



Kennesaw State University

Mu Phi News

A Message from the President

I am delighted to be a part of this chapter and your new president. The vision of Mu Phi, crafted from Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), is to create local/regional communities of leaders, educators, and scholars. Individually and collectively, individuals from diverse cultures help shape the health of our country and world. The focus of STTI and Mu Phi is to attend to the learning and professional development needs of nurse leaders, educators and scholars, thereby enabling them to create a global community of nurses who lead in using scholarship, knowledge and technology to improve the health of the world's people. Many dynamic and visionary members have come before me to translate the core values of leadership and scholarship into action for this chapter. Thank you for the opportunity to continue this tradition and to enhance the future work of this chapter. Three important points of emphasis to continue this course include:

1. Sustain and increase membership by
 - a. Creating initiatives that attract qualified individuals to join and participate in chapter activities as well as maximize the strengths of existing members
 - b. Examining issues of succession to ensure adequate leadership of the chapter
 - c. Developing partnerships to facilitate member development and research
 - d. Reviewing governance structure to ensure the maximization of member involvement and responsibility
2. Build a strong chapter that fosters collaboration through
 - a. Supporting chapter engagement in interdisciplinary community projects
 - b. Fundraising for continued chapter nursing scholarship
 - c. Linking with other Kennesaw State University, School of Nursing programs to collaborate on a scholarly initiative
 - d. Offering opportunities for chapter leadership development and mentoring
 - e. Exploring global initiative for chapter-to-chapter collaboration and resource exchanges
3. Advance evidence-based nursing practice by
 - a. Promoting development of STTI nursing research applications
 - b. Publicizing STTI nursing research grants in newsletter and web page
 - c. Mentoring members in pursuit of STTI research grants
 - d. Offering conference/workshop with other partners to focus on evidence-based nursing practice and other nursing scholarship and leadership activities

Your contributions to the nursing profession, whether in clinical practice, education, research, or all three areas, are so very important. Often times, these contributions come at a cost – a cost of major sacrifice of self and/or sometimes your family. All of us need to spend time contemplating and renewing our spirit. Hopefully, we have the opportunity to do this often in order to give ourselves time to think about priorities and setting limits and boundaries so we can continue to achieve and serve in a joyful and peaceful manner. I hope as you contemplate that you see the value of service to this organization and group of nurses. And, as you provide a valuable service to the nursing profession that you also have an opportunity to achieve and renew yourself. I encourage you to take a few moments to read this newsletter and attend the various opportunities the chapter has to offer. You will have a great opportunity to network with some very dynamic educators, leaders, and researchers in your local community.

Let's have some fun as we strive for greatness!

Kathie Aduddell, EdD, MSN, RN-BC



Fall Induction Ceremony – Nov 29th

The main event for the Fall is the Mu Phi Induction Ceremony. This will be a special event with a large number of inductees. Induction is always a significant event for the inductees and their families. All members are encouraged to mark their calendars and attend this special event.

The Ceremony will be held Tuesday—November 29th - 6:30– 8:30 at the KSU Center for Learning, Room 400, 333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw, GA, 30144.

This is a wonderful time to come together and welcome our new members.

New Officers Elected

The 2005/06 year is off to a good start with announcement of the new officers by Dr. Barbara Blake.

President	Dr. Kathie Aduddell
Past President	Ms. Donnett Johnson
Vice President	Dr. Lucia Kamm-Steigelman
Recording Secretary	Ms. Karen Maxwell
Corresponding Secretary	Dr. Mary Ann Camann
Treasurer	Ms. Janeen Amason
Faculty Counselors	Ms. Jamie Lee
	Ms. Kathy Kruszka
Governance Committee Chair	Ms. Traci Hardeman
Publication Committee Chair	Ms. Janice Long
Leadership Succession Committee Chair	Dr. Barbara Blake
Scholarship Chair	Dr. Carol Holtz
KSU Faculty Advisor	Dr. Jan Flynn

Many thanks to last year's Officers for your service.

Calendar and Events

October 28, 2005	12 noon - 1pm:	Mu Phi Chapter Inductee Orientation KSU Nursing Building, Room 113
November 29, 2005	6:30pm - 8:30pm:	Mu Phi Chapter Induction Ceremony KSU Center for Learning, Room 400 333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144
January 24, 2006	12 noon - 1pm:	Executive Board Meeting KSU Nursing Building, Room 109
March 22, 2006	6pm - 7pm:	Executive Board Meeting KSU Nursing Building, Room 109
April 2006 (TBA & Time):		Mini Conference: A Day of Research, Scholarship & Evidence - Base Practice

Induction Ceremony Speaker: Linda Easterly, RN, MSA, MS

Linda Easterly is the current president of the Georgia Nurses Association. She is also the **Director of Occupational Health and Wellness at Houston Health Care.**

She helped to develop a prevention oriented program for the Middle Georgia Community to educate the public on several issues: Healthier lifestyle choices and prevention of injury and disease. She is an activist in her community and an advocate for nursing and health-related issues at national and state levels. She was awarded the named the **2003 Nurse of the Year by the Georgia Nurses Association.**

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MINI Conference Announcement

Plans are underway to offer a workshop/mini conference during the second week of April, 2006 on Evidence-Based Nursing Practice and Research.

Check the Kennesaw State University, WellStar School of Nursing Web Site for the new Mu Phi Chapter website and information about this exciting conference. If you are willing to serve on the Planning Committee for this exciting event, please contact Kathie Aduddell at 770-423-6939 or kaduddel@kennesaw.edu.

We would love to have your involvement.



The purposes of the Honor Society are to:

- Recognize superior achievement
- Recognize the development of leadership qualities
- Foster high professional standards
- Encourage creative work
- Strengthen the commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession
- The Vision of the Society is to Lead by creating a global community of nurses who lead in using scholarship knowledge and technology to improve the health of the world's people.

Developing your Career— Sigma Theta Tau— 8 skills for a Healthy Career



- Develop your personal self
- Locate special resources
- Become Financially astute
- Become a Futures thinker
- Navigate any organization
- Become technology savvy
- Position yourself for recognition
- Retire actively

www.nursingsociety.org/career/8skills/html

Develop your personal self

A strong inner self is the anchor of every healthy and rewarding career.

Develop yourself into a strong and centered person through reading, reflection, and participation in organizations aimed a personal development. Become a global citizen, traveling & learning about the world's cultures. Assess your talents & skills. Explore varied workplaces and roles where you develop to the fullest.

We will explore more career skills with each issue. Write to us about ways that you have found to develop your personal self. Share your stories—what I call top of the mountain or feet in ocean stories where perspective about yourself and the world is experiences.

Share your stories to mcamann@kennesaw.edu



Working Environments - Healthcare Workers/Patients

There has been considerable recent attention directed toward working conditions for the delivery of healthcare. Mindful that the working environment of healthcare workers is the healing environment of patients, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality conducted a review of the literature concerning the effects of working conditions on patient safety.

They examined 5 categories: *Workforce staffing, Workflow design, Personal/Social Factors, Physical environment, and Organizational Factors.*

After extensive review, a total of 115 studies were found to address the key questions related to the effect of working conditions on patient safety, rate of medical errors, recognition of errors after they occur, the relationship of the complexity of the plan of care and patient outcomes related to safety. Valid evidence was found for all of the key questions noted above.

Recommendations, based on the evidence were made including strategies to increase staffing of nurses in acute-care hospitals and nursing homes will likely lead to continuous improved outcomes.

Preventable complications are lower when performed by high-volume physicians. Durations of the experience of the health professional is associated with better patient outcomes.

Systems to reduce interruptions and distractions will likely reduce the incidence of medical errors. Systems to improve information exchange, transfer of responsibility and continuity of care between hospital and non hospital settings decrease medication errors and hospital re-admissions

Think of how this report might be applied in your work setting.

How are nurses scheduled and their skills utilized?

What is the volume of complex procedures in your facility –how does it compare to other facilities?

AHRQ– Evidence Report/Technology Assessment #74



Call for Scholarship/Research Application

In 1936, Sigma Theta Tau was the first organization in the U.S. to fund nursing research. Sigma Theta Tau underwrites “ssed” grants which is often the beginning of a members research program. The peer reviewed grant is often the first recognition of concepts that eventually lead to major, wide-scale research projects and innovation in the nursing profession.

In the past, Mu Phi Chapter offered a competitive award of \$500 to assist members in their scholarship/research. For the 2005-2006 year the chapter will be awarding two \$750 research grants. Please contact Dr. Carol Holtz, Professor WellStar School of Nursing, Kennesaw State University @ 770-423-6184 or choltz@kennesaw.edu for an application packet. Application deadline : Feb 11, 2006



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Mu Phi Chapter

