



# Sigma Theta Tau International Epsilon Eta Explorer

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## Chapter Officers:

President -

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President-Elect—Open

Vice-President –

[Sheila Pietroburgo, MS, RN](#)

618-650-2470

Treasurer –

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618-650-5672

Secretary –

[Brandi Stiles, RN, MSN,](#)

618-650-3937

Awards Committee –

[Ann Popkess, PhD, RN,](#)

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Heritage/Archives Committee  
Chair –

[Ann Popkess, PhD, RN](#)

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Leadership Succession  
Committee Chair -

[Michelle Beatty, RN, MSN](#)

618-650-3385

Eligibility Committee Chair –

[Kim White, PhD, RN](#)

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Eligibility Counselor -

Cheryl Green, RN, MSN

[Melodie Rowbotham, PhD, RN](#)

## Chapter President's Message

Dear Colleagues:

I would like to congratulate and thank our outgoing president, Pam Newland, for her dedication to STTI during her tenure here at Epsilon Eta. She accomplished a great deal. In fact, Pam has been a tremendous resource for me during this summer's transition in becoming a new Epsilon Eta president. Pam is still helping me organize myself, and I beg your indulgence while I learn the ropes!

I know how very busy each one of our members is and how difficult it is to respond to all of the demands that are made on our time. I suppose that we all have to prioritize how we use our talents. I would like to take a moment, however, and ask you to consider your connection to Epsilon Eta. Not only is your membership an honor, but it is also an internationally recognized honor. Having membership in STTI is an indication to

everyone that your professionalism and expertise has been recognized by the best of the best in nursing. What employer would not value that on a CV? Also, being an active member in Epsilon Eta gives you the opportunity to do something for your own professional development and social networking. We do good work and we want YOU to be a part of it. I also know that part of the angst of becoming an active member of an organization is that you end up being responsible for much more than you volunteered for. Yet, if many people came together to celebrate the work of this organization, how awesome could we be? So, don't be afraid to check us out. Contribute in any way that you can. We would love to hear your ideas! Everyone take care! I also wish to thank Chris Durbin, Sheila Pietroburgo, Brandi Stiles, Ann Popkess, and Kim White for trying to get me through this learning process.

*-Ann*

## Epsilon Eta Annual Fall Induction

Epsilon Eta Chapter of STTI invites you to its

### ***Annual Induction of New Members***

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 from 2:00-4:00 PM,  
in the Morris University Center Conference Center,  
at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Edwardsville, IL.

### Program

Karen Kelly, EdD, RN, NEA-BC  
Associate Professor and  
Coordinator, Continuing Education

Dr. Kelly will discuss political action and emerging issues in Illinois.

CE's are available.

Light refreshments will be served after the ceremony

*Please RSVP to Annette Musenbrock at 618-650-6959 by October 3, 2011.*

## 41st Biennial Convention in Grapevine, TX: Oct 29 — Nov 2

Join us for the 41st Biennial Convention in Grapevine, TX on October 29, 2011—November 1, 2011. “People and Knowledge: Connecting for Global Health” is the theme for this year’s convention. Three keynote speakers promise to spark enthusiasm, including:

- Karin Morin, Ph.D., RN, 2009-2011 President of STTI will speak about her presidential call to action regarding global health issues. Connecting Through Knowledge for Global Health, spotlights four key themes: creating welcoming environments; enhancing knowledge resources and networks; contributing to global health; and creating a legacy of personal leadership.
- Kathleen Stevens, PhD, RN will present her research as founding director of the Academic Center for Evidence-Based Practice (ACE). She advances evidence-based quality improvement through research, education, and practice. Dr. Stevens is an investigator on interprofessional projects emphasizing systematic reviews and organizational improvement.
- Kim Bouldin-Jones will give the plenary session III keynote address. Ms. Bouldin-Jones is an internationally recognized and sought after educator specializing in HIV, STDs, and global disease prevention.

### **Geralyn Frandsen** **Will Run for Governance Board**

Geralyn Frandsen is a Professor of Nursing at Maryville University in St. Louis, Mo. She has been a nurse since 1978 and has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau International since 1985. Dr. Frandsen holds dual membership with Epsilon Eta and Omicron Iota chapters of STTI. To see Dr. Frandsen’s complete candidate statement please access the STTI Web site. Congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Frandsen!

## STTI Epsilon Eta Awarded 6th Chapter Key !

STTI Epsilon Eta Chapter will once again receive the Chapter Key Award at the Biennial Convention in Grapevine TX. In order to receive a Key Award the Chapter must excel in membership recruitment and retention, publicity and programming, professional and leadership development, and local, national and international collaboration. Thanks to the hard work and service of our Epsilon Eta members and the diligent work provided by Ann Popkess tracking all of our accomplishments, this is the 6th time that our Chapter has received this honor. Many thanks to Ann Popkess and everyone who helped us attain this award. Dr. Popkess will be accepting this award for the Epsilon Eta Chapter at the convention.

### **Pam Newland Retires as President of Epsilon Eta**

Sigma Theta Tau International Epsilon Eta Chapter honored Dr. Pam Newlan for her service to our chapter at the Annual Dinner and Education Meeting held on Wednesday, April 25, 2011 at the G.C. Cuisine and Banquet Center in Edwardsville, IL. Pam was instrumental in obtaining our Key Award and the Showcase in Regional Excellence in 2010. She also worked with Dr. Gladys Mabunda in initiating the PhD/DNP research award. Thank you for your service, Pam!



Ann Shelton and Ann Popkess will be representing Epsilon Eta Chapter at the convention.  
All members of STTI are welcome to attend.

Visit online at: [http://www.nursingsociety.org/STTIEVENTS/BIENNIALCONVENTION/Pages/41\\_2011\\_BiennialConvention.aspx](http://www.nursingsociety.org/STTIEVENTS/BIENNIALCONVENTION/Pages/41_2011_BiennialConvention.aspx)

## Nomination Received For Epsilon Eta Member Awards

Epsilon Eta will be conferring awards at the Fall induction ceremony in several categories. The new members were nominated based on the criteria outlined in the scholarship applications. The deadline to nominate was September 23.

### Betty Temples Mill Undergraduate Award for Academic Excellence

One award is given annually consisting of a certificate and \$250. The award is open to a senior undergraduate nursing student who has been inducted as an Epsilon Eta chapter member and currently enrolled in the SIUE School of Nursing.

### Graduate Student Merit Award

One award is given annually consisting of a Certificate of Recognition and \$250.00. The award is open to any STTI Epsilon Eta chapter member who is currently a student admitted to the Graduate Program of the SIUE School of Nursing.

### Gladys Mabunda Non-Traditional Undergraduate Student Award

A non-traditional student, (22 years or older; a parent or grandparent; work full- or part time outside of school) who have a demonstrated financial need and have demonstrated commitment to efforts to promote diversity or inclusiveness in the school or community.



From left: Christine Durbin, Treasurer; Pam Newland, outgoing President; and Roberta Harrison, outgoing Eligibility Committee Chair.

### Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice

One annual Award for Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice of \$250.00 is presented to a current member of the Epsilon Eta Chapter (student or nurse) who is a practicing nurse demonstrating excellence in clinical knowledge and judgment.

For more information, check the School of Nursing Web site, specifically the section for Sigma Theta Tau International, Epsilon Eta at <http://www.siue.edu/nursing/sigma-theta-tau.shtml>.

Completed application forms and supporting materials should be sent to:

Dr. Ann Popkess  
SIUE School of Nursing  
Campus Box 1066  
Edwardsville, IL 62026

## Help Identify Nurse Leader Candidates

As Epsilon Eta begins to review SIUE traditional and accelerated undergraduate and graduate student nurses for the upcoming induction ceremony in October 2011, the Eligibility Counselors traditionally look to you, the membership, to nominate nursing faculty members or other nurse leaders in the local nursing community. In addition, interested, professional, nurses may ask for consideration on their own.

Do you know of a nurse leader in your own agency? If so, nominate him or her! It is a good way to show your appreciation for your colleagues in nursing! The Nurse Leader Candidates must:

- Be legally recognized to practice nursing in his/her country;
- Have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent in any field;
- Have demonstrated achievement in nursing.

To honor someone with a recommendation for STTI Epsilon Eta membership, please contact:

Dr. Kim White  
SIUE School of Nursing  
Box 1066  
Edwardsville, IL 62026  
[kwhite@siue.edu](mailto:kwhite@siue.edu)



## Annual Business Meeting Spring, 2011

The 2011 Annual Business Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 25, 2011 at the G.C. Cuisine and Banquet Center in Edwardsville, IL. Three senior students presented posters: Kelley Humphrey, Rachel Holtgrave, and Erica Yates. Theresa Grizzle, RN presented her work on human trafficking. Also presenting were Frank Lyerla and Roberta Harrison on the development of a decisional support system which aides in the treatment protocol of hypoglycemia in the hospitalized patient. Finally, Dr. Amelia Perez presented the results of her dissertation research. Dr. Perez was the recipient of the STTI Epsilon Eta dissertation award in 2010. The purpose of the award is to help Epsilon Eta members complete doctoral research or projects. Congratulations to all!



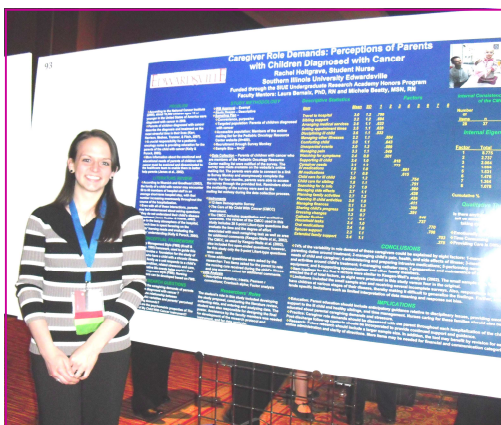
**Amelia Perez, PhD, RN**  
**"Acculturation and illness perceptions of hypertension among Hispanic adults"**



**Theresa Grizzle, RN**  
**"First Contacts with Victims of Human Trafficking: Preparing Nurses to Seize the Opportunity"**



**Kelley Humphrey**  
**"Graduate Nurse Perspectives Regarding Neonatal Intensive Care Orientation"**



**Rachel Holtgrave**  
**"Caregiver Role Demands: Perception of Parents with Children Diagnosed with Cancer"**



**Erica Yates**  
**"Mental Illness: Fighting the Stigma"**



Roberta Harrison and Frank Lyerla  
DEVELOPMENT OF A RESEARCH STUDY AROUND A  
CLINICAL DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM  
"DESIGNED TO IMPROVE NURSING  
ADHERENCE TO A HYPOGLYCEMIA PROTOCOL"

Check out Continuing Education opportunities on the STTI website! Some programs require a nominal fee, while others are free.

Visit:

[www.nursingsociety.org/EDUCATION/  
PROFESSIONALDEVELOPMENT](http://www.nursingsociety.org/EDUCATION/PROFESSIONALDEVELOPMENT)

**Scholarly Accomplishments** includes information submitted by faculty at SIUE School of Nursing. *All members* are invited to submit information for future newsletters. Send your information *now* to Ann Shelton. E-mail: [ashelto@siue.edu](mailto:ashelto@siue.edu)

## Calendar of Events

October 5	Fall Joint Mtg. of STTI	UMSL	5:30 p.m.— Followed by a buffet dinner at 6 p.m.	Dr. Louise Flick will present on the National Children's Health Study at 6:30 p.m.
October 12	Epsilon Eta Induction	SIUE MUC	2-4 p.m.	Guest Speaker: Dr. Karen Kelly Political Action
October 29- November 2	Biennial Convention	Grapevine, TX		See Web site



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