Presidents Message

Hello Epsilon NU Members

The school year is in full swing and the STT Epsilon Nu Board is hard at work planning activities for our members. The Fall Dinner Event at Barrecca’s Restaurant (November 2nd) was a success. We welcomed Sharyn Janes to our community and initiating a dialog about international collaboration as well as opportunities in Cuba.

Our collaborative Research Day with Rho Zeta in Spring 2005 is also creating a buzz. More information is described below.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of our Epsilon Nu Board. While we sadly said goodbye to a few board members in spring 2004, we graciously welcomed some new leaders. I also want to express my gratitude to our members for remaining active in Epsilon Nu while maintaining busy schedules. Now that I have an infant, juggling my nursing career, professional responsibilities and family takes on even more meaning. I am in awe of the multitasking nurses do on a daily basis.

I would like to personally invite you to become more involved in this wonderful organization. I look forward to seeing you at one of the many upcoming activities. Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or suggestions for improvement for our Epsilon Nu Chapter at anytime. I am here to serve the chapter in any way I can. Thank you for this opportunity!

Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN
President Epsilon Nu Chapter
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
1900 Gravier Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Office 504-568-4185
Dr. Janes offered a wonderful presentation about the Cuban Culture and Nursing for our fall program November 4th, 2004. We were very fortunate to hear her enthusiasm and see her pictures of Cuba. The discussion that followed encouraged international collaboration. Her presentation titled, An invitation to join in the Cuban Culture of Nursing, was wonderful! Please see the pictures below.
VOICE YOUR VOICE- It was reported in the Times Picayune Sept. 29th that LA is a dangerous place for women to live, as only Alaska reported more women murdered in the past year. Statistically, our state has a worsening track record in preventing dating and domestic violence. The nursing faculty felt compelled to be part of a community response and solution to this public health issue. Our profession allows us access to otherwise healthy adolescents who are, as research has confirmed, vulnerable to cultural desensitization to issues of violence. Bombarded by music videos and TV shows selling sex and misogynist messages, our youth are struggling with issues of independence and interpersonal relationships. In response to horrific statistical outcomes, reflecting the personal suffering in this state, we would like to spearhead a coalition aimed at empowering and educating our future leaders. A multi-disciplinary approach will allow us to utilize the best of programs that exist and mobilize passionate community members as we set goals for changing the factors contributing to our escalating violence. We envision a web site at LSU to facilitate the exchange of views, advertisement of activities and to encourage political activism. We plan on hosting the first of quarterly planned sessions established to assess where we are as a state and plan for a less violent future. Special interest groups are being established from the winter program Jan 5th at LSUHSC. If you are interested in joining forces with the Voice Your Voice Coalition, please contact Anne Troy  568-4112 or Dani Waddell at 568-4137.

Induction

Mark your calendar! Our 2005 induction date will be Monday February 4th from 6-8 pm at the Plimsoll Club. I hope you will join us in welcoming Dr. Kathleen Gaberson as our Honorary Speaker. She is an active author of nursing texts and has been the keynote speaker for STT inductions many times in the past.

Kathleen B. Gaberson, PhD, RN, CNOR has 35 years of experience in nursing education as a faculty member and administrator in diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral programs. Currently, she is Professor and Chair of the Department of Nursing Education at Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Previously she held university faculty positions at Duquesne University, University of Pittsburgh, and Carlow University, all in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

She is co-author of two books on nursing education and author or co-author of numerous articles and book chapters on topics related to nursing education, perioperative nursing, and writing for publication. Her research program includes studies of the use of humor as a nursing intervention for preoperative anxiety and the perceived value of certification in perioperative nursing. She is a frequent presenter at national and international conferences and continuing education and faculty development programs.

Dr. Gaberson is a past president of Eta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and is a recipient of that chapter’s Leadership Award for Excellence in Nursing Education. She has served on three Region 6 committees and was named a Sigma Theta Tau Distinguished Writer for the 2000-2001 Biennium. She also has been inducted into two other honor societies, Phi Kappa Phi and Delta Epsilon Sigma.

In addition to Sigma Theta Tau, Dr. Gaberson is an active member of the West Virginia Nurses Association and American Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing and West Virginia
League for Nursing, and the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses. She is the current Research Editor of the *AORN Journal*.

Dr. Gaberson earned a diploma from Presbyterian-University Hospital School of Nursing, a BSN from Carlow University, and a Master of Nursing Education and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, all in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

### Research Day

Research Day 2005 is scheduled for Thursday, April 21st at the Marriot Hotel in Baton Rouge Louisiana.

As you may know by now, Rho Zeta is collaborating with Epsilon Nu to offer a research day for the second time. The arrangement has worked out well and allows us to widen our circles of research that is being done in this area. The goal of research day is to help nurses realize the relevance of research to our daily work and the people we serve.

If you can assist in planning, please send Jennifer Robinson an email at rbn@i-55.com.

If you want additional information about registering or participating please contact:
Susan Steele, DNS, RN, AOCN
Assistant Professor
LSU Health Sciences Center
School of Nursing
1900 Gravier St.
New Orleans, LA 70119

We look forward to another wonderful Research Endeavour!

### AWARDS

#### Sister Henrietta Guyot Award

This award is presented by Epsilon Nu annually to recognize scholarship in areas of research, practice or education.

The applicant must submit a proposal or project in the area of nursing research, practice, or education to be implemented during the succeeding year.

Guidelines:
1. Applicant must be an active member of Epsilon Nu Chapter.
2. All proposals must be submitted to the Awards Committee by February 1, 2005.
3. Proposals should be typed and limited to ten pages.
4. Proposals should contain the following:
   a. Cover sheet with name, address, phone number, and project title
   b. Statement of the problem area, purpose, objectives, and its relevance to nursing.
c. Statement of scientific basis for project/study including review of the literature, assumptions, limitations, research questions, or hypotheses.
d. Description of the project design and methodology. Include the timeframe and data collection methods to be used to implement the project.
e. Describe protection of human subjects if relevant and resources available to conduct the study. Include the proposed budget.
f. Include a statement showing the relationship of the study/project to the present state of nursing knowledge.

5. The Awards Committee will consider proposals and the applicant will be notified in writing of the Committee’s decision. Evaluation and selection of proposals will be by blind review.

Recognition will be afforded in the following ways:
1. Presentation of the completed project to the membership during a regularly scheduled Epsilon Nu meeting approximately one year after receiving the award.
2. A plaque will be awarded to the recipient at the Spring Induction Ceremony.
3. A check in the amount of $500.00 will be awarded to the recipient.

Send Proposals by February 1, 2005 to:

Kathleen Moisiewicz RN, PhD  
Chairperson, Awards Committee  
Epsilon Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau  
LSUHSC School of Nursing  
1900 Gravier Street  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
kmoisi@lsuhsc.edu  
504-568-4133

**CARE Award**

The purpose of the CARE Award is to recognize a member of Epsilon Nu Chapter who has made a significant contribution in one or more of the designated areas: C=Clinical, A=Administration, R=Research, or E=Education.

Deadline for application is February 1, 2005. The category this year is Administration. Any active member of Epsilon Nu Chapter not currently serving on the Board or Awards Committee is eligible.

Nominations will be accepted in the form of a single-spaced, one page, written description of how the criteria have been met. Members may nominate themselves or be nominated by others. Two letters of reference and the nominee’s resume should accompany the application.

Criteria for the Clinical Award are as follows. The nurse must demonstrate:
1. Leadership qualities in a clinical practice role.
2. High professional standards in clinical nursing.
3. Innovative work in chosen clinical practice area.
4. High level of competence and accountability in clinical practice.

Specific examples must be given for each criterion. Failure to speak to the criteria may disqualify the applicant.

Selection Process:
1. Nominations will be accepted through the published date of 2-1-05.
2. The chairperson of the Awards Committee will appoint a selection committee for a blind review of applications. Rating sheets will be used that address the applicant’s performance in relation to the criteria as evidenced by supporting data in the application, letters of reference, and resume.
3. If only one person applies, the award may be granted provided that the applicant has met the criteria.
4. A person who has received the CARE Award may not apply again until 5 years have elapsed.
5. No person serving on the Awards committee may apply for the CARE award, nor any other award sponsored by Epsilon Nu during his or her time of office.
6. The CARE Award is rotated annually among the four categories. 2005 is an ADMINISTRATION year.

A plaque will be presented at the Spring Induction Ceremony along with a check for $125.00. Send applications to:

Kathleen Moisiewicz RN, PhD
Awards Chairperson, Epsilon Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau
LSUHSC School of Nursing 1900 Gravier Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
kmorris@lsuhsc.edu
504-568-4133

**MEMBER NEWS**

1. Celeste Carter APRN, DNS was the recipient of the CARE Award for Clinical Nursing Practice. The award is presented to a nurse that demonstrates leadership qualities in a clinical practice role, has high professional standards in clinical nursing, performs innovative work in their chosen clinical practice area, and has a high level of competence and accountability in clinical practice. The award was presented to Dr. Carter at the Epsilon Nu spring program on Monday April 19, 2004 at LSUHSC School of Nursing. Dr. Carter's leadership and high professional standards are well demonstrated in clinical nursing as she educates LSUHSC nursing students at the bedside of critically ill patients in the intensive care unit. In addition, Dr. Carter is very active in clinical practice serving as both Co-Director and practitioner in the Stanley Scott Cancer Center's Partners in Health Program. Through this program, Dr. Carter ensures that low income medically underserved minority women have access to free breast and cervical cancer screening and education. Dr. Carter's has written grants and secured funding for continuation and expansion of the program. Through her leadership, there has been a 75% increase in the number of clients presenting for cancer screening and mammograms. Dr. Carter also provides high quality nursing care
by assuring that women with abnormal screening results receive intensive case management and follow-up diagnostic and/or surgical procedures. Dr. Carter's clinical practice and leadership are also demonstrated in her role as a military nurse in the Army Reserve.

2. Congratulations to all of the STTI members who were authors in The June 2004 (Vol. 39, Issue 2) Men's Health. The issue featured several of our epsilon nu chapter members. We are proud to include the outline of the issue below.

Guest Editor: Demetrius J. Porche and Danny G. Willis

The Table of Contents is below:

Men's health
Porche DJ, Willis DG

Nursing and men's health movement: considerations for the 21st century
Porche DJ, Willis DG

Men's health and psychosocial issues affecting men
Thomas SP

Male battering of intimate partners: theoretical underpinnings, intervention approaches, and implications
Willis DG, Porche DJ

Men's cardiovascular and pulmonary health
Kaufman JS, Cheek DJ

Changing men's involvement in reproductive health and family planning
Bustamante-Forest R, Giarratano G

Penile and testicular disorders
Wren T

Cancers of the prostate, penis, and testicles: epidemiology, prevention, and treatment
Stotts R C

Male sexuality in theory and practice
Kelly D

Sexually transmitted diseases in men
Phillips KD, Dudgeon WD, Becker J, Bopp CM

Women's conditions occurring in men: breast cancer, osteoporosis, male menopause, and eating disorders
Leonard B
3. Dr. Velma Edmonds has returned from her work in Guam and will be teaching at U of Texas at El Paso. She is also a Fellow at USDA in D.C. this summer.

4. Dr. Demetrius Porche and Dr. Kathleen Wren will be traveling to offer a surgical medical mission in Antigua, Guatemala. They will be in Guatemala for one week providing surgical services.

5. Dr. Kathleen Moisiwicz’s presentation "Data Poems in Qualitative Research" has been accepted as an oral presentation for the 6th Advances in Qualitative Methods Conference, February 17-19, 2005, Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

6. Susan Steele has been chosen as a distinguished faculty to attend the Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Institute for HBCU/MI Nurse Educators. Funding for the program through NCI Grant #2R25CA0955410. Dr. Steele Graduated from LSUHSC in May 2004 with her Doctorate of Nursing Science and received the FA Davis Excellence in Writing award.

7. Beatrice Zuluaga is currently researching and a member in the multiple sclerosis professionals network (MSPN) in Australia. She is under the umbrella of the School of Social Work at the University of Melbourne. She is currently working on her multidisciplinary doctoral research study.

8. Dr. Jennifer Couvillon’s presentation entitled, "Nursing Faculty Teaching Online" was accepted for an oral presentation at the Annual International Nursing and Leadership Conference, February 11 – 12, 2005 at the Swiss Grand Hotel, Bondi Beach, Sydney, Australia. The conference theme is Cutting to the Core 2005. Jennifer Couvillon, PhD, RN has also been elected to the National League for Nursing Executive Committee of Educational Technology Information Management Advisory Council until year 2006.

9. Jackie Favret, our Epsilon NU president elect, attended the chapter leader academy in November. Jackie has wonderful ideas to enhance our chapter and looks forward to implementing those starting in May 2005. Jackie “I want to thank you for sending me to represent Epsilon Nu at the Chapter Leader Academy: Renew your Leadership. It was refreshing to network with others and realize that we are doing a real good job with our chapter. The two full days were motivating.”

• PAVER NEWS

Chapter Leader Academy (held 4-6 Nov.) not only created an atmosphere of
fellowship and learning. Jackie Favret our president elect attended the conference. One of the fundraising efforts was the brick paver campaign. Bricks will pave the front area at Headquarters in Indianapolis. The Epsilon NU Chapter has purchases ad brick and we will display our chapter name and number with pride. So far this effort by STTI International has generated $12,500 for nursing research scholarships, leadership and future initiatives. Check out our brick next time you are at headquarters!

- **STTI NEWS**

**Chiron Mentorship**

- **The Chiron Mentoring Program's summer program begins 1 July 2005?** The program prepares members for unique leadership opportunities:
  1. One-year program
  2. Monthly communication through listserv
  3. Mentors/Mentees attend three-day institute in July 2005
  4. Pairs work on a leadership development plan
  5. Projects focus on clinical, education, administration, health policy, evidence-based practice or research

Application deadline is 31 March 2005. For more information, visit honor society’s [Web site](http://www.nursingsociety.org/) or call 888.634.7575 (U.S./Canada) or +1.317.634.8171.

From National STT

**Making the Most of Your Membership**

**Activate, Transfer or Renew your membership**

Did you know that you can now take care of your membership online? It’s easy. Just Check out the website at


- **Epsilon Nu Contact Information**

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