

Sigma Theta Tau International: Lambda Gamma Chapter

Fall Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Message from the New President
- Induction 2007
- Fall Dinner Program
- PhD Scholarship

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Message from the President

It is with great honor, much excitement and some trepidation that I move to take over as President of Sigma Theta Tau, Lambda Gamma Chapter at Sonoma State University (STT-LGC). I am thankful that I am not alone in this endeavor but have the capable assistance of the former President, KC Grigsby, along with the rest of the board members and faculty, at my side. I have valued the experience and time served as President - Elect and look forward to another two years serving as a mentor and active board member.

I wanted to give a brief introduction as to who I am and the experiences that led me to where I am today. I graduated from College of Marin in 1996 with my ADN and quickly realized that there was much more to nursing than I ever imagined. I returned to SSU in 1999 to obtain my BSN and then in 2004 return again for my MSN. I graduated from SSU Master's of Nursing Leadership and Management program in 2007 with a degree in both the Administration and Education tracks. My experience with the faculty and colleagues has been invaluable; my education was top-notch. I have nothing but the greatest praise for the education I received at SSU, along with the expertise and support of the faculty. I currently manage an after-hour call center and three urgent care pediatric clinics. In addition, I serve as an expert witness in telephone advice cases

and as faculty for College of Marin Nursing Program. I have extensive outpatient experience and am currently looking to supplement with hospital experience. My new degree has opened up many doors and I encourage everyone to never stop learning!

The first time I was asked to join STT during my BSN program, I honestly had no idea at the honor or significance that was being presented to me. I was again invited to induction while enrolled in the MSN program. I didn't miss out on the second opportunity and was soon asked to join the board as President-elect. I have served on the board since 2005 and cannot describe the level of commitment that this board has shown in elevating the nursing profession, nursing research and nursing education.

I promise to serve STT – LGC to the very best of my abilities. I have several goals during the next two years as President. First, I will continue to promote nursing as a profession in the community. STT-LGC will continue to support research and education with grants and scholarships to the professionals in our area. We hope to host our first publishing and grant-writing workshop to assist those nurses who want to publish a paper or request specific grants. STT will continue to assist Kaiser and North Bay Network for Health Education in

promoting Evidence Based Practice and Research in Nursing. In addition, STT has two planned dinner meetings: The first of which will concentrate on research being done in the community, the second will concentrate on nurses in service. Second, I hope to bring renewed interest and activity to the board and STT. In order for the organization to thrive, it needs a constant influx of new ideas. We will work hard to establish new bonds and renew old bonds in order to increase active membership and interest. In keeping with this ideal, I will strive to mentor those up and coming nurses on the importance of promoting professional nursing in the community. STT hopes to develop a closer connection to Student Nursing Association and work together to advance the nursing profession.

I look forward to this coming year and want to thank everyone to kicking off the first board meeting with enthusiasm and support. I encourage everyone to attend the board meetings and become involved in STT – I guarantee you will find it a worthwhile endeavor. This is a very exciting time to be a nurse and for the nursing profession. Thank you for your support.

Lisa Burns,
President Lambda Gamma, STT

Awards & Induction 2007



*"Honored New
Members May 12th,
2007"*



Sigma Theta Tau Lambda Gamma Chapter induction ceremony was held on Saturday May 12, 2007 at the Cooperage located on the campus of Sonoma State University. The Lambda Gamma Chapter continues the tradition of inducting baccalaureate and graduate nursing students, who demonstrate excellence in leadership and scholarship.

Furthermore, the chapter acknowledges our community nurse leaders who illustrate professional excellence in leadership.

This event is a highlight for Sigma Theta Tau and was well attended by new membership, community leaders, faculty, families and friends. Lisa Burns, President Elect, presented an articulate and warm welcome. New membership included undergraduate students, graduate students, and community leaders. The President KC

Gigby and the board members collectively facilitated the presentation and induction of new members respectfully. All inductee made an insightful and thoughtful statement about themselves and nursing to the audience.

Community awards were presented to outstanding professional nurses who demonstrate professional excellence in research, education, nursing practice, leadership and mentoring. By acknowledging their contributions, we affirm the energy, spirit, leadership and creativity that our chapter and Sigma Theta Tau International values.

The room was very festive with fresh flowers and proud guests. Refreshments including a decorative cake were served following the ceremony. Friends and family gathered to congratulate the new membership

New Inductees 2007

Undergraduate students

Emily Jo Baker
Susana Zarate
Ayako Yamashita
Lyndsay Roda
Ginelle Nelson
Susan Lawrance
Maya Richardson
Kristina McDonald Amoroso
Hiroko Komatsu
Emily Joy Wilson
Carmen Puertas
Deborah Volat
Sumera Anjum

Graduate students

Regina Orozco
Karen Canepa
Christine Elaine Armigo
Roberta M Bell
Barbara Lee
Romoaneti Lofton
Juliet Hegdal
Mary Ann Hadley
Cheryl Gibson
Lisa Marie Gammon
Lynne Pepping Conde
Julianah Olabode
Bebecca Altoff
Sandra Strum
Alice Grace Berringer
Mary Johanna Ford
Jessica Elizabeth Fry
Kelli Cameron Gigray
Lauren Maltby
Ashlie Milford
Erin O'Leary
Sally Papas
Cori Lynn Pridmore
Patrick Sharp
Cassandra Storms

Community Leaders

Stephanie Lynn Hutchins
Nancy Carol Shaffer
Maureen McDonald

Nursing Education & Health Delivery Monterey, Mexico, 1 Unit or 30 CEU JANUARY 18-22, 2008

This intersession elective course will allow the participant to experience nursing education through an inaugural relationship with the Nursing School at the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon in Monterrey Mexico, the third largest city in Mexico. The nursing school has the only chapter of Sigma Theta Tau in Mexico recognition of the excellence of its nursing program. The focus of the course is to learn first hand about nursing and nursing practice by attending classes with nursing students, observing students in rural and metropolitan health care settings, and participating in presentations on such topics as culture, geriatrics, communicable diseases, and maternal child health care. Participants will be provided opportunities to examine the Mexican health care delivery system and acquire insight about current healthcare issues facing the country.

Course Objectives: Participants will:

1. Compare and contrast nursing education and practice in Mexico and the U.S.
2. Gain an understanding of the current health care issues facing Mexico.

3. Understand the Health Care delivery system in Mexico
4. Increase one's cultural competency with an understanding of the Mexican Health System and its citizens

Preparation for the course:

A reader will be available for all participants prior to departure to offer an opportunity to gain a beginning understanding of the Mexican health care delivery system. Presentations will be in English/and Spanish and will be followed by seminars offered by the course faculty. It is suggested that course participants have a basic understanding of Spanish prior to departure and therefore are encouraged to enroll in some Spanish classes or do self study in basic Spanish.

Travel arrangements:

Participants are to arrange for their own round trip travel to and from Monterrey Mexico. All participants will be staying at the Hampton Inn and Suites-Norte in San Nichols, De Los Garza Mexico (a suburb of Monterrey, 13 miles from the airport and 1 mile from the University. A group rate for the hotel has been arranged and participants may opt for a single or double room. The anticipated room rate for a shared room is \$500 for the 10 days. All meals and other expenses such as laundry, bus or taxi etc. will be the responsibility of the participant.

Transportation to and from the hotel to the University will be on your own and probably involve walking. Information about Hampton Inn and Suites is available on line. There will be two free weekends where participants will be able to explore the city and or surrounding community on their own.

This course will be offered for 1 academic unit through Extended Education at SSU or for 30 CEUs though Lambda Gamma Chapter of STT. The unit or CEU cost is estimated to be \$300.

This course is designed for nurses or nursing students who would like to know more about the Mexican health care system, the practice of nursing in Mexico and Mexican health care beliefs. It is the intent of the instructors to establish a reciprocal relationship with the School of Nursing at AUNL.



“Increase one’s cultural competency with an understanding of the Mexican Health System and its citizens”



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Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing

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[http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/
lambdagamma/newsletters/
fall2005.htm](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/lambdagamma/newsletters/fall2005.htm)

PhD Scholarship Award

Thanks to the generosity of our membership, Lambda Gamma will be offering its second PhD scholarship of \$2500 to a potential SSU faculty. Closing date for applications will be Sept 15th

and awards will be given on Oct 1, 2007. Applications can be obtained on our website. If no applications are received for the PhD scholarship, the Board will distribute the funds into the BSN and MSN

scholarships. We encourage everyone to apply before the closing date.

KC Grigsby, RN, MSN
Past President, STTI - LGC

STT Chapter Awards 2007

Mary Mariani— President's Award for Contributions and Dedication to the chapter

Madrone Williams-Nursing Excellence in Leadership

Carol Hill-Nursing Excellence in Practice

Rebecca Taylor-Nursing Excellence in Research

Sara Fisher-Nursing Excellence in Mentorship

Rae Rhen-Nursing Excellence in Education

Christina Stanford-Nursing Excellence in Leadership