

Region 13 Newsletter

Winter 2022

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Welcome to the inaugural newsletter for Region 13! I'm excited to serve as your Region 13 Coordinator for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society and look forward to sharing exciting Sigma news and updates in the Coordinators Corner in upcoming issues. I hope you enjoy the newsletter and look forward to interacting with members from all chapters.

On September 16-18, I attended the Sigma Chapter Leadership Connection biennial leadership training conference. It was great seeing so many people from Region 13 as well as Sigma staff and members. I enjoyed my conversation with Sigma's President Kenneth Dion and discussed how I can better serve you under the organizational call to action to "Be Bold."

I am excited about the new energy and chapter member inductions that have occurred over the past few months. Don't forget to **save the date for the Region 13 virtual conference on February 15, 2023, at 12-1:30 pm entitled Safe and Effective Patient Care during Staffing Challenges: Practical Solutions**. In the upcoming months, we will be celebrating the holidays with family and friends, and I wish everyone joyful celebrations. In closing, keep the members of Beta Kappa and Chi Kappa in your thoughts as they recover from tragedies in their communities.

Best

Judy

See more photos from Sigma Leadership Connection Conference in Region 13's photo album on the [Circle and Facebook page](#).



Pictured above: Dr. Judith Cornelius, Region 13 Coordinator and Sigma President Dr. Kenneth Dion, Current President of Sigma

CHAPTER UPDATES

Mu Psi chapter celebrates its 30th anniversary and 100th anniversary of Sigma

- Mu Psi chapter celebrated its 30th anniversary and the 100th anniversary of Sigma at their fall business and education meeting on October 20, 2022, on the Queens University campus. Queens nursing alumni were invited to attend a program entitled, The History of Nursing at Queens, presented by Dr. Joan McGill, former BSN chair and professor emerita.
- Join MuPsi Chapter of Sigma for an honors program presentation on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 5pm. Hannah Maloney, senior nursing student at UNC-Charlotte will be presenting on "Improving Discharge Education for Chronic Heart Failure Patients".



See more photos from the program and the flyer for the upcoming program on Region 13's Sigma Circle page and [Facebook page](#).

Pictured above: Annette Hines, Professor and Director Presbyterian School of Nursing (PSON), Dr. Joan McGill, former BSN chair & Professor Emerita, and Dr. Tama Morris, former Dean of Blair College of Health & Director PSON and Professor Emerita

Omega Zeta Chapter Updates

- Held A "Cold Treat Meet and Greet" on August 25, 2022. Chapter leaders connected with 56 newly admitted BSN students to introduce them to the benefits of becoming a Sigma member.
- Held Fall induction October 25, 2022, at the James Madison University Festival Conference Center. Over 30 new members were inducted. Welcome to the new Sigma members!
- Opportunities for chapter service abound! Chapter members are encouraged to use this form to let us know of their interest to serve: <https://forms.gle/ByZrAhPQaTiGKKDK9>.



Pictured above:

Jamie Robinson and Karen Jagiello

- Out-going President, Jamie Robinson, and in-coming President Karen Jagiello delivered 272 back to school items to the Harrisonburg Rockingham County United Way-Gus Bus "Fill the Bus" drive.
- A plastic grocery bag drive is underway, supporting the work of Rocktown Yarn and Great Full Goods in making plarn (plastic yarn) sleeping mats for individuals experiencing homelessness in the Harrisonburg, VA area. The plarn mats upcycle plastic grocery bags, are lightweight and easy to clean, and add a layer of protection from the ground for sitting and sleeping,
- Our tradition of giving an "Everything but the turkey meal kit" to individuals who seek healthcare at a local Harrisonburg, VA free clinic is planned for November. We usually provide more than 50 meal kits to individuals in the area around the time of Thanksgiving.

Gamma Zeta Chapter celebrates 45 years!

- On October 5, 2022, Gamma Zeta chapter at UNCG celebrated its 45th anniversary and founders' day and 100 years of Sigma!



Pictured right: Vice President Dr. Laurie Kennedy-Malone and UNCG's Dean Dr. Debra Barksdale

Omega Psi Chapter Celebration Time!



- In recognition of Founder's Day, the Omega Psi Chapter members participated in the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Fayetteville State University on Sept 28th, Thank a Nurse: Founder's Day Table on Oct 3rd in the School of Nursing lobby at FSU, and the Think Pink Event at FSU in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness on Oct 5th.
- **Congratulations to chapter member April Thomas** on completion of her Doctorate in Nursing Practice Degree from Chamberlain University!
- **Congratulations to chapter member Nikita McKoy** on completion of her Master of Science in Nursing Education degree from the University of North Carolina Wilmington.
- In May of 2022, chapter board members Hallie Bartlett & Melinda Simpson began the PhD in Nursing degree program at East Carolina University. **Please join Omega Psi in congratulating them as they embark upon this journey!**
- Congratulations Dr. Torca Fuller who has been quite busy lady! **Congratulations Dr. Torica Fuller on your many accomplishments!** Dr. Fuller's recent accomplishments include:
 - Named a Ms. Norwayne Alumni for providing over \$23k in scholarships for high school graduates & was presented the Norwayne Alumni President's Impact Award.
 - The DNPs of Color created a scholarship in Dr. Fuller's honor titled the Dr. Torica Fuller Scholarship of Professional Development.

- Became the founder of the Advanced Practice Provider (APP) section of the North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA).
- Published an article titled The Strong Impact of Doctoral of Nursing Practice (DNP) Projects: Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Screening in the Fall 2022 Tarheel Nurse.
- Congratulations to our Chapter President, Dr. Christy Swinson, for receiving the NCNA 2022 Outstanding Service Award. Dr. Swinson accepted this honor at the September 2022 NCNA conference. **Congratulations Dr. Christy Swinson!**
- Dr. Sheila Cannon, Associate Dean of Fayetteville State University School of Nursing, was awarded \$125,000 from the Cumberland County Rape Crisis Center and \$1.5 million from the State, for a program to increase the supply and distribution of sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) to the State. FSU will likely be the first Historically Black University (HBCU) in the country to host this type of program at its nursing school. **Congratulations Dr. Shelia Cannon!**

See more photos from Omega Psi on Region 13's photo album on the [Circle](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Chi Kappa Chapter presents the 2021 Nursing Innovation Award!



Pictured above: Sangita Seaburg, MSN, RN, OCN, President, Chi Kappa Chapter (left) and Sharda Moses MSN, RN, AMB-BC, CNL (right) at award presentation October 2022

The **Chi Kappa Chapter presented its 2021 Nursing Innovation Award** to Sharda Moses for her diabetes management quality improvement project designed to improve the confidence and knowledge of ambulatory care nurses in providing patient diabetes education. The project was designed using the Nurse Role Effectiveness Model of structure, process, and outcome based on Avedis Donabedian's framework.

Eighteen registered nurse participants that service 43 primary care practices in a medical group in Hampton Roads participated in the project. A pretest/posttest method was used, with the education being provided using a web page format; participant demographics were collected in the survey as well. Posttest results indicated a 7% increase in knowledge.

The Nursing Innovation Award recognizes a nurse or nurse-led team that improves patient safety and/or outcomes or nursing education through implementation of an innovative, evidence-based product, program, project, or practice.

Beta Epsilon celebrates Sigma's 100 Years of Excellence!

- On Monday, October 24, 2022, Beta Epsilon met with Duke nurses and nursing students to collect their "Why" for choosing a career in nursing.

- On Thursday, November 17th, 2022, we were finally able to hold in-person induction ceremony. It was exciting to see our members and meet with new inductees. Congratulations to them all!

Beta Kappa Chapter Updates

- Beta Kappa welcomed 27 new inductees in late October. Welcome new members!

Alpha Alpha Chapter Updates

- Held its 60th anniversary celebration and dinner on Friday, November 11, 2022, in Chapel Hill with guest speaker Dr. Sandra C. Garmon Bibb, president-elect of Sigma.

Stay Connected!! Sigma Region 13 has updated our email and social media sites. Please use the links located below to stay in touch.

Region 13 Sigma Newsletter is published bi-annually. Please send us any items you would like to have shared on our social media sites or in the newsletter to showcase the work your members are doing! The next newsletter submission will be sometime in May 2023. Keep an eye out for the deadline notice.



NEWS FROM SIGMA HEADQUARTERS

Apply to be a Sigma Mentoring Cohort mentor

Would you like to share your knowledge and experience with a nurse just like you? Build a one-on-one relationship in a virtual environment, network with other nurses from around the globe, and grow as a leader! [Learn more and apply.](#)

Free Sigma webinars this month

Looking for resources to learn, grow, and connect in your profession? Sign up for a free webinar! November topics include family presence during resuscitation, NCLEX preparation, high reliability organizations, navigating incivility, and more! [View all the upcoming webinars and reserve your spot.](#)

Earn your frontline leader certificate

Charge nurses and other frontline leaders are critical links in the delivery of care to patients and families, as well as in the work environment. In this evidence-based course, charge nurses and leaders will learn the knowledge and skills essential for their role, paving the way for creating a desirable organizational culture that can impact

patients, families, and staff alike. Earn 6.1 contact hours for this course. Don't forget Sigma members get a 10% discount! [Purchase on Sigma Marketplace](#)

Save time renewing your membership

Sigma now offers automatic membership renewal that allows you to opt in to automatically renew your membership each year. Select this option in [My Membership](#), where you will be prompted to enter a credit card that will remain on file and will be charged annually when your membership is due to renew. We hope this makes it easier for you to stay connected with our chapter!

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

CHWE 2023 registration is open

In today's environment, organizations and universities need to be equipped, nimble, and resilient. Join Sigma for Creating Healthy Work Environments (CHWE) from 10-12 February 2023 in Austin, Texas, USA. [Register today](#) to learn about research and best practices to transform workplaces and universities like yours and take advantage of early registration pricing. Early registration ends 14 December 2022.

Apply for the Writing for Publication Virtual Academy (Free for members!)

It's time to become a published author! In this academy, you'll learn all the steps necessary to writing a manuscript. Take advantage of this FREE member benefit and create a publication-ready journal in just six months. [Learn more and apply](#).

Nominate a Sigma member for their nursing research contributions

The International Nurse Researcher Awards recognize early-career and established nurse researchers for their contributions to nursing. The deadline to nominate is 11 December. [Learn more and nominate today](#).