



Epsilon Eta Chapter Newsletter

January, 2009

Volume 27, Number 2

President's Message

As a nursing society, Sigma Theta Tau International stands unique in its principles, Knowledge, Community, Service, and Leadership. Epsilon Eta continues to demonstrate its commitment to these ideals. Sigma Theta Tau International boasts its unique status as an Honor Society, promoting **knowledge and scholarship** as its first mission. On April 3, Epsilon Eta will induct students from the undergraduate and the graduate nursing programs who have achieved academic excellence in their nursing studies. I hope that all members attend the event. Dr. Louise Flick, recipient of a National Institute of Health grant, will be presenting information about the National Children's Study, a collaborative project between SIUE School of Nursing, Washington University, St. Louis University, and the SIU School of Medicine. On April 10, Epsilon Eta hosts the bi-annual Martha Welch Research day, named in honor of a former nurse researcher and faculty member at SIUE School of Nursing. Research Day provides an opportunity for local nursing professionals to disseminate their scholarly research and projects. As members of the SIUE **community**, our organization will sponsor a Relay for Life team. A senior nursing student and member of Epsilon Eta, Caitlyn Knight is the Team Captain. If you are interesting in joint the walk or supporting the cause, contact me for directions. Soon we will have the Relay for Life web link available. Find it on the SIUE School of Nursing Home page, under Sigma Theta Tau International. Through our **service**, we continue to raise funds for the well in South Africa. The Wine for Water event raised over \$400 and provided an excellent opportunity for networking among nursing students and members. Other chapters in Region 5 are interested and assist with this important project. **Leaders** continue to emerge among us. **On February 23** we host our annual business meeting at a restaurant right outside the front gates of the SIU Edwardsville campus. The event is a great opportunity to network with other members. New officers will be elected for leadership roles and to guide direct the future of Epsilon Eta. **A new** President-elect will be chosen, and Dr. Pam Newland will move into place as the President of the chapter. In these ways Epsilon Eta remains a strong, vital part of the International organization. I wish the best to all of you this year.

Rhonda Comrie

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Upcoming Events



School of Nursing News

February 12, 2009- Joint Business Meeting
February 14, 2009-SON Open House
February 23, 2009- Annual Business Meeting
February 27, 2009- SNA Semi-Formal
April 3, 2009- Induction Ceremony
April 10, 2009-Annual Martha Welch Research Day
April 17, 2009 – Relay for Life at SIUE
April 25, 2009-5th Annual Jewel of Nursing Excellence Gala and Awards Banquet
May 8, 2009 - Graduate and Undergraduate Student Nursing Convocation
May 9, 2009- Spring Graduation

Annual Epsilon Eta Business Meeting-February 23, 2009

The Annual Epsilon Eta Business Meeting will be held on Monday, February 23.

Key Note Speakers: Dr. Christine Durbin, RN, MSN, JD, PhD and Melodie Rowbotham, RN, MS, PhD, who have agreed to present their dissertation research at the Business Meeting.

Dr. Durbin's presentation: "Evaluation of the Evidence of Effective Educational Interventions in Increasing Advance Directive Completion"

Dr. Melodie Rowbotham's presentation: "Cold and Prickly or Warm and Fuzzy: Which is your Classroom?"

Time and Place : 5:30PM, February 23, 2009 Annual Meeting

G.C. Cuisine Cafe & Deli

1230 University Dr.

Edwardsville, IL 62025

Networking with Appetizers and Cash bar \$25

Please RSVP to cdaniel@siue.edu or mibeatt@siue.edu by February 16

"Remember, February is American Heart Association Month".

The American Heart Association has developed a compliance program to increase survival from heart attack and stroke. See www.aha.org for details

Induction, Friday April 3, 2009

New members will be inducted into Epsilon Eta in a ceremony held at the Four Points Sheraton Conference Center on Friday evening, April 3, 2009. Following a brief presentation, undergraduate and graduate students and four community nursing leaders will be asked to signify their intention to support Sigma Theta Tau International by pledging to fulfill its commitment to nursing excellence, knowledge, service, and leadership through their careers. New officers will be inducted.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Louise Flick, MSN, DrPH, MPE. Dr Flick will speak regarding her National Children's Health Study, the biggest epidemiologic study of children ever conducted in this country. The study is a massive epidemiologic investigation to examine the effects of environmental exposures on the health and development of 100,000 children across the country.

Place and Time: 6 p.m., at the Four Points Sheraton Center, Fairview Heights, IL. The cost for the induction dinner is \$30 with dinner. Menu selections of Chicken or Fish or vegetarian plate. Please RSVP to Christina Daniels cdaniel@siue.edu or Michele Beatty, Vice President mibeatt@siue.edu by March 30.

The following will be conferred at the ceremony:

Each year the Scholarship and Awards Committee of the Epsilon Eta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau presets several awards as follows:

1. Research Grant Award

The purpose of this Award is to assist members of Epsilon Eta Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International to complete research projects that will contribute to the advancement of nursing practice.

2. Betty Temple Mills Undergraduate Student Award for Academic Excellence

One award is given annually. The award is open to any undergraduate student who has been inducted as a chapter member and currently is in last 2 semesters.

3. New Undergraduate Scholarship

This year, an additional scholarship will be awarded. Guidelines are pending, please check back with Christina Daniels or Gladys Mabunda.

4. Graduate Student Merit Award

One award is given annually. The award is open to any chapter member who is currently a student admitted to the Graduate Program of the School of Nursing at SIUE.

5. Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice Award

One annual Award for Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice is granted to a current member of the Epsilon Eta Chapter who is judged best in meeting the established criteria. Nominations are invited.

6. Writing for Publication Award

The Epsilon Eta Chapter encourages its members to write for publication. All members-students, graduates, community leaders and faculty – are invited to prepare an original and previously unpublished manuscript, to be submitted simultaneously to our Committee and to an appropriate professional journal.

For more information about these awards including deadlines, please visit the STTI Epsilon Eta website at:

<http://www.siue.edu/nursing/organizations/stt/index.shtml>

You may also contact Christina Daniels, SIUE, School of Nursing, Campus Box 1066, Edwardsville, IL 62026; telephone number: 618 650 3958. Completed application forms and supporting materials should be sent to Dr. Gladys Mabunda, Room AH 2332b, SIUE, School of Nursing, Campus Box 1066, Edwardsville, IL.



Mark your calendar! The annual SIUE SON ***Jewels of Nursing Excellence Gala*** will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2009 at the Four Points by Sheraton in Fairview Heights, IL. This upcoming ***5th Annual Jewels of Nursing Excellence Gala*** is especially exciting as we have some surprises in store (think “jewels”), AND the event will recognize the School of Nursing being a part of SIUE for **45 years**. Individual tickets are \$60, or \$600 for a table of ten. Please contact Kris Heather at 618-650-2551 or kheathe@siue.edu, for more information.



Wine for Water

On November 13, 2008, about 20 hearty Epsilon Eta members and senior student nurses joined together for the first Wine for Water event, held at Vinter's Winery in Edwardsville, IL. During an evening of networking and renewing friendships and professional relationships, the event raised \$450 for the Well Fund. Epsilon Eta hopes to generate enough for the installation of a pipeline that will allow running water to be delivered and accessed at the Belfast Clinic near Hazy View in the province of Mpumolononga in the eastern region of South Africa. While some villages are lucky enough to have pumps or piped in water through public resources, in places like Mpumolononga, water sources are miles away, requiring people to walk or make transportation arrangements to get their water—a commodity that is in short supply. Our goal is to raise about \$6500 to drill a bore hole that could access water below ground, where ground water is far beneath the earth's surface. The Pi Chapter from Blessing – Rieman Nursing College in Quincy, IL has joined through their own fundraisers.



*Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Nursing and
Sigma Theta Tau International Epsilon Eta Chapter Present:*

*The Annual Gateway
Martha Welch
Nursing Research Conference
April 10, 2009
Morris University Center
12:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

Theme:

*Partnerships: Weaving the Threads of Collaboration into Nursing Research, Practice, and
Education*

Registration information is available at <http://www.siu.edu/nursing/>

Joint Meeting-Maryville University Sponsor

The Sigma Theta Tau International Chapters of Nu Chi, Delta Lambda, Epsilon Eta, Tau Iota and Omicron Iota will be having a Joint Meeting.

Thursday, February 12, 2009, the President's Conference Center – Maryville University

650 Maryville University Drive, St. Louis, MO

6:00-6:45: Networking and cash bar

6:45-Dinner

7:30-Speaker: - Jan Polizzi, RN, MSN. Past representative to the Missouri House of Representatives (1992). Community health nurse and member of Nurses for Newborns Foundation.

Topic: Missouri Health Net: Update on an Evolving Framework.

COST- \$25

(Any profits will be donated to Nurses for Newborns in the names of the five chapters)

Send the following registration form and checks to Diana Sundara, Treasurer, Omicron Iota Chapter

615 Amberwood Lane

Ballwin, MO 63021

Name:

Address:

Work Phone:

Home Phone:

Email address:

Chapter:



Money, Money, Money, and More Money, Part Deux

Remember in our last episode, we (I really, unless you talk back to the newsletter, which is okay, but you probably need to get out more) discussed the various funds that Epsilon Eta has established to support various and sundry (people just don't use that word anymore) activities? No? Well, Epsilon Eta has three funds (now nicely transplanted into money market accounts, where with a little sun and water, they will start growing about September)(a money market is just not the same as "Miracle Gro")(where was I?) established to support research (Martha Welch and Felissa Lashley) and community support (Well Fund) services. My purpose today is to tell you that Martha needs your help. The funds in Martha's money market support the Martha Welch Research Day annually sponsored by Epsilon Eta. For a small chapter, sponsoring a research day is nothing to sneeze at (sorry for this overused metaphor, but I came back from break with a nasty airplane cold). Year after year, I have seen this small but diligent STTI chapter spend a lot of time and funds to further the research and scholarship of area nurses. The research day serves as a platform for SIUE students to display their work and a conduit for networking opportunities for research collaboration. And it's all because of Martha. So, won't you help Martha help us keep research seeds growing (see how this goes back to that Miracle Gro reference?).

Thanks for your support and kind thoughts (but you really need to stop talking to inanimate objects).

Christine Durbin, PhD, JD, RN
STTI Epsilon Eta Treasurer

SNA Semi-Formal

On Friday, February 27, 2009, 7PM, the Student Nurses' Association (SNA) will host a Semi-Formal at the Four Points Sheraton, Fairview Heights, IL.

ALL NURSING STUDENTS (including non members of SNA) AND FACULTY are welcome to attend and bring a guest©

The theme of the event is "A Night With The Stars". We will be tying in Hollywood Glamour into the décor and activities that will take place throughout the night. For only \$2, attendees can get their picture taken with our Hollywood inspired backdrop. A gift basket silent auction will also take place. The proceeds from these two activities will go to Relay for Life :)

The meal, catered by the Sheraton, will begin at 7PM.

A DJ from Night Magic Entertainment will be providing the music for the evening.

Price per ticket \$15

Ticket Sales now until Wednesday, February 25th.

SNA officers will be stationed by the student nurses' lounge to sell tickets on the following days/times:

Mondays 10AM to 1PM
Wednesdays 10AM to 1PM
Thursdays 8AM to 1PM

If any questions about the event or ticket sales, please contact at SNAsiue@gmail.com

We hope you will join us on this glamorous night!!!! **SNA officers**



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Biennial Convention

October 31 to November 4, 2009, Indianapolis, IN

“I am an Nurse... and I am a Member of a Global Nursing Community”

Abstract Submission deadline, January 28, 2009

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/STTIEvents/BiennialConvention/Pages/biennialconvention.aspx>

Applications for Small Grants:

http://www.nursingsociety.org/Research/SmallGrants/Pages/grants_small.aspx

Did you know that there are Continuing Education opportunities on the STTI website? Continuing Education on nursing refresher course, how to become a published author, and professional nursing practice.

Available:

<http://www.nursingsociety.org/Education/ContinuingEducation/Pages/ceonline.aspx>

Other Notable Nursing Events

Southern Illinois Prairie Chapter of Academy of Medical Surgical Nurses will host a workshop “Best Practices in Cardiac Care: For Nurses with Heart”. This workshop will provide a wonderful opportunity to update cardiac skills and apply evidence-based practice. A flyer is available from members of the organization. Continuing education credits will be available. For more information, contact pnewlan@siue.edu or mriley@siue.edu

Date: Friday, March 27, 2009

Place: Anderson Hospital.



Save the Date!

The Relay for Life of SIUE has been scheduled for Friday, April 17th at 6pm and ends on Saturday, April 18th At 6am at the REC PLEX. Caitlyn Knight, a senior nursing student, is the Team Captain. Come join a group (or form your own group!) of your peers with a common interest, to fight cancer, honor survivors, and remember those who have lost their battle.

*Enjoy!
Food, games, entertainment, fun!*

Sign up for a team and start raising funds to fight cancer. Together, we can make a difference.

www.relayforlifesiu.com

Thanks to all of the Epsilon Eta and Student Nurse Association members who submitted cleaned pink lids for the Yoplait Lids for Lives Project.

We collected more than 350 lids for this project to help fund mammograms. This was the first year our chapters and The Student Nurse Association worked together on the project. Next year let's set the goal for more than 500 lids!

Rhonda Headley, Secretary, STT Epsilon Eta

We would love to hear from you! Please provide your email address to any member of Epsilon Eta Chapter. Let us

Know of any items you would like listed in the next newsletter for fall 2009!





Scholarly Accomplishments

The list that follows was submitted by faculty at SIUE School of Nursing. *All members* are invited to submit information for future newsletters. Send your information *now* to Pam Newland, President-elect and editor of the newsletter. E-mail to pnewlan@siue.edu

Flick, L.H. (November 7, 2008) Keynote address: Disparities in infant and maternal mortality. Women & Infants Last: Conference on Perinatal Health Disparities NR Multicultural Society, Barnes Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO.

Flick, L.H., Cook, C.L., Homan, S.M., McSweeney, M., Campbell, C., Tenkku, L., Gallagher, M.E., & Parnell, L. (December 9-19, 2008). Nicotine Dependence and Spontaneous Smoking Cessation and Pregnancy. Poster presented at the 14th Annual Maternal Child Health Epidemiology Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Ketchum, K.M. (November, 2008). The potential of podcasting in nursing. Paper presentation at the Clinical Education Redesign: Simulations, Innovations, and Partnerships, Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ketchum, K.M., Behm, K., Johnson, C., Vandever, J., Rippetto, F. (November, 2008). Implementation of PDA technology into a nursing curriculum. Paper presentation at the Clinical at the Clinical Education Redesign: Simulations, Innovations, and Partnerships, Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Kiel, D., **Flick, L.H., Homan, S.** (December 9, 2008). Effects of gestational weight gain in obese woman: Does one size fit all? Paper presented at the 14th Annual Maternal Child Health Epidemiology Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Newland, P., Riley, M., Fearing, A., & Neath, A. (2008, in press). Pain in Women with Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis: Relationship to Demographic Variables. *MEDSURG Nursing, Journal of Adult Health.*

Schmidt, C., Chiappetta, M., Bernaix, L., Carroll, E., & Beland, A. In-Hospital Survival Skills Training for Type 1 Diabetes: Perceptions of Children and Parents. Paper presentation Midwest Nursing Research Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March, 2009.

Schmidt, C., Koski, A., Weese, J., Bernaix, L., Chiappetta, M., Sandrik, K. Childrens Perceptions of Nurse Behaviors: A Qualitative Study: Paper presentations at the Annual Conference of the Society of Pediatric Nurses.

Nominations for Elections

President Elect

Kim White-Assistant Professor SIUE SON – graduated with Ph.D., 2005 – Barry University, Miami, FL, MS, 1999 – Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, IL, BS, 1991 – University of Illinois – Sangamon State University, Springfield, IL. Her expertise is Public Health Rehabilitation (orthopedic & neurological) Nursing. Research Interests include Lead Poisoning and Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Currently serves as Eligibility Chair for Epsilon Eta.

Terry Alsbury-Adjunct Faculty SIUE SON – graduated with MS, 2007 – Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, BS, 2002. She is employed at Bellville Memorial Hospital as Clinical Educator. Her area of interest is Rapid Response for Cardiopulmonary Arrest. She is an active member in Epsilon Eta.

Secretary

Bernadette Sobczak-Faculty SIUE SON – graduated from St Louis University with Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, MS, 2003. She is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau since 1997. She continues to work as a PNP in IL.

Kathi Thimsen-Faculty SIUE SON- graduated from Webster University with BSN and MS. Her expertise is wound/ostomy nursing. She is working on her DNP with focus on Elder Abuse. She is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau and works with the White House conference on Aging.

Leadership Succession

Cindy Auld-Faculty Kaskaskia College-graduated from Case Western, BSN, and SIUE with MSN and FNP. Works part time at Women's Care of Southern Illinois in Belleville as a Nurse Practitioner. She maintains certification as a childbirth educator through Lamaze International and has been teaching as needed both in a formal classroom setting and privately in her home. Other interests are parish nursing.

Sheila Pieterburgo-Faculty SIUE SON-graduated from SIUE with MS in 2005. In April 2006, she became the Coordinator of the Simulated Learning Center For Health Sciences At SIUE SON. She is a member of NLN and (International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSI)). She also teaches CPR at SIUE.

Eligibility Counselor

Frank Lyerla- Assistant Professor SIUE SON-graduated with PhD, 2007, St Louis University, MS 1998, SIUE. His expertise is Nursing Informatics. Research interests include the use of "Clickers" in the Classroom.

Roberta Harrison-Assistant Professor SIUE SON-graduated with PhD 2007, MSN, University of Missouri-St Louis. Her expertise is rehabilitation nursing. Research interests include Diabetes and Stroke Prevention.



Sigma Theta Tau Epsilon Eta Chapter
Ballot of Elections 2008

Please check your candidate and return to Rosanne Griggs at rogrigg@siue.edu.

President-Elect (2 year term)

Vote for One

Kim White _____

Terry Alsbury _____

Secretary (2 year term)

Vote for One

Bernadette Sobczak _____

Kathi Thimsen _____

Eligibility Counselor (2 year term)

Vote for One

Frank Lyerla _____

Roberta Harrison _____

Leadership Succession (2 year term)

Vote for Two

Sheila Pieterburgo _____

Cindy Auld _____

Official Publication of



Epsilon Eta Chapter,

Check out the Epsilon Eta Web page at <http://www.siu.edu/NURSING/organizations/STT/index.shtml>

The International Website is <http://www.nursingsociety.org/>
