

The University of
Virginia
March 2017



BETA KAPPA
CHAPTER
SIGMA THETA TAU
INTERNATIONAL

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The President's Pen

We are pleased to enter 2017 with a vibrant team of engaged members! Our Beta Kappa board meets monthly in order to plan for ways to serve you, our profession, and our communities in alignment with the mission of STTI. We have several focus areas which include: increasing and engaging membership, providing programs which advance leadership, research and scholarship, and serving our communities from local to national and global.

There are several ways you can be involved and engaged with our Beta Kappa Chapter. First, you can join a committee or run for office or committee chair at the local, regional, or national level. You can attend and/or present at our programs. You can donate to our Chapter as a volunteer at our community and program events or you can donate financially to our many initiatives that support students, researchers, and nurses who are recognized for excellence in practice and community service.

Be sure to save **Tuesday, April 25, 2016** for our annual Beta Kappa Chapter Banquet, where we will honor one of our revered nurse colleagues with the Distinguished Nurse Award. This year's speaker will be **Dr. Cathy Catrambone**, President of STTI.

These past few months have been an exciting time for the Beta Kappa chapter, as we grow as a leadership team and honor those who served us in the past. Enjoy these chapter updates!

In the service of nursing and Beta Kappa Chapter,

Ken White, PhD, ACNP, FAAN, President



Chapter Leaders:

President: Ken White
Past President: Deborah Conway
Vice President: Regina DeGennaro
Treasurer: Vickie Southall
Secretary: Jennifer Castello
Counselor: Richard Westphal
Administrative Assistant: Renee Breeden

Chapter Chairs:

Governance: Sharon Veith
Membership: Pam Kulbok
Awards: Sharon Bragg
Newsletter
Editor/Intern: Jane Muir
Research: Randy Jones
Heritage: Ann Taylor
Fundraising: Clara Winfield
Publicity: David Strider
Leadership Succession Chair: Cathy Campbell
Philanthropy: Deborah Conway

Pam Cipriano receives 2017 Distinguished Nurse Award



The Beta Kappa Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society is pleased to announce that Pamela F. Cipriano, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been selected as the recipient of our 2017 Distinguished Nurse Award. This award is given on a biennial basis to recognize a nurse leader that has influenced the nursing profession and healthcare with direct impact in education, practice, administration, and/or research. Dr. Cipriano is the 35th president of the American Nurses Association (ANA) and has served in faculty and leadership positions at the University of Virginia (UVA) since 2000. She holds a faculty appointment as research associate professor at the UVA School of Nursing. The Awards banquet will be held on Tuesday, April 25th at the Greencroft Club, Charlottesville,

VA, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dr. Cathy Catrambone, President of Sigma Theta Tau International, will be the featured guest speaker. Watch your email for more information.

Research Round-Up

Christine Kennedy honored with 2017 Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame Award

Dr. Christine Kennedy was conferred the Sigma Theta Tau award due to her significant contributions to the discipline of nursing. Kennedy's research specifically emphasizes the influence of illness, media and culture on the development of young children's health behaviors. Since 2010, this award has honored nurse researchers who have made significant impacts on the nursing profession and the populations served on a national and/or international level. Kennedy will be recognized at the 28th International Nursing Research Congress in Dublin, Ireland.



DeGennaro, Chung awarded Research Dissemination Award

Sigma Theta Tau Beta Kappa awarded two Research Dissemination Awards in Fall 2016. Gina DeGennaro received a Research Dissemination Award that helped towards the presentation, "Teaching and Learning Compassionate Care through Introduction of self-Care Practices in a School of Nursing", at the Sigma Theta Tau International conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. Mihee Chung also received a Research Dissemination Award for her presentation titled, "Stigma Among Korean-American Dementia Caregivers: Impact on Quality of Life and Coping Strategies", at the Gerontological Society of America's 69th Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Congratulations to our recipients!

Application Period Open for 2017 Research Awards

The deadline for this year's Research Dissemination Award is **April 15, 2017**. To be eligible for this award, the applicant must be a Beta Kappa member and presenting research at a regional, national, or international meeting. In addition, The Phyllis Verhonick Clinical Research Award application is due **March 1, 2017**. The purpose of this award is to provide assistance to a nurse researcher to investigate clinical nursing problems. Application details for the Research Dissemination Award and the Phyllis Verhonick Clinical Research Award can be found on UVA School of Nursing website (<https://www.nursing.virginia.edu/service/stt/#A>). Please submit applications to Renee Breeden (rcb9b@virginia.edu). Feel free to contact Randy Jones (raj9c@virginia.edu), Research Awards Committee Chair for additional information.

**Contribute to
the Newsletter**

**Have an
update,
opportunity
or news to
share in
future
leaders?**

**Suggestions,
questions,
clarifications?**

**Email Jane
Muir at
Janemuir@virginia.edu**

Campbell to Present Research on Multi-Drug Overdoses

School of Nursing Professor and Beta Kappa leader Cathy Campbell, PhD, RN's research abstract was accepted at the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Research Congress conference in July 2017. Campbell's research, entitled "Pain Management Challenges in Rural Communities Impacted by Multi-Drug Overdoses" discusses the struggle that nurses in rural communities of Appalachia have with pain management in patients who additionally have concurrent substance abuse or addiction risk factors. Dr. Campbell's research is unique in that it highlights the challenges that practicing nurses have in communities where accidental overdoses are epidemic. The research implications for Campbell's research discusses the need for nursing education between pre-licensure students, as well as education for licensed nurses. Collaboration with psychological health nurses will be essential to aid patients with a history of substance abuse and other mental health risk factors. Finally, palliative care services will be incorporated into care models to help patients manage their chronic pain.

Members on the Move

STTI Member Collects, Donates Books for Students in Ghana, Africa



Class of 2015 School of Nursing graduate and STTI member Sylvanus Mensah organized a book collection for students in Ghana over the past three months. Mensah gathered nursing and other health sciences textbooks at various institutions in the Virginia area for students in Africa. The students at the Medicare College of Applied Sciences in Kumasi Ghana expressed their gratitude for the donations from Mensah and other contributors.

Save the Date

Beta Kappa Luncheon for Past Presidents

The Sigma Theta Tau, Beta Kappa Chapter, will be hosting a luncheon on April 25 in Pavilion IX for all past presidents of the organization. Dr. Catrambone, president of Sigma Theta Tau International, will be a special guest. All current members and leaders in Sigma Theta Tau International are encouraged to attend.

Beta Kappa Celebrates Gwen Christmas in February

Sigma Theta Tau
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The Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International celebrated the contributions that Gwen Christmas on Monday, February 13. Gwen was honored for her continual support for Beta Kappa through disseminating announcements, helping with finances for the group, and aiding with problem solving!

