

Sigma Theta Tau

Gamma Alpha Chapter News

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"Championing Nursing Excellence"

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BIENNIUM SPECIAL EDITION



Indianapolis was a buzz as approximately 2,000 nurses arrived at the downtown JW Marriot hotel for the 2011-2013 Biennial Convention. Chapters from throughout the United States and all over the world were represented. Attendees were warmly welcomed by the Mayor of Indianapolis. The opening ceremony was full of pageantry and tradition. Gamma Alpha members were in attendance. Asma Taha and Ellen D'Errico were chapter delegates, representing the chapter in the house of delegates on Tuesday and Wednesday. Lana Kanachi and Jan Nick also attended. Legislatively, it was a quiet Biennium, with no controversial By-Laws Issues. Monday, the weather got a little wild, as tornados passed just south of Indianapolis, causing severe damage. Though quite windy and rainy, downtown was spared damage or injury—and people think the threat of earthquakes here in California is scary!

Jan Nick receives “Spirit of Renewal” Award



(L to R STTI President Suzanne Prevost, Past President Daniel J. Pesut, Jan Nick)
Above picture is Jan Nick PhD, RNC-OB, CNE, ANEF accepting the Daniel J. Pesut “Spirit of Renewal” award at the Tribute awards event held on Sunday, November 17, 2013 from 12:30-1:45 on the 3rd floor JW Marriot Grand Ballroom. Funded by individual contributions to the Sigma Theta Tau International Foundation for Nursing’s Leadership Fund, the Daniel J. Pesut Spirit of Renewal Award was established through an anonymous planned gift to the foundation capable of permanently endowing this award in Dr. Pesut’s honor. The US \$2,500 stipend is awarded to one nurse leader whose efforts to renew self and others exemplify purposeful reflection in practice, mindful understanding of human interrelationships and display an appreciative, futuristic vision for the practice of nursing.

Gamma Alpha Chapter Earns Second Key Award



Past President Ellen D'Errico accepting Gamma Alpha Chapter's second Key Award at the Chapter Awards Recognition event held on Sunday, November 17, 2013. Chapter key awards originated in 1991 and are awarded to chapters who excel in chapter related activities such as: leadership development, member recruitment and retention, community service, global engagement, programming, and recognition of scholarship and nursing excellence. The key award is applied for and is worked on throughout the Biennium. Qualifying events must be documented and the chapter must have fulfilled all duties according to international and chapter by-laws. The chapter wishes to give special recognition to Dr. Eva Miller, who spearheaded both of our key awards. She faithfully did all of the recording and application submissions. Without Eva, these awards would not have been possible for our chapter.

2013-2015 PRESIDENTIAL CALL TO ACTION

Serve locally, Transform regionally, Lead Globally

MISSION

Advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership and service.

VISION

STTI the global organization for nursing



Dancers in dress, friends of President Hester Kloppe.

Passing of the Gavel



New STTI 2013-2015 President Hester Klopper (left) received gavel from now Past President, Suzanne Prevost STTI president 2011-2013. Ms. Klopper is the first person from outside North America to assume this role. Dr. Klopper is from South Africa. Dr. Klopper's expertise is in global health, public health, policy development, nursing and health care. She is CEO of the Forum of University Deans of South Africa. She is a full professor at University of the Western Cape, South Africa. Her research focuses on positive practice environments, patient safety and quality care, health systems and health policy, and nursing education.



Keynote Speakers



Dr. Betty Ferrell, Episteme Award winner and keynote speaker for the opening session on Sunday, November 17, 2013. Dr. Ferrell is known for her work in end-of-life care and pain and symptom control. Her influence on the education of health care professionals on end-of-life care excellence has been profound both nationally and internationally through the development of ELNEC (End of Life Nursing Education Consortium).



Tilda Shalof, BScN, RN, CNCC(C), medical-surgical intensive care staff nurse, is the author of *The Making of a Nurse*, *Opening My Heart: A Journey from Nurse to Patient and Back Again*, and *A Nurse's Story: Life, Death and In-Between in an Intensive Care Unit*. In her keynote, she challenged attendees to share their stories in "Opening my heart: Sharing our nursing stories."

Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy Culminates



Scholars and mentors of the second cohort of the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (NFLA) gathered for special sessions at Biennium. The NFLA is designed for aspiring leaders in nursing education who have at least two years, but no more than seven years of experience as a full-time, non-tenured faculty in a school of nursing. Scholars in the academy are selected through a competitive process. Gamma Alpha members Asma Taha (scholar) and Ellen D'Erriero (mentor) participated in this 21 month program. Along with leadership development, scholars do a special project as illustrated by a poster. Asma's project was the introduction simulation into an undergraduate pediatric nursing course.

2013-2014 Gamma Alpha Board Members

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Fayette Truax—1st year faculty counselor

Nancy Testerman—2st year faculty counselor

NEWSLETTER

Ellen D'Errico

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 12, 2014 2PM—Memorial Service for Eva Miller, Wong Kerlee Petersen Room, on the Campus of Loma Linda University

January 14, 2014—Gamma Alpha Board Meeting 11:30—1PM West Hall King Conference Room