



# Sigma Theta Tau International Epsilon Eta Explorer “STTI Celebrates 90 Years”



Explorer

Fall/Winter 2012

## Chapter Officers

### President

Ann Popkess, PhD, RN  
apopkes@siue.edu  
618-650-3992

### President Elect

Christ Durbin, PhD, JD, RN  
cdurbin@siue.edu  
618-650-5672

### Vice-President

Sheila Pietroburgo, MS, RN  
spietro@siue.edu  
618-650-2470

### Treasurer

Amelia Perez, PhD ©, RN  
asiatko@siue.edu  
618-650-3956

### Secretary

Brandie Stiles  
bstiles@siue.edu  
618-650-3956

### Leadership Succession Chair

Michele Beatty, MSN, RN  
mibeatt@siue.edu  
618-650-5316

### Leadership Succession

Cheryl Green, MS, RN

### Eligibility Counselor Chair

Kim White, PhD, RN, MSN,  
CRRN  
kiwhite@siue.edu  
618-650-3495

### Awards Committee

Dr. Chris Durbin  
Dr. Amelia Perez  
Ms. Jenn Hoxsey

## President's Message

### President's Message Fall/Winter 2012

As we move towards the holidays, it is a good time to reflect on those things and people for which we are most thankful. I am appreciative of all of the officers in our Sigma Theta Tau Epsilon Eta chapter for their hard work and commitment to our organization. Several of our board members attended the NLN/STTI Nursing Education Research Conference in Indianapolis, IN in June, 2012. In addition to all the things they are involved in and responsible for, they answer the call to help whenever I ask. They even joined me at my home on a terribly stormy summer evening to engage in some strategic planning, amidst a few power lapses!

Epsilon Eta hosted an ice cream social event for returning nursing students to the SIUE campus on August 27<sup>th</sup>. I am thankful for the “warm” reception we are able to offer students who are joining profession.

Epsilon Eta welcomed forty-nine new members at our fall induction ceremony along with providing four deserving members with awards. I am thankful for our new members, students and faculty who have demonstrated the passion for research and pursuit of knowledge in nursing. (Please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter for awardee recognition). In September, two of our “newer” chapter leaders attended the Leadership Forum in Indianapolis. In October, eight members of Epsilon Eta attended the first Greater St. Louis STTI Research Consortium, hosted by our Delta Lambda colleagues. A new student member, Jose Gutierrez, joined us as well. I am thankful for the engagement of our chapter in these professional development opportunities.

I look forward to our work this winter and spring in planning our business meeting, celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> year of STTI and soliciting awardees for our research and publication awards. In addition we continue our fundraising efforts for the well. Yes, there is a lot to be thankful for this year.

Peace to you and your families,

*Ann Popkess, President STTI Epsilon Eta*

## Annual Business Meeting—SAVE THE DATE

**Join STTI Epsilon Eta for the Annual Business Meeting**

**April 8th, 2013**

**From 5-8pm**

**Location: TBA**

**We will elect officers, induct members and celebrate our chapter by presenting awards for publication and dissertation/doctoral projects**

**STTI—An Honor to Join, A Benefit to Belong**



President Prevost's call to action includes the following objectives:

- Create a legacy
- Engage in collaboration
- Respond to vulnerable populations
- Embrace technology

In this celebratory 90th year of STTI's great history, how have you helped the chapter to meet one or all of these objectives? Have you contributed to the chapter philanthropy or scholarships? Have you collaborated with another member or chapter? How have you embraced the culturally, economically or socially vulnerable through your research, scholarship or service? And, how have you embraced technology in your personal or work life? If you have a story to tell, please email it to [apopkes@siue.edu](mailto:apopkes@siue.edu). We would love to share in the Spring newsletter.

## Two Officers Attend Leadership Summit in Indianapolis

At the 2012 Leadership Summit, Sheila Pietroburgo and I learned many skills and scholarship practices through the many sessions offered at the convention. As a relatively new members of STTI, we learned the rich history of the founding leaders and how we can apply that knowledge to our current practice. Some of the topics that were discussed were how to be civil in academia, new and exciting innovations in tele-health, and nursing school practices around the world (the presenter was from South Africa). On the last day of the conference, Sheila and I learned how to promote more clinical and long standing members to our chapter. Examples of this included, more fund-raising, hosting meetings at the hospitals either right before or right after shifts change, and being more present in the community. Overall, it was a wonderful and exciting conference. Thank you for letting us attend. *Brandie Stiles, Secretary and Sheila Pietroburgo, Vice President*

### 42nd Biennial Convention

**November 16-20 , 2013 Indianapolis, IN**

**Abstracts accepted through Jan 30 Abstracts of translational research, evidence-based clinical projects, and leadership initiatives are invited. Abstracts must demonstrate a direct link to the convention objectives. See the link for more information.**

### Regional News— Region 5 Director, Connie Scott

Edited by A Popkess from Region 5 communications from C. Scott

As mentioned last month, chapters in Region 5 have been busy with many activities this year. We would like to recognize those activities that fit into the Presidential Call to Action categories with a Showcase of Regional Excellence recognition. Please reflect on what your chapter has done this year and share your work by submitting an application. Applications are found on the [STTI website](#).

I would like to encourage all chapters to consider participating in the upcoming STTI event, Creating Healthy Work Environments, 12-14 April 2013 in Indianapolis, IN.

I want to continue to encourage all the chapters to get [The Circle](#). Our goal is to have all Region 5 Chapters have a presence on The Circle, along with their chapter officers. If you have an existing website, it can be linked in the chapter webpage created in The Circle for your chapter.

## Faculty Workshop on ICTS Held October 10, 2012



STTI Epsilon Eta hosted a workshop in partnership with the SIUE School of Nursing and Washington University Institute for Clinical and Translational Science on the purpose and role of the ICTS program. Fifteen faculty and STTI members attended the workshop to learn more about how their program of research could be enhanced through the use of consultants, experts and support provided by the federally funded NIH program.

The Institute was established in 2007 through major funding from the National Institutes of Health's Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program, as well as institutional support from Washington University and BJC HealthCare. The programs and services of the ICTS are designed to facilitate discoveries in clinical research and to speed the translation of research findings into improved prevention, diagnosis, and therapy in clinical practice. The ICTS brings together researchers representing a wide array of disciplines from several regional universities, in partnership with health care providers and industry.

Ms. Jae Allen, program manager, ICTS/Washington University provided the informational program.

### 2012 Award Recipients

Epsilon Eta is proud to announce it is seeking members to apply for chapter awards. The awards, each \$250.00, are presented to Sigma Theta Tau members at the Induction ceremony. While two of the awards focus on undergraduate students, one is given to a practicing nurse and one is given to a current graduate student. The following members were presented with awards at the 2012 Induction ceremony:

1. Dr. Gladys Mabunda Non-Traditional Student Undergraduate Scholarship- Cecelia Uga
2. Betty Temples Mill Undergraduate Student Award for Academic Excellence- Jackie Feldhake
3. Epsilon Eta Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice Award- Kristin Wikoff
4. Epsilon Eta Graduate Student Merit Award- Ruth Petrov

Epsilon Eta congratulates the award recipients for the hard work and commitment to their scholarship, academics and service.

### Greater St. Louis Bi-State Area STTI Consortium

On October 18, 2012 Delta Lambda along with 5 STTI chapters in the bi-state region hosted their first event with speaker, Mr. Kevin Sowers, MSN FAAN, President Duke University Hospitals, who spoke on the advancement of the nursing profession. Epsilon Eta was well represented with 8 members attending, including one recently inducted student member, Mr. Jose Gutierrez. Mr. Sowers gave an inspirational speech on the challenges of becoming an accountable care organization while employing shared governance and maintaining high quality patient care and cost efficiencies. He encouraged us to “smile” in the midst of the chaos of healthcare. Our chapter presented a poster describing the attendance at the recent biennial meeting in Gaylord, Texas. Ms. Brandie Stiles put together the poster. In 2014, Epsilon Eta will host the consortium event.



Mr. Kevin Sowers, President  
Duke University Health  
Systems.

### Sigma Theta Tau International Professional Networking Site

Faculty at SIUe School of Nursing have a unique opportunity to collaborate with research experts through the ICTS— Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences at Washington University. Epsilon Eta hosted an informational session with SIUe SON to inform faculty of this helpful resource. Ms. Jae Allen, Program Manager, presented the various research cores and services available. For more information, check out the website: [www.icts.wustl.edu](http://www.icts.wustl.edu)

VISIT THE CIRCLE!  
<http://thecircle.nursingsociety.org/Home/>

*Connect with other members, participate in discussions, personalize your profile, access new chapter websites and more!*



#### What do I do in The Circle?

The Circle was developed to connect all active STTI members with each other, their chapters, regions, and with the benefits and services of membership. You can find other members via the member directory, network with those who share the same specialty and stay active with your chapter through chapter websites.

#### How do I log in?

If you are an STTI member, all you will need is your e-mail address and seven-digit

### Apply for Faculty Awards

If you live in a rural area where the local farmers tend to plant a wheat crop before the real nasty weather sets in, you will notice a touch of green in some of the fields when all other color has dropped off and blown away. It's a bit of a promise, almost an encouragement that spring will come in a few months. Likewise (I know you were wondering when I would get to the point), Epsilon Eta encourages its members to develop manuscripts and scholarly research over the winter months and apply for our spring awards. Usually given at the Annual Business meeting in April, Epsilon Eta has a “**Writing for Publication Award**” and a “**Doctoral or Evidence-Based Project Research Award.**” The publication award is intended to encourage any first-time author member to submit a manuscript for publication. The Dissertation/EBP Research Award is for those student members who find themselves at the proposal stage of their research. While the publication award is modest (\$100), the Research Award is \$500. Details for submitting an application for either award will be found on the web site (<http://www.siu.edu/nursing/sigma-theta-tau.shtml>). Submission deadline is **March 29th, 2013**. Think green, write, and apply.



**New Member Induction— October 11, 2012****STTI Induction Ceremony**

Forty-nine undergraduate, graduate students and one nurse leader were inducted as new members of the Sigma Theta Tau International Epsilon Eta Chapter on October 10, 2012 in the SIUE Morris University Center. Ms. Kim Handlin-Schmidt, a student in the Nurse Educator master's program at SIUE, addressed the group about her experience as a representative of the chapter at her first STTI Biennium Convention. Twenty-one guests attended the ceremony. Dr. Ann Popkess provided a welcome and brief orientation to Epsilon Eta and Dr. Kim White performed the installation. Refreshments were served before and after the ceremony.



Some of the new undergraduate student inductees pose for a picture after the ceremony.

Photos from Induction Ceremony



Ms. Kristin Wickoff accepts the Epsilon Eta Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice Award from Dr. Chris Durbin and Dr. Ann Popkess



Ms. Jackie Feldhake accepts the Betty Temples Mill Undergraduate Student Award for Academic Excellence



Ms. Cecelia Uga accepts the Dr. Gladys Mabunda Non-Traditional Student Undergraduate Scholarship



**Newly Inducted Members stand as they make the commitment to  
Sigma Theta Tau International, Epsilon Eta Chapter**



Ms Kim Handlin-Schmidt addressing the Audience. She shared her experiences as a new member attending her first STTI Biennial Convention as a voting delegate.



## MEMBER PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

**Marjorie Baier**

Odemero, B., & Baier, M. (2012). Female genital cutting and the need for culturally competent communication. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 8(6), 452-457.

**Laura Bernaix**

Schmidt, C., Bernaix, L., Chiappetta, M., Carrol, E., & Beland, A. (2012). Survival skills training for type 1 diabetes: Perceptions of children and parents. *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal-Child Nursing*, 37(2), 88-94.

Bernaix, L. Flick, L. Harrod, A., King, A., Thompson, V., Farmer, G., Schaeffer, K. (April, 2012). *National Children's Study: an overview and Preliminary Data Analyses*. Poster Presentation at the Society of Pediatric Nurses Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

**Mary Ann Boyd**

Boyd, M. A., Neighbors, K. J., Bradshaw, W., Brichler, M., Hoorman, N., Lovell, A. (August 23, 2011). *Implementation of Self-medication Program in SAR RTP: Improving Veterans Mental Health Care for the 21st Century*. Veterans Administration Health Care, Baltimore, MD.

**Sheri Compton-McBride**

Compton-McBride, S. (2012). Sleep disorders: management of insomnia and sleep problems. In M.A. Boyd (Ed.), *Psychiatric Nursing: Contemporary Practice* (5th ed.) Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins.

**Christine Durbin**

Durbin, C. (2012). Legal implications of nursing practice. In A. Perry & P. Potter, *Fundamentals of nursing practice* (8th ed.) (Chapter 23). St. Louis: Elsevier.

**Karen Kelly**

Kelly, K. (2012). The journey to mandatory continuing education in Illinois (guest editorial). *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*, 43, 195-196.

Kelly, K. (2012, April 1). We must protect the mentally ill (guest editorial). *Belleville News-Democrat*, pp. A5.

Kelly, K. (April, 2012) *Opportunities and Challenges for Nursing in 2012: The Institute of Medicine Report and Legislative Issues*. St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Nursing Practice Council Kick-off, Belleville, IL.

**Kathy Ketchum**

Ketchum, K. (February 15, 2012). *Pathways to a successful Nursing Career: Focusing on scholarship and quality patient outcomes*. Key Note Speaker for the Tau Iota Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, Annual Induction Ceremony, Goldfarb School of Nursing, St. Louis, MO.

**Becky Luebbert**

Luebbert, R.A., (April, 2012). *Barriers to Research Participation by African Americans: A Research Synthesis*. Poster presentation at the Midwest Nurses Research Society (MNRS) Annual Conference, Dearborn, MI.



**Frank Lyerla**

Lyerla, F. (2012) Documentation and informatics, in P. Potter and A. Perry (Eds.), *Fundamentals of nursing* (8th ed.) (Chapter 26). St. Louis: Elsevier.

Harrison, R., **Lyerla, F.** (April 2012). Improving Guideline Adherence with Clinical Decision Support: Lessons Learned. Annual Dinner Education Meeting, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society (Epsilon Eta Chapter), Edwardsville, IL.

**Pam Newland**

Newland, P. (2012). *Describing Symptom Clusters in Persons with MS: Using Focus Groups*. Tau Iota, Goldfarb School of Nursing, St. Louis, MO.

Newland, P., Fearing, A., Riley, M., & Neath, A. (2012). Symptom clusters in women with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS). *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*. 44(2), 66-71.

Newland, P., Riley, M., Thomas, F.P., Flick, L.H., & Fearing, A. (in press). Use of focus groups to characterize symptoms in persons with multiple sclerosis. *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*.

**Anne Perry**

Luebbert, R. A., Perry, A. G., & Skelton, L. (October 2011). *Integrity into an Evidence-based Nursing Model*. Biennial Faculty Development Program, Epsilon Eta Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, SIUe, Edwardsville, IL.

**Kathleen Thimsen**

Thimsen, K. (2011-2012). Creating Healthy nutrition and access in the inner city with community gardening. *Association of Prevention and Teaching Research*.

**Valerie Yancey**

Yancey, V. (2012). Grief and loss. In A. Perry & P. Potter (Eds.), *Fundamental of nursing* (8th ed.). St. Louis: Elsevier.

*Happy holidays from Epsilon Eta to you!*





**Official Publication of Epsilon Eta Chapter**  
***Sigma Theta Tau International***  
**Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

School of Nursing—SIUe  
Edwardsville Illinois 62026-1066  
Return Address Requested

E-mail: [apopkes@siue.edu](mailto:apopkes@siue.edu)