

Spring 2006

# Par Excellence!

## President's Message



Happy New Year 2006! With the start of the new year, I am reminded that I am headed down the final road of my serving as your president. It has been my pleasure and privilege to have been in this role representing Gamma Chapter. There have been many special moments to remember: the 75<sup>th</sup> Chapter anniversary starting with the re-enactment at Spring Induction 2004 of the original initiation ceremony to our grand gala celebration at the Iowa Memorial Union on September 8, 2004 to receiving the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary plaque at 2005 Sigma Theta Tau International Convention from then President Dan Pesut and CEO Nancy Dickenson-Hazard; co-sponsoring the 2005 12<sup>th</sup> Evidence Based Practice Conference at UIHC; mentoring the UIANS group with two Progressive Nursing Day conferences on the topics of end of life care (2005) and humor (2006); walking to benefit diabetes research for the annual America's Walk for Diabetes (October 2005). This past fall, we were pleased to have

Dr. Ann Marie McCarthy present on the state of Evidence Based Practice at our annual fall meeting. In November, the chapter held its annual Founder's Day cake-in-the-well event to encourage student participation in Sigma Theta Tau International. Thank you to governance committee chair Anita Stineman and member Teri Boese for their leadership that day and special kudos to Vice-President Mary Berg for planning and overseeing all fall Gamma programming events.

We rounded out the fall of 2005 with an exceptionally strong presence at STTI Convention. In addition to receiving our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary award, Gamma Chapter won 4 other awards: The Elizabeth McWilliams Miller Award for Excellence in Nursing Research, won by Dr. Marita G. Titler; a second consecutive Chapter Key Award for excellence in chapter programming; the Newsletter Special Edition Award for the 75<sup>th</sup> chapter anniversary (Grace Matthews, editor); and the Chapter Website Award (Dr. Jan Denehy, Webmaster). Several Gamma members served as convention speakers including Dr. Linda Q. Everett, Dean Melanie Dreher, Dr. Titler, Laura Cullen and myself. Dr. Everett also helped to direct the celebration at International Headquarters as she (chair of the fundraising effort) and other international board members cut the ribbon to open the brick paver garden. Gamma is commemorated on the walkway with a brick in honor of our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Regional coordinator Connie Trowbridge wrapped up 4 years of excellent service to Region 4. Gamma Chapter, the University of Iowa College of Nursing, and the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics Department of Nursing Services and Patient Care co-sponsored the convention as a gold sponsor and provided the House of Delegates with ever popular delegate energy food packs. We were honored to host two UIANS students, and current PNP co-chairs Dianna Robinson and Blaire O'Brien as our guests at convention. A summary of other highlights from convention are elsewhere in this newsletter. All in all, it was a wonderful experience.

We hope that you will plan to participate in the many upcoming Gamma spring activities. The deadline for the 100 Great Iowa Nurses submission was due 1/16/06; hopefully, each of you have nominated a great nurse who you've known. On February 7, spring voting on inductees was held at 1:00 p.m. in 101 CON. PND will be held on February 28, 2006; brochures were sent out in late December/early January and are available on the website. Officer voting will be held online and live; the live voting will be on Tuesday, February 28 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. in 101 CON. Annual spring induction will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Holiday Inn Conference and Convention Center in Coralville. Check the website [www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti/calendar](http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti/calendar) for further details.

As I begin to turn the Gamma reigns over to your next president Jill Gaffney Valde, I hope that you will do what you can to become an involved member of Gamma Chapter. We need you and your input to keep our chapter great. If there are any suggestions you might have to enhance membership involvement, please let Jill or me know.

A reminder that information on Gamma scholarships, research awards, the Clinical Performance Improvement Award and the Betty Means Awards are now available on the website. The latter two awards have been expanded to make teams or external agencies eligible for recognition.

I would like to thank our officers wrapping up their 2 year commitment: Karen Clark Griffith, PhD, RN, Chapter Treasurer; Anita Stineman, PhD, RN, Governance Committee Chair and Counselor; Charmaine Kleiber, PhD, RN, Leadership Succession Committee Chair. Your help to me and dedication to Gamma Chapter has been much appreciated!

My best to all of you in 2006!

Lou Ann Montgomery  
President, Gamma Chapter



## *Candidates*

### Candidate for president elect

#### **Beth Houlahan**

With nearly 28 years in the nursing profession, I have had many opportunities to “see one, teach one and do one.” Even though twenty of those years have been in a leadership role, the experience to learn and to share what I have learned is far from linear. I’ve enjoyed serving as the office manager of a three physician practice and the manager of patient care services in a nine physician group setting. Currently I am the clinical director of the UI Family Care Center, a clinic of over two hundred providers serving our patients’ primary care needs. Keeping pace with the changes in healthcare, working through multidisciplinary teams, while representing and advocating for nursing has been both challenging and rewarding.

I have participated in several professional organizations over the years and have served in the capacity of chair, president, board member and member. I appreciate the opportunities and advantages I’ve gleaned from organizations such as Sigma Theta Tau. Associations such as these serve as a wonderful platform to form new collegial relationships, enhance those already established and to share best practices in education, clinical practice and research.

### Candidates for Treasurer

#### **Stanley Grant**

I have been working in Obstetric Genetics since 1977 in the Department Obstetrics and Gynecology at University of Iowa Health Care. I am certified as a Genetic Counselor and as an Advanced Practice Nurse in Genetics. As nurse coordinator for the Iowa Expanded AFP/Quad Screening Program and the Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment Unit I have the opportunity to support women and their families as they consider and undergo prenatal screening and testing. As a founding member of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics (ISONG) I have worked to foster education and opportunities for nurses who have an interest in providing genetic.

#### **Jackie Nelson**

Jackie graduated for the University of Iowa with her BSN degree in 1980. She completed her MBA in 1987 and MA in Nursing Administration in 1994. Jackie has been employed at the University of Iowa since 1979 in a variety of positions: Staff Nurse cardiothoracic Surgery unit, Staff Nurse PICU, Nurse Clinician III Pediatric Nursing Division, Nurse Manager PICU, Advanced Practice Nurse CORM, and currently Administrative Associate Children’s and Women’s’ Services.



## *GAMMA ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2006*

Gamma Chapter election of officers will be held on February 28, 2006. There are several options for voting this year:

- In person at the Gamma Room, 101M, College of Nursing between 2:00 and 3:30 PM.
- Electronically by accessing the ballot on the Gamma website and emailing your completed ballot to [charmaine-kleiber@uiowa.edu](mailto:charmaine-kleiber@uiowa.edu)
- Regular mail by printing the ballot from the website, filling it out, and mailing it by February 24th to:

Charmaine Kleiber  
College of Nursing  
The University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA. 52242

Bios of candidates are available on the chapter website.

<http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti/newsletter.html>

Write-in votes are acceptable if prior approval has been obtained from the write-in candidate.



## Candidates

### Candidates for Leadership Succession Committee

#### **Renee Clancy**

Renee Clancy works for the Department of Nursing Services and Patient Care, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, as the nursing employment manager since September, 2003. She graduated from The University of Iowa in 1978 with her BSN, and in 1997 with her Master's degree in Industrial Relations and Human Resources. Renee has over 10 years experience in human resources, in the areas of recruitment, compensation and benefits. She currently serves as the president of the Iowa Association of Healthcare Recruiters, taking an active role in recruitment and retention issues facing nursing. She has over 14 years of nursing experience in a variety of critical care settings, both as staff nurse and supervisor, in California, Kansas, and Iowa. Renee retired in 2004 as a Captain, Nurse Corps, United States Naval Reserve.

#### **Nicollet Markovetz**

Nicki Markovetz has been at the College of Nursing for fifteen years. She graduated from The University of Iowa in 1971 with her BSN. After years of working at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in various capacities in the Ob-Gyn Department, Nicki left Iowa in 1980 to attend the University of Mississippi Nurse Midwifery Program. Upon completion she returned to Iowa and obtained a Master's degree in Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health. Nicki participated in the development of the Special Gynecology Unit at UIHC in 1973, the Nurse-Midwifery Service in 1993 and the Cross-Cultural Nursing Experience in Jamaica for College of Nursing students beginning in 1998. Nicki enjoys seeing obstetrics through the eyes of undergraduate students and combining these experiences in community health settings.

#### **Ann Rhodes**

Ann received her BSN from the College of St. Teresa, MA in Nursing of Children from the University of Iowa, Law Degree from the University of Iowa. She practiced as a staff nurse, Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Clinical Director of Pediatrics at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. She was legal counsel to UIHC, assistant vice president for finance and University Services, vice president for external relations, and associate counselor for the University of Iowa. Currently Ann is Assistant to the Provost and HIPPA privacy officer. She is author of Nursing and the Law, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, columnist for Journal of Maternal and Child Nursing, and she has academic appointments in the Colleges of Nursing and Law.



## 38<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Carol Picard, PhD, RN assumes international presidency. Her platform is "Vision to Action: Global Health through Collaboration".

Carol Huston, PhD, RN is elected to be President-elect. Carol earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa.

Gamma Chapter receives 5 awards!

Linda Q. Everett, PhD, RN helps cut ribbon at International Headquarters to open the Brick-paver Garden.

Connie Trowbridge turns Regional 4 Coordinator duties over to Maureen Greene.

Bylaws changes are minimal as compared to 2003. Major changes are allowing chapters to either elect or appoint a Governance Committee and to allow the two delegates from each chapter to participate in online voting regarding new chapter charters using a new online voting process.



## STTI –INDUCTION THROUGH RETIREMENT



Diana Robinson and Blaire O'Brien are UIANS students and co-chairs of Progressive Nursing Day. They had the experience of attending the 38th Biannual STTI convention in Indianapolis this past November. Both returned with a different perspective of the organization and their future in the nursing profession.

After the glamour of the awards dinner, they were able to attend some seminars. Although not student focused, they thought it was interesting to listen to faculty and nurses from many different countries discuss their ideas in a global context.

Sitting in a classroom in the College of Nursing, neither Dianna or Blair understood how large or how prestigious STTI is and were impressed at how Gamma chapter stands out in the organization.

This conference made them realize the profession of nursing provides students the ability to go beyond anything they could have dreamed. The profession allows students to realize there are many paths to aspire an individual. These paths enable nurses' to an elite level in nursing. This was evidenced by the many awards given at the dinners and luncheons and the number of authors attending the conference. Many of the authors they had studied in class were at the conference and they thought it was nice to put a name to a face.

They wish STTI would be recognized by students as more than a letter you receive when you do well in school at graduation. Rather, they wish STTI would be something every student would strive to become a part of before graduation.

Suggestions included, introducing STTI earlier to students, focusing on the history and tradition of STTI at the College of Nursing, Gamma sponsored events, introduce Gamma members within the organization and continue to encourage the booth at PND for STTI.



Graduate student classmates Kathy Schweer and Jan Denehy were inducted into Gamma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau on April 18, 1971. They both have been involved with Sigma Theta Tau on various levels through the years. Now retired, Kathy and Jan teamed up in helping to plan Gamma Chapter's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in 2004. They searched the archives to update the Gamma chapter history originally developed on the occasion of Sigma Theta Tau International's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1997. They also added information about chapter activities that have occurred since the original publication. Also added were pictures from Gamma Chapter's history as well as a complete list of presidents of Gamma Chapter and Sigma Theta Tau awards received by Gamma Chapter and Gamma members. This book was published and distributed to those attending the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and is available on the Gamma Chapter website <http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti/>.

Displays of Gamma Chapter memorabilia were presented at the Spring Induction in May 2004 and at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in September 2004. Kathy and Jan also planned and participated in a reenactment of the original Gamma Chapter initiation ritual for the May 2004 Induction ceremony. Kathy and Jan participated in the same reenactment at Gamma Chapter's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The events of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary are featured on the Sigma Theta Tau's website Gallery of Honor at <http://www.nursingsociety.org/programs/gallery.html>

Jan Denehy serves as Gamma Chapter's webmaster. She has developed, updated, and maintained the Gamma Chapter website since 1998 and won Sigma Theta Tau International Chapter Website Award in 2005. Kathy and Jan have enjoyed working together on behalf of Gamma Chapter now that they are retired. Their next activity will be to organize and paint the Chapter room located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the College of Nursing.



## *BETTY MEANS AWARD*

The purpose of the Betty Means Community Health Nursing Award is to recognize and reward innovative and high quality Community Health Practice. Deadline for Application: March 1 of each year, with a decision by April 1 for recognition at Gamma Chapter Spring induction. See the website for more details regarding nomination. at <http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti>



## *CLINICAL PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AWARD (CPIA)*

The purpose of the Clinical Performance Improvement Award (CPIA) is to recognize members in clinical practice who have demonstrated innovative and high quality practice. This award may be given to an individual or individual/community partner. This may include an individual and the partner (individual or agency) for joint recognition. Awards may be given for projects or activities in process or completed. Deadline for Application: March 1 of each year, with a decision by April 1. See the website for more details regarding nomination at <http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti>



## *RESEARCH AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS*

The purpose of the Research Fund is to encourage qualified nurses to contribute to the advancement of nursing through research. Monetary awards are primarily meant to be used as seed money for pilot projects or to supplement other resources for research. Deadline for application is March 1 of each year with a decision by April 1st.

Scholarship awards are presented every year at the Induction Ceremony. Applications for the scholarship award is located at <http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/sites/stti/membership.html>



## *GAMMA WALKS FOR DIABETES IN IOWA City*

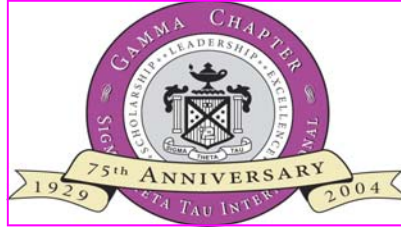
Gamma Chapter participated in the American Diabetes Association's "America's Walk for Diabetes" on Sunday October 2, from 2pm to 4pm at Iowa City's Lower City Park. Gamma chapter walkers were: LouAnn Montgomery, Charmaine Kleiber, Mary Berg, Nicki Markovetz, Kelley Currey, and Jill Valde. Gamma Chapter raised over \$1000 for this event and met their goal. Next year's walk is tentatively scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> so mark your calendars now!



## *THE PREMIE PROJECT-IOWA CHAPTER BOOTIES, BONNETS AND BLANKETS FOR PREMATURE BABIES*

The Premie Project is a volunteer organization, based in Iowa, that provides hand knit, sewn or crocheted clothing items to premature babies in the neonatal intensive care units. To join visit <http://www.thepremieproject.com>

# Gamma Chapter Officers



## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2005-2006

|  |           |  |   |
|--|-----------|--|---|
| PRESIDENT<br><a href="#">LOU ANN MONTGOMERY</a><br>LOU-MONTGOMERY@UIOWA.EDU                    | 2004-2006 | RESEARCH<br><a href="#">ANN MARIE MCCARTHY</a><br>ANN-MCCARTHY@UIOWA.EDU   | 2004-2006                               |
| PRESIDENT-ELECT<br><a href="#">JILL VALDE</a><br>JILL-VALDE@UIOWA.EDU                          | 2005-2006 | SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS<br><a href="#">RENE MARTIN</a><br>RENE-MARTIN@UIOWA.EDU   | 2004-2006                               |
| VICE PRESIDENT<br><a href="#">MARY BERG</a><br>MARY-BERG@UIOWA.EDU                             | 2005-2007 | ARCHIVIST<br><a href="#">M. PATRICIA DONAHUE</a><br>MARY-DONAHUE@UIOWA.EDU   | 2004-2006                               |
| SECRETARY<br><a href="#">PAULA COHEN ALLEN</a><br>PKALLEN61@MCHSI.COM                          | 2005-2007 | FINANCE COMMITTEE<br><a href="#">THERESA SCHAEFER</a><br>TSCHAEFER@MERCYCARE.ORG   | 2004-2006                               |
| TREASURER<br><a href="#">KAREN GRIFFITH</a><br>KAREN-GRIFFITH@UIOWA.EDU<br>GRIFFITH4@MCHSI.COM | 2004-2006 | LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION<br>COMMITTEE<br><a href="#">CHARMAINE KLEIBER CHAIR</a><br>CHARMAINE-KLEIBER@UIOWA.EDU<br><a href="#">LINDA CHASE</a><br>LINDA-CHASE@UIOWA.EDU<br><a href="#">SHERRY MCKAY</a><br>SHERRY-MCKAY@UIOWA.EDU | 2004-2006<br><br>2005-2007<br>2005-2007 |
| GOVERNANCE CHAIR<br><a href="#">ANITA STINEMAN</a><br>ANITA-STINEMAN@UIOWA.EDU                 | 2004-2006 | PROGRAM COMMITTEE<br><a href="#">MARY BERG</a><br>MARY-BERG@UIOWA.EDU  | 2005-2007                               |
| GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE<br><a href="#">TERI BOESE</a><br>TERI-BOESE@UIOWA.EDU                     | 2005-2007 | NEWSLETTER EDITOR<br><a href="#">GRACE MATTHEWS</a><br>GRACE-MATTHEWS@UIOWA.EDU  | 2004-2006                               |
| BY-LAWS CHAIR<br><a href="#">TRUDY LAFFOON</a><br>TRUDY-LAFOON@UIOWA.EDU                       | 2004-2006 | WEB PAGE<br><a href="#">JAN DENEHY</a><br>JANICE-DENEHY@UIOWA.EDU  | 2004-2006                               |
| MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT<br><a href="#">JILL VALDE</a><br>JILL-VALDE@UIOWA.EDU                   | 2005-2006 | <a href="#">GAMMA OFFICE SECRETARY</a><br><a href="#">KIM HAMMEN</a><br>KIMBERLY-HAMMEN@UIOWA.EDU<br>THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA<br>COLLEGE OF NURSING 101C<br>(O) 319-335-7296   | 1998-<br>PRESENT                        |



**GAMMA CHAPTER IS NOW FEATURED ON THE GALLERY OF HONOR PAGE OF THE STTI WEBPAGE. [HTTP://WWW.NURSINGSOCIETY.ORG/PROGRAMS/GALLERY.HTML](http://www.nursingsociety.org/programs/gallery.html)**

## GAMMA CHAPTER CALENDAR

| DATE                        | EVENT  | LOCATION   |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| <b>SPRING 2006</b>          |  |  |
| February 7, 2006 (Tuesday)  | Spring voting on Inductees   | CON STTI room (101M) 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.  |
| February 14, 2006 (Tuesday) | Board Meeting  | 9-11 a.m. @ River City Beefstro/ State Room  |
| February 27, 2006 (Monday)  | Dinner for PND planning groups   | Dinner @ Iowa River Power Restaurant from 6 -8 p.m.  |
| February 28, 2006 (Tuesday) | PND  | Iowa Memorial Union 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  |
| February 28, 2006 (Tuesday) | Voting meeting for Officers  | CON STTI room (101M) @ 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  |
| March 1, 2006 (Wednesday)   | Applications due for research, scholarship, CPIA, and Betty Means awards |  |
| March 15, 2006 (Wednesday)  | Annual chapter certification of renewal fees due                         |  |
| April 29, 2006 (Saturday)   | Spring Induction   | Holiday Inn Conference Center, Coralville, IA (Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.; program to follow at approximately 10:30 a.m. until noon) |
| May 15, 2006 (Saturday)     | Chapter Key submissions due from Board to L. Montgomery                  |  |
| June, 2006 (TBA)            | Transition Meeting   | Lunch @ River City Beefstro/ Coralville followed by meeting 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.   |
| June 15, 2006 (Thursday)    | Annual reports from officers due to President                            |  |
| July 1, 2006 (Saturday)     | Officer list due to headquarters   |  |
| August 1, 2006 (Tuesday)    | Chapter annual report due to HQ  |  |

**HOLD THE DATE FOR PROGRESSIVE NURSING DAY**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2006**  
**IOWA MEMORIAL UNION**  
**7:00 AM-2:00 PM**