

Sigma Rho Rho October 2019 Newsletter

rho rho@dal.ca

WELCOME

It's hard to believe that we are in the middle of the new academic year!!!

To our new students, we would like to welcome you to our School and congratulate you for choosing nursing. You have chosen to be in the nursing profession at a time when we are celebrating an important milestone, the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale. We wish you a fulfilling year.

To our returning students, we hope that you enjoyed the "much-needed" holiday and that you are refreshed and coping with the demands of the new academic year.



To our Faculty, with the new year comes new energy and new strength to continue to educate, conduct research, and impact future nursing leaders. Thank you for all you do!

To the Staff at the School of Nursing, thank you for your support throughout the year.

WHY SIGMA

- ✚ Research funding (\$650,000 in 2018)
- ✚ **Virginia Henderson Research Repository:** Offers access to nursing research and evidence-based knowledge
- ✚ **The Circle:** Online networking platform
- ✚ Online continuing nursing education activities
- ✚ Career development programs including leadership, education, research, and mentorship opportunities
- ✚ Education and research conferences
- ✚ Two scholarly journals:
 - Journal of Nursing Scholarship
 - Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing



WRITE FOR RHO RHO

Rho Rho is pleased to launch the first edition of our newsletter. This will provide an opportunity to share information with our members and increase our visibility within the School of Nursing. Would you like to submit a write-up for the newsletter or share your ideas with us? Please send an email to rho rho@dal.ca

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Rho Rho Chapter Members,

I would like to welcome you to the 2019-20 year for the Rho Rho Chapter of The Honor Society of Nursing Sigma Theta Tau International, at Dalhousie University School of Nursing. I have been honored to serve as your President over the last year. We have truly accomplished a lot and have done a tremendous job in providing excellent educational activities, building a mentorship program, philanthropic endeavors benefiting local organizations, held two wonderful induction ceremonies for our new members, and organized great social events. I only hope that we can demonstrate as much success in the coming year! I am looking forward to an exciting year with Rho Rho.

I am excited to share with you the events and celebrations the Executive has planned for 2019/2020.

- September 27, 2019: We held our annual Induction Ceremony welcoming 34 new members into the Chapter.
- Rho Rho monthly executive meetings: Held on the 3rd Monday of the month 1030-1200 G-09 in Forrest Building. Please feel free to join!
- October 2019: Launching of the Rho Rho Newsletter, thanks to Damilola Iduye, our Editor
- December 2019: 10th Annual Rho Rho Holiday Care Campaign
- February 2020: First Endowment Scholarship and Award Recipient
- March 2020: Education Session on Transition to Practice and Licensure
- April 2020, Annual General Meeting for all members
- May 2020: National Nurses Week Celebration
- June 19, 2020: ARCASN Conference Wine and Cheese

Our goal is to continue to expand Rho Rho's footprint among our members with educational and social events, community service projects, and increased visibility on campus. We are interested in fostering new and continued collaborations with our clinical practice leaders at Nova Scotia Health Authority and the IWK Health Center. I would like to thank our Executive members for their continued service and commitment to the tenets of Sigma. Special thanks to Kim Hebert who has been the Chapter Treasurer for 15 years, Nancy Edgecombe (Past President), Karen MacRury-Sweet (Secretary), Damilola Iduye (Vice-President and Newsletter Editor), Kelly Lackie (Governance Chair), Ruth Martin-Misener (Counselor), and Erin McConnell (first Rho Rho Leadership Intern).

We are looking for members that are interested in being our web master and chairing membership engagement, leading journal club and any ideas you have for future initiatives.

We have a great group of Rho Rho leaders who are excited to serve you over the coming year. Please review our calendar to start saving dates for our events and meetings! We hope to see all of you throughout 2019/2020. If you would like to get more involved with Rho Rho and/or Sigma, please let us know by sending an email to rhortho@dal.ca

Kind regards,

Shauna Houk, RN BScN MN
President

Rho Rho Chapter, The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International
Assistant Professor
Dalhousie University School of Nursing

ABOUT SIGMA

Sigma is a global organization dedicated to community leadership, scholarship, service and the use of nursing knowledge to improve health care around the world.

Our Mission

Sigma's mission is advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

Our Vision

Sigma's vision is to be the global organization of choice for nursing.

History

In 1922, six nurses founded Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, today known as Sigma, at the Indiana University Training School for Nurses, which is now the Indiana University School of Nursing, in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. The founders chose the name from the Greek words storgé, tharsos, and timé, meaning love, courage, and honor. Sigma became incorporated in 1985 and is a non-profit organization with a 501(c)(3) tax status in the United States.

For more information, click [here](#)

ABOUT SIGMA RHO RHO CHAPTER

Dalhousie's School of Nursing is home to the Rho Rho Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (STTI).

Rho Rho's primary goal is to establish a scholarship fund to support members in their educational and professional development. Fundraising initiatives include an annual Yard Sale in September and silent auctions at Rho Rho Induction Ceremonies.

Membership is open to undergraduate and graduate students, as well as nursing professionals and community leaders.

Rho Rho evolved from the Dalhousie University School of Nursing Honour Society, which was founded in 1999 under the leadership of Dr. Marg Arklie. Rho Rho officially received Chapter status from STTI in 2002.



SIGMA MEMBERSHIP

Potential members who meet our eligibility criteria are invited to join Sigma – baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing.

Here are some additional facts about our membership:

- ✚ Sigma has more than 135,000 active members
- ✚ Members reside in more than 90 countries
- ✚ 39 percent of active members hold master's and/or doctoral degrees; 51 percent are in staff positions; 19 percent are administrators or supervisors; 18 percent are faculty/academics; and 12 percent are in advanced practice
- ✚ There are roughly 530 chapters at more than 700 institutions of higher education globally
- ✚ Sigma communicates regularly with more than 100 nurse leaders who have expressed interest in establishing chapters globally

MEET THE EXECUTIVES

President – Ms. Shauna Houk RN MN



Ms. Houk is a graduate of Kelsey Institute (Diploma Nursing 1987), University of Saskatchewan (BScN Distinction 1997) and Dalhousie University (2011). With her extensive practice background in adult and pediatric critical and emergency care she brings this expertise to life in classroom teaching. She currently teaches Acute and Episodic Care across the Lifespan with associated clinical integration simulations and clinical practice experiences.

For the last six years she has led the undergraduate service-learning projects in conjunction with clinical practice partners to develop and implement clinical practice projects. As a lecturer, clinical instructor, simulation educator and program facilitator Ms. Houk has been involved with the development and implementation of curriculum, program planning and evaluation, and the delivery of education to undergraduate and continuing education students for the past 22 years. This has involved classroom and online lectures, clinical instruction, laboratory teaching and testing, and facilitating the learning of precepted students across Canada. She is a member of the PASS team that oversees standardized testing and preparation of students for licensure. From 2011-2016 she was appointed and completed a five-year term as Assistant Director, Undergraduate Studies and was responsible for admissions, progression, awards and scholarships, convocation, and overall student affairs. In 2016 she successfully completed the Harvard Instructor Simulation course and since has been actively involved in the development, delivery and evaluation of simulations in the undergraduate program.

In January 2017, she was awarded the Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA) Honorary Contribution Award for her leadership and student-centered approach. Ms. Houk was inducted into Sigma Rho Rho Chapter in 2004 and since then has held various executive positions- currently as Chapter President. Her research interests include: interprofessional education, psychological safety in simulation, student assessment and evaluation, and professional practice.

Vice-President – Damilola Iduye RN MN



Ms. Iduye started her nursing career in Nigeria 18 years ago and has practiced in various clinical settings including general medicine, surgery, midwifery, geriatrics, and oncology. She graduated from the Master of Nursing program (Health Policy Stream) at Dal in 2016. During her MN program, she focused on the licensure and integration of internationally educated nurses (IENs) in Canada, given her personal experience in navigating the nursing registration process as a nurse from Nigeria. Motivated by the need to make the process easier for aspiring IENs, she founded a peer support network on Facebook in May 2015 to support IENs through pre-licensure, post-licensure, and workplace transition. Currently, there are over 700 members on the Facebook platform.

Since obtaining her RN license in late 2015, Ms. Iduye has seized every opportunity to serve as a voice for IENs in the province and across Canada. She is involved in various provincial and national committees and organizations on IENs' integration including the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing, the Touchstone Institute, Ontario, the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia (now the Nova Scotia College of Nursing [NSCN]), the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia (now NSCN), the Registered Nurses Professional Development Center, and the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia. In 2018, she was nominated as one of the Top 25 Immigrants in the Maritime Award for her contributions to IENs' integration and support in Canada. Receiving this award has been the greatest highlight of her professional accomplishments.

Since joining the Dalhousie School of Nursing as a faculty in 2017, Ms. Iduye has taught various courses in class, sim labs, and the clinical settings. She currently teaches NURS 4720 (Professional Formation: Nursing and Social Responsibility). She enjoys every aspect of teaching and most importantly, seeing her students grow throughout their education at Dal to become registered nurses and future leaders. Her teaching philosophy is embedded in relational learning and as the 2019/2020 Eddy Professor of Nursing, she is currently exploring the concept of academic engagement in undergraduate nursing education. She was inducted into Sigma Rho Rho in 2015 and since then has been actively involved in Sigma initiatives.

MEET THE EXECUTIVES

Secretary – Karen-MacRury Sweet RN MEd MN



Ms. MacRury-Sweet is a seasoned nursing leader who came to Dalhousie University after working in the service side of healthcare for 35 years. She enjoys a challenge and has worked extensively in disaster planning from a clinical perspective and a leadership role. She values commitment and working with a variety of people.

Ms. MacRury-Sweet completed the Diploma of Nursing program from the Victoria General School of Nursing, Halifax, in 1978 and completed the Bachelor of Nursing in 1983, Master of Education in 1986, and the Master of Nursing in 1995, all from Dalhousie University. She also completed a fellowship program in EXTRA Executive Training in Research. Her research interests include

leadership, disaster planning, and cardiac rehabilitation.

Treasurer – Kim Hebert MN NP



Ms. Hebert is a graduate of Memorial University of Newfoundland's Bachelor of Nursing program (1983), earned a certificate on Adult Education at Henson College (Dal.1998), and Master of Nursing, Nurse Practitioner (Primary Care) graduate of Athabasca University (2007). She has been a clinical instructor for Dalhousie School of Nursing (DSN) since 1994 and has been full-time teaching at the School since 2003. Ms. Hebert has clinical experience based in pediatrics - more currently general medicine, family all ages with a focus in the older adult. Her teaching expertise includes undergraduate nursing – clinical and lab skills in knowledge and practice, pharmacology and health and physical assessment and simulation; graduate teaching - advanced health and physical assessment and interprofessional simulation experiences.

Ms. Hebert has held her current position of Coordinator for the Clinical Learning and Simulation Centre (CLSC) at the School of Nursing since 2013. She completed her Certificate in Healthcare Simulation from Drexel University in 2016. She was a key lead for the development and implementation of a simulation curriculum into the undergraduate program. She is a core member of the interprofessional education committee and active in the ongoing development and implementation of interprofessional education and simulations within the school of nursing with a team that includes members from the Faculties of Health, Dentistry, and Medicine. Ms. Hebert was inducted into Sigma Rho Rho in 2004 and has been serving as the Treasurer for the past 15 years.

Membership

- Member, Nurse Practitioner Association of Nova Scotia (NPANS)
- Member, Nurse Practitioner Association of Canada (NPAC)
- Member, of International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and (INACSL)
- Member, Society for Healthcare Simulation (SSH)
- Member, Canadian Association Schools of Nursing (CASN)
- Past Operations Committee Member, SimEd Network
- Member of Steering Committee, Maplestone Enhanced Care Collaborative Learning Centre
- Member, Rho Rho Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

MEET THE EXECUTIVES

Governance Chair – Kelly Lackie PhD RN CCNSE



Dr. Lackie is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, Dalhousie University where she leads scholarship of IPE and simulation-based education. She also holds an Adjunct Professor position with the School of Education, Acadia University, Nova Scotia and a national certification in simulation-based education. She has developed expertise in the field of interprofessional education and simulation-based education, which she applies as an interprofessional facilitator, debriefer, competency-based curriculum designer, and researcher. Dr. Lackie's research focuses on IPC and productivity, instructional and assessment rubric development, competency assessment, IP learning, IP simulation, psychological safety, and evidence-based decision-making. She continues to make valuable contributions to the IPE, simulation-based education, and IP practice-setting communities provincially, nationally, and internationally.

Counselor – Ruth Martin-Misener NP PhD



Dr. Ruth Martin-Misener is Professor and Director of the School of Nursing and Assistant Dean, Research, Faculty of Health at the Dalhousie University School of Nursing. She is an Affiliate Scientist with the Nova Scotia Health Authority and the Maritime SPOR Support Unit; Co-Lead for the Collaborative for Research in Primary Health Care at Dalhousie University; and Co-Director of the Canadian Centre for Advanced Practice Nursing Research at McMaster University.

The focus of her research is innovative interprofessional team-based models of care in primary health care, the roles of nurse practitioners (NPs) and other advanced and specialized nurses, and patient engagement in primary health care research and quality improvement. She supervises graduate students and post-doctoral fellows and is actively involved in developing and evaluating policy for NP regulation, education and practice. She has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, presented widely at national and international conferences and is the recipient of several awards. In October 2019 she was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.

Past President – Nancy Edgecombe RN PhD



Dr. Edgecombe has a long career in Nursing. She graduated from St Claire College (Diploma in Nursing, 1974), Dalhousie University (Outpost Nursing and Community Health, 1985), Lethbridge University (BN, 1990), University of Alberta (MN, 1994; PhD, 2016). During her 45-year nursing career, she has worked in Rehab, Med/Surg, ICU, Community Nursing in remote communities of Nunavut, administered nursing services at a local regional and territorial level and taught in BScN and Nurse Practitioner programs at Dalhousie.

She is currently the Manager for Nursing and Health Science Programs at Nunavut Arctic College. The BScN program at Nunavut Arctic College has been developed in partnership with the School of Nursing at Dalhousie and graduates receive a Dalhousie degree. The primary goal of this program is to provide the Inuit of Nunavut the opportunity to get a nursing education with a focus on the North.

INDUCTION 2019



Every year, Rho Rho chapter celebrates student and nursing leaders as members of our chapter. Our last induction was held on September 27, 2019. Below is the list of our new inductees.

Mona Al-Gashm
Brianna Andrews
Taylor Arsenault
Aleah Brown
Susan Chisholm
Heewon Choi
Beatrice Cleveland- Thompson
Sarah Dyke
Emma James
Sarah Keeping
Ayla King
Sarah Labadlabad
Mackenzie Matthews
Chad Morash
Shyanne Mossman
Ellen Oldfield
Courtney O'Quinn

Amanda Fehr
Jordan Galbraith
Leanne Goodick
Victoria Goulden
Emma Gray
Joanna Harris
Lauren Hunt
Amanda Fehr
Sarah Lezama
Emma Lloy
Samantha MacIntyre
Katie Mansfield
Courtney Rawding
Rachel Sutherland
Michelle Theriault
Yanni Wang
Mallory Williams



Congratulations and welcome to Rho Rho Chapter!

INTRODUCING OUR FIRST INTERN

Rho Rho Executive is pleased to announce the 1st Chapter internship in executive leadership training, and to introduce you to our intern Erin McConnell.

Ms. Erin McConnell graduated last fall from Dalhousie School of Nursing and is currently working in Transplant/Nephrology at the Nova Scotia Health Authority. Throughout nursing school, she demonstrated leadership and dedication to student and new graduate nurse support and advocacy through her roles on the Canadian Nursing Students' Association (CNSA) Board of Director, Dalhousie University Undergraduate Nursing Society (DUNS), and as a student ambassador for prospective students. As the Sigma Rho Rho Intern, she plans to continue this through collaborating with the executive to host a new graduate panel to provide information and guidance to new nurses entering practice in 2020.



2019 RHO RHO LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

Congratulations to Ms. Ayla King, the 2019 Leadership Award recipient. This is an award that is given to a Rho Rho member graduating from an undergraduate or graduate program who has exemplified leadership throughout their program.

Originally from Calgary, Ms. King had an undergraduate degree in Biology from Dalhousie University and recently, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. During her first year of nursing school, she had the opportunity of being a co-class representative which provided her with the opportunity to advocate for her classmates about their concerns. To broaden her leadership experience, she became DUNS Co-president, where she served in numerous capacities at the School. She is currently a perioperative registered nurse with the Nova Scotia Health Authority. As a Sigma member, she hopes to continue to help students find their courage, voice and love for nursing.



RHO RHO GALLERY



2018 Inductees



Rho Rho Executive Members at the 2018 Induction Ceremony



2018 Induction Ceremony

RHO RHO GALLERY – 2019 NURSES WEEK CELEBRATION



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Rho Rho Local Events

2019 Dalhousie Nursing Career Fair

November 7th, 2019

10:00 – 3:30

Dalhousie University Tupper Link
5850 College Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 4H7

RSVP: 2020NurseGrads@gmail.com or
Jeff.Waidson@dal.ca

Don't forget to visit Sigma Rho Rho Booth



Join us for 2019 **Christmas Tree Decoration**

Venue: School of Nursing Foyer, Forrest Building

Date: November 12, 2019

Time: 11 am

You don't wanna miss the cookies and eggnog!!!

Holiday Care Campaign with DUNS

Member Holiday Stockings



Sigma Rho Rho in collaboration with the Dalhousie University Undergraduate Nursing Society (DUNS) is excited about participating in Laing House Holiday Stockings

Drop off date: December 11th, 2019 at 12 noon

Drop off location: SoN Reception, Forrest Building

Make someone smile this holiday season by filling Laing House stockings!!!

Items needed: Any type of socks, personal care items (shampoo & conditioner, razors, shaving cream, body wash, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, lip balm, condoms, bus tickets, gift cards coffee/movies/subway (typically \$5-10), grocery gift cards

Click [here](#) for more information!

No Tricks Just Treats!

Stop by at the SoN Reception for some goodies this

Halloween season

Courtesy: Sigma Rho Rho

2020 Education Session

Date: February 26th, 2020

Time: 5: 00pm to 7: 00 pm

Stay tuned!!!

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SIGMA MEMBERSHIP

Connect & Engage

Chapters

The Circle

Events

Global

Volunteer

Learn & Grow

Education

Publications

Sigma Academies

Advance & Elevate

Awards

Careers

Research



WASHINGTON, DC | March 26-28, 2020

a **Sigma** and **NLN** event

Nursing Education RESEARCH CONFERENCE



ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | 23-27 July 2020

a **Sigma** event

CONGRESS2020

Show your Sigma Pride

