



Honor Society of Nursing
Sigma Theta Tau
International

Rho Chapter

The University of Michigan
Chartered 1959

Web page: <http://www.nursing.umich.edu/stti>

Winter 2005
Vol. 5, No. 1



The Dean's Perspective

By Ada Sue Hinshaw, Ph.D.
R.N. F.A.A.N.

The School of Nursing at the University of Michigan is one of the finest, most productive Schools in the country and in the world. The faculty, students, staff and alumni have built the reputation for the school with their commitment to excellence in all the academic, research, and clinical service programs. Since I will be leaving the position of Dean of the School at the end of June, 2006, I want to acknowledge how exciting it has been to work with such outstanding colleagues. The entire School of Nursing Community including emeritus faculty, alumni, Committee of Visitors, School of Nursing Alumni Society, and generous donors along with the Executive Officers of the University of Michigan have worked together resulting in several successful new initiatives including:

- Reorganization of the undergraduate curriculum (Baccalaureate Curriculum 2000);
- Leading the country in instituting one of the first BSN to PhD programs;
- Experimenting with new formats for one of the masters programs;
- Establishing Centers of Excellence for the School;
- More than doubling our extramural research funding;
- Instituting the Research Scientist and Research Professor tracks for nursing;
- Achieving the maximum number of Institutional National Research Service Grants for research training;
- Establishing several Endowed Chairs and Collegiate Chairs;
- Developing a strong network of sponsored nurse practices as educational and research opportunities for faculty and students;

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The President's Column

By Norma J. Sarkar MPH, RN
President, Rho Chapter



Dear Rho Chapter Members:

I had the privilege of serving on the selection committee for the Spring Awards Ceremony. Ten most deserving individuals were recognized on Sunday, March 20.

What a thrill to review the accomplishments of these individuals and the wonderful letters of support they received. All of these awardees truly demonstrate in their practice, the mission of STTI. "The Honor Society provides leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research to enhance the health of all people. We support the learning and professional development of our members who strive to improve nursing care worldwide."

In preparing my remarks for the awards ceremony, it became very clear why I am so pleased to serve as your chapter president. We all take the time to solve problems, and help those in need overcome challenges whether they are clients we care for, colleagues we work with or students we teach but in our busy lives we do not always take the time to recognize those who are outstanding. Rho chapter provided the opportunity for us to take the time to recognize ten outstanding individuals and celebrate their contributions to nursing. When the request for nominations is extended next January, take the time to recognize an outstanding colleague, it is a most rewarding effort. A special thanks to DeJuana Meekins and Allison Sweet, who did an excellent job as co-chairs of this event.

In February 2005, the Board of Directors approved Rho Chapter Bylaw revisions to comply with STTI bylaws adopted at the last biennial convention. Changes in the

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2004-2005 RHO Chapter Board and Committees

President:

Norma J. Sarkar MPH, RN (nsarkar@umich.edu)

President-Elect:

Currently Vacant

Vice President:

Barbara Christy, MSN, MSIS, RN (bchristy@umich.edu)

Treasurer:

Lisa Falzetta (falzetta@umich.edu)

Corresponding Secretary:

Deborah Brunelle, MS, RN (brunelle@umich.edu)

Recording Secretary:

Mary Webb, RN (mswebb@med.umich.edu)

Faculty Advisor:

Patricia Rutowski, MS, RN (rutowski@umich.edu)

Faculty Advisor-Elect:

Michelle Pardee, MS, APRN-BC, FN (milopa@umich.edu)

Past President:

Kathleen Gold, MS, RN (ksgold@umich.edu)

Excellence in Nursing Awards Committee:

Dejuana Meekins (dmeekins@umich.edu)

Alison Sweet (sweeta@umich.edu)

Finance Committee:

Currently Vacant

Membership Eligibility Committee:

Patricia Rutowski, MS, RN (rutowski@umich.edu)

Michelle Pardee, MS, APRN-BC, FNP (milopa@umich.edu)

Newsletter/Publicity Committee:

Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN, Chair (annkrusz@umich.edu)

Nominating Committee:

Chair: Sue Clemen-Stone (scstone@umich.edu)

Sandra Merkel, MS, RNc (sandym@umich.edu)

Kim Gretebeck, PhD, RN (kagreteb@umich.edu)

Research/Special Projects Award Committee:

Jane Anderson, PhD, RN (janea@umich.edu)

Ritual and Reception Committee:

Norma J. Sarkar MPH, RN (nsarkar@umich.edu)

The Dean's Perspective

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- Establishing a World Health Organization Collaborating Center and enhancing our leadership in the global nursing community
- Launching one of the largest public university School of Nursing campaigns

The University of Michigan School of Nursing is strong and will no doubt attract an exceptional individual to be the next Dean. The Provost is in the process of appointing a Search Committee that can begin its work this spring. During the next months I pledge my continuing commitment to the growth and accomplishments of the School. It is an honor to be the Dean of the University of Michigan School of Nursing.

The President's Column

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governance structure will change the ballot you will be receiving in May 2005. Chapter Officers will continue to be: President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Faculty counselor and Faculty counselor-elect. The new change is the Governance committee, which is a standing committee of four elected members. The mission of the Governance committee is to oversee bylaws compliance, make recommendations for bylaws changes and oversee member and chapter eligibility issues. Membership of the Governance Committee shall include the Faculty Counselor, Faculty Counselor-Elect, and two elected members. These elected members will serve two-year terms, however, we have chosen to elect one member for one year and one member for two years initially, so the terms of office will be staggered. The Nominating committee continues to be composed of three elected members but it has a new name, the Leadership Succession Committee. This committee is actively seeking nominations, so if you would like to be involved in your chapter, please contact Sue Clemen-Stone, Kim Gretebeck or Sandy Merkel.

With the active participation of the Rho Chapter Board, I am continuing to work on three main issues, Visibility, Communication and Involvement.

- Visibility – you are encouraged to wear your pin often and display your pride in membership in STTI.
- Communication – Debbie Brunelle has developed an e-mail distribution list for Rho Chapter. To be part of the list, you must provide STTI with your e-mail address, we hope you will join our electronic communications network
- Involvement – We have a very active board but always need more assistance. We have great ideas but are limited by time and energy, so please contact us or join us at a future board meeting.

Sincerely,
Norma J. Sarkar

Rho Chapter News

Save These Dates!

Upcoming Programs of Interest

September 21, 2005

Joint program with the Nursing Historical Society.

"And If I Perish: Ending the Silence About Military Women in WWII" with Rosemary Neidel-Greenlee.



Photo © 2003 Herbert Kuper

This program focuses on the roles and lives of military women during the second World War. Rosemary Neidel-Greenlee served in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps on active duty from 1962 until 1965, and on reserve duty between 1989 and 1991. She has a master's degree in nursing from Emory University, and worked at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Atlanta from 1981 to 2002.

With her co-author, Evelyn Monahan, Ms. Greenlee has published her experiences in a book, "And if I Perish," (Alfred A. Knopf, 2004), an absorbing account of the U.S. Army nurses who served in the combat zones of the African and European theaters. More than 59,000 nurses volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during the World War II and 217 lost their lives. More than 1,600 were decorated for meritorious service and bravery under fire.

Ms. Greenlee will discuss military conditions, inequities faced by front line U.S. Nurses, the improvements and advances that grew out of combat medicine and nursing (particularly treatment of infections), and the changes in the status of nurses and military women that evolved from the war experience.

Check the Rho Chapter website in August for details about time and location.

November 12-November 16, 2005

STTI Biennial Convention — Indianapolis, Indiana

Begin planning your involvement in the 38th Biennial Convention. Come to Indianapolis and hear colleagues from around the world present their work during hundreds of quality educational sessions. Make an impression and build relationships as a sponsor or exhibitor. Recognize accomplishments by submitting your own project or nominating a colleague for the International Awards program. Say hello to old friends and meet new ones.

For more information, e-mail Indy05@stti.iupui.edu or call 888.634.7575 (US/Canada) or +1.317.634.8171

Rho Chapter Fall Induction of New Members



**Sunday, November 6, 2005
Michigan League**

Save this date and plan to attend our annual induction ceremony to honor our newest Rho chapter members.

Call for New Rho Chapter Members: Community Nurse Leaders

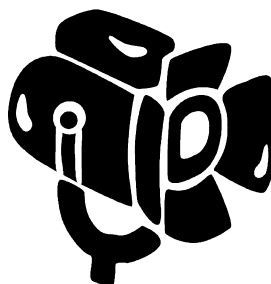
Do you know a nurse who displays leadership, creative work, support for professional standards and commitment to scholarly nursing? This nurse should become a member of Sigma Theta Tau! The "Community Leader" membership category is for practicing nurses who hold at least a bachelor's degree, and whose professional work exemplifies the purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International.

To nominate a nurse for membership, please visit the Rho chapter website, and download the membership form:
<http://www.umich.edu/~nursing/stti/membership/community.htm>

OR send your name and contact information along with the name and contact information for your nominee to:

Michelle Pardee, Faculty Counselor 2005-2006
Email: milopa@umich.edu Phone: 734 763 0016

Nominations are due by August 1, 2005.



Do you know a member who deserves to be spotlighted? Please send your suggestions to Newsletter Editor, Ann Kruszewski (annkrusz@umich.edu). Ann will do the rest!

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 or disk by the 15th of March and November, to: Newsletter Editor, Rho Chapter, STTI, c/o Ann Kruszewski, University of Michigan, 400 N. Ingalls, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0482, (734) 763-9436, annkrusz@umich.edu.

Sigma Theta Tau International Rho Chapter Awards Ceremony

March 20, 2005

The Sigma Theta Tau Rho Chapter Awards Ceremony was held at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Soothing harp music and sunshine warmed the reception room overlooking the gardens as Rho Chapter proudly acknowledged ten outstanding members for their hard work, guidance, leadership, and excellence in the nursing profession. Welcoming comments and congratulations were



Awards Committee Co-chairs:
DeJuana Meekins, Allison Sweet

presented by Joann Pohl, Ph.D., APRN, BC, FAAN representing the School of Nursing and Margaret Calarco, Ph.D., R.N Senior Associate Director, Chief of Nursing Services, UMHS, and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, School of Nursing, representing UMHS Nursing Services.

The event was capably planned by two of our newest members. DeJuana Meekins is a transfer member to Rho Chapter, who joined us in 2003. Allison Sweet was inducted into Rho Chapter just this past Fall 2004. Both are graduate students at the School of Nursing. We are delighted that they contributed their energy and enthusiasm to this wonderful event.



Here is a list of awardees and their accomplishments:

Excellence in Nursing Practice—Rural Nursing: Sherry Bumpus, APRN-BC. Ms. Bumpus is currently a family nurse practitioner in a rural internal medicine clinic. The nurses who nominated her noted that “her thoroughness and critical thinking skills are assets in the daily management of her clients,” and that “she has an excellent follow up system to ensure safety and successful care for her patients.”



President Norma Sarkar and Nursing Excellence Award Recipient, Sherry Bumpus



President Norma Sarkar describes accomplishments of Mary Lou Gillard, Recipient of Nursing Excellence Award

Excellence in Nursing Practice—Diabetes Care: Mary Lou Gillard, MS, RN, CDE. Ms. Gillard is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in the Diabetes Education Program at UMHS. Ms. Gillard has worked with numerous diabetic populations including those in inner city Detroit. She “brings a unique personal and professional perspective to her work; she challenges us to ... remember that diabetes is more than a textbook disease.”

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Excellence in Nursing Practice—Critical

Care: Mary Jo Kocan, MSN, RN, CNRN, CCRN. Ms. Kocan is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Neurology and Neurosurgery, providing consultation for complex nursing problems in the Neuro ICU and general care unit. Her colleagues recognize her clinical expertise, teaching skills, and mentorship, noting that she has been involved in community and state groups and presented a variety of educational sessions to advance quality stroke care.

Excellence in Nursing Practice—Pediatric

Care: Jennifer Salerno, MS, RN, CPNP. Ms. Salerno is recognized for her contributions as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in the School-Based Health Centers in the Ann Arbor Public Schools. Specific accomplishments noted by her colleagues included providing direct care to adolescents in the Ann Arbor Schools, and has worked diligently to maintain funding for these programs. Her projects include a comprehensive asthma program, a life skills training program to address drug abuse and violence. She has been recognized as leader in Michigan in informing and advocating the needs of underserved children and their families.



Jennifer Salerno (right)

Rising Star Award: Cynthia Arslanian-Engoren, PhD, RN. Dr. Arslanian-Engoren has developed a program of research in cardiovascular nursing. Her focus is decision-making about treatment decisions for women with cardiac disease. She was given a New Investigator Award through the Midwest Nursing Research Society, and has served as the Chair of the Decision-Making Research Section of that organi-

zation. She has been awarded grants through the NIH and American Heart Association. Her colleagues note that she is "on a path to becoming a leader and ... a person who review and reworks her own ideas and is tenacious in stringing for the most meaningful outcomes."



Cynthia Arslanian-Engoren (right)

Friend of Nursing Award: Diane M. Gallagher. Ms. Gallagher has assisted over 400 RN students as the site representative in the Kalamazoo RN Studies Program. Her colleagues noted that she goes far beyond her job description in helping these students achieve their dream of a BSN from U of M. She encourages students, breaks down barriers to graduation, and helps students to find financial assistance, personal counseling, and academic support when they are in need.

Excellence in Nursing Education: Elizabeth R. A. Beattie, Ph.D., R.N. Dr. Beattie is an As-



Elizabeth Beattie (left)

sistant Research Scientist with a focus on Gerontology. Her colleagues noted that, "Dr. Beattie is exquisitely talented at designing learning experiences that draw the learner in and involve them with the material."

Dr. Beattie has taught doctoral and post-doctoral fellows, masters students, and undergraduate honors students. She attracts students from a wide range of disciplines who value her expertise in the field of aging.

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Excellence in Nursing Mentorship: Cynthia S. Darling-Fisher, Ph.D., APRN, BC. Her colleagues and students noted that Dr. Darling-Fisher has been mentor to many graduate students in the nurse practitioner program at the U of M School of Nursing. They further commend her for being an outstanding role model for students in her clinical practice at the School-based Health Centers.



Barbara Guthrie (right)

Excellence in Nursing Leadership: Barbara J. Guthrie, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN. Dr. Guthrie has provided outstanding leadership in promoting the health of young women through her research activities and professional work. She is a nationally recognized for her numerous program and research projects that promote adolescent's women's health. Dr. Guthrie is currently the Director of Undergraduate and Nontraditional Programs at the School of Nursing.

Student Leadership Award: Julie Wilner. Ms. Wilner is a senior nursing student. She has been a class officer and Student Nurses Association officer during each of her four years in nursing school, and is currently the SNA president. She also represent the School on University committees, and on the state and national level.



Award Recipients (from left to right): Jennifer Salerno, Mary Lou Gillard, MaryJo Kocdr, Sherry Bumpus, Cynthia Arslanian-Engoren, Elizabeth Beattie, Cynthia Darling-Fisher, Barbara Guthrie.



Dr. Marge Calarco congratulates award recipients.



LEFT PHOTO:
Mary Jo Kocar and guests enjoy the Matthaei Botanical Gardens.



RIGHT PHOTO:
Cynthia Darling-Fisher and Rho members pose for a snapshot.

Member Spotlight

Allison Sweet, BSN, RN

By Ann Kruszewski, Newsletter Editor

This issue spotlights one of our newest members, Allison Sweet. Allison was inducted into Rho Chapter last fall and immediately went to work as our Awards Chairperson. Allison earned her BSN from the University of Michigan in 2001. She started out working with adolescents at a behavioral health satellite of Henry Ford Hospital in Michigan. From there she was recruited to the main campus where she worked as the clinic coordinator of an outpatient Electroconvulsive Therapy service for three years. At the same time she went back to school and began working towards her Masters in Nursing Business and Healthcare Administration. Allison is also a writer in her spare time, and enjoys creating fiction and poetry. Her first poem is being published this year!

Allison states, "I'm happy to say that I am graduating this month with my MSN in Nursing Business and am continuing on for another MSN as a Psychiatric Mental-Health Nurse Practitioner. The most challenging part of my masters degree has been selecting a track. It was difficult to narrow my path of studies when there are so many issues in healthcare that interest me. I plan to complete my MSN as a nurse practitioner in August of 2006.

Allison's career goal is to become a psychiatric nurse practitioner with a business degree. She plans to use this dual focus to work with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder patients and possibly open my own clinic someday.

When asked what she enjoys most about nursing, her answer came immediately:



Allison Sweet

"What I enjoy most about nursing is sharing it with other people. So often I have come across people who don't really understand the nursing profession, what it contributes to clinical practice, as well as academia. I really enjoy educating others on the wide spectrum of topics that nursing encompasses and sharing with them the strides made in the field.

Regarding what has been most meaningful in her activities with Rho Chapter and Sigma Theta Tau, Allison states: "That's easy- the people! I have had the opportunity to work with a wonderful group of bright, energetic, and motivated nurses.

It has been a real joy, and I look forward to working with them more in the future."



Do you know a member who deserves to be spotlighted? Please send your suggestions to newsletter editor, Ann Kruszewski (annkrusz@umich.edu). Ann will do the rest!

Nominations Needed IMMEDIATELY for Rho Chapter Board Members

The Sigma Theta Tau Nominating Committee is anxious to prepare a ballot that has members from a variety of settings. WE STILL NEED THE HELP OF OUR MEMBERS! The Nominating Committee is requesting self-nominations and membership recommendations regarding qualified persons to place on the ballot. This year we will be selecting individuals to serve in the positions listed below. Each officer serves a two year term. Indicate, by checking the line in front of the position, those positions for which you would be interested as the 2005 ballot is developed. If you are unable to serve in the upcoming year, we would be happy to receive your nominations for the offices identified:

- ☐ President Elect
- ☐ Corresponding Secretary
- ☐ Treasurer
- ☐ Member, Nominating Committee (two elected annually)
- ☐ Faculty Advisor Elect

Complete the following information if interested in running for a position:

Name _____
Address _____

Email address _____
Phone Home _____ Office _____

I cannot serve at this time but would suggest you consider

_____ for the position of _____.

Please return this form IMMEDIATELY to:

Sue Clemen-Stone
P.O. Box 612
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

The nominating committee hopes to finalize the ballot IMMEDIATELY Thank you for your assistance. It would be impossible for the organization to remain viable without the assistance of the members. For additional information contact: Susan Clemen-Stone, Chairperson (scstone@umich.edu).

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