators, which include examining patient outcomes, patient safety, compliance with national treatment standards and core measures, patient satisfaction results, operating efficiency and financial stability. Wooster Community Hospital was benchmarked against its peers – approximately 1,100 medium-sized community hospitals – and was one of twenty hospitals in this category chosen to receive this prestigious award.

Guess who’s turning 30?!

Delta Omega is turning 30 in 2010. If interested in participating on a task force to help plan the celebration, please contact one of the board members.

Do you know a nurse working outside of the United States?

Sigma Theta Tau Delta Omega Chapter is hoping to open our chapter to international nursing leaders. The board is asking if you know a nurse from any country outside the United States. Would you be willing to share this contact with the board or contact the nurse personally and discuss any interest in an international membership with our chapter?

Upcoming Delta Omega Meetings

M – Jun 22 5p – 6:30p Transition Board Mtg

June 22, 2009 5p - 6:30pm	Transition Board Meeting
Aug 24, 2009 5pm	Board Meeting
September 15, 2009	Research Grant Deadline
September 28, 2009 5pm	Board Meeting
October 8, 2009 5:30pm – 8pm	Fall Program at Considine Bldg Akron Children’s Hospital
November 23, 2009 5pm	Board Meeting
January 25, 2010 5pm	Board Meeting
February 15, 2010	Research Grants deadline
February 22, 2010 5pm	Board Meeting
March 22, 2010 5pm	Board Meeting
April 26, 2010 5pm	Board Meeting
May 24, 2010 5pm	Board Meeting
June 28, 2010	Transition Meeting

Save the Dates

July 13-17, 2009	International Nursing Research Congress Focusing on Evidence- Based Practice Vancouver, Canada
Oct 31 - Nov 4, 2009	40th Biennial Convention Indianapolis, IN
April 16-17, 2010	Region 10 Combined Conference “Nursing Leadership for the Future” Four Point Sheraton Ann Arbor, MI

Visit the Calendar of Events on our website for
important deadlines and upcoming events:
<http://www2.uakron.edu/deltaomega/Calendar.htm>

