



Sigma Theta Tau International

Epsilon Eta Explorer

Official Publication of Epsilon Eta Chapter Sigma Theta Tau, International Southern Illinois University Edwardsville: February 2006

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President's Message - Setting Goals and Looking Forward

Hope all of you are enjoying this wonderful "winter weather" we are having!!!

The last few months have been busy for our officers and members. In October 2005 several members attended the annual joint meeting of St. Louis area Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) chapters hosted by Delta Lambda at Saint Louis University. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner and a presentation on the challenges of nursing in Africa. Dr. Gladys Mabunda, an Epsilon Eta member, presented her work in South Africa. It was a very enjoyable and educational evening.

Rhonda Comrie, President-elect, and I represented the chapter as delegates at the STTI Biennial Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana from November 12-16, 2005. We attended many thought-provoking presentations during the convention. During the business meeting, the delegates approved all proposed by-laws changes following discussion, new officers were elected and installed, new chapters were inducted, and committee and international board reports were presented. New officers and Bylaws changes can be found on the STTI website. If any members are interested in reviewing the Annual Report, please contact me. At a breakfast meeting, the chapter received a beautiful wooden plaque recognizing the 25th anniversary of the chapter. A Brick Paver Ceremony dedicating the brick our chapter purchased in honor of our recent anniversary was held at the International Headquarters Office. All in all the convention was a wonderful celebration of the importance of nursing scholarship.

Members of our chapter board developed a chapter strategic plan based on the goals of STTI. As the second step, we are finalizing an action plan to meet the goals of our plan. A full listing of our strategic goals and action plan is located on page 4.

Thank you to all of the officers and members who have assisted in the planning and implementation of the following projects since the fall newsletter:

1. Revision of the Epsilon Eta Scholarship and Awards Nomination process.
2. Revision of the Epsilon Eta Application for Research Grant
3. Planning for the Annual Business meeting: Date February 21, 2006
4. Planning for the Spring Induction: April 21, 2006
5. Development of a slate of officers to elect at the business meeting
6. Preparation of list and overseeing of membership eligibility

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting and Spring Induction. Member involvement gives life to an organization. Get involved!

Dr. Kay Gaehle, President

In this Issue

- Annual Business/Education - February 22, 2006: Mail reservation by February 14. Candidate for office information. Absentee ballots must be received by mail or e-mail no later than February 21, 2006.
- New Member Induction Ceremony - April 21, 2006: Make reservation by April 15, 2006
- Criteria for Epsilon Eta Awards
- Nurse Leader nomination criteria
- Chapter goals
- School of Nursing Pin Redesign
- Call for e-mail addresses

Vice President - Providing Opportunities for Professional Growth

Chapter Annual Meeting

Epsilon Eta's Annual Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 1000 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville on Wednesday, February 22, 2006. The evening will begin with a cash bar at 6 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30 followed by our featured speaker, Anne Perry, EdD, RN, FAAN. Dr. Perry will present *Magnet Status: Collaboration between Academics and Service*. The Annual Business Meeting and election of officers will follow Dr. Perry's presentation. Please call your reservation in to Kris Heather at 618-650-3956, by February 16, 2006. The cost of dinner is \$25, checks made payable to Epsilon Eta, and mailed to Kris' at SIUE School of Nursing, Box 1066, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1066. Information on candidates and the ballot are located on page 5.

New Member Induction Meeting

Please join us for as Epsilon Eta welcomes new members at our 26th Annual Induction Meeting on April 21, 2006. This year's dinner and ceremony will be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Fairview Heights, Illinois. Our special guest will be author and educator, Dr. Cecilia Wendler, who recently edited *The HeART of Nursing: Expressions of Creative Art in Nursing*. Dr. Wendler will presentation will address *Aesthetics and Art in Nursing*. Cocktails are available at 6 p.m; dinner begins at 6:30; the program and induction follow immediately. Call your reservation to Kris Heather at 618-650-3956, by April 15, 2006. The cost of dinner is \$28. Checks should be made payable to Epsilon Eta, and mailed to Ms. Heather at SIUE School of Nursing, Box 1066, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1066.

Rita Arras, PhD, RN
Vice President

Heritage Committee - Urges Your Involvement

As we start a new year, don't forget to share your pride in being a member of Epsilon Eta. Join with nurses from around the world by taking a few minutes to complete a *Volunteer Interest Profile*. To get started, go on to the STTI at <http://www.nursingsociety.org/> and scroll down to the Volunteer Interest Profile. You do need to have your membership number to complete the information.

Help your chapter increase membership involvement by attending meetings and by inviting inactive members or potential nurse leaders to accompany you. The Heritage Committee *works hard* to make your job of being a member *much easier*. If you are interested in being on this committee, please contact Rhoda Headley at 618-650-5942 or rheadle@siue.edu. Hope to see you at the annual business meeting in February.

Rhoda Headley, APN
Heritage Committee Chair

Governance Committee

In February, 2006, Epsilon Eta chapter will begin the process of inviting new candidates for membership in anticipation of the April induction meeting. One of our chapter goals this year is to increase **Nurse Leader** candidates. The chapter counts on each of you to nominate nurse colleagues in your practice settings who demonstrate some of the achievements listed below. SIUE faculty may know of nurses who have impressed them while at the student clinical practica settings and would be excellent candidates. Additionally, any member may want to consider nominating other faculty colleagues in both the community colleges or at SIUE. Contact Jean Auffarth, Faculty Counselor for eligibility at jauffar@siue.edu for further information or to submit a candidate's name.

The criteria for Nurse Leader Candidates includes that the individual is legally recognized to practice nursing in his/her country, possesses a minimum of a bachelor's degree or the equivalent in any field, and demonstrates achievement in nursing. Examples might include:

- Creativity/Innovation in clinical practice
- Leadership qualities contributing to improved health care
- Teaching or curriculum development; innovative student-focused learning approaches
- Administration
- Improvement of the status of nursing organizations
- Research development utilization
- Entrepreneurial skills
- Staff development

Jean Auffarth, MS, RN
Governance Committee Chair

School of Nursing Pin Redesign

The SIUE School of Nursing will be unveiling a new school pin to celebrate its 40th Anniversary. If for some reason you did not purchase a pin at your graduation or have since lost it, you can still buy one of the original SIUE pins through the University Bookstore. The diamond shaped gold colored pin features the SIUE letters with the staff (rod) of Aesculapius in the center of the pin. The cost is \$57 plus shipping. To order, contact the University bookstore at (618) 650-2132. By electronic mail, send your request to palbert@siue.edu. A limited number of pins available. After these are sold, pins will be available only by special order through the company.

Scholarly Accomplishments

Arras, R. & Boyd, R. (2005) presented the results of their research *Tobacco Use on a Midwestern University Campus* at the American Public Health Association Meeting in Philadelphia, PA in December 2005. Dr. Rita Arras also submitted a manuscript on this research to the American Journal of College Health with Dr. Roger Boyd. Dr. Arras' manuscript on "Health-Promoting Behaviors in Men 45 and Above" has been accepted for publication by the *International Journal of Men's Health*.

Baier, M. (2005, November/December, 2006, January) Obtaining military pensions for nurses in the nineteenth century. *The Illinois Nurse*, (2), 22.

Bernaix, L., Schmidt, C., Jamerson, P., Seiter, I., & Smith, J. (2006). Family management style of lactation for premature infants in the NICU. *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal-Child Nursing*, 31, in press.

Bernaix, L., Schmidt, C., Flick, L., & White, K., *Prenatal Blood Lead Levels within St. Clair County: A Descriptive Study*. Paper Presentation (Invited) – Southern Illinois AWHONN Chapter Dinner Meeting, Belleville, IL, Sept. 2005 and at the Martha Welch Research Conference in Sept. 2005. Dr. Bernaix has been invited to serve as the Southern Illinois AWHONN representative on the planning committee for the 2006 March of Dimes Prematurity Summit.

Boyd, M. A. Presentation on: Current Guidelines on health monitoring and management of metabolic risk symptoms. Optimizing metabolic and Cardiovascular Health of Psychiatric patients Symposia (Chair). American Psychiatric Nurses Association Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN. November 2, 2005.

Boyd, M. A. Presentation on: Pharmacologic Management of AD-related psychosis in elderly patients in long term care. The NPs Role in Caring for Patients with AD-related Psychosis in Long-Term Care: Managing Treatment, Safety and Liability. National Conference of Geriatric Nurse Practitioners 2005 Convention, Cleveland, Ohio. September 28, 2005.

Boyd, M. A. Guest speaker for Mental Health Sidebar at the 2005 Saint Louis International Film Festival, November 19, 2005 at the Tivoli Theater, University City. Film: *Derailroaded*.

Comrie, R. (2005). *Identifying and Measuring Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Students' Moral Sensitivity*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Poster to be presented at the Midwest Nursing Research Conference, Milwaukee, WI, April 1, 2006.

Deering, A. & Riley, M. (2005). Graduate students' perceptions of online teaching and relationship to preferred learning styles. *MedSurg Nursing*, 14(6), 383-389.

Kelly, K. (in press, February 2006). AONE Column: Recruiting the next generation into nursing: no negativity allowed! *Journal of Nursing Administration*.

Kelly, K. (in press, February 2006). Financial leadership and the CNO. In P. Yoder Wise & K. Kowalski (Eds). *Beyond leading and managing in nursing*. St. Louis: Mosby.

Kimmel, K. (2005) Should patients eat during hemodialysis treatments? *Nephrology Nursing Journal*, 32(5).

Pietroburgo, S. & Schmidt C. *Children with type 1 diabetes: mothers' perceptions of self-care*. Poster presentation at the Annual Gateway Martha Welch Nursing Conference Edwardsville, IL, September 29, 2005. (2nd place award). Paper presented at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Family Retreat, February, 22, 2006. (Invited)

Potter, P. A., & Perry, A. G. (2005). *Fundamental Keperawatan: Konsep, Proses, dan Praktik, Edisi 4* (Fundamentals of Nursing: Concepts, Process, and Practice, 4th edition, Indonesian translation), Penerbit Buku Kedokteran: Mosby.

Perry, A.G. & Potter, P.A. (2005). *Clinical nursing skills and techniques* (6th ed.). St. Louis: Elsevier Health Sciences.

Schmidt, C. *Assessment of self-care agency development in children with type 1 diabetes*. Paper presentation at the Annual Gateway Martha Welch Nursing Conference Edwardsville, IL, September 29, 2005. Paper to be presented at the Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Conference, Milwaukee, WI, April 2, 2006.

Smith, J., Jamerson, P., Bernaix, L., Schmidt, C., & Seiter L. (2006). Fathers' perceptions of supportive behaviors for lactation of premature infants. *Advances in Neonatal Care* (in press). Also a poster presentation at the 8th Annual Neonatal Advanced Practice Nursing Forum 2005, Washington, DC., June, 20.

Wedding, D., Boyd, M., & Niemiec, R. (2005). *Movies & Mental Illness* (2nd ed.). Seattle: Hogrefe & Huber Publishers, Inc. In addition, the first edition (Wedding, D. & Boyd, M. (1999). *Movies & Mental Illness: Using films to understand abnormal behavior*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.) has been translated in Korean.

Scholarly Accomplishments represents information submitted by faculty at SIUE School of Nursing. ALL MEMBERS are asked to submit information for future newsletters. Send your information NOW to Rhonda Comrie, President-elect and editor of the newsletter. E-mail to rcomrie@siue.edu

Biography of Candidates

Jerricha Ampadu – Ms. Ampadu (nee Phillips) is a lecturer in the SIUE SON and teaches med/surg clinical and lab. She is a graduate of SIUE and holds an M.S. in Medical/Surgical nursing. She has been a member of STT for more than ten years. This would be her first time running for office.

Virginia Behrhorst – Ms. Behrhorst is a nurse practitioner clinical faculty member at SIUE. She has been a member of STT for 20 years. She is a past vice president and treasurer of Epsilon Eta for two terms.

Kathy Ketchum - Dr. Ketchum is an assistant professor and has been at SIUE since 1991. She is interested in informatics and patient safety. She has held several previous positions in STTI including Explorer Editor.

Monica Major-Harris- Ms. Major-Harris is a graduate student, Nurse Anesthesia major, and lab faculty at SIUE. A recent SIUE graduate, Ms. Major- Harris was inducted into STTI in Spring, 2005. This would be her first term on the board.

Pamela Newland- Ms. Newland is an SIUE faculty member since 2001. She has served as Finance Committee chair and is currently completing her doctorate at University of Missouri.

Marguerite Riley- Dr. Riley is an associate professor at SIUE. She has been a long time member of STTI- Epsilon Eta and most recently served as Treasurer.

Kim White – Dr. White is an assistant professor at SIUE. She has recently served as Secretary to the organization.

Alisa Williams- Ms. Williams has been a maternal newborn nursing faculty member at SIUE for one year. She has been a member of STTI for three years; this would be her first time to serve on the board.

Rick Yakimo-Dr. Yakimo is an advanced practice psychiatric nurse and an assistant professor at SIUE. He has been a member of STTI since 1993 and treasurer of the Delta Lambda chapter at St. Louis University.

OFFICIAL BALLOT – Sigma Theta Tau Epsilon Eta chapter- 2006-2008

Nominees: All elected positions assume responsibility for their respective offices July 1, 2006. Circle the name(s) of your candidate(s) of choice. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order, by office.

Treasurer – Serves as custodian of the chapter's funds, submits monthly financial reports, prepares an annual budget and assists with preparation of the Chapter Annual Report. There is one position open.

VOTE FOR ONE:

Jerricha Ampadu

Rick Yakimo

Vice-President- Assumes leadership in the absence of the President, submits reports at annual meeting, assists with preparation of the Chapter Annual Report and serves as program chairperson for chapter meetings. There is one position open.

VOTE FOR ONE:

Virginia Behrhorst

Marguerite Riley

Leadership Succession – This committee consists of at least 3 elected members who develop organizational members in leadership roles, mentor members in leadership positions, and select nominees and prepare ballots. There are two positions open.

VOTE FOR TWO:

Kathy Ketchum

Monica Major-Harris

Pamela Newland

Kim White

Alisa Williams

RETURN THIS BALLOT to Ann Popkess, SIUE School of Nursing, Box 1066 Alumni Hall Edwardsville, IL 62025 - no later than February 20th at 4pm.

2006 Scholarship and Award Nominations

The Scholarship and Awards Committee presents several yearly awards at the Annual Induction Ceremony (see page 2). Nominations for this year will be accepted until March 31, 2006.

Betty Temple Mills Undergraduate Student Award for Academic Excellence

A \$50 award is given to an undergraduate student who has been inducted as a chapter member and currently is in the final year of study at SIUE School of Nursing. The award requires that the student initiate the application and has two letters of support from SIUE nursing faculty members. Selection is based on the completed application, the student's cumulative GPA and outstanding performance in the area of clinical, research, and/or leadership.

Graduate Student Merit Award

A \$100 award is given to any chapter member who is currently admitted to the Graduate Program at SIUE School of Nursing. The graduate student must initiate the application, be a current Epsilon Eta Chapter member, obtain a letter of support from a graduate faculty member in student's specialty area, obtain a letter of support from the candidate's employing agency or another graduate faculty member at SIUE or another school, and show evidence of merit.

Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice Award

One annual award of \$100 is presented to current member of Epsilon Eta Chapter who demonstrates breadth of knowledge in one area of clinical practice, develops creative approaches to nursing practice which contribute to quality patient care, posses clinical expertise, services as a mentor/preceptor and inspires peers' practice of nursing, enhances the image of nursing through nursing practice, and participates in community affairs and professional organizations that affect nursing practice. Candidates should be nominated by a peer.

Writing for Publication Award

A competitive annual award has been established to encourage publication by members. All members – students, graduates, community leaders, and faculty – are invited to prepare an original and previously unpublished manuscript to be submitted simultaneously to the committee and an appropriate professional journal. This award will be given to previously unpublished authors. Guidelines emphasize that the manuscript may be the project of single or multiple authors, but must be the first publication of the primary author. The manuscript must be relative to professional nursing and adhere to the format of the journal to which the manuscript is sent. A board of reviewers will judge the manuscripts on writing style, creativity and originality, timeliness of content, appropriateness of references, and potential value to nursing literature.

Nomination forms and the full criteria for each award can be obtained from Kris Heather, AH 2117, SIUE School of Nursing, Box 1066, Edwardsville, IL 62026. Completed nominates and supporting materials should be sent to Dr. Arleen Fearing, AH 2329, SIUE School of Nursing, Box 1066, Edwardsville, IL. Submit no later than March 31, 2006.

Electronic Version of Epsilon Explorer Planned

Call for e-mail addresses! Epsilon Explorer is heading On-line! In an effort to improve the quality of the newsletter, especially photos and articles, Epsilon Explorer will be introduced in an on-line version beginning with the September 2006 issue. Send your current electronic mail address to Kris Heather, online at kheathc@siue.edu. Using an electronic format should allow better information exchange from all members. It will also allow you to select whether or not you want to receive the newsletter by e-mail, or as traditionally obtained, by regular mail. Please send your address as soon as you receive this issue.

Joint Chapter Meeting, Hosted by Saint Louis University

On October 26, 2005 members of Epsilon Eta attended the Joint Annual Educational Dinner/Meeting. The evening's program was titled, "International Nursing: Focus on Africa." Four speakers discussed nursing issues in several African countries, drawing attention to the need for improved health care and resources in those nations. Dr. Gladys Mabunda from SIUE School of Nursing presented information related to her home country, South Africa. Other speakers included Dr. Anne Schappe from Webster University, Sithokozile Maposa, a SLU doctoral student from Zimbabwe, and Kenn Culp from the University of Iowa.



Kay Gaele, President and Rhonda Comrie, President-Elect attend National STTI Convention at Indianapolis, IN in November, 2005.

15th Annual Martha Welch Research Conference, SIUE School of Nursing and Epsilon Eta Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, September 2005.



Above left: 1st Place Poster Award: "Effectiveness of Delirium Prevention Protocol by Dr. Sherry Robinson, Catherine Rich, & Charlene Vollmer. Presenting Award: Dr. Kay Gaehle, Epsilon Eta President.

Above: Dr. Kathy Ketchum presents Dr. Donna Redding of Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL with the Clinical Partnership Award.

Above: Keynote speaker Dr. Nancy Bergstrom meets with clinical agency nurses to discuss skin assessment in the clinical arena.

Above right: 2nd Place for poster a presentation was awarded to Sheila Pietroburgo and Dr. Cynthia Schmidt (not pictured) for their research: "Children with Type 1 Diabetes: Mothers' Perception of Self Care." The award was presented by Dr. Rhonda Comrie, President-Elect of Epsilon-Eta Chapter.





Epsilon Eta Chapter
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Return Address Requested

Remember Sigma Theta Tau has a toll free number:

1-888-634-7575