



**Jefferson College of Health
 Sciences
 Roanoke, VA
 TAU PHI CHAPTER #451**

Message from the President

Elections

With the upcoming elections, the members have raised the question of the responsibilities accompanying each position. According to the Tau Phi chapter bylaws (2010),

The **vice president** shall perform the duties of the president in the president's absence.

The **secretary** shall prepare and distribute meeting minutes and correspondence.

The **Leadership Succession Committee** shall develop members in organizational leadership roles across the span of their careers, mentor members to assume organizational board and officer positions at all levels of the organization. The committee shall select nominees and prepare the ballot. The ballot will be sent to the Board of Directors at least four (4) weeks prior to a scheduled election. The president shall appoint a chair of the committee from those elected. The Leadership Succession Committee members shall not be eligible for any elected office of the current ballot.

Dear Members,

It has been very hectic as we return to JCHS for another semester with over 500 students in the nursing programs. This year we have also started a new accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program for students with completed baccalaureate degree in another field. With a large number of applications for the 25 slots in our initial class, I think the new program will turn into an exciting path for new nurses entering into the field. We look forward to having some of them join Tau Phi.

On October 20, we will have our annual Nursing Research Conference. We have accepted 33 posters for presentation and already had over 80 registrants. I hope to see many of you there but if you have not yet registered I advise that you don't delay.

In November we will have our annual induction of new members. We have invited 37 of the top students in our traditional BSN, RN-BSN, and MSN programs to join STTI and the chapter. I hope that you can attend the induction ceremony to be held on November 7. All active chapter members should receive a separate invitation to this event with a request to RSVP to Janice Taylor by October 17, 2011.

In closing, I would like to ask again that you carefully consider the question of whether we, as a chapter, should begin the process of endowing a scholarship in the chapter's name at JCHS. That issue will be on your election ballot and detailed information about the initiative was in your summer chapter newsletter. If you have any questions before voting please don't hesitate to contact me.

Looking forward to seeing you at the fall induction.

Dr. Warren Clark

STTI Scholarship

**Do NOT Miss
 a Great
 Scholarship
 Opportunity**

JCHS's Tau Phi Chapter of STTI will be awarding up to three \$500 scholarships to students who are enrolled in nursing education programs. Students enrolled in BSN or MSN Programs at JCHS are eligible to apply. Students enrolled in a nursing Doctoral degree program at any institution are also eligible to apply. Preference will be given to STTI members, other attributes being equal. For scholarship guidelines and application see Janice Taylor. She will collect the applications and submit them to the scholarship committee. Application deadline is Sept. 30, 2011.

Submitted by Dr. A. Porter

Candidate for Vice President Position- Ms. Melissa (Missy) Ring

After graduating valedictorian of my high school senior class, I attended Roanoke College, and later received an Associate's Degree in Nursing at Virginia Western Community College. This degree was followed by a Bachelor of Art's degree from Mary Baldwin College.

A nurse for 15 years, my passion is in supportive care of patients at the end of life. I am a Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse and a Respecting Choices Advanced Care Planning Facilitator trainer. In January, I was appointed Virginia State Ambassador to the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association. My other memberships include Tau Phi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society and the Virginia Nurses Association. My current position is a Clinical Team Leader in Carilion Clinic Hospice's Roanoke office.

Candidate for Vice President Position- Dr. Melody Sharp

My name is Melody Sharp. I have been a registered nurse for 25 years and started my nursing career as an associate nurse. I continued a long journey in my education to complete a doctorate in nursing practice in 2008 and have worked many areas along the way in nursing to include oncology, critical care, rehabilitation, and emergency nursing. In the latter years, I moved into education consulting and finally into the academic setting. I am currently employed at Jefferson College of Health Sciences as the BSN Director, post-licensure track. My areas of research interests are in Academic Integrity and rehabilitation nursing practice. After receiving my Doctorate of Nursing Practice, I felt compelled to mentor others in initiating research projects both in the academic setting and bedside nursing practice.

I believe that the STTI: Tau Phi chapter is a critical component for nurse leaders to not only network but also to disseminate nursing knowledge in our nursing community. I have been a board member for STTI: Tau Phi chapter in the past as Counselor Chair for the Governance Committee 2007 - 2009. When I was no longer a board member, I stayed active as a member by taking on the role as the Region 13 conference coordinator for the 2nd bi-annual research conference in 2010. That volunteered position kept me very busy for over one year. The conference was a tremendous success. I have a strong interest to keep our STTI chapter connected not only locally but also regionally and at the international level.

Candidate for Secretary Position- Ms. Jennifer Bath

I graduated from Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania with my BSN in 1996. I was awarded my Master's degree in nursing education from JCHS in 2010. I am also a certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner for Adults & Adolescents. I am a National Registry Intermediate and have volunteered with Roanoke EMS for several years as a medic. My nursing background includes geriatric psych and long term care. The bulk of my experience has been as an emergency room nurse for trauma centers. I have also worked as a forensic nurse examiner for several years, which was a very rewarding role. I recently changed roles at Carilion and I am now a Clinical Nurse Educator over a couple of the Med/Surg units. This is the perfect job for me as I get paid to do two things I love most, teach & talk! I have served Tau Phi in the past by helping with the Regional Sigma Theta Tau conference that was held here in Roanoke. I have done numerous lectures/talks at the regional, local, state, and national level. I have also done a poster presentation at the state and regional level. I was a contributing author to the book *Avoiding Common Errors in Nursing*. I am very interested in serving the Tau Phi chapter in any way that I can.

Candidate for Secretary Position- Ms. Ann Hutchens

Ann Marie Hutchens has been an RN for nearly 20 years, and has focused her practice in Cardiology. She recently completed her MSN in Nursing through JCHS, and currently works for Carilion Clinic Roanoke Memorial Hospital as the Coronary Care Unit Director. Throughout her career she has served on many hospital and system-wide planning committees and has served 2 terms as Tau Phi's Vice President.

Candidate for Secretary Position– Ms. Catherine Prescott

Fall 2011

Currently I work at Carilion Clinic Riverside 3 as a RN Outpatient Services Care Coordinator in Internal Medicine. I received my BSN from the University of Virginia and MSN- Nursing Education from Jefferson College of Health Sciences. I have enjoyed a variety of roles in my nursing career including being a faculty member at Jefferson College of Health Sciences where I taught in the Associate Degree RN program. I also have practiced nursing in inpatient Medical-Surgical units. Currently I enjoy the opportunity to work with adult patients who have chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and heart failure to offer patient education and to explore ways in which they can optimize their self-management .

Candidate for Leadership Succession– Ms. Ann Hutchens

Ann Marie Hutchens has been an RN for nearly 20 years, and has focused her practice in Cardiology. She recently completed her MSN in Nursing through JCHS, and currently works for Carilion Clinic Roanoke Memorial Hospital as the Coronary Care Unit Director. Throughout her career she has served on many hospital and system-wide planning committees and has served 2 terms as Tau Phi's Vice President.

Candidate for Leadership Succession– Ms. Joyce Johnson

Graduated 1982 from Patrick Henry Community College with an Associate Degree in Nursing, obtained BSN in 1996 through Old Dominion University, MBA in 2001 from Averett University, and attending Case Western University and will graduate in 2012 with a DNP.

For the past 3 years I have been the practice manager for the hospitalist department at Carilion Clinic. Before that I spent 9 years working in Carilion Clinic's Emergency Departments. Prior to this I worked 18 years for Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County in the Emergency Department and Clinical Management.

Candidate for Leadership Succession– Ms. Catherine Prescott

Currently I work at Carilion Clinic Riverside 3 as a RN Outpatient Services Care Coordinator in Internal Medicine. I received my BSN from the University of Virginia and MSN- Nursing Education from Jefferson College of Health Sciences. I have enjoyed a variety of roles in my nursing career including being a faculty member at Jefferson College of Health Sciences where I taught in the Associate Degree RN program. I also have practiced nursing in inpatient Medical-Surgical units. Currently I enjoy the opportunity to work with adult patients who have chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and heart failure to offer patient education and to explore ways in which they can optimize their self-management .

Candidate for Leadership Succession– Ms. Roxanne Wilson

Roxanne Wilson, B.S.N., RN, NREMT-P, has been a member of the JCHS Emergency Health Sciences-Paramedic faculty since February 2002. Roxanne is a clinical preceptor and lab instructor for both the Emergency Services-Paramedic and Fire & EMS Technology programs and participates in other certification instruction such as ACLS, PALS, AMLS and PHTLS. In addition to her academic interests, Roxanne has practiced as an R.N. in the Emergency Department for Carilion Clinic for 34 years. Her interests include Pediatric and Trauma healthcare. She serves on the Safe Kids Coalition of the Roanoke Valley, Emergency Nurse's Association and the National Association of EMS Educators. Roxanne has lived in the Roanoke Valley all her life. She graduated from the Community Hospital of the Roanoke Valley School of Nursing in 1981 and became a NREMT-P in 2006. She went on to continue her education and graduated from the Jefferson College of Health Sciences with her B.S.N. in 2008.

I am interested in serving on the Leadership Succession Committee to:

- Allow more network connection with the college and leadership within STTI.
- To become more connected to the International works of STTI to help impact the future nursing of our region and beyond.
- To gain a better knowledge of what goes on within the organization.

Note from the editor:



Dear Members,

This issue features the Fall elections. Please review the profile of each candidate and vote. By voting you will make a difference to help select the candidate who will best reflect your needs.

Note: Correction to Summer Newsletter— Under Local Research Updates —Susan Wirt is an STTI member.

Please continue to send personal or professional accomplishments to: mpstaykova@jchs.edu

Fall 2011 Board Meeting

STTI, Tau Phi Board members met on August 15, 2011. Among the discussed topics, attention was given to the upcoming elections and scholarship opportunities. Next meeting is scheduled for October 3 at 5pm. In Room 1020.

New Chapter Invitees

Meet and Greet for eligible BSN students was held on August 29th. A number of identified candidates attended the event. Dr. Clark welcomed the candidates and presented the benefits of membership.

“Men have a respect for scholarship and learning greatly out of proportion to the use they commonly serve.”
[Henry David Thoreau](#)

Information for Students

Scholarship Opportunities

STTI Scholarship

- General
- Minorities

To visit the site, paste the link in your browser:

<http://www.nursingsociety.org>

- Local Tau Phi Chapter of Scholarship. Application deadline is Sept. 30, 2011. See Janice Taylor for details

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National Student Nurses Association

is looking to publish articles by nursing students. For details visit the site:

http://www.nсна.org/Publications/Periodicals/et_Published.aspx

Contact Information:
Jefferson College of Health Sciences
Department of Nursing
Tau Phi Chapter, STTI
101 Elm Ave., SE
Roanoke, VA 24013

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Calendar of Events

October 20, 2011- Fall Research Conference; Valley View Holiday Inn; Roanoke, VA.

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October 29, 2011- Biennial Convention, Grapevine, TX.

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November 7, 2011, six o'clock p.m.— **JCHS Induction Ceremony** will be held at the Corinthian Ballroom 109 Kirk Ave Downtown, Roanoke. Please contact Janice Taylor for registration at JRTaylor@jchs.edu

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December 2, 2011- Annual Research Day. Lewis Gale Medical Center. Call for abstracts due by October 7, 2011 (FYI: 540.776.4148) April 19-21, 2012- Regional Research Conference; Hampton, VA.