



SOCIETY SCOOP

Rebecca Culver Clark, Editor

January 2008

Tau Phi welcomes new members!

On October 8, 2007, the Tau Phi Chapter inducted new members at the annual induction ceremony. The ceremony was held at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. Melissa Harper-Ratcliff, MSN, RN, APRN-BC delivered a presentation highlighting the role of the forensic nurse in providing patient-centered care for victims of violence.

Nurse Leaders

Marilyn Draper
 Viki Little
 Terressa Thorston
 Susan Weiner
 Deana Wescott

BSN Students

Tammy Blankenship
 Wendy Falls
 Christie Henley
 Karen Imperial
 Wanda Jenkins
 Melissa Langley
 Shannon Slagle
 Roxanne Wilson



New Officers Installed

New chapter officers were installed.

- Ann Hutchens Vice President
- Linda Rickabaugh Secretary
- Jeannie Garber Leadership Succession
- Monty Gross Leadership Succession

Chapter officers and members would like to thank Sandy Savre, Penny Akers, and Sharon McKinney

Message from the President

Lisa Allison-Jones, PhD, RN

Dear Tau Phi Chapter Members,

As I look back on 2007, I am struck by the accomplishments of Tau Phi Chapter collectively and of our individual members. As a chapter, we sponsored two major conferences and several smaller seminars. We inducted thirteen new members, participated in community events such as serving lunch for the Roanoke Rescue Mission, sent members on a medical mission and sent delegates to the National STTI Convention. Individuals within the Chapter presented at scholarly conferences, published results of their research or projects, volunteered within our community, and made a difference in the lives of the patients and clients we serve.

It is going to be tough to top these accomplishments in 2008! However, I ask that you join me in resolving that 2008 will be another great year for Tau Phi. We can achieve this by volunteering to help with a Tau Phi committee, event, or fund raiser. We can achieve this by nominating our nurse peers for membership in Tau Phi as nurse leaders. We can achieve this by celebrating the individual accomplishments of our members.

Our strategic plan is provided in this newsletter, along with the Tau Phi member who has accepted responsibility for specific goals. Please make your New Year's resolution to contact one of these members and volunteer your help. And let's all keep this resolution!

**Tau Phi Chapter
Board of Directors
2007-2008**

Lisa Allison-Jones, PhD, RN
President

Jennifer Martin, MSN, RN
President-elect

Ann Hutchens, BSN, RN
Vice President

Linda Rickabaugh, MSN, RN
Secretary

Ava Porter, MSN, RN
Treasurer

Melody Meier, MSN, RN
Counselor

Jeannie Garber, MSN, RN
Monty Gross, MSN, RN
Sharon McKinney, BSN, RN
Leadership Succession

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

To: JCHS Tau Phi Chapter STTI
Membership

From: Ann Marie Hutchens, RN BSN

Subject: STTI Activities

I'm so pleased to have been elected Vice President. As Vice President, I have the daunting task of planning activities for our STTI Jefferson College Health Science Tau Phi Chapter for 2008. The Tau Phi Chapter inducted 13 new members. I would like to welcome the new members. Along with induction ceremonies our chapter must present educational, leadership and research programs throughout the year. Also our chapter in the past has organized fundraising opportunities. Currently Tau Phi in conjunction with Carilion Clinic has a Spring Research Conference being planned for April 7, 2008. I want to encourage involvement in our chapter since we have great nursing leadership along with young excited nursing students. We need many to serve on committees and assist with activities. Please fill out the following survey so we can

Bits of Interest

The Commission on Collegiate Education in Nursing (CCNE) visited 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. The visit went well and we received full accreditation for 8 years!

JCHS, STTI and Carilion Clinic sponsored an exciting educational event November 28, 2007. Josepha Campinha-Bacote, PhD, APRN, presented: "A Model for Addressing Cultural Competence in Healthcare Delivery." Through the use of experiential exercises and case studies, Dr. Campinha-Bacote discussed the clinical application of her model's constructs of cultural desire, cultural awareness, cultural knowledge, cultural skill and cultural encounters. The workshop was attended by over 100 healthcare workers, including faculty, students and nursing staff from both the acute care and community practice areas. We left with a better understanding of how to be taking a more knowledgeable, culturally conscious approach for positively impacting the quality of healthcare services for all patients.

Tau Phi Awards Two Scholarships

Shannon Cohen: a Tau Phi Chapter member, is engaged in doctoral study at the University of Hawaii. She is a Family Nurse Practitioner at the Department of Veteran's Affairs Medical Center in Salem Virginia. Shannon earned her MSN at Old Dominion University, her BSN at Jefferson College of Health Sciences, and a diploma from the Roanoke Memorial Hospital School of Professional Nursing.

Nneka Okoye: is a junior in the pre-licensure BSN program at Jefferson College of Health Sciences.

News from STTI

Jennifer Martin, President-elect of Tau Phi recently attended the 39th biennial convention, which was themed Vision to Action: Global Health Through Collaboration. During the convention, nurses from 33 countries gave 850 original presentations describing research and projects designed to improve worldwide health care by advancing nursing science, practice, education, administration and policy development. Held in Baltimore, MD, this event provided Jennifer with 6 days of non-stop Sigma lore and information.

The new president of Sigma Theta Tau is Carol Huston, MSN, MPA, DPA

Carol Huston is the President-Elect of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). She was elected in 2005 to serve two years as President-Elect (2005-2007) and two years as President (2007-2009).

Dr. Huston has been a professor at California State University, Chico (CSUC) School of Nursing since 1982. She teaches leadership, management, professional issues, and health systems to undergraduate and graduate students. Huston is co-developer of the Marquis-Huston Model for Teaching Critical Thinking, which has been recognized internationally by nurse scholars.

Huston is also the co-author or author of four books, and has published more than 70 articles in leading professional journals and serves on the editorial board for the Journal of Nursing Scholarship. She also serves as a manuscript reviewer for multiple other journals.

Her research interests include critical thinking, mentoring, outcomes measurement, quality health care, empowerment of the nursing profession, and professional issues. In November 2007, she will be inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nursing.

The vision for STTI is laid out in the document: [Vision 2020](#): Let's make it real!

Some important aspects of the vision are included below, but the entire document can be accessed at:

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/aboutus/CalltoAction/Documents/Vision2020ExecutiveSummary.pdf>

By the year 2020, the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International will be the organization of choice for scholarship, knowledge and leadership for nurses globally. As a leader in professional nursing, the honor society will be the organization nurses use when looking for information on global health issues. This will be possible because of the intellect and leadership of its members who will influence health care decisions globally, regionally and locally.

Priority goals have been developed to realize this vision:

1. The honor society is a valued, relevant and meaningful organization for members and nurses worldwide.
2. The honor society is an intentionally global organization.
3. The honor society is a thought leader in creating and sharing knowledge and in developing leadership resources.
4. The honor society is a knowledge-focused technology-enabled organization.

Vision 2020 identifies specific actions we need to take to accomplish these ambitious goals.

I urge you to read the entire document and think how we can work together to contribute to meeting these goals in local, national and international forums.

It was an exciting opportunity to attend this conference and I hope many of us can attend

Calendar of Events

Research day: Evidence based practice and nursing outcomes
April 7, 2008 Watch for more information!

From the international travelers: October 20-28, 2007- 3 members of Sigma Theta Tau, Tau Phi chapter, Lisa Allison- Jones, Becky Clark, and Linda Rickabaugh were part of an adventure. This adventure was a medical mission trip to the mountains of Honduras through Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church and the Friends of Barnabas Foundation. The team consisted of a total of 14- medical and non-medical members, joined by an Honduran physician and interpreters in Honduras. Objectives of the mission were to provide holistic health care & education, parasite eradication and eye care- screening and glasses as needed to persons in mountain villages of Western Honduras- with a particular focus on the children. Referrals are also made for follow-up care for surgical needs and long term care of chronic problems.

Members were able to use their (limited) Spanish skills and health assessment skills during four days of medical clinics. Approximately 1200 people were served. Travel by bus over tortuous dirt roads to get to the villages is hard to describe- but probably not recommended for those with faint hearts or fear of heights! One day, weather did not permit travel to the village because of a heavy rain the night before with downed power lines and loss of electricity and water. Team members were able to visit a nearby private hospital in Siguatepeque that day, however, which was extremely rewarding!

If you asked each of us what was the highlight of this trip, you might get three different answers- but it was very memorable for all. As a matter of fact- all plan to go again in 2008 and hope to take some JCHS student nurses along. A special thank you to all who generously contributed money for medications and equipment. You helped to make



Nursing students in Honduras



Interviewing potential nursing students



Lisa talking with children at one of the

**Medical Mission Trip to Honduras:
October 2007**
*JCHS and Tau Phi Chapter of STTI
Go International*

Nursing Honor Society of the Roanoke Valley
Member Interest Survey

The support provided by the membership for our programs is most appreciated. A goal of the Program Committee is to provide diverse programs that meet the needs and satisfy the interests of the Chapter members. Your help in meeting this goal is sought.

Check the rating of your interest on the following topics. Please add any specific suggestions in the comment box. Check your ratings on the days and times most convenient for program offerings. We would welcome any additional or qualifying comments that you wish to make. Please return to Ann Marie Hutchens, VP of the JCHS Tau Phi Chapter and Chair of Programming by January 14th, 2008 at ahutchens@carilion.com or FAX to 345-4219

TOPIC	MOST INTERESTED	INTERESTED	NO INTEREST	COMMENTS
Clinical Research Findings Specify clinical areas:				
Hospital Nursing Today				
Nursing Shortage				
Management topics Specify:				
Evidence based practice				
World health topics				
Research				
Historical nursing issues				

Suggestions for topics/speakers:

What are the best locations for the meeting(s)?

What is the best day of the week for meetings?

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

What is the best time of day for the meetings?

8-10 am 12-2 pm 4-6 pm 7-9 pm Other _____

How do you prefer to receive chapter information? (electronic, flyer, newsletter, phone call)

How far in advance would you like to be notified of events and/or meetings?

What issues would motivate your attendance at the educational programs? (CEUs, topic, cost, networking, convenient time, location, parking, etc..)

What activities would you like the chapter to implement?

What committee would you like to join?

What features would you like to see included in the chapter newsletter?

What Community Service project would you be willing to participate in for the chapter?

**Tau Phi Chapter,
Sigma Theta Tau, International
2007-2008 Strategic Plan**

Strategic Area	Goal	Action Items	Person Responsible
Knowledge	Champion knowledge development and dissemination opportunities	Sponsor two major continuing education conferences:	
		• Cultural Competency Conference - November 2007	Lisa Allison-Jones
		• Evidence Based Practice Conference - April 2008	Warren Clark
		Provide three \$500 scholarships for nursing students engaged in baccalaureate or higher education	Melody Meier
Leadership development	Provide leadership development through active programs	Mentor traditional BSN students into Tau Phi:	
		• Hold a fall social for students to introduce them to Tau Phi	Ann Hutchens
		• Develop a mentoring program pairing BSN students with Nurse Leaders	Trish Kingery
		Scholarships for nursing students going to Honduras for a medical mission	Linda Rickabaugh
Service	Provide opportunities for membership to contribute to the health of the community	Participate as a Chapter in at least two community service events:	
		• Roanoke Rescue Mission	Linda Rickabaugh
		• Mental Health Association	Melanie Ham
		• Alzheimer's walk	Linda Rickabaugh
Communities	Develop alliances and relationships with other STTI Chapters within our region	Participate STTI Region 13 Events- Conference planned for April 18-19 in Charlotte. Our chapter needs to get students involved with poster presentations. We need more community members form other agencies, such as LGH and the VA	Melody Meier
Sustainability	Continue to attract nurse leaders and qualified BSN and Graduate students to join the organization	Recruit community leaders into Tau Phi from Carilion and non-Carilion agencies	Ann Montgomery
		Recruit well qualified students from the pre-licensure and post licensure BSN programs and the MSN program	Melody Meier
		Establish a fundraising goal and appropriate activities to support scholarship programs	Sell Tau Phi T-Shirts