Inside this Issue:

2016 UMHS Poster Day 2

Presidents Column 3

Meet the Rho Board and Committees 4

Welcome to Rho Student Intern 5

Rho Chapter Scholarship Recipients 2016 5

Kudos 6

Welcome Dean Hurn 6

New/Upcoming Events 7

Awards Ceremony Nominations 7

Nursing Excellence Awards Nominations—Application deadline February 20, 2017 8

Check out the Latest News and Events!

Website: (School of Nursing) http://nursing.umich.edu/rho-chapter

Chapter Web page The Circle: http://rho.nursingsociety.org/RhoChapter/Home

Facebook Page: Facebook.com/SigmaThetaTauInternationalRhoChapter

UMHS NURSING POSTER DAY 2016
2016 UMHS NURSING POSTER DAY

Incredible is the best description of the eighth annual UMHS Nursing Poster session, held on September 26 and 27! The event celebrated the work of 44 different evidence-based practice and clinical innovation projects from nursing partners at the U of M Health System and School of Nursing. The posters spanned a variety of topics including succession planning, innovations which have decreased pressure ulcers, wound infections, and falls, and actions to promote a healthy practice environment for our nurses. Attendance was record-breaking and the audience included staff nurses, nursing students, faculty, nurse leaders and physicians. Rho Chapter once again sponsored the People’s Choice award, chosen by vote of conference attendees. This year’s award was given to Beljit (Nevi) Dhillon and Ilze Hallman from the Adult Inpatient Psychiatry Unit for their poster, “Decreasing Stress and Burnout in Nursing Staff by Utilizing Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Techniques.” Rho Chapter provided a donation to the Adult Inpatient Psychiatry unit’s nursing education fund.

Other poster awards were given to:

**Evidence Based Practice Category**

Megan Smith and Connie Myres “Investigating the Practice of Using Breast Milk as an Oral Immune Therapy in the Pediatric Cardiothoracic ICU”

**Clinical Innovation Category**

Kailey Regalo-Miller, Sarah Taylor, Trauma Burn ICU UBC, “Can the Implementation of a Chlorhexidine Bathing Protocol Decrease Infection Rates in a Burn Unit?”

**First Time Presenter Award**

Jennifer Zybert (Co-Author/Mentor: Deborah Price), “Education Needs of Pediatric Nurses in Palliative and End-of-Life Care”

Congratulations to All!
Greetings! I'm honored to begin my term as Rho Chapter president. Thanks to the excellent leadership by my predecessors, Dr. Margaret Calarco and Dr. Sharon Smith, our chapter is moving forward with its strategic plan.

The chapter continues to focus on supporting scholarship and leadership development for Rho members as well as participation in service to our community. The chapter is supporting a variety of scholarly events this year, including research conferences at the U of M Health System and School of Nursing, an evidence-based practice conference in March, a leadership conference in January, and the SICU practice conference in February. Rho Chapter continues to offer a variety of grants to support research and evidence-based practice as well as travel grants to present scholarly work at conferences. Be sure to take advantage of these opportunities.

The board is also in the process of planning an event to support members who are beginning their nursing career. This event will be focused on obtaining that first job, being successful in the first year of the nursing career, and continuing one’s professional development. The chapter is also planning resources to help members who are interested in publishing scholarly work, especially for those of you who have great projects but have never published. Both groups are in the planning stages and we will continue to communicate progress as we move forward.

I am excited about all of the new opportunities to serve Rho members. Please continue to support our chapter by continuing your membership and attending our events. The board meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 5pm in Room 1250 of the School of Nursing Building. Feel free to join us—we would love to hear your voice. On behalf of Rho Chapter I wish very happy holidays to everyone!

---

**RHO CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**President:**
Deborah Price, DNP, MS, RN (debprice@umich.edu)

**Vice-President:**
Elizabeth Brough, PhD, RN (ebrough@umich.edu)

**Treasurer:**
Cristina Wojack, MS, RN, AGACNP-BC, CCRN (wojackc@umich.edu)

**Secretary:**
Paul Edick BS, RN (edickp@med.umich.edu)

**Faculty Counselor:** Kitty Murtha, MSN, RNC-OB (kmmu@umich.edu)

**Past Presidents:**
Margaret Calarco, PhD, RN (mcalarco@med.umich.edu)
Sharon Smith, PhD, RN (slsmith@med.umich.edu)

**COMMITTEES:**

**Excellence in Nursing Awards Committee**
Chairperson: Corinne Lee, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC (leeco@umich.edu)
Member: Mary Sue Webb, BSN, RN (mswebb@med.umich.edu)

**Governance Committee (Membership & Bylaws)**
Chairperson: Carol Loveland-Cherry, PhD, RN (loveland@umich.edu)
Member: Kristen Choi, BSN, RN (krchoi@umich.edu)
Member: Nadia Charania, PhD, RN (charania@umich.edu)

**Leadership Succession Committee**
Chairperson: Moira Visovatti-PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, OCN, (mvisovat@umich.edu)
Member: Julie Buser, CPNP-PC, RN (jbuser@umich.edu)
Member: Kathleen Standish MSA, RN, CJCP (kstandis@umich.edu)

**Newsletter/Publicity Committee**
Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN, Chair (annkrusz@umich.edu)
Amanda Schuh, MS, RN, Social Media (krohna@umich.edu)

**Research/Special Projects Committee**
Jane Anderson, PhD, RN, Chair (janea@umich.edu)

**Finance Committee**
Chairperson: Cristina Wojack, BSN, RN (wojackc@umich.edu)
Member: Paul Edick, BS, RN (edickp@med.umich.edu)

**Membership Involvement**
Chairperson: Tayler Lenzen, BSN, RN (tlenzen@umich.edu)
Meet the Rho Chapter Board & Committee Members 2016-2017

Here is an introduction to your chapter leaders for the upcoming year: Thank you to everyone who serves Rho Chapter as an officer or committee member. Rho Chapter is grateful for your service.

President: Deborah Price, DNP, MS, RN. Deb is a faculty member of the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She holds a DNP in Nursing from Oakland University, and a M.S. and B.S.N. from the University of Michigan. She currently teaches undergraduates, and also mentors graduate students. Deb's research and scholarship focus on interdisciplinary palliative and end-of-life care. She has presented nationally and published on teaching innovations in undergraduate education and palliative care.

Past President: Margaret M. Calarco, PhD, RN, is the Chief Nurse Executive at University of Michigan Health System and Adjunct Professor, The University of Michigan School of Nursing. Dr. Calarco holds a Ph.D. in Nursing from the University of Michigan, an M.S.N. in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing from Case Western Reserve University and a B.S.N. from the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Calarco has presented nationally and internationally, and has published widely in the areas of clinical depression, leadership and organizational change.

Vice-President: Elizabeth (Libby) Brough, PhD, RN. Libby is currently a Clinical Instructor at the School of Nursing, where she serves as a faculty member in the undergraduate program. Her recent research has focused on understanding the role of emotions in chronic illness and using tailored messages to help women reduce hypertension. Her clinical work includes evidence-based practice projects with clinical nurse specialists and staff nurses.

Secretary: Paul Edick BSN, RN is a staff nurse on the inpatient child and psychiatry unit at UMHS. He received his BSN from Michigan State University's College of Nursing after receiving his BA from the University of Michigan. Paul is currently teaching undergraduate nursing students in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing course.

Treasurer: Cristina Wojack, MS, RN, AGACNP-BC, CCRN is a Nurse Practitioner at Beaumont Health System in Grosse Pointe with the SICU/Trauma team and a staff nurse at the University of Michigan Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan for both her MS and BSN. She serves as a mentor to senior undergraduate nursing students during their critical care clinical experience and to graduate students as a preceptor.

Faculty Counselor: Kitty Murtha, MSN, RNC-OB is a Leo Lecturer I of the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She holds a MS in Nursing from Walden University, and a B.S.N. from Saginaw Valley State University, and began her Nursing profession as a Diploma RN from St Joseph Mercy School of Nursing of Detroit. She is certified in Inpatient Obstetrics. She currently facilitates Mother-Baby Clinicals for 3rd year undergraduate students, and has also facilitated Med-Surg Clinicals for 2nd year sophomore students.

Faculty Counselor-Elect: Beth C. Russell, MS, RN is a graduate of West Virginia University and the University of Maryland. Beth has been faculty at Michigan since 1995, currently teaching junior and senior students in Pediatrics and Complex Care. She is also faculty advisor to the Mott Patient and Family Council and the Congenital Heart Center Family

Governance Committee: This committee oversees new membership and bylaws.

Chairperson: Carol J. Loveland-Cherry, PhD, RN, FAAN, is Professor Emerita, University of Michigan School of Nursing. Dr. Loveland-Cherry holds a B.S.N. and a M.P.H. in Nursing from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. in Nursing from Wayne State University. Her NIH funded research focused on development and testing of health promotion interventions for families with infants, children, and adolescents. She was a faculty member at Wayne State University College of Nursing and a faculty member and Executive Associate Dean at The University of Michigan School of Nursing.

Member: Kristin Choi BSN, RN, is a second-year PhD student and a Hillman Scholar at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Her program of research in the doctoral program focuses on abused, neglected, and exploited children. She is interested in health services research, policy, and system-level interventions to improve child welfare and mental health service delivery for trauma-exposed children.

Member: Nadia Charania, PhD, RN Dr. Charania’s research and teaching focus on psychiatric-mental health nursing. She has studied major depression in Pakistani women with the goal of providing culturally sensitive care. Dr. Charania teaches at the undergraduate level and has extensive teaching experience with both national and international nursing students and nursing staff. Prior to her appointment at UMSN, Dr. Charania was an Assistant Professor at the Aga Khan University School of Nursing, Pakistan.

Leadership Succession Committee: This committee is responsible for selection of members to serve in chapter leadership positions, and handles officer elections.

Chairperson: Moira Visovatti, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, OCN, is a Research Fellow in the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Dr. Visovatti holds a PhD in Nursing from the University of Michigan, a MS in Medical Surgical Nursing from the University of Michigan, and a BSN from the University of Toronto. Her program of research is focused on cancer-related symptoms, namely cognitive symptoms, and developing interventions to reduce distress and improve functional abilities.
Member: Julie Buser, CPNP-PC, RN, works in pediatric hematology, oncology, & bone marrow transplant nursing at the U of M. C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital and is a PhD student at the U of M School of Nursing. She also has extensive experience in international medical humanitarian assistance. Julie is interested in global child health as well as pediatric hematology/oncology nursing. Her research focuses on newborn and infant outcomes at maternity waiting homes in low- and middle-resource countries.

Excellence Awards Committee: This committee oversees the Nursing Excellence Awards and the annual awards ceremony held in April.

Chairperson: Corinne Lee, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC. Corinne is an Educational Nurse Specialist at the Department of Professional Development & Education, UMHS. She holds a DNP from the University of Michigan. She is involved in many leadership development programs for nurses at various levels. She also is involved in simulation education for acute care nurses.

Member: Mary Sue Webb BSN, RN, is a float nurse in Ambulatory Care, working among five Family Medicine clinics. Mary Sue states, “I’m using my experience to help all the clinics and provide some tools to enhance the efficiency of those working in the RN role.”

Research/Special Projects Committee: This committee oversees the grants awarded semi-annually to support members’ research and scholarly projects.

Chairperson: Jane Anderson, PhD, RN, BC. Jane recently retired from her career as an Educational Nurse Specialist in the University of Michigan Health System Nursing Department of Professional Development and Education. She currently holds a temporary appointment in the Nursing Professional Development and Education Department at UMHS.

Newsletter/Publicity: This committee oversees development of the chapter newsletter and handles publicity for Rho chapter events.

Publicity: Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN is emeritus faculty from the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Although retired, she is still passionate about involvement with the next generation of nurses.

Social Media: Amanda Schuh, MS, RN, PMHNP-BC is currently a PhD student at the University of Michigan, where she also earned her Master of Science in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing. Her research focuses on military families and the impact of parenting stress on mental health outcomes. Last year, Amanda was named the first JONAS Nurse Leader Scholar for the University of Michigan. Amanda plans to create a career as a clinician, researcher, and educator and is passionate about advancing the profession of nursing.

Membership Involvement: This committee promotes membership renewal, engagement, and involvement for current and new members.

Chairperson: Tayler Lenzen, BSN, RN is a staff nurse at the University of Michigan Neurology/Neurosurgical unit, as well as, the Stroke unit. She received her BSN from The College of Saint Scholastica in Duluth, MN.

Welcome, Jasmine Johnson, Rho Chapter Student Intern

Rho Chapter recently began an internship program to mentor new inductees as future leaders. We are excited to begin the second year of the program. Our current intern is Jasmine Johnson, a senior in the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She is from Farmington Hills, MI and attended Marian High School. Jasmine is involved in the Student Nurses’ Association, Nursing Student Government, Nursing Diversity Committee, and the GENESIS project. Currently she works as a student nurse at the DMC Heart Hospital Cardiac ICU. Jasmine plans to get her DNP in order to work as a Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner and to eventually become a Nursing Professor. During her time as Sigma Theta Tau Rho Chapter’s Student Intern she plans to encourage students to receive further education and get involved in community service activities. Rho Chapter is excited to work with Jasmine and we look forward the energy that she will bring to our chapter’s activities.

Congratulations to Rho Chapter Scholarship Recipients—Rho Chapter has established a scholarship fund to support one undergraduate and one graduate student each year. Here are the recipients of the 2016 scholarship awards. Thank you to all Rho members—your dues support made these scholarships possible!

Undergraduate Recipient: Alexandra Rakovits: Alexandra is a senior student in the traditional undergraduate program and is looking forward to graduating in May 2017. She is a study group facilitator to first and second year nursing students. She is interested in veteran’s care, oncology, and critical care nursing. Eventually she would like to teach nursing students.

Alexandra thanks Rho members for the "wonderful gift that will help me to succeed in nursing school. I am very grateful that I was chosen for this scholarship. I have been working hard these past three years and it is rewarding to know that my hard work has paid off.”

Graduate Recipient: Michael Barrett: Michael is enrolled in the adult acute care nurse practitioner masters program and expects to graduate in spring 2018. Eventually he plans to practice in pain management and is particularly interested in the problem of opioid addiction. Michael wrote in his letter of thanks, "When you decided to donate this money and considered the students reactions to the news it’s everything you had hoped...... When something like this occurs in your life, you step back for a moment and say to yourself, ‘you can do it’. This scholarship is that breath of fresh air when you’re drowning in life...I’m grateful toward the people who decided I was worthy of investing.”
Rho Chapter has once again earned a Showcase of Regional Excellence Award from Sigma Theta Tau International for its work in supporting the Presidential Call to Action goals of philanthropy and lifelong learning through its scholarship and grant funds as well as supporting educational opportunities for members.

Deb Price recently received a 2017 Research Abstract Award from AACN for her poster submission, *Perceived Palliative and EOL Care Knowledge Attitudes and Behaviors Amongst Health Professionals*. The award includes selection for a podium presentation and travel funds.

Stephen Strobbe was inducted as a Fellow of the International Academy of Addictions Nursing (FIAAN) in October at the 40th Annual Educational Conference of the International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA) in Las Vegas, Nevada. The following day, at the close of the annual business meeting, he was inaugurated as the President of IntNSA.


Michelle Munro-Kramer's work on sexual violence prevention was recently noted in the September 22 issue of the University Record [http://record.umich.edu/articles/u-m-shapes-sexual-violence-prevention-program-ghana](http://record.umich.edu/articles/u-m-shapes-sexual-violence-prevention-program-ghana). Along with Sarah Rominski of Global REACH, the Medical School's international initiative and a team of researchers, she is working closely with faculty and students in Ghana to create a sexual violence prevention and education program at the University of Cape Coast.

Dr. Milisa Manojlovich along with Dr. Chris Friese received a R01 award from AHRQ for their project, "Communication Processes, Technology, and Patient Safety in Ambulatory Oncology Settings."

Lisa Kane Low is a principle investigator on a grant to promote interprofessional education. Along with Megan Eagle, Michelle Pardee and April Bigelow from the School of Nursing and Joe House and Hari Conjeevaram from the Medical School they will be helping nurse practitioner and medical students to work effectively to provide care at the Student Run Free Clinic in Pinkney.

Gina Dahlem was recently inducted in the Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP).

Martha Funnell, MS, RN, CDE was among 164 nurses to be inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in October. Her research focuses on diabetes care and self-management, patient education, psychosocial support and behavioral goal-setting in chronic disease, care management training, and patient-professional communication strategies.

**WELCOME DEAN HURN!**

Welcome to our newest Rho member, Dean Patricia Hurn. Dr. Patricia Hurn was recently appointed as Dean for the School of Nursing for a five year term. Dean Hurn was previously vice chancellor for research and innovation and executive officer of the University of Texas System where she was the chief health research officer for the system's six health organizations. Dean Hurn is a transdisciplinary researcher and teacher and she brings an open and collaborative approach to leadership. Her track record with student success, faculty development, and translational research position her to lead the School of Nursing in its current initiatives. One of her favorite expressions is that we are all members of a ‘tribe.’ As a member of the nursing tribe, Rho Chapter looks forward to supporting Dean Hurn’s leadership and scholarship development initiatives.
DON'T MISS IMPORTANT
CHAPTER NEWS--UPDATE YOUR EMAIL
ADDRESS WITH STTI:
Rho Chapter compiles email addresses from
the STTI database. We use the STTI database
for sending the Chapter newsletter, information
about upcoming events, and photos
from recent events. Be sure that your email address is up to date in your
STTI member profile. Contact Membership Services to update your infor-
mation: 888-634-7575 (toll free).

Publication information:
Rho Newsletter, supported by member dues, is published two times a
year: Fall and Winter. We welcome your comments and news about STT
Rho members' activities.

Send your contributions via email by the 15th of March and November,
to:
Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN
Newsletter Editor, Rho Chapter, STTI
University of Michigan School of Nursing
400 N. Ingalls, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0482,
or via email to: annkrusz@umich.edu.
Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS: RHO CHAPTER
Research and Evidence-Based Practice Grants;
Travel Grants
Applications due January 31, 2017
Do you need support for your research or
scholarly projects? Rho Chapter provides
grants to support research and special projects such as patient education
programs, media projects, etc. Masters and doctoral students, faculty,
and community members who are Sigma Theta Tau members are eligi-
brable. Grants are also available to support travel for presenting scholarly
work. Please see the application process on our website:
www.nursing.umich.edu/rho-chapter

Taking The Lead 2017: Leading System, Others and Self (co-sponsored
by Rho Chapter)
January 19, 2017; 7:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
The Kensington Hotel, Ann Arbor, MI
The 2017 Taking the Lead Conference will explore the concept of leader-
ship in systems and personal career development. To view conference
brochure and register online go to: https://www.regiononline.com/LDR17
5.0 contact hours for nursing will be provided, 1.0 contact hours for the
optional pain session.

SICU Conference: Stitching Evidence into Practice
February 21, 2017; 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Kensington Court Hotel, Ann Arbor, MI

Evidence Based Practice Conference
March 10, 2017; 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Kensington Court Hotel, Ann Arbor, MI

Dean's Research Day 2017 (sponsored by the
School of Nursing and supported by Rho Chapter)
April 3, 2017. Save the date and look for more
information soon.

ANNUAL RHO CHAPTER NEW MEMBER INDUCTION
AND AWARDS CEREMONY
Sunday, April 9, 2017; 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Michigan Union, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI
Note the Michigan Union location!

CONSIDER NOMINATING A COLLEAGUE for an award no later
than February 20, 2017. For more information see the back page
of this newsletter or visit our website: nursing.umich.edu/rho-
chapter (click on Awards). To access the electronic Nomination
form click here: STTI-RHO Chapter Awards Nomination Form.
Then join us on April 9 to welcome the newest Rho Chapter
members and acknowledge your colleagues' leadership and ex-
cellence in nursing.

UPCOMING STTI EVENTS:

Apply for STTI Research Grants:
Deadline: December 1, 2016. Ten to fifteen grants for amounts
up to $5000 are available. In addition, other grants are available
with a July 1 deadline. More information is available at: http://
www.nursingsociety.org/advance-elevate/research/research-
grants

Submit abstracts for the 28th STTI Nursing Research Congress
Deadline: December 7, 2016. Submit abstracts of your research
and evidence-based practice projects. Conference will be held
July 27-31, 2017 in Dublin, Ireland. More information is available
at: http://www.nursingsociety.org/connect-engage/meetings-
events/international-nursing-research-congress-2017

Creating Healthy Work Environments
March 17-19, 2017, in Indianapolis, Indiana. This event is de-
dsigned to help leaders in both academic and clinical settings de-
velop, implement, and maintain strategies that will improve their
organizations' work environments.

Registration and information:
http://www.nursingsociety.org/connect-engage/meetings-
events/creating-healthy-work-environments

Continuing Education:
STTI has a variety of continuing nursing education online pro-
grams. Visit this URL to view the opportunities:
http://www.nursingsociety.org/learn-grow/education/all-stti-cne

GIVE TO THE STTI FOUNDATION
Did you know that the STTI Foundation supports research grants,
education opportunities, membership dues subsidies and other
initiatives for needy and deserving members? Consider donating
to the STTI Foundation when you renew your Rho membership.
More information is available at:
http://www.nursingsociety.org/why-stti/stti-foundation-for-
nursing/who-we-are
Rho Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International
Excellence in Nursing Awards

NOMINEE:
Name:_________________________________________________________________________________________________
Email Address:__________________________________________________________________________________________
Work Phone: ____________________________________________ Cell Phone:______________________________________

NOMINATED BY:
Name: __________________________________________________________________________________________________
Email Address:____________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________________

For award criteria and submission process, visit the Rho Chapter website: www.nursing.umich.edu/rho-chapter. Click on Awards
Award Categories (check one)

____ Research _______ Education _______ Nursing Practice
____ Leadership _______ Rising Star _______ Mentorship
____ Friend of Nursing _______ Distinguished Service _______ Student Leadership**
____ Institutional/Organizational Excellence _______ Drickamer Student Mentorship**

**awards for current UM nursing students

1. Attach Summary of Nominee’s Contributions and Accomplishments
2. Additional supporting materials to be submitted with this nomination form include:
   • The nominee’s curriculum vita
   • Supporting statements from peers and community leaders or other documentation regarding award criteria

Submissions must be received by February 20, 2017
For questions, contact Corinne Lee (leeco@umich.edu) or call 734-764-5315