



Par Excellence!

Fall 2004

President's Message Fall, 2004



I was recently contacted by Sigma Theta Tau International Headquarters and asked if I would be interested in participating in a conference call with International President, Dan Pesut. At the time, being the chapter's new President, I thought it would be a good idea. However, quite honestly, the night of the conference call, which came on one of the few pleasant weather evenings we had in mid-August, I started having second thoughts. Like most of us, I was tired after putting in a full day at work and was juggling several other commitments at home. But, my conscience got the best of me, and I phoned in. Was I glad I did! What I expected to be an hour-long call of routine information from Headquarters turned into a delightful and laid-back give and take conversation with President Pesut.

The callers that night were a mix of chapter officers and Board members, but no one pulled any punches in asking President Pesut the hard questions about how to keep chapter members involved, succession plans for the future, how to remain financially solvent, and so forth. Several noted how pressed for time they feel while wanting to be enthusiastic, participating chapter members. "It's not a matter of managing time, it's a matter of managing purpose. You have to decide who you are and want to be and where you want to invest your energy to reinvest in yourself."

I hope that Gamma members will reflect on this pearl of wisdom and think of how you can take even an hour of your time and donate it to Gamma Chapter. Several of you emailed me this summer and offered to be a host at our Gamma 75th celebration. Others stepped forward and agreed to become members of the Board. A few offered ideas for potential service projects for the chapter. There are many opportunities for members to participate. International Bylaws were recently revised to allow for more short-term task force assignments. In our chapter, those assignments might include participating on one of the four award selection committees, assisting our archivist or Webmaster or collecting newsworthy items for our Par Excellence newsletter. Perhaps you have an idea for membership involvement events for new, existing or veteran members of the chapter. Please refer to the Gamma website and feel free to email any of the officers or board members to volunteer. You can always email me at lou-montgomery@uiowa.edu or president-elect neil-macnaughton@uiowa.edu.

I refer you to the Gamma Calendar of events also posted and continually updated on the website. Some events upcoming this fall include: Founder's Day Cake in the Well to be held on November 8, 2004 or the UIANS Blood Drive. Join us for cake and conversation with students in the College of Nursing. Several Gamma members are working closely with UIANS to plan Progressive Nursing Day, to be held March 8, 2005. Contact Stacy Michael at stacy-michael@uiowa.edu if you would like to assist. We will be calling for nominations for membership in early winter; contact Anita Stineman at anita-stineman@uiowa.edu or Teri Boese at teri-boese@uiowa.edu for further information. If you would like to run for an office or Board position, contact Todd Ingram at todd-ingram@uiowa.edu.

The chapter intends to seek a second Chapter Key Award in 2005. The Board is also working on a strategic plan for the next two years. Karen Griffith, Treasurer, and Connie Trowbridge, Region IV Coordinator and Gamma member, will represent the chapter at the Chapter Leadership Academy in November 2004 in Indianapolis.

I'd like to thank everyone who participated in the Gamma 75th Anniversary Celebration. We are very grateful to Dean Melanie Dreher and her staff for co-sponsoring this gala in lieu of convocation. While we were disappointed that Surgeon General Richard Carmona was unable to join us, we welcomed one of our own, noted nurse historian Dr. M. Patricia Donahue, who spoke so eloquently on "The Gamma Code." We hope all of you who attended enjoyed this wonderful milestone in our history.

Please feel free to contact me or any of the officers at any time if you want to get more involved or learn more about the Chapter. President Pesut has challenged all chapters and their members to go on line at <http://www.nursingsociety.org> and register your talents on the VIP Profile. I would like to challenge you to reinvest in yourself and join the fun in Gamma Chapter.

Sincerely,

Lou Ann Montgomery
President, Gamma Chapter



Spring 2004 Inductees



INDUCTEES *Undergraduate Students*

Paula Allen	Sara Heying	Amanda Michelini	Sara Strnad
Lori Bennett	Laura Hitzeman	Brittney Muehlfelt	Sarah Talbert
Amanda Calek	Jody June	Jessica Pelton	Shalome Tonelli
Elisha Christianson	Lindsey Kayl	Natalie Pianetto	Carolyn Valcik
Donna Cruise	Stephanie Kubecka	Katie Poole	Krista Wahlig
Erica Durham	Hanson Kyllingstad	Lauren Preski	Jessica Wallin
Elizabeth Elmer	Ashlea Lehman	Nicole Pritchard	Julie Watts
Jennifer Frost	Becky Loerts	Jessica Rickelman	Kristen Wiley
Emily Gleich	Alicia Marques	Sara Schlorholtz	Anne Wright
	Alena Martinez	Amy Seaman	Megan Wunder
		Tiffany Socknat	Holly Wurster



Want to be more involved in the Gamma Chapter?

Want to be more involved in the Gamma Chapter? Run for office this spring. Officer openings include: Vice President, Secretary, Governance Committee, Nominations and Leadership Succession Committee. Sound Interesting, contact todd-ingram@uiowa.edu
Job Descriptions are at www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti/membership.html



Spring 2004 Inductees



RN BSN Students

Brenda Baker, Brenda Bohr, Patricia Bott, Nancey Franzen, Sarah Gibson, M. Lisa Hill, Gina Kiefring, Wendy Keen, Jaime Sherman, Seren Woller, Margaretta O'Neill, Wendy Rich, Mary Winters, Debra Brodersen, Rachel Reinholdt, Kimberly Bartosh, Heather Burley



Nurse Leaders

Martha Blondin, Kelli Buresh, Mary Foley, Melisa Gross, Barbara Hannon, Jacqueline Heinele, Anna Kriskova, Rene Martin, Mary O'Brien, Maneewan Sanubol, John Swenning



MNHP Students

Jennifer Burkert, Kari Coleman, Angela Cook, Megan Davis, Kimberly Hammill, Amy Knaack, Laraine Nelson



Graduate Students

Diana Batchelor, Jody Kolb, Michele Mertens-Dodgen, Noelle Mundt, Dawn Wanfalt, Pam Boeckenstedt, Jennifer Bradley, Shannon Dodd, Nancy Harris, Rachel Hottel, Patricia Huber, Lori Jeppson



Clinical Performance Improvement Award

PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THE CLINICAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AWARD (CPIA) IS TO RECOGNIZE MEMBERS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED INNOVATIVE AND HIGH QUALITY PRACTICE. AWARDS MAY BE GIVEN FOR PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED.

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION

A CLINICAL LEADER MAY BE NOMINATED BY ANY NURSE, HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, AGENCY, OR CITIZEN. THE APPLICATION IS DUE BY MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR. THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

1. A LETTER OF NOMINATION.
 2. THE NOMINEE'S CV/RESUME.
 3. CURRENT GAMMA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP NUMBER OR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER OF FACULTY ADVISOR (IF A STUDENT).
 4. A 2 PAGE (MAXIMUM) SUMMARY THAT DEMONSTRATES HOW THE NOMINEE MEETS THE SELECTION CRITERIA (SINGLE SPACED, 12-POINT FONT).
 5. 2 LETTERS OF REFERENCE THAT SPEAK TO THE NOMINEE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIGH QUALITY AND INNOVATIVE CLINICAL PRACTICE.
- APPENDIX OF SUPPORTING MATERIALS.

SELECTION CRITERIA

NOMINEES FOR THE CPIA AWARD MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. BE A REGISTERED NURSE.
 2. BE AN ACTIVE, DUES PAYING MEMBER OF GAMMA CHAPTER.
 3. DEMONSTRATE EVIDENCE OF INNOVATIVE AND HIGH QUALITY CLINICAL PRACTICE THAT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF PATIENT CARE OR SERVICES, HAS EXPANDED ACCESS, HAS HAD A POSITIVE FINANCIAL IMPACT, OR HAS PROMOTED IMPORTANT PATIENT OUTCOMES.
- AGREE TO ACKNOWLEDGE GAMMA CHAPTER IN PUBLICITY OR INFORMATION DISSEMINATION RELATED TO THE PROJECT.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

THE CPIA SELECTION COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF 3 APPOINTED VOTING MEMBERS APPROVED BY THE GAMMA CHAPTER PRESIDENT. THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE GAMMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS EACH YEAR PRIOR TO THE AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION

MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR, WITH A DECISION BY APRIL 1. PLEASE SEND OR DELIVER YOUR APPLICATIONS TO THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, ATTN: KIM HAMMEN, 101C NURSING BUILDING, IOWA CITY, IA 52242.



Betty Means Community Health Award

PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THE BETTY MEANS COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARD IS TO RECOGNIZE AND REWARD INNOVATIVE AND HIGH QUALITY COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTICE.

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION

A CURRENT GAMMA CHAPTER MEMBER NOMINATES INDIVIDUALS. THE APPLICATION IS DUE BY MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR. THE APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

1. A LETTER OF NOMINATION.
2. THE NOMINEE'S CV/RESUME.
3. A TWO-PAGE (MAXIMUM) SUMMARY THAT DEMONSTRATES HOW THE NOMINEE MEETS THE SELECTION CRITERIA (BELOW).

NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR TWO REFERENCES THAT WILL SPEAK TO THE NOMINEE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING.

SELECTION CRITERIA

NOMINEES FOR THE BETTY MEANS COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARD MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. BE A BSN REGISTERED NURSE OR AN ENROLLED BSN NURSING STUDENT.
2. BE AN ACTIVE, DUES PAYING MEMBER OF GAMMA CHAPTER OR BE NOMINATED BY A DUES PAYING MEMBER OF GAMMA CHAPTER.
3. DEMONSTRATE EVIDENCE, OR POTENTIAL FOR, INNOVATIVE AND HIGH QUALITY COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTICE.
4. AGREE TO GIVE A PRESENTATION ABOUT THE PROJECT AT A GAMMA CHAPTER MEETING OR EVENT AS REQUESTED BY THE GAMMA CHAPTER PRESIDENT.
5. AGREE TO ACKNOWLEDGE GAMMA CHAPTER IN PUBLICITY OR INFORMATION DISSEMINATION RELATED TO THE PROJECT.

ATTEND GAMMA CHAPTER INDUCTION CEREMONY TO RECEIVE THE AWARD.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

THE BETTY MEANS COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF THREE VOTING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GAMMA CHAPTER PRESIDENT. THE GAMMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD EACH YEAR PRIOR TO THE AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION

MARCH 1 OF EACH YEAR, WITH A DECISION BY APRIL 1, FOR RECOGNITION AT GAMMA CHAPTER SPRING INDUCTION.

SEND APPLICATIONS TO LISA KELLEY PHD, RN, 488 NB, COLLEGE OF NURSING, THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA. IOWA CITY, IOWA 52242.



STTI Membership Application Process Moves to “On-Line”

Eligible students and community leaders who are invited to join STTI – Gamma Chapter will be completing the application process “on-line”. The invitation to join Gamma Chapter will be sent via e-mail and personal letter (regular mail). This correspondence will direct candidates to a web site where they can complete their application for membership, induction ceremony information, and order jewelry. All fees (membership, induction, and jewelry) will be sent directly to STTI headquarters. The Induction Planning Committee will have immediate access to the data base information for each new inductee.

To accommodate this change in process, the Governance Committee of Gamma chapter will be sending out Community Leader information to health care entities during the fall semester. The membership will vote on potential candidates on February 8th, 2005.

The International Office reports that during the testing phase of this process, chapter membership increased from 50-60% of invited candidates to 80-85%!

If you have individuals that you would like to recommend for membership as Community Leaders, please send their name, address, phone and e-mail address to either Teri Boese (teri-boese@uiowa.edu) phone: 335-7034 or Anita Stineman (anita-stineman@uiowa.edu) phone: 335-5475. Deadline for submission of names is December 1, 2004.



Check out the Gamma Website!

The Gamma website is located at <http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti> and the regional website can be found at <http://www.sttiregions.org/region4/>. Both websites are extremely easy to navigate and contain great information. These sites will be updated on a regular basis to ensure members have current and up to date information. Please visit these sites often. Previous editions of Par Excellence can be found on the Gamma site. Thank you to Jan Denehy for her continuous support and updating of this site!



100 Great Nurses Celebration

We have all met at least one outstanding nurse whose courage, competence, and commitment to patients and the nursing profession stands out above all others. The UI College of Nursing is partnering with nurses and community leaders around Iowa to create an event that celebrate nursing by honoring 100 great nurses. A call will go out, statewide, in November to solicit nominations. In January, a panel will select the 100 nurses to be honored at a celebration on May 10, 2005 at the Marriott Hotel in Des Moines. The 100 Great Nurses will bring the people they love and work with to the event, where the nurses will be recognized for their achievements. We have big plans for this to become a yearly event.

This is a statewide event that belongs to the people of Iowa. We need lots of participation from the grass roots level to make this the grand event we know it can be.

How you can help:

- Nominate a nurse
- Talk it up among your friends and family across the state and encourage them to nominate a nurse
- Support the effort financially. The support received will be directed to encourage statewide nominations, publish a booklet of the testimonials of the 100 Great Nurse recipients, and cover expenses for the honorees' reception. Funds remaining will be deposited in a nurse scholarship account for all nurses to apply for on a competitive basis.

Visit www.greatnurses.org to complete the online nomination form and to find out more about sponsoring the event. For questions email info@greatnurses.org or call Liz Swanson at (319) 335-7006.

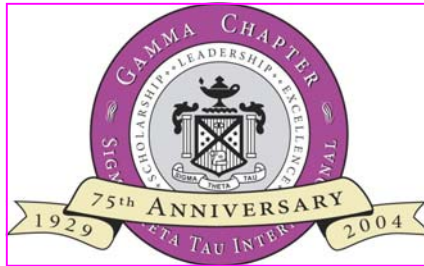


GAMMA CHAPTER CALENDAR



DATE	EVENT	TIME & PLACE
FALL, 2004		
NOVEMBER 4 - 6, 2004	CHAPTER LEADER ACADEMY	INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
NOVEMBER 7, 2004 (SU)	UIANS AND PND MENTORS	4 PM AT CON IN THE WELL AREA
NOVEMBER 8, 2004 (MON)	FOUNDER'S DAY - CAKE; UIANS BLOOD DRIVE	10 AM - 1 PM AT CON IN THE WELL AREA
DECEMBER 5 , 2004 (SU)	UIANS AND PND MENTORS	4 PM AT CON IN THE WELL AREA
SPRING 2005		
JANUARY 1, 2005 (SAT)	COMMITTEE CHAIRS POST INFORMATION ON SCHOLARSHIPS, CPIA, AND BETTY MEANS AWARDS	
JANUARY 11, 2005 (TU)	BOARD MEETING	9 - 11 AM AT RIVER CITY BEEFSTR
JANUARY 23, 2005 (SU)	UIANS AND PND MENTORS	4 PM AT CON IN THE WELL AREA
FEBRUARY 6, 2005 (SU)	UIANS AND PND MENTORS	4 PM AT CON IN THE WELL AREA
FEBRUARY 8, 2005 (TU)	BOARD MEETING	9 - 11 AM AT RIVER CITY BEEFSTRO
FEBRUARY 8, 2005 (TU)	SPRING VOTING ON INDCTEES	3:30 - 4:00 PM CON GAMMA CHAPTER ROOM (101M)
FEBRUARY 20, 2005 (SU)	UIANS AND PND MENTORS	4 PM AT CON IN THE WELL AREA
MARCH 1, 2005 (TU)	APPLICATIONS DUE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS, CPIA, AND BETTY MEANS AWARDS	
MARCH 7, 2005 (MON)	DINNER FOR PND PLANNING GROUPS	6 - 8 PM IOWA RIVER POWER COMPANY
MARCH 8 , 2005 (TU)	PROGRESSIVE NURSING DAY	7 AM - 2 PM IOWA MEMORIAL UNION
MARCH 8, 2005 (TU)	VOTING FOR NEW OFFICERS	2:00 PM CON GAMMA CHAPTER ROOM (101 AREA)
MAY 7, 2005 (SAT)	SPRING INDUCTION	9:30 AM - NOON HOLIDAY INN IN CORALVILLE (BRUNCH AT 11:00AM
MAY 15, 2005 (SUN)	CHAPTER KEY SUBMISSIONS DUE FROM BOARD TO L. MONTGOMERY	
JUNE, 2005 (TBA)	TRANSITION MEETING	TBA
JULY 15, 2005 (TBA)	CHAPTER KEY DUE TO HEAD-QUARTERS ANNUAL REPORTS FROM OFFICERS DUE TO PRESIDENT	
AUGUST 1 , 2005 (MON)	CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORT DUE TO HQ OFFICER LIST DUE TO HQ	

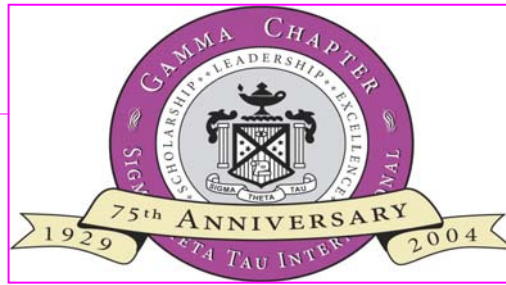
GAMMA CHAPTER OFFICERS



OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2004-2005			
PRESIDENT LOU ANN MONTGOMERY LOU-MONTGOMERY@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2004	SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS JANETTE TAYLOR JANETTE-TAYLOR@UIOWA.EDU RENE MARTIN RENE-MARTIN@UIOWA.EDU	2004-INTERIM 2004-2006
PRESIDENT-ELECT NEIL MACNAUGHTON NEIL-MACNAUGHTON@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006	ARCHIVIST M. PATRICIA DONAHUE MARY-DONAHUE@UIOWA.EDU	2002-2004
VICE PRESIDENT STACY MICHAEL STACY-MICHAEL@UIOWA.EDU	2003-2005	FINANCE COMMITTEE LINDA EVERETT	2004-2006
SECRETARY NICKIE MARKOVETZ NICOLLET-MARKOVETZ@UIOWA.EDU	2003-2005	NOMINATING COMMITTEE TODD INGRAM, CHAIR TODD-INGRAM@UIOWA.EDU CHARMAINE KLEIBER CHARMAINE-KLEIBER@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006 2003-2005
TREASURER KAREN GRIFFITH KAREN-GRIFFITH@UIOWA.EDU	2003-2005	PROGRAM COMMITTEE STACY MICHAEL STACY-MICHAEL@UIOWA.EDU	2003-2005
FIRST COUNSELOR TERI BOESE TERI-BOESE@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006	NEWSLETTER EDITOR GRACE MATTHEWS GRACE-MATTHEWS@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006
SECOND COUNSELOR ANITA STINEMAN ANITA-STINEMAN@UIOWA.EDU	2003-2005	WEB PAGE JAN DENEHY JANICE-DENEHY@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006
BY-LAWS CHAIR TRUDY LAFFOON TRUDY-LAFOON@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006	REGION 4 COORDINATOR CONNIE TROWBRIDGE CONNIE-TROWBRIDGE@UIOWA.EDU	2004-2006
MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT STACY MICHAEL STACEY-MICHAEL@UIOWA.EDU	2003-2005	GAMMA OFFICE SECRETARY KIM HAMMEN KIMBERLY-HAMMEN@UIOWA.EDU THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COLLEGE OF NURSING 101C (O) 319-335-7296	1998-OPEN
RESEARCH ANN-MCCARTHY	2004-2006		

If you are interested in joining a Gamma Chapter committee please contact the chairperson for information.

GAMMA CHAPTER CELEBRATES ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY



75 years ago, this year, Gamma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International was started. Gamma is only the second chapter in Sigma Theta Tau International history to achieve this hallmark ([the other chapter being Alpha Chapter at Indiana University](#)) Gamma Chapter with the University of Iowa, College of Nursing celebrated this anniversary at the annual fall convocation on September 8th, 2004. This special presentation was held in the second floor ballroom of the Iowa Memorial Union.

Dr. M. Patricia Donahue PhD, RN keynoted the event with a presentation entitled “Gamma Code”. In her presentation Dr Donahue highlighted the connections that secret societies have to American society, and how many of our national symbols have meanings that may be connected to these secret societies of the past. She then weaved in how Gamma started and grew at the College of Nursing. This great presentation was followed by a reception hosted by Gamma for students, faculty, Gamma members, and guests. Dignitaries from the University of Iowa, and UIHC were in attendance and made numerous comments on how great the event was. A reception followed in which the numerous awards and memorabilia that Gamma owns were on display. A special thank you to Jan Denehy and Kathy Schweer for their hard work, and dedication to ensuring everyone could access our history. During the reception students, faculty, and Gamma members had an opportunity to reminisce and network. All Gamma members who attended were given a book that highlights Gamma’s history along with a special pin commemorating the special anniversary.

This special occasion was made possible by the hard work of our chapter’s leadership board and the Dean’s office at the College of Nursing. All deserve a special thank you for the extra work, and energy that went into making this a truly great event. However, a special thank you goes to President Lou Ann Montgomery and Past- President Diane Huber for their hard work and dedication to Gamma and this event. It was a terrific event!

Watch for the 75th Anniversary Special Edition of Par Excellence!