



# SOCIETY SCOOP

Rebecca Culver Clark, Editor

Fall 2007

## Tau Phi congratulates our members on recent graduations!

Renee Altizer BSN, RN	Cathy Hiler MSN, RN
Carl Cline BSN, RN	Debra Huddleston MSN, RN
Sarah Correll BSN, RN	Tricia Kingery, MSN, RN
Lisa Jones BSN, RN	Jennifer Martin MSN, RN
Tamela Meador BSN, RN	Marcia Mason MSN, RN
Monica Poff BSN, RN	Margaret Perry MSN, RN
Katherine Poindexter BSN, RN	Catherine Prescott MSN, RN
Beverly Rice BSN, RN	Cynthia Smith MSN, RN
Tracy Stewart BSN, RN	Barbara Southard MSN, RN
Cathy Fisher MSN, RN	Mary Sowder MSN, RN
	Lisa Sprinkel MSN, RN



### At Sigma Theta Tau

*Membership in Sigma Theta Tau joins us with a larger community of nurses who have a similar passion for excellence, scholarship and practice. Be sure to check out the STTI website for national and international news and information.*

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/>

*The current edition of Nursing Leadership can be accessed at:*

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/RNL/Current>

## Message from the President

Lisa Allison-Jones, PhD, RN

Dear Tau Phi Chapter Members

I hope that you are all having a fun and relaxing summer – if you are like me, you wish that you could be relaxing more and working less. I find, however, that one of the best ways to rejuvenate myself is by interacting with my nurse leader peers in Tau Phi. The excitement and energy that you bring to Tau Phi helps me remember the things I love about our profession.

This newsletter exemplifies your excitement and energy. First, I would like to welcome the new Tau Phi officers and board members. More than 60 members submitted ballots for this election, thus ensuring that your board truly represents the membership.

The Board is planning several stimulating events for the 2007-2008 academic year. One of these events is a conference on Cultural Competence that will be co-sponsored by JCHS, Tau Phi, and Carilion Medical Center on November 26. The Keynote speaker for this conference is Dr. Josepha Campinha-Bacote. Dr. Campinha-Bacote is a dynamic speaker who is nationally renowned for her work on cultural competence. See her website, <http://www.transculturalcare.net/>, for more information about her work and please reserve the date for this conference.

Thank you for your support for and participation in Tau Phi!

Lisa

**Tau Phi Chapter  
Board of Directors  
2006-2007**

*Lisa Allison-Jones, PhD, RN*  
President

*Jennifer Martin, BSN, RN*  
President-elect

*Sandy Sayre, MSN, RN*  
Vice President

*Penny Akers, MSN, RN*  
Secretary

*Ava Porter, MSN, RN*  
Treasurer

*Melody Meier, MSN, RN*  
Counselor

*Donna Bond, MSN, RN*  
*Tina Williamson, BSN, RN*  
*Sharon McKinney, BSN, RN*  
Leadership Succession

*Rebecca C. Clark, PhD, RN*  
*Annette Strickland, MSN, RN*  
*Ann Montgomery, MBS, BSN, RN*  
Governance

**Incoming Officers**

Vice President: Ann Hutchens  
Secretary: Linda Rickabaugh  
Leadership Succession:

Jeannie Garber  
Monty Gross

Delegates to 39<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention  
Jennifer Martin  
Ava Porter

**Nurse Leader Nomination**

Complete this form and return to: Melody Meier  
Jefferson College of Health Sciences  
Or email information to: mmeier@jchs.edu

**Nominator Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

***Calendar of Events***

Induction Ceremony

October 8, 2007, 4:30-6:30 pm  
Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 212  
**RSVP to Janice Taylor, jrtaylor@jchs.edu**

Getting the Word Out: Publishing Seminar

October 9, 2007  
St. Johns Episcopal Church  
1 Mountain Avenue  
Roanoke, VA 24031  
**(to register, call Carilion Direct: 540-266-6000)**

39th Sigma Theta Tau Biennial Convention:

*Vision to Action: Global Health through Collaboration*  
November 3 -7, 2007  
Baltimore, Maryland USA  
**Registration information available at**  
**<http://www.nursingsociety.org>**

Tau Phi Strategic Planning Meeting

November 26, 9:30-10:30  
Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 618

Cultural Competence in Healthcare: Serving Our Diverse Communities

November 26, 2007, 11:45 -5:00 pm  
Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA  
**Registration information available at**  
**<http://www.jchs.edu/>**

Research day: Evidence Based Practice and Nursing Outcomes

Spring 2008 (More to come)  
Watch for more information!

**We are looking for  
Community Leaders!**

There are many excellent leaders in our community who would be great, contributing members to the chapter. Members must have a minimum of baccalaureate degree. The degree does not have to be in nursing. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact him or her and ask if they would like to join Sigma Theta Tau, Tau Phi Chapter. You can answer questions about the organization and encourage them to join. Please complete the nomination form and email to mmeier@jchs.edu

### ***Member Corner***

*An organization is really a collection of members, who individually provide energy, leadership, and the being of the group—but it is in the sharing of the individuals and the connections that the organization has strength—I guess it gives meaning to the concept that “the sum is greater than the parts.” So – the Member Corner is a chance to share what our members are doing!*

*Please be sure to email Janice Taylor, jtaylor@jchs.edu if you have some news to share.*

### **Congratulations to our members who are making important contributions to healthcare in our region.**

#### **Service**

*Linda Royal* was selected as the Virginia Association for Hospices Dream Team Administrator of the year at the annual Virginia Association for Hospices meeting in Portsmouth, Va. She received a lovely plaque that reads:

Linda Mercer Royal, RN, BS

"Lighting the Way, for hundreds of years, lighthouses have provided guidance and direction—a point of light in a time of need, a beacon of help and hope. Like the lighthouse, your beaming support shines on everyone you meet, lighting the path to achievement and success. Thank you for showing us the way.

Virginia Association for Hospices. 1983-2007

Linda notes that “I had served on the hospice board for those years and served as President, V.P., Sec, and Treasurer. I was also given 26 long stemmed roses, symbolic of my 26 years of work in Hospice. I was very touched and pleased. As for other organizations, I am Vice Chair of the Roanoke Valley End of Life Care Partnership. I was just appointed last month to the L.O.A. Advisory Council.”

*Lisa Sprinkel* served on the Long Term Care Workgroup of Governor Kaine's Health Reform Commission. This was a one year appointment charged with evaluating the current state of long term institutional and community based care and making recommendations to the Governor to improve outcomes while saving the state money. The task force developed recommendations which were presented at town hall meetings and will be presented to the General Assembly. The majority of the recommendations were aimed at enhancing reimbursement among services that allow our citizens to age in place (or at home where they prefer to be). They included recommendations aimed at shoring up our workforce of caregivers, improve housing incentives and allowances, and encouraging creative partnerships between municipal governments and providers.

Lisa was selected because of her experience in home care as well as the fact that she is the President of the Virginia Association for Home Care and Hospice. “I think it's worthwhile for patients in the sense that, if approved, it will mean that personal care and community based services will be better funded which will lead to greater availability of services and other resources.”

#### **Scholarship: Presentations**

Several of our members provided presentations at the Society of Critical Care Medicine Regional Meeting in Chapel Hill NC 2007

*Ann Hutchens*, Effective "Hand Off."

*Donna Bond*, Making the most of Rounds.

*Ellen Harvey*, Should all ICU nurses be cross-trained - PRO side *And* Impact of a Multi-professional Approach to Building a Culture of Safety Through Barcode Technology (Won a second place recognition).

### *Member Corner*

Warren Clark published "Schizophrenia and Genomics: Linking Research to Practice" in *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing*, June 2007.

Monty Gross presented a poster: "Front-End Analysis to Integrate Simulations into Curriculum." at the AACN conference 2007 Hot Issues in Denver from April 22-24. He is also presenting his research at the Association of Education, Communication and Technology in October 23 through 27 in Anaheim, CA.

#### **Practice**

Catherine Prescott has taken a position as a pain management consultant, working closely with Phyllis Daniel-Whitehead at the Carilion Clinic.

Becky Clark has taken a position as Director of Nursing Research and Evidence based Practice at Carilion Clinic.

Lisa Allison-Jones has taken a position as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Jefferson College of Health Sciences.



### **Scholarship Information**

The Tau Phi Chapter is pleased to announce scholarships for students seeking higher education in nursing. The application deadline is November 9, 2007. We will be awarding three \$500 scholarships. Criteria and application forms are attached to this newsletter. Preference will be given to STTI members, but this program is open to students in the BSN program at JCHS—allowing us to help needy students early in their careers. Please share this information with those students!

Criteria:

- Nursing student with GPA of 3.0
- Enrolled at JCHS (BSN or MSN)
- Enrolled in Nursing doctoral program
- Personal and professional goals that advance nursing and public health

Application form attached. Please submit completed application to Melody Meier [mmeier@jchs.edu](mailto:mmeier@jchs.edu) no later than November 9, 2007.

### *Bits of interest*

External evaluation of the services provided by our organizations is an extremely valuable tool in helping us maintain the quality we offer, whether it is in patient care services or in education. This year, both Jefferson College of Health Sciences (JCHS) and Carilion Medical Center will have some important visitors.

The Commission on Collegiate Education in Nursing (CCNE) will be visiting JCHS September 24-26, 2007 to review our Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs. CCNE is the organization that accredits nursing programs at baccalaureate and higher levels of education.

Carilion Medical Center, as a Magnet Hospital, anticipates a visit in the Fall 2007, for redesignation of their Magnet Status. The Magnet Recognition Program is an American Nurses Credentialing Center program that recognizes excellence in nursing services.



#### **NOTES:**

- Thanks to all. You have donated over \$400 for medicines for the medical mission trip to Honduras!
- We have 172 active members of the TAU PHI Chapter of STTI. How great is that!



#### **Missing members: Where are you?**

Don't forget to pay your dues. You should get a notice of dues in the mail, but check with the STTI website and be sure you are up-to-date!

[http://www.nursingsociety.org/Membership/MyMembership/Pages/my\\_membership.aspx](http://www.nursingsociety.org/Membership/MyMembership/Pages/my_membership.aspx)

**SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL  
TAU PHI CHAPTER – REGION 13  
GUIDELINES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS – APPLICANTS**

**I. Purpose of the Fund**

The purpose of the scholarship fund is to recognize outstanding scholarship by qualified nurses and/or nursing students that will advance knowledge in the area of scholarships to individuals.

**II. Fund Sources**

- A. Private donations without restrictions to Sigma Theta Tau International policies
- B. General Chapter funds as approved in the budget

**III. Criteria for Awarding Scholarships**

- A. Applicant Criteria
  - 1. Enrolled in a baccalaureate program in nursing at Jefferson College of Health Sciences, at least a junior with a minimum of 3.0 GPA
  - 2. Enrolled in a Master program in nursing at Jefferson College of Health Sciences
  - 3. Enrolled in a Doctoral degree program in nursing
- B. Application
  - 1. Submit an application and a written statement of personal and professional goals in nursing
  - 2. Attachments:
    - a. Transcript of undergraduate records and graduate work completed
    - b. Letters of recommendation from one faculty member and one professional associate
    - c. Vitae
- C. Preference will be given to Sigma Theta Tau International members, other attributes being equal
- D. Competitive basis for fund allocation
  - 1. Quality of written goals
  - 2. Contribution or potential contribution to nursing and public benefit
  - 3. Scholarship fund budget and number of proposals submitted
- E. Once the scholarship award has been named, an Agreement of Financial Expenditures will need to be signed prior to allocation of scholarship award

**IV. Scholarship Application Deadlines**

- A. Application Deadline: **November 9, 2007**
- B. Scholarship Awards given: **December 2007**

**SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL  
CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Data**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated date of graduation from current program: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education**

**Undergraduate**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Honors/Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

**Graduate**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Honors/Awards: \_\_\_\_\_

**Doctoral**

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Program of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Thesis Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Professional Occupation (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Associations/Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Sigma Theta Tau International member? Yes No

Have you been the recipient of a Sigma Theta Tau International scholarship in the past? If so, please give name of awarding chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments:

1. Personal & Professional Goals in Nursing (one page maximum) (contribution to nursing and public benefit)
2. Two letters of recommendation (must include one faculty and at least one professional associate.)