

The University of
Virginia
December 2017



BETA KAPPA
CHAPTER
SIGMA THETA TAU
INTERNATIONAL

The Newsletter

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Honor Society Rebrands to Sigma



Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) will now be referred to primarily as “Sigma”, with a new logo that emphasizes “Sigma” specifically, as well as a laurel branch. This new logo will replace the previous STTI logo containing the crest. Also central to the new logo design is the phrase “Global Nursing Excellence,” which emphasizes the honor society’s mission to advance nursing on an international level. The crest of STTI will remain still remain a sign of honor and distinction and thus will be reserved for use on sacred materials for membership and chapter information like certificates, coat of arms plaques and graduation stoles.

Beta Kappa Accepts 7th Key Award at Biennial Convention in Indianapolis

Current Chapter Leaders:

President: Ken White

Past President: Deborah Conway

Vice President: Regina DeGennaro

Treasurer: Vickie Southall

Secretary: Jennifer Castello

Counselor: Tomeka Dowling

Administrative Assistant: Kristina Davis

Newsletter Editor: Jane Muir



(From left to right): STTI President Cathy Cantrambone, Beta Kappa President Ken White and STTI CEO Patricia E. Thompson recognize Beta Kappa in receiving the 7th Key Award for the chapter. The award ceremony honoring chapter accomplishments took place at the 44th Biennial Convention on October 30, 2017 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Beta Kappa Chapter members and officers attended the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) 44th Biennial Convention in Indianapolis from Oct. 28 to Nov.1. The convention provided Sigma members and officers the opportunity to attend lectures and network with other chapters. The Beta Kappa chapter was honored to receive its 7th Chapter Key Award. Beta Kappa President Ken White was honored to receive the award alongside Sigma chapter leaders. The Chapter Key Award, established in 1991, recognizes Sigma chapters who exhibit excellence in the following areas: membership recruitment and retention, publicity and programing, professional and leadership development, and local, national and international collaboration. Beta Kappa was also recognized for three Regional Awards of Excellence for Philanthropy, Advocacy and Lifelong Learning. Chapter officers in attendance at the Biennium enjoyed attending Chapter Leadership meetings, engaging with Region 13 partners and learned about the new re-branding of the Sigma logo. Beta Kappa members have the opportunity to learn about our regional chapter's events and initiatives by attending the Region 13 Biennial Conference in April 2018 at Lynchburg College (see page 6).

Beta Kappa Inducts New Chapter Members



*Spring 2018 Beta Kappa
Lecture Series Speakers:*

**Mary Dixon- UVA
Medical Center Nursing
Leadership**

**Ken White- UVA School
of Nursing**

Beta Kappa inducted 89 new members to STTI on November 2, 2017 in McLeod Hall. Family member and friends of inductees enjoyed a reception following the induction ceremony.

Each year, the Beta Kappa chapter inducts new members to the chapter who are either currently fourth year BSN students, or new graduates, or current nurse leaders seeking to join Sigma after having graduated from a BSN program in the past. This year's induction ceremony took place in McLeod Hall on November 4. There were 89 new inductees comprised of community leaders (2), Doctoral candidates (9), MSN candidates (43), RN-BSN candidates (12) and BSN candidates (23). A reception after the ceremony enabled inductees and family members to meet other members.

Merit Scholarships Approved for Student Members of Beta Kappa

Beta Kappa has initiated several new merit scholarship awards of \$1000 each for matriculating members to use for tuition and fees. Interested students should request the guidelines and application from Kristina Davis (ksd5c@virginia.edu) and submit a completed application by February 1, 2018 to Sharon Bragg (slb4w@hscmail.virginia.edu). The Awards Committee will review applications and make award recommendations to the Board. Recipients will be announced by March 1, 2018. (No elected member of the present Beta Kappa Board or current member of the Awards Committee may apply.)

Spring 2018 Region 13 Biennial Conference Open to All Members

The Region 13 Biennial Conference, hosted by the Xi Upsilon chapter will take place on Saturday, April 2018 at Lynchburg College. This year's theme for the conference is "Building a Culture of Health Through Nursing Research", and will offer members a variety of opportunities to attend lectures about resiliency, interprofessional collaboration, horizontal violence, opioid addiction and more. For more information on the conference please email xiupsilon@gmail.com

Nan Hilt Excellence in Practice Award (due January 15th)

This award was established to honor Nancy Hilt, a nursing leader and a strong supporter of creative and innovative nursing practice. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding contributions of young professional nurses among the members of Beta Kappa Chapter. Applications should be sent to: Sharon Bragg, Awards Chair at slb4w@virginia.edu. The award will be announced in the spring.

Nancy Ballard Scholarship Award for students (due January 15th, even years)

Nancy Ballard, a charter member of our chapter, was a strong supporter of scholarship. This award was established in her name to provide assistance towards scholarly pursuits by student members of the Beta Kappa Chapter. A \$1,000 scholarship is given biennially in the spring. Applications should be sent to: Sharon Bragg, Awards Chair at slb4w@virginia.edu.

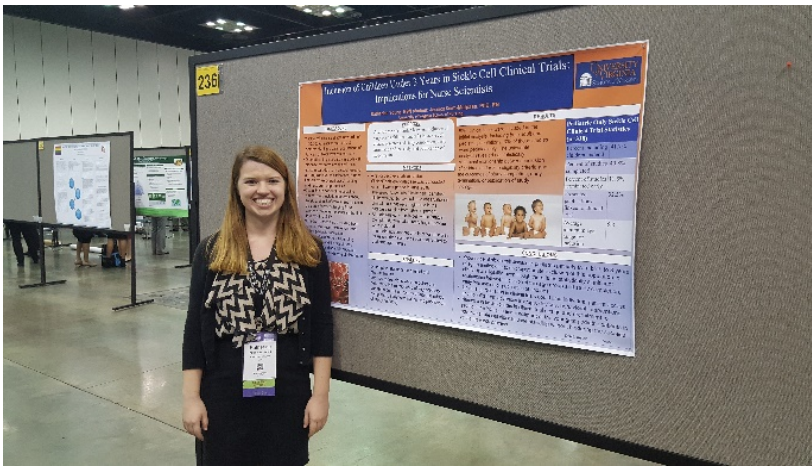
Research Dissemination Award Prize Increased to \$2,000

Sigma Theta Tau Beta Kappa gave out two Research Dissemination Awards in Spring 2017. Dr. Cathy Campbell received a Research Dissemination Award that helped fund the presentation, "Pain Management Challenges in Rural Communities Impacted by Multi-Drug Overdoses" at the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Research Congress. Dallas Ducar received a Research Dissemination Award that help fund his presentation, "Creation and Implementation of a Novel Web-Based App to Screen and Support Struggling Nurses". Next semester's prize has increased to \$2,000. The deadline for the Spring semester award is to be determined. The purpose of this award is to help members pay for travel expenses to a conference. To be eligible for this award the applicant must be a Beta Kappa member, and be presenting research at a regional, national, or international meeting. Application details for the Research Dissemination Award can be found on UVA School of Nursing website (<https://www.nursing.virginia.edu/service/stt/#A>).

Find us Online!

<https://community.nursing.virginia.edu/students/organizations/betakappa/>

Students Present Research at Biennium Convention



Nursing student Margaret Dancy presented Linda Bullock's and her DOVE research at the 44th Biennium Convention. Three students were given the opportunity to present at and attend the Sigma Convention.



Nursing students represented the Beta Kappa chapter by presenting their research and attending lectures/sessions.

Nursing student Margaret Dancy and recent nursing graduate Katie Young presented research at the Biennium convention in Indianapolis. Dancy presented research that she conducted with Dr. Linda Bullock during her summer research internship at the School of Nursing. Dancy helped organize and analyze qualitative data from Dr. Bullock's DOVE study. DOVE is an intervention home health nurses implemented with women who were facing intimate partner violence during pregnancy. Young presented a poster of the research she conducted with Dr. Jess Keim-Malpass as a research intern during summer 2016. The research included a retrospective analysis of 526 sickle cell clinical trials examining disparities in the inclusion of children under three years old and the impact of participant demographics on study outcomes and scientific success, providing guidance for nursing advocacy for vulnerable populations in clinical trial design and recruitment. Both Dancy and Young greatly enjoyed the opportunity to share their work with nurses around the world and learn about the latest research projects in the field.

DeGuzman and LeBaron Present Research at Beta Kappa Lecture Series

Drs. Pam DeGuzman and Virginia LeBaron presented research at the Beta Kappa Lecture Series in the fall semester. This series allows faculty in the School of Nursing to educate students, other faculty and community members about their research focus. DeGuzman's presentation was titled, "Geographic Influences on Health of Vulnerable Populations". It described environmental factors that affect the health of groups of people. LeBaron's research presentation, titled "Opioid Epidemic or Pain Crisis? Seeking a Balanced Approach," addressed how difficult it is for the nation to balance patients' pain control needs while still avoiding deaths from opioid overdoses. LeBaron underlined the importance of recognizing how we have both an opioid epidemic and a pain crisis, insisting that we develop policies, programs and clinical practice that acknowledge these issues. Her presentation also addressed the need for victims of opioid abuse and patients in severe pain (like cancer patients) to have access to education

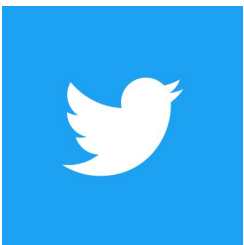
Follow Beta Kappa on Social Media

We are now LIVE on Twitter and Facebook. Please follow/like and check out the recent happenings and news from our Chapter! Invite friends and family to follow as well.

Twitter:

@BetaKappaSTTI

Facebook: *Beta Kappa Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International*



Beta Kappa Donates to Support Students' First Aid Kits



Community health nursing students created first aid kits with gauze, Band-Aids and other utensils for schools in Louisa County, thanks to a \$300 donation from Beta Kappa.

Vickie Southall's community health students teach CPR to middle school students enrolled in the Family and Consumer Sciences class at Louisa County Middle School. The teacher said that many of her students' families did not have any first aid supplies and asked if there was any way they could get first aid kits. The students decided to have a Family Night where students and their families could come and put together a first aid kit with help from the students, as well as learn CPR and the Heimlich maneuver. The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) at the middle school provided the food for the evening event and Beta Kappa generously funded the project for \$300. This money was used to create 50 first aid kits using an office supply box and filling it with gauze, antiseptic towelettes, Transpore tape, gloves, band aids, large band aids, ace wrap, rolled gauze, Sting Relief, alcohol pads, ABD pads, triple antibiotic ointment, safety pins and an instant cold pack. Students also created a First Aid Instruction Card and an Emergency Numbers Card for each kit. A sticker was placed on the outside identifying that the first aid kit was made possible by the UVA Beta Kappa Nursing Honor Society. The families and the school system expressed their thanks for the first aid kits and the work nursing students did with their children.