

The University of
Virginia
November 2016



BETA KAPPA
CHAPTER
SIGMA THETA TAU
INTERNATIONAL

The Newsletter

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The President's Pen

I am honored to have been elected to serve as your Beta Kappa President for 2016-2018. We have a dedicated leadership team and have held three board meetings this Fall 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 transition into new leadership 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, FACHE, FAAN, President

Member Spotlight



Clara Winfield leads Fundraising Committee

Peri-Operative nurse and Fundraising Chair Clara Winfield shined as a leader for the Fundraising Committee the Sprint Pavilion at Fridays after 5 this past Spring-Summer season. Clara is always cheerful and helpful when coordinating volunteer efforts for the organization. One fundraising week in particular raised \$400.00 under Clara's leadership. We thank Clara for her continued dedication to the Final Fridays event this season!

Developing a Leadership Mindset: New Members

Greetings to new STTI, Beta Kappa Chapter members from 2015 and 2016. You are invited to a special event on November 30th, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Rm. 1120, Claude Moore Nursing Education Building. Dr. Ken White will share his ideas about "developing a leadership mindset"! Pizza will be served. Please RSVP to Renee Breeden <rcb9b@virginia.edu> by Monday November 28th. We look forward to seeing you!

Pamela Kulbok, Membership Chair

Research Round-Up

Beta Kappa Research Dissemination Award Application Details

Sigma Theta Tau Beta Kappa gave out a Research Dissemination Award in Spring 2016. Hannah Kaylor received a Research Dissemination Award that helped towards the presentation of "An Interprofessional Collaborative Effort to Improve the Health of Recently Incarcerated Men" at the Region 13 – 5th Biennial Research Conference in Asheville, North Carolina. Congratulations to our recipient! The deadline for this year's Research Dissemination Award is **December 15, 2016**. Please submit applications to Gwen Christmas (gjc@virginia.edu). To be eligible for this award the applicant must be a Beta Kappa member, and be presenting research at a regional,

Chapter Leaders:

President: Ken White

Past President: Deborah Conway

Vice President: Regina DeGennaro

Treasurer: Vickie Southall

Secretary: Jennifer Kastello

Counselor: Richard Westphal

Administrative Assistant: Renee Breeden

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>).

Please feel free to contact Randy Jones (raj9c@virginia.edu), Research Awards Committee Chair for additional information.

Jeanne Alhusen Presents Research on Maternal Mental Health

Beta Kappa was fortunate to learn about Jeanne Alhusen's research this past Spring through her presentation at the School of Nursing. Dr. Alhusen's research is focused on improving maternal mental health and improving early childhood outcomes, particularly for families living in poverty. She is PI on a HRSA grant examining infant outcomes in mothers experiencing perinatal intimate partner violence. Her research is focused on understanding the biological and psychological underpinnings of maternal attachment and maternal depression. She has current research support from AWHONN, the American Nurses Foundation, and Fahs-Beck to test an intervention incorporating self-management support for perinatal depression, and its influence on infant outcomes. She is Associate Professor of Nursing and Assistant Dean for Research at the UVA SON.

Submit Pieces for Beta Kappa Chapter Heritage

The heritage of Beta Kappa chapter is among the Board's highest priorities. Although securing and maintaining archival records for the chapter, including all pertinent official documents, financial and committee reports and records, as well as memorabilia having historical value, have always been important, today we believe that there are such chapter-related documents and memorabilia that reflect major chapter successes that we might not have.

We are grateful to Dr. Barbra Wall, Director of the Bjoring Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry, McLeod Hall, School of Nursing, who has agreed to provide through the Center both the technical archival support for archiving Beta Kappa's materials. Thus, we are seeking the assistance of chapter members to aid in locating important chapter-related materials to ensure that we have all historical records of our chapter's development over the years. Would you please search your personal computers and hard copy files specific to Beta Kappa Chapter SSTI as well as your 'stash' of chapter memorabilia to determine what you might have and would be willing to share with us?

Inquiries and *electronic copies* of documents should be sent to Renee Breeden (rcb9c@virginia.edu), our Administrative Assistant for Beta Kappa. Please place in the subject line of your email 'Beta Kappa Heritage' to aid Renee in sorting her emails. If you are mailing *hard copies of documents* would you please send these to PO Box 800826, Claude Moore Nursing Education Building, Charlottesville, VA 22908, to the attention of Renee Breeden. A number of Beta Kappa Chapter members, including Gretchen Kelly, David Strider, Anita Thompson-Heisterman, have already begun to champion our goal, so please join our efforts. We thank you in advance for assisting us in preserving the heritage of Beta Kappa STTI at the University of Virginia!

Ann Gill Taylor, Heritage Representative to the Board

Beta Kappa Gratitude to Gwen Christmas

The Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International would like to thank Gwen Christmas for her dedication to the chapter for many years. Gwen served as the Administrative Assistant for Beta Kappa, supporting the president and board members.

Beta Kappa 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

Gwen's Favorite Memory from BK:

“My favorite memory was seeing our students get inducted into the Chapter. I worked with the students in OASS and then having the chance to see them advance to a different stage of their life into a professional organization gave me a great feeling.”



Thank You, Gwen Christmas!

Gwen Christmas has been a part of the School of Nursing since the 1970s, and served as secretarial support for Beta Kappa since the 1980s. Former Beta Kappa president Deb Conway comments that “Gwen has been integral in keeping our leaders informed about how past presidents handled everyday problems as well as how to manage unique situations”.

Gwen described the Beta Kappa chapter as “self-sufficient” in many ways, but helped tremendously in sending out invitations, collecting money for the chapter, sending out emails to membership and sending out the newsletter.

“Gwen has been a big part of the foundation of Beta Kappa, making all things work!”

--Deb Conway

New Inductees Join Beta Kappa in November



Congratulations to the new students inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International on Nov. 5, 2016. We look forward to welcoming these new inductees into the chapter and furthering their professional development through Beta Kappa programs and opportunities.

Beta Kappa Members Volunteer at Mt. Zion



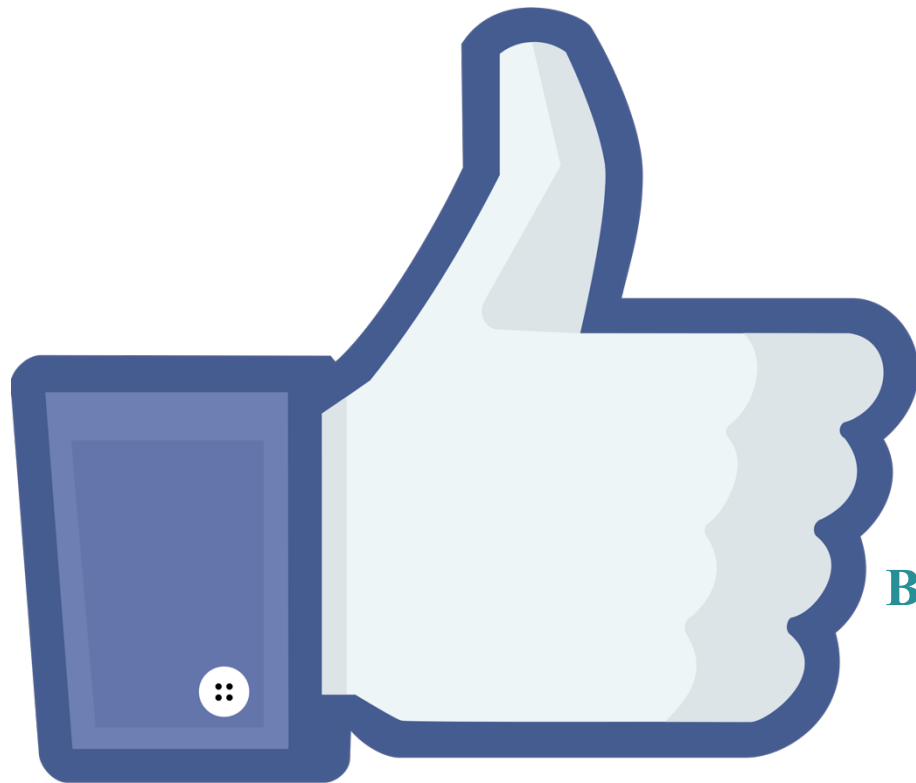
Kristin Von Thelen, Lietzle Ford, Elayne Phillips, and Deborah Conway (not pictured) volunteered at the 2016 Women's Health Awareness Celebration at Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church on October 18th which Beta Kappa helped sponsor. Health screenings and speakers on mid-life health issues were offered to participants at this third annual event.

Distinguished Nurse Award (Nominations due December 1)

This award is to recognize a nurse who receives local, national, and/or international recognition as a nursing leader; influences leadership in nursing through visionary and innovative approaches; creates an environment that enhances the image of nursing; and/or participates in the development of nursing leaders and leadership. Questions? Please contact Sharon Bragg, Awards Chair at slb4w@virginia.edu. More info about how to nominate for this award will come to your email. The spring awards banquet is currently scheduled for **Tuesday, April 25, 2017** at the Greencroft Country Club. **Save the date!**

“Like” us on Facebook!

Search “Beta Kappa” in your Facebook search bar, click “Like”, and receive updates on events, awards, opportunities and much more.



**Beta Kapp
UVA**

Contribute to the Newsletter

Have an update, opportunity or news to share in future leaders? Suggestions, questions, clarifications? Email Jane Muir at kjm5xw@virginia.edu.

Sigma Theta Tau
Beta Kappa Chapter
University of Virginia School of Nursing

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