

Beta Delta Chapter-at-large  
Sigma Theta Tau international honor society of nursing  
Southern Nazarene University School of Nursing  
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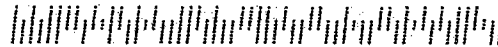


*Beta Delta Chapter-at-large.*

**We're on the web:**

**[betadelta.ouhsc.edu/education](http://betadelta.ouhsc.edu/education)**

OU College of Nursing  
1100 N Stonewall  
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## Beta Delta Chapter-at-large President's Message Winter 2006

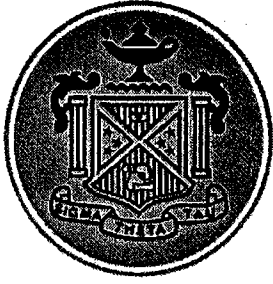
**Beverly Bowers, PhD, RN**

Greetings Sigma Theta Tau Beta-Delta Members:

The new President of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), Carol Picard, RN, PhD, in her inaugural address issued 5 Strategic Directions for Honor Society chapters and members. The first direction is **collaboration in knowledge**. Members and chapters are challenged to increase their collaboration in knowledge of clinical and professional issues and evidence based practice, as well as to contribute to nursing knowledge through research and presentations to disseminate knowledge. I am proud to say that many members of Beta Delta at-Large Chapter are meeting this challenge through a variety of

activities. Whether through engagement in EBP at their educational or work setting or through the Nursing Research Consortium, by submitting abstracts for STTI or other international presentations, or by developing international connections to promote improved nursing care globally, our members are part of these initiatives. I am particularly proud that Beta Delta at-Large Chapter is one of the founding partners of the Statewide Research Consortium, designed to help provide a link between academia and clinical partners to promote and advance evidence based practice across the state. This is an exciting time to be the President of

our chapter. I encourage all members to share what you are doing to collaborate in knowledge with any member of the Board of Directors. Member accomplishments towards the strategic directions can help our chapter with our quest for a Chapter Key Award. More information about the strategic directions and other resources can be found at [http://www.nursingsociety.org/about/Picard\\_20201.html](http://www.nursingsociety.org/about/Picard_20201.html)



## Beta Delta Chapter-at-large, Winter 2007 Newsletter

### Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

#### Bios of Candidates for upcoming election

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Newsletter editor:  
Cheryl Ross-send  
news to her at  
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#### Beta Delta Elections Feb 12-19

##### Vote Online!

Mark your calendar! This year's online elections will be held from Feb 12 through Feb 19. Please plan to participate in this important membership activity. To vote, go to <http://betadelta.ouhsc.edu>. NOTE: You will need your member ID number to cast your vote. This number can be found on your mailing label (check your newsletter label) or on your membership card. All ballots are confidential and tabulated by an individual not associated with STTI. Bios for the candidates for the positions are accessible at the Beta Delta website. If difficulty, contact Betty Gorrell at [bettygorrell@sbscglobal.net](mailto:bettygorrell@sbscglobal.net) or (405) 787-5058.

Bios of the candidates follow on the next three pages.

#### PRESIDENT-ELECT

**Valerie Eschiti** has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau International since 1986 and has belonged to chapters in Indiana, Arizona, Texas and Oklahoma. She obtained her ADN and BSN from Indiana State University, and MSN from Ball State University. She is currently a PhD candidate in nursing at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. She hopes to defend her dissertation in early 2007.

Valerie's clinical experience has mainly been in critical care and medical-surgical nursing. She has spent much of her career working on and near American Indian reservations, in order to learn more about the people, their cultures, and their healing practices. She has been a nurse educator about nine years. Valerie is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing and teaches mainly in the graduate program.

Her research areas include holistic nursing and American Indian health and health care. She is a prolific writer, and serves as a reviewer for many journals, including *The Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. As a recipient of the Beta Delta Chapter-at-Large scholarship in 2004, she decided now is time to give back to

the organization. She was selected as an American Holistic Nurses Association Leadership Fellow in 2005-06, and learned new skills she would like to apply as President-Elect of the Beta Delta Chapter-at-Large.

#### 1st VICE PRESIDENT

**Sheryl Delancy** has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau International for less than 2 years. She was inducted as a Nurse Leader in April 2005. She obtained her BSN from University of Central Oklahoma in 1975. She worked in the CCU at Baptist before going to the Oklahoma Allergy & Asthma Clinic. At the Clinic she has served as staff nurse, CPR instructor, asthma educator and nursing supervisor. She has served on the Program committee with Karen Gregory.

#### CHAIR, LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE

**Kim Pointer** has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau since April 2006. She obtained her diploma in nursing from Research School of Nursing in Kansas City, Missouri and her Bachelors in Nursing from Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma. She is currently working on her Masters in Nursing and plans to graduate in May 2007. Kim has recently been accepted as the Chief

Nursing Officer for Kingfisher Regional Hospital.

Kim's background includes long-term care, home health, oncology nursing and case management. She has served in both staff and management positions throughout her career. She is published in the area of hospital case management and is dedicated to providing the highest level of quality care for the best use of the patient's resources.

**Teri Round** was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau in April of this year. She obtained her BSN from the University of Central Oklahoma and will graduate with an MS degree, focusing on Nursing Education from Southern Nazarene University in December. Teri has extensive experience in the areas of leadership and nursing administration. She is currently a Director of Nursing at Mercy Health Center in Oklahoma City, working in the specialty areas of the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Services, and Supplemental Staffing. Through serving the Beta Delta chapter in the capacity of Chair of the Leadership and Succession Committee, Teri hopes to be of service to Sigma Theta Tau members as she continues to develop relationships within the chapter.

## TREASURER

**Carol Dorough** became a member of Sigma Theta Tau in 1997, at the conclusion of her Master's program. She has been a member in chapters in Texas and Oklahoma. She has two bachelor's degrees, both earned from Southern Nazarene University. The first was in medical technology, and the second in nursing. She went on to complete a MSN from the University of Texas at Tyler and an EdD from Nova Southeastern University. Her nursing experience has been in ICU-CCU, home health, and nursing education. Currently, Carol serves as the Chair of the Southern Nazarene University School of Nursing, where she oversees the traditional, RN to BS completion, and Master's programs. She has written several research papers, with topics focused on nursing education and care of the elderly in the community. She is interested in serving the nursing profession and Sigma Theta Tau in whatever capacity is needed.

**Krista Reyna** is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International. She obtained her BSN from the University of Oklahoma, and MS in nursing from the University of Oklahoma. She worked in ICU for twelve years before starting a palliative care program at Mercy where she currently works now. She has a strong interest in health-care ethics and is actively pursuing her masters in Bioethics. She is dedicated to the highest standards of care for patients at the end of life and their families. Krista has developed many contacts in community and organizational settings, and hopes to extend her commitment to service by serving as Treasurer of Beta Delta Chapter-at-Large.

## ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA - UNDERGRADUATE

**Patricia Bell, M.S., R.N.** has been a member of STTI since 1989 and has belonged to the Beta Delta chapter since induction into the organization. She obtained her B.S.

in 1980 and M.S. in Nursing in 1989 from the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing. She has extensive work experience in critical care, rural health nursing, nursing education in Associate Degree and Baccalaureate education. She also has experience with grant proposal development and grant implementation. She served as project coordinator for the Scoliosis Center of Oklahoma, Integris Jim Thorpe Rehabilitation, Department of Research and Clinical Development. Patricia is currently an Instructor at the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing. She is co-course coordinator for the senior clinical III and clinical IV course which includes clinical supervision in critical care, community and Management/leadership. Her research area includes a pilot study involving Tele-Health and scoliosis screening of school aged children utilizing video-phone and computer technology. Patricia is dedicated to providing excellence in teaching methodology as well as promoting the highest standards of care in the hospital and community setting. She has formulated many contacts in the community and academic setting within her area of expertise. Patricia is committed to extending her qualifications by serving as Administrative Vice President for the Oklahoma City campus undergraduate students of Beta Delta Chapter at Large.

## ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA - GRADUATE

**Elena Cuaderes** is a long time member of Sigma Theta Tau International and has belonged to the Beta Delta Chapter for 15 years. She obtained her BSN and MS in Nursing from the University of Oklahoma, and her doctorate in Nursing from Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. She has extensive clinical experience in adult and neonatal intensive care, cardiac rehabilitation, and nursing education. Elena is currently Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing and teaches in the generic undergraduate and graduate student programs,

including the Bridges to the Doctorate for Native American and Alaskan Native Nurses program. Her research interests include motivation for physical exercise, and weight bearing, lifestyle activity and diabetic foot in the Native American population. She has presented locally and nationally in these areas and hopes to achieve extramural funding to work with the Choctaw Nation in Talihina, Oklahoma. Elena is committed to improving the health of the Native American people through her research endeavors and desires to instill this dedication in her students by serving as the Administrative Vice President for the University of Oklahoma, College of Nursing Graduate Study Program.

## ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA - LAWTON CAMPUS

**Susan Smith** has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau International since 1990. She has belonged to chapters in Connecticut and Oklahoma. She recently moved to Oklahoma from Connecticut, where she was born and raised. She received her BSN from Southern Connecticut State University, where she also received a BA in Psychology. She received her MSN from Yale University where she was in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program, with a minor in School Based Health. Her thesis was evaluating a heart health program used in school age classrooms. Susan was on the clinical faculty of Yale University, where she precepted Pediatric nurse practitioner students for 10 years. She ran a school-based health center in an inner city middle school for 5 years and then was working in a private pediatric office for 5 years. While running the school-based clinic, she also provided pediatric care from a mobile health van. Susan joined the full-time faculty of Oklahoma University last year, as an instructor on the Lawton campus. She loves the interaction with her students and has enjoyed work-

### ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT, OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY

**Hilda Crane-Smith** is a long time member of Sigma Theta Tau International. She obtained her BSN and MS from the University of Oklahoma... She has work experience in clinical and nursing education. Hilda is currently a clinical instructor at Oklahoma City University, Kramer School of Nursing and teaches in the generic undergraduate, career mobility, and graduate student programs. She currently serves as the Academic Vice-President for Kramer School of Nursing.

**Irene Philips** has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau International since April 2005 and belongs to the Beta Delta at Large Chapter in Oklahoma City. She received her BSN degree from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA and her MS from Southern Nazarene, Bethany, OK. She has over 35 years of nursing experience as staff nurse and charge nurse in medical surgical, critical care and telemetry units. While in graduate school Irene developed a telemetry unit orientation manual for a local hospital. She has taught at Platt College in the LPN to RN associate degree program and is currently a Visiting Clinical Instructor at Oklahoma City University Kramer School of Nursing.

### ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT, OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

**Robbie Henson**—My professional practice has included primarily acute care nursing in units such as medical-surgical, intensive care, and maternal-child. Currently, I teach nursing at the baccalaureate and graduate level. I am committed to furthering the scholarly pursuits of the nursing profession. I believe it is along these paths that we best prepare future nursing leaders. These leaders then impact the quality of the health care that is delivered. Being involved in the work of Sigma Theta Tau is one way I can make a contribution to this important part of our health care future.

**Wanda Robinson** serves as Associate Professor of Nursing at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU) and as an online adjunct faculty in the RN-MSN program at Indiana University. Her areas of expertise include psychiatric / mental health nursing and community nursing with special interest in communication, interpersonal violence, end-of-life care, cultural diversity and nursing education. Wanda earned a BS in nursing from OBU and an MS in nursing with a clinical nurse focus from University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. Robinson is nationally certified as a nurse educator (NLN) and as clinical nurse specialist in adult mental health nursing (ANCC). She is nearing completion of course work for a doctorate from Indiana University.

## Research News

By Susan Barnes, PhD, RN

### Beta Delta Funds Research Awards

Two research awards were presented for Fall 2006. A study by Deborah Wisniewski, RN, MSN, entitled "Exploration of Romantic Relationships in Young American Indian Women," was approved for \$500. A second study by Valerie S. Eschiti, RN, MSN, entitled "Nursing Faculty and Student Knowledge Regarding Complementary and Alternative Medicine," was approved \$650.60. Both researchers will be presenting the results of their studies at future Beta Delta Chapter meetings. Congratulations!

### Deans and Directors Research Day

The date and agenda for the Deans and Directors Bi-Annual Research Day have been set. March 23 has been set aside for an all day conference showcasing research conducted by both clinical and academic nurses. The keynote speaker is Brenda Cleary, RN, PhD, Director of the Center for Nursing for the State of North Carolina. The complete agenda can be accessed online at: <http://www.okcu.edu/nursing/conf3.aspx> or by going to the Oklahoma City University website, accessing Kramer School of nursing, and then accessing Continuing Education. More than 20 Oklahoma nurses will present their work. Students are welcome!

### Statewide Research Consortium

Beta Delta Chapter and the Joanna Briggs Evidence Based Practice Institute have initiated the beginning of a Statewide Research Consortium. After a series of planning meetings, a kick off meeting will be held this spring. Anyone interested in networking regarding research, research resources, or evidence based practice is welcome to get involved. Please send a note of interest to Susan J. Barnes ([sbarnes@okcu.edu](mailto:sbarnes@okcu.edu)) to be placed on the email list.

## Chiron: A Mentored Leadership Program

Participation in the 2007 Chiron program gives you the opportunity to develop your skills as a nurse leader. During this year-long program you will be guided through personal leadership activities such as: Create a detailed leadership development plan through a mentoring relationship, participate in a three-day leadership institute, gain real-world leadership experience, strengthen your leadership competencies, obtain career planning advice, earn up to 50 hours of continuing education credit.

Learn more and apply today.  
[http://www.nursingsociety.org/programs/chiron\\_page2.html](http://www.nursingsociety.org/programs/chiron_page2.html)

Applications are due by 7 March 2007.  
<http://image.sigmathetatau-email.org/members/569/2006> Chiron participants and project description.pdf Review past-participant leadership projects here.

If you have questions, please call 888.634.7575, +1.317.634.8171 or e-mail <mailto:leadership@stti.iupui.edu>

New program begins 1 July 2007.