



# TAU TAU NEWS



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- New Member Orientation & Next General Meeting—February 3rd
- Nursing Research Day—April 16th

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## Message from Tau Tau President

I can hardly believe that we are just a month away from 2014. It seems like the year went by really fast. In the past 6 months I have had the pleasure of working with a great team, otherwise known as the board of directors for this Tau Tau Chapter. I am amazed at the work that has been accomplished in such a short period of time. For example, the Fundraising Committee has been **very** busy raising dollars to add to our Foundation account, funds set aside to grow an endowment for future scholarships and research grants. This has been a goal for our chapter since we received our charter from STTI at the Biennial Convention in 2005. And now we can see that we will be able to achieve this goal!

Additionally, the Governance Committee has been busy with the recruitment of new members, setting an amazing record induction for this year of over 70 new members! To sustain the membership, we have a member involvement committee who plan activities and events to help keep all members engaged and renewing their memberships every year. They will start by hosting an orientation for the



**Tau Tau Chapter  
President Gail Boston,  
MSN, RN-BC, CCRN**

newest membership very soon. Read on in the newsletter for more details regarding this upcoming event.

I mentioned the 2005 Biennial Convention which I attended in Indianapolis with Linda Hughes and Linda Quinn (then President & President-Elect, with me being the Treasurer), where we received our charter. We inducted the charter membership in the spring of 2006. Hard to believe we have now been a chapter for

only 7 years and we have accomplished much.

I was fortunate once again to attend the STTI Biennium in Indianapolis along with Jeremy Blake to vote in the House of Delegates, something I have never done. The newly installed President of STTI is Hester Klopper from South Africa, who is the first president to serve who is not from North America. I was fortunate to hear President Kloppers's 2013-2015 call to action: to serve locally, transform regionally, and to lead globally through servant leadership, connectedness, transformation, and gratitude. We will be planning future chapter work based on this new call to action.

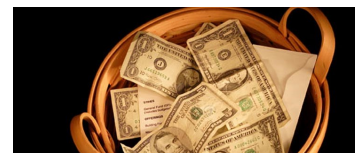
My best wishes to all of you for a safe and happy holiday season!



## Update from Fundraising Committee

### *Holiday Shopping Night!*

### *Induction Night Silent Auction*



SPRING  
FUNDRAISING  
ACTIVITY  
DETAILS WILL  
APPEAR IN  
YOUR EMAIL  
INBOX!

Our inaugural ***Holiday Shopping Event*** was a great success! Thank you to all who attended and to our fabulous vendors who donated their time and a portion of their proceeds to Tau Tau! We had a wonderful night full of shopping from various brands, food, and fun! Proceeds will be tallied in the next few months as they arrive at the Foundation. Stayed tuned for final numbers!

A great big thank you to all of those who donated beautiful baskets, tickets, and items to sell at the silent auction as we celebrated our new Sigma Theta Tau members! We raised \$205.00 at this event!!!!

### ***What's Next?***

Your fundraising committee is busy planning events for the spring. Options may

include food sales at a Creighton or UNO hockey game in February and a March Madness Bracket Pool. Information on these activities will be sent out to all members, so watch your STTI registered email inbox for more details as the plans are made.

Also, please see the next newsletter for more upcoming events of fun, member involvement, and a chance to help Tau Tau!

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## New Member Orientation—February 3rd!

Membership Involvement co-chairs Kim Hall and Cheryl Bouckaert are planning New Member Orientation for February 2014. This will be a great opportunity to meet and socialize with new and current members of Tau Tau. It is also an opportunity to learn more about what Tau Tau has to offer you!

The event is tentatively planned for Monday, February 3, 2014. **Please be watching for a formal invite.** We look forward to learning more about you and helping you learn more about Tau Tau!

**Happy Holidays!**

Kim & Cheryl



## 2013 STTI Biennium Convention: *Give Back to Move Forward*

*Report on the event from Tau Tau board member Jeremy Blake:*

The Biennium Convention was held this November, and it was the biggest ever. Every odd numbered year, STTI members meet to discuss global and chapter news, to go over current research, to vote for new representatives, and to vote for changing or implementing new laws. This year, over 2000 members traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana to make it the biggest biennium event ever. Gail Boston (Chapter President) and I (Publicity & Communications Co-Chair/Webmaster) attended this year's conference as both representatives from the Tau Tau chapter and as convention delegates.

The conference was initially very intimidating. I tend to forget the impact that this organization has on the world of nursing, but experiencing an event like this really brings it home. As many of the visitors were nurse leaders and educators, there were mountains of experience and dedication to research to be found in every room.

Current global news from STTI is that the foundation and networking have allowed for some ground-breaking research to be done, including research into how to best provide healthcare to some of the poorest countries in the world. As for regional news, our Midwest region has



President Hester Klopper calls STTI members to action

experienced record numbers of inductees in many states, starting with our own Tau Tau chapter.

The next big upcoming event for STTI is a Research Consortium that will be held in Hong Kong next April. At this event, many of the hundreds of research abstracts that were submitted for the Biennium will present their final findings.

If you are interested in finding more complete information on the convention, please check out the STTI website for a downloadable copy of the [Biennial Report](#) (click on link) or read the [Convention Pulse](#) blog for lots of photos and details.



Flags representing 26 different countries where STTI has chapters and dancers from South Africa (home nation for newly installed Pres Klopper) - all part of the excitement at the 2013 Biennium Convention!



## Membership Involvement

### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Spotlight on STTI Resources

Have you visited Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) website lately? Did you know that STTI offers continuing education units (CEUs)? For example, there are CEUs currently available on the topics of Leadership, Elder Care, Social Media, and Diabetes...just to name a few. Some are free and others are available to you for a small fee.

Check out these educational resources using the following link:  
<http://www.nursingsociety.org/Education/Pages/default.aspx>.



If you are interested in becoming more involved with your Tau Tau chapter or have great ideas about additional activities for our group, please send ideas to Kim Hall at

[kim.hall@methodistcollege.edu](mailto:kim.hall@methodistcollege.edu)

and/or to Cheryl Bouckaert at

[Cheryl.bouckaert@methodistcollege.edu](mailto:Cheryl.bouckaert@methodistcollege.edu)

"WHAT DO I  
WANT TO DO  
WITH TAU  
TAU?"



## Inactive Members



Are you a currently inactive member of Tau Tau?

Have you not renewed your membership in the last couple of years? Think about coming back and getting involved. We want you and your ideas to help make Tau Tau a more vibrant and relevant part of your nursing world!

## Nebraska STTI Collaborative

The Nebraska STTI Collaborative held their annual education event on October 8, 2013. This year's program "Safety Implications for Bariatric Care" was presented by Ronda Fritz RN, BSN, MA, Safe Patient Handling Facility Champion, NE-Western IA Healthcare System and Linda Neumann-Potash RN, MN, CBN, Case Manager, Bariatric Surgery, The Nebraska Medical Center. In addition to the live event in Omaha, the program was broadcast to Norfolk, Lincoln, and Scottsbluff. Proceeds remaining from the event totaling almost \$500 are being donated to the Wounded Warriors Project and the Obesity Action Coalition.

If you are interested in networking and getting to know other STTI members, consider joining the



planning group. We would welcome all interested members! Contact Phyllis Zimmerman for information on how to be involved.

Chapters that are part of the collaborative effort:

**Gamma Pi** at Large Chapter, UNMC School of Nursing, and College of Saint Mary

**Iota Tau** Chapter, Creighton University School of Nursing

**Omicron Epsilon** Chapter, Clarkson College

**Tau Tau** Chapter, Nebraska Methodist College

**Theta Omega** Chapter, Midlands University



## Leadership Succession 2014

### Tau Tau wants YOU!

Several board positions will be up for election in 2014. Start thinking about which position you might like to put your name in for:

President-elect  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Governance Chair  
Leadership Succession Chair & Committee (1)  
Program Chair



Contact Leadership Succession Chair [Lori Shaw-Warren](#) if you are interested!



“ALL TAU TAU  
MEMBERS  
SHOULD  
CONSIDER  
SOMEONE TO  
NOMINATE”

## Friend of Nursing Award

The Friend of Nursing Award is conferred by local chapters and recognizes an individual or organization that is not eligible for regular membership but has impacted the chapter, the local nursing or health care community, and/or the health of people in a significant way.

STTI has established the following criteria for Friend of Nursing Award:

- \* Demonstrate a commitment to the ideals and purposes of STTI.
- \* Demonstrate superior achievement and leadership in their field of work.
- \* Contribute to the long-term significance of the chapter, the nursing profession, and/or to the health of people within a local or regional area.

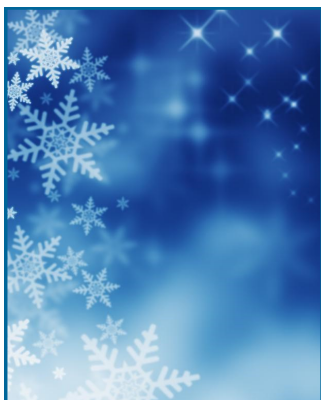
Because nominations can only be submitted by chapter members, we encourage all Tau Tau members to reflect on the above criteria and consider nominating someone from our community who has made a significant impact on Tau Tau chapter, the health of our community or the profession of nursing. All nominations will be reviewed by the Tau Tau Board of Directors and selection will be based on the criteria set forth by STTI.

Some examples of individuals or organizations that may be nominated:

- \* A printer who produces the chapter's newsletter consistently and with a high level of excellence.
- \* A person who produces and/or maintains the chapter's website.
- \* A local business that consistently sponsors the chapter or donates time, money, resources or services for chapter events.
- \* A member of the support staff of the nursing school who consistently exceeds the expectations required of his or her job.
- \* Non-nursing instructors who have taken additional steps to help teach nursing students within their university.
- \* Individuals who have made significant contributions to nursing or to advance the nursing profession or the health of people on a local or regional level.

(This list is not inclusive.)

Tau Tau Chapter would like to make this award at our next formal Induction ceremony in the fall of 2014 with a personalized certificate and public recognition, so please start thinking now about persons or groups who meet the above criteria. We will have an official Call for Nominations in upcoming months, so watch this newsletter for more information and a link to the nomination form. Please contact Chris Hoebelheinrich ( [Christine.hoebelheinrich@alegent.org](mailto:Christine.hoebelheinrich@alegent.org)) with questions or visit the STTI website: [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org)



## 2013 New Member Induction Ceremony & Reception

November 8<sup>th</sup>, the Induction Ceremony was held at Nebraska Methodist College. Our inductees for this year included 3 Nurse Leaders, 2 RN-BSN Students, 15 MSN students and 54 BSN students. Over 200 guests including the inductees and their families attended the event. Chapter President Gail Boston presided over the ceremony, and Deb Conley was our keynote speaker. Inductees were called up to receive their ribbon and sign the chapter registration. A cake and punch reception followed the ceremony. Chapter fundraising committee held a silent auction as part of the festivities, with numerous items donated. The money raised was added to our scholarship fund.

### Fall 2013 Inductees:

#### Nurse Leaders

Katherine (Katy) Doty  
Kristen Markel  
Nicole Meyers

#### MSN

Anna Allen  
Kelly Jo Balignasay  
Dawn Csipo  
Kaylar Griffin  
Kristen Hanten  
Tina Lewis  
Alisha Lyons

Pres Gail Boston leads the ceremony while members greet the newly inducted Tau Taus and have them sign the registry.



Sarah Martensen  
Melissa Renter  
Julie Redwing  
Stephanie Russell,  
Pamela (Candy) Rutledge  
Jerrica Schmitt  
Candice Thompson  
Jeanne Wilke

#### RN-BSN

Debra (Deb) Hahn  
Karen Williamson

#### Seniors Graduating in December 2013

Schyler Pauba  
Kaitlyn Ferdig  
Natalie Jones  
Emily Kohles  
Megan Wessling  
Nikki Milder  
Lindsey Miletta  
Yvette Rush

## 2013 Induction Ceremony (con't)

Cindy Driggers

Paige Abrahamson

Acenith Garvey

### Seniors Graduating in May 2014

Alisha Anderson

Madison Cooper

Shalea Cotton

Devin Dummer

Whitney Ebel

Kate Gorman

Rachel Gross

Tristin Hammond

Hannah Hartman

Emily Huff

Elizabeth McGrath

Alexandria Parrish

Jori Reeves

Lindsey Romero

Chelsea Smith

Christina Tran

Jessica Wagner

Caitlin White

Meghan Duryea

Jenny Fisher

Nicole Folmer

Tara McDonald

Alan Mosley

Kevin Naylor

Teya Norfolk

Tim Roberts

Sarah Stimmler

Jessica Strootman

Raeann Svenson

### Juniors

Daniel Gokie

Sara Krueger

Elizabeth Mandel

Melissa McCue

Kathryn Nichols

Cassandra Pedersen

Lyndsey Schlegel

Danay Taylor

### Seniors-ACE Graduating in March 2014

Jill Albert

Lora Berentschot

Cheryl Broderson

Amanda Cox

Jennifer Drake

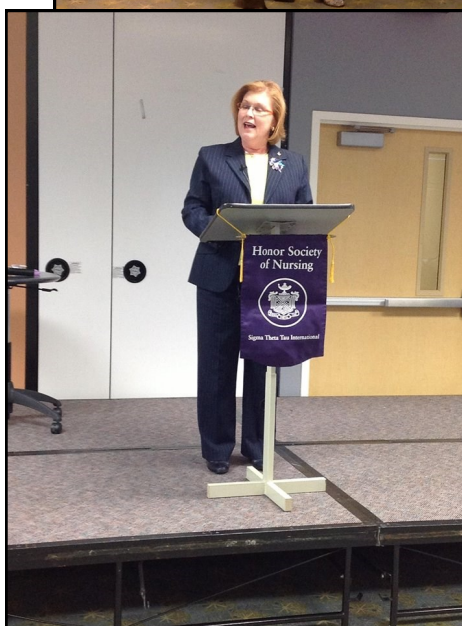
Sarah Dunklau





## 2013 Induction Photos

Inductees waiting to be called up



Deb Conley delivers  
keynote



MSN inductees await their names

**SIGMA THETA TAU  
INTERNATIONAL**

**Tau Tau Chapter,  
Nebraska Methodist  
College**

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.NURSINGSOCIETY.ORG



LOVE, COURAGE, AND HONOR

*The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to support the learning, knowledge and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide.*

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President — Gail Boston, MSN, RN-BC, CCRN  
Vice President — Katherine Marquardt, RN, MSN  
Past President — Chris Hoebelheinrich, BA, MSN, RN  
Secretary — Margaret Medeiros, MSN, RNC-OB  
Treasurer — Sue Rohlf, MSN, MA, RN  
Counselor/Governance Chair — Jean Farnham, BSN, MSN, RN  
Fundraising Chair — Hilary Spurgeon  
Membership Involvement Chairs — Kim Hall & Cheryl Bouckaert  
Leadership Succession Chair—Lori Shaw-Warren  
Leadership Succession Committee—Nicole Dempsey  
Program Chair — Phyllis Zimmerman, BGS, BSN, RN  
Publicity Co-Chairs — Janet Syslo, BSN, RN &  
Jeremiah Blake, BSN, RN



Sigma Theta Tau International  
**Honor Society of Nursing®**

**Upcoming Events!**

**February 3**

**New Member  
Orientation**

*Location TBD*

New members' opportunity to meet other Tau Tau members. Learn how to access the STTI website and the benefits you can find there! Snacks & beverages!!

Additional program details will be provided with invitation to attend!

**MARK  
YOUR  
CALENDAR**



**Help recruit NEW  
members!**

**Direct interested  
future members to  
jean.farnham@  
methodistcollege.edu !!**

**2014**

**April 16:**  
Methodist Nursing  
Research Day

**June 16 (tentative):**  
General Meeting/  
Activity

**September 15:**  
General Meeting and  
Program

**November 14:**  
New Member  
Induction Ceremony  
and Reception