



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

**Nu Omega Chapter  
University of North Carolina Wilmington  
January 2008**

### **Table of Contents**

<b>Message from Dean Virginia W. Adams</b>	<b>page 2</b>
<b>Message from Chapter President Tom Curley</b>	<b>page 3</b>
<b>New Members</b>	<b>page 4</b>
<b>Delegate Update from the Biennial Convention</b>	<b>page 5</b>
<b>Important Dates and Volunteer Opportunity</b>	<b>page 6</b>
<b>Research Day</b>	<b>pages 7-10</b>
<b>2007-2008 Nu Omega Calendar</b>	<b>page 11</b>
<b>Board Member Contact List</b>	<b>pages 12-13</b>

**Please verify & update your contact e-mail address  
at the Sigma Theta Tau website:**

[www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org)

**You can even renew your membership online!!!**

**Message from Dean Virginia W. Adams**  
**UNCW School of Nursing**

On behalf of the UNCW School of Nursing, I offer holiday greetings and thanks for a very productive year. UNCW School of Nursing faculty implemented a 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum that fully embraces technology and prepares our graduates to practice in ever evolving health care environments. Courses in the pre-licensure program are now offered twice a year. That translates into two graduations a year for new nurses from UNCW. We are pleased to have the inaugural midyear graduation for 31 pre-licensure students in December 2007, ten of whom are new members of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society.

For over two years faculty and staff have been involved in building innovative curricula and designing a 21<sup>st</sup> century state of the art teaching/learning facility funded by the state legislature. SON is moving toward construction phase and hopes to break ground for the new facility in 2008. As we concentrate on this infrastructure, a wing of the new facility is dedicated to interdisciplinary research. Nursing is excited to work with other disciplines and demonstrate our collaborative skills in working with research partners on various projects. They include PDA technology to improve adherence to medical regime, health promotion for hypertensive patients in Iwate Prefecture and southeastern NC, professionalism between American and Korean registered nurses, clinical reasoning in senior nursing students, factors impacting breastfeeding duration, intimate partner violence among migrant and seasonal farm-workers, coloposcopically diagnosed low grade squamous intraepithelial lesion in young women, and the impact of spirituality on managing hypertension in African American women.

To further support our academic and scholarship efforts, we welcome the expertise of a new associate dean of research and community partnerships and new faculty. Dr. Janie Canty-Mitchell, the new associate dean, will be working with Nu Omega on the annual research day. Dr. Kae Livsay, Dr. Carla Nye, Dr. Paula Reid joined us as tenure track faculty. They bring expertise in community health, children's health and women's health. Along with existing faculty, Melissa Batchelor, Brandy Mechling and Stephanie Turrise, two new faculty, Anne Marie Goff and Stephanie Smith are enrolled in doctoral programs.

Lastly, we invited a national scholar in molecular genetics to speak at our annual research day. We welcome Dr. Yvette Conley, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, University of Pittsburgh, as our featured speaker. Dr. Conley has a PhD in genetics, was recommended to us from NIH and is a lead instructor in the National Institute for Nursing Research's summer genetics institute. She has a fully equipped molecular genetics laboratory located within the School of Nursing is currently involved with mitochondrial genetics of recovery following brain injury, the genetics of aging using lens transparency as a biomarker, candidate gene analysis for age-related macular degeneration, and the role of calcium regulating genes in Alzheimer disease. She has extensive experience in educating nurses in genomics and the implications of clinical practice.

Please have wonderful holidays and a happy new year!



## Message from the President January 2008

Let me start by thanking you for giving me the opportunity and honor to serve as the President of the Nu Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. I also want to publicly thank Dr. Julie Taylor, PhD, RNC, WHNP, for the outstanding job she has done as President for the past two years. She has not only been phenomenal for the Chapter, but, also as a mentor for me!

As we start the 2007 – 2009 Biennium, it is an exciting time to be part of Sigma Theta Tau International, as we turn our attention to our “Vision 2020”. This is a document and philosophy of where we want to be by the year 2020. Much of the vision focuses on our call to truly be an “International” Nursing Honor Society. There are four priority goals to realize this vision. They are:

- 1. The honor society is a valued, relevant and meaningful organization for members and nurses worldwide.**
- 2. The honor society is an intentionally global organization.**
- 3. The honor society is a “thought” leader in creating and sharing knowledge and in developing leadership resources.**
- 4. The honor society is a knowledge-focused, technology enable organization.**

Please take a moment to visit this link to the full “Vision 2020”,  
<http://www.nursingsociety.org/aboutus/CalltoAction/Documents/Vision2020ExecutiveSummary.pdf>

Nu Omega will continue to influence our region through our community service, such as our outreach to the Tileston Clinic. We also want to make your membership more valuable to you by offering increased educational opportunities focusing on “Clinical Innovations” and other topics of interest to you.

Research Day 2008 is fast approaching. It is scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. This year’s theme will be: “Innovations in Clinical Practice, Teaching, and Leadership”. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Yvette Conley, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, University of Pittsburgh. Her theme will be: “Future Innovations in Nursing and Health Care: Genomics and Beyond”.

In closing, I want to make your membership in Nu Omega as meaningful as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding your concerns and needs! I can be reached @ 910-343-7825 or [Tom.Curley@nhhn.org](mailto:Tom.Curley@nhhn.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Curley, RN, BSN, CNA-BC

# Congratulations!

To our newest members of Sigma Theta Tau,  
Nu Omega Chapter

## **Bachelor of Science Prelicensure**

Heather Aldridge  
Lauren Anastasio  
Kristen Beach  
Carolyn Bellassai  
Rebecca Bennett  
Rothlauren Bowman  
Shannon Catlett

Elizabeth Crisp  
Stacy Emery  
Donnay Hall  
Kimberly Jarvis  
Jennifer Joyner  
Andrea Morris  
Caroline Neely

Michael Plyler  
Jennifer Smith  
Natalie Soderholm  
Melissa Strickland  
Brandi Tinsbloom

## **RN Access**

Marianne Coy



## **Master of Science**

Christy Bullard  
Teresa Duncan  
Julie Harris  
Flor McKinley  
Leslie Oxendine  
Holly Reynolds  
David Summerfield  
Erin Douglas Williamson

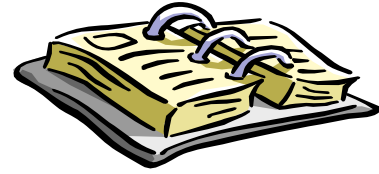


## Delegate Update

The 39<sup>th</sup> Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing Biennial Convention was held in Baltimore, November 3-7, 2007. Nu Omega Chapter was well represented with Tom Curley, President, and Julie Taylor, past President serving as delegates to the 2007 House of Delegates, which was held November 7, 2007. RuthAnne Kuiper and Bettie Glenn served as tellers for the 2007 elections with RuthAnne Kuiper and Carol Heinrich presenting their research entitled “Using PDA Technology to Improve Adherence to Medical Regimens“ to a packed house on Monday, November 5, 2007.

The week held much excitement for all who attended with 12 new petitioning chapters receiving charters during the House of Delegates bringing the total number of international chapters to 463 representing 569 college campuses. Several By-Laws amendments were adopted during the House of Delegates, however by-law amendment #3 which proposed to eliminate the undergraduate membership eligibility criterion of having to rank in the upper 35% of the graduating class failed to pass. Please see STTI website for complete details regarding elections and by-law amendments. Finally, all attendees had the opportunity to interact with nurse scholars from many countries around the globe and learn about many exciting research initiatives throughout the week. The 40<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana in 2009.

Respectfully submitted, Julie Taylor



## ***Important Dates***

---

***Research Day      Thursday, April 3, 2008 & Friday, April 4, 2008***

***Membership Meeting and Educational Program      January 15, 2008***  
***“The Second Ice Age – The Use of Hypothermia to Improve Neurological Function”***

***Carolyn Brown, Clinical Education Specialist, Coastal Heart Center***  
***Sheila Deitz, NNP, NICU at NHRMC***

***Membership Meeting and Educational Program      June 17, 2008***  
***(Topic to be announced)***

***\*Both membership meetings/educational programs will be held  
in the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Classroom  
at New Hanover Regional Medical Center***

***1.0 contact hour will be provided***

## **Volunteer Opportunity**

**We need you!!!**

- What:** Nu Omega is looking for volunteer nurses and nursing students to provide on-site educational offerings to clinic patients on various topics
- When:** Dates will be announced at a later time. Tileston Clinic has recently relocated and is in the process of determining a specified teaching room for us.
- Where:** Tileston Clinic, 1605 Doctor’s Circle, Wilmington, NC 28402
- Contact:** Carol Heinrich [heinrichc@uncw.edu](mailto:heinrichc@uncw.edu) 910-962-7590

***“Future Innovations in Nursing and Healthcare:  
Genomics and Beyond”***

What: 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Nu Omega Research Day

When: Thursday, April 3, 2008 6:30-8:30 p. m.  
Friday, April, 4, 2008 8:00 a. m. – 12:00 noon

Where: University of North Carolina at Wilmington  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Madeline Suite  
April 4<sup>th</sup> - Lumina Theatre in the Fisher Student Center

***Yvette P. Conley, PHD***

*Keynote speaker, Dr. Conley, is an Associate Professor of Nursing and Human Genetics at the University of Pittsburgh. She was the first geneticist in the country to hold a full time primary appointment in a School of Nursing and is devoted to educating nurses and nurse scientists. She is the author of the Genetics Online Education Series offered through the Oncology Nursing Society, is administrative faculty for the National Institute of Nursing Research Summer Genetics Institute and co-director of an NIH training program titled “Targeted Research and Academic Training of Nurses in Genomics”. Dr. Conley has a fully equipped molecular genomics laboratory that conducts NIH funded research focusing on the contribution of genetic variation to patient outcomes after neurological insult.*

## ***Call for Research Abstracts***

**SIXTEENTH ANNUAL NU OMEGA RESEARCH DAY**

### ***“FUTURE INNOVATIONS IN NURSING AND HEALTHCARE: GENOMICS AND BEYOND”***

**CO-SPONSORS :**

**SIGMA THETA TAU, NU OMEGA CHAPTER  
NEW HANOVER HEALTH NETWORK  
UNCW SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**April 3 and April 4, 2008**

at

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON  
Wilmington, North Carolina**

The Research Steering Committee for the Nu Omega Sixteenth Annual Research Day invites you to submit an abstract for this interdisciplinary health research conference in southeastern North Carolina. The goal of the conference is to bring experienced and novice researchers together to share nursing best practice research across care settings. An emphasis will be on evidenced based research and scholarly projects that reflect innovative approaches to improve healthcare outcomes. The focus of this year's conference is clinical innovations in nursing through research and scholarship.

Abstracts submitted as papers should be research that is approved by an Institutional Review Board. All other submissions will be considered for poster session unless otherwise indicated.

Your day will be filled with lively exchanges of creative ideas among dedicated researchers, educators, clinical and community scholars. Come join us in 2008! Monetary awards will be presented for outstanding research.

For additional information contact: [Tom.Curley@nhhn.org](mailto:Tom.Curley@nhhn.org) or [cantymitchellj@uncw.edu](mailto:cantymitchellj@uncw.edu)

**Submission deadline:** January 30, 2008      **Notification** February 28, 2008

# Research Abstract Submission Guidelines

## SIXTEENTH ANNUAL RESEARCH DAY

### ***“FUTURE INNOVATIONS IN NURSING AND HEALTHCARE: GENOMICS AND BEYOND”***

SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL, NU OMEGA CHAPTER  
NEW HANOVER HEALTH NETWORK  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON SCHOOL OF NURSING

April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4th, 2008

at

University of North Carolina Wilmington

We are pleased that you chose to answer the call for abstract submission for the 2008 Sigma Theta Tau International, Nu Omega Chapter 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference. Multidisciplinary health researchers (nurses, physicians, sociology, social work, psychology, and others) from any practice or education setting are invited to submit abstracts (guidelines below) describing their research/scholarship. **All abstracts are due January 30, 2008. Notice of acceptance will be by February 28, 2008.**

Abstracts may be submitted for either podium (paper) or poster presentations. All research must be approved by an appropriate Institutional Review Board to be considered for presentation. **Registration and attendance at the Research Day is required for all conference presenters.**

#### ***Abstract Submission***

The Research Committee invites you to submit an abstract for this exciting multidisciplinary health research conference. The intent of the conference is to bring experienced and novice researchers together to share the state of the art medical, nursing, and other health related research. Emphasis will be on evidenced based research and scholarly projects that reflect innovative approaches to improve healthcare outcomes.

**Abstract Format:** Use the following guidelines when developing your abstract. Abstracts not meeting these guidelines will not be reviewed.

1. Include the following sections of the research completed in your 350 word abstract:
  - A. Background/Rationale
  - B. Purpose
  - C. Method(s) or PDSA
  - D. Results
  - E. Conclusions
  - F. Implications for Practice
2. Abstracts must be in publishable format, single-spaced, in 12 point New Times Roman font, with a one inch margin all around. Paper must be 8-½ 11 and white camera-ready paper.
3. A completed **Abstract Cover Sheet** must accompany all abstracts: Include name(s), address, credentials, title, affiliation, and home and business telephone for all presenters. (See forms)

#### **Abstract Submission Guidelines:**

1. Abstracts must be submitted by email on or before **January 30, 2008** to Jeanne Kemppainen, PhD, RN at [kemppainenj@uncw.edu](mailto:kemppainenj@uncw.edu). **Abstracts received after this date will not be considered.**
2. Abstracts must be e-mailed as attachments in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format.



## Nu Omega 2007-2008 Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, September 18	5:30 PM	Board Meeting	NHRMC 10 <sup>th</sup> floor
Tuesday, October 16	5 PM	Board Meeting	UNCW Friday Annex Room 108
Thursday, October 25	5-6 PM	New Member Orientation	Watson School of Education – Room #162 (ground flr)
Thursday, November 8	6-8 PM	New Member Induction	UNCW Warwick Center
Date to be announced	5 PM	Tileston Community Outreach Project	Tileston Clinic 1605 Dr.'s Circle
Tuesday, January 15	5 PM	Board Meeting	10 <sup>th</sup> Floor Classroom at NHRMC
	6 PM	Membership Meeting and Program	
Date to be announced	5 PM	Tileston Community Outreach Project	Tileston Clinic 1605 Dr.'s Circle
Tuesday, March 18	5 PM	Board Meeting	UNCW Friday Annex Room 108
Thursday, April 3	6-9 PM	Research Day Evening Program & Dinner	UNCW Madeline Suite
Friday, April 4	8 AM – 1 PM	Research Day	Lumina Theatre Fisher Student Ctr.
Date to be announced	5 PM	Tileston Community Outreach Project	Tileston Clinic 1605 Dr.'s Circle
Tuesday, June 17	5 PM	Board Meeting Membership Meeting and Program <b>Installation of New Officers</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Floor Classroom at NHRMC
	6 PM		
Date to be announced	5 PM	Tileston Community Outreach Project	Tileston Clinic 1605 Dr.'s Circle
Date to be announced	5 PM	Tileston Community Outreach Project	Tileston Clinic 1605 Dr.'s Circle

Officer	Primary Responsibilities	Contact Information
<p><b>President</b> Tom Curley, RN, BSN Manager, Coronary Care Unit and Chest Pain Center New Hanover Regional Medical Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serves as executive officer and administrator of all chapter business</li> <li>Prepares calendar and agenda for chapter board and membership meetings</li> </ul>	<p><a href="mailto:Tom.Curley@nhhn.org">Tom.Curley@nhhn.org</a> 910-343-7825</p>
<p><b>Vice President</b> Patty White, RNC, BSN Staff Nurse, NICU Community Transition Coordinator New Hanover Regional Medical Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performs duties of the President in the President's absence</li> <li>Responsible for the planning of chapter programs</li> </ul>	<p><a href="mailto:Patty.White@nhhn.org">Patty.White@nhhn.org</a>  910-815-5682 910-343-7391</p>
<p><b>Secretary</b>  Denise M. Phillips, RN, BSN RN Case Manager CHF Telephonic Program New Hanover Regional Medical Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepares minutes from board and membership meetings and distributes to members of the Board of Directors</li> <li>Prepares annual report to the chapter membership</li> </ul>	<p><a href="mailto:Denise.Phillips@nhhn.org">Denise.Phillips@nhhn.org</a> or <a href="mailto:denisemphillips@earthlink.net">denisemphillips@earthlink.net</a>  910-342-3265 910-792-9546</p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b>  Ruthanne Kuiper, Ph.D., RN, CCRN, CNE Associate Professor/Faculty Chair UNCW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serves as custodian of chapter funds</li> <li>Prepares and submits annual chapter financial report</li> </ul>	<p><a href="mailto:kuiperr@uncw.edu">kuiperr@uncw.edu</a> 910-962-3343</p>
<p><b>First Counselor</b>  Deborah Pollard, PhD, RNC, IBCLC Assistant Professor of Nursing UNCW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leads the procedure for determining membership eligibility and inducting members</li> <li>Manages or delegates the oversight of chapter bylaws change</li> <li>Chairs the Governance Committee</li> </ul>	<p><a href="mailto:pollardd@uncw.edu">pollardd@uncw.edu</a> 910-962-4121</p>
<p><b>Second Counselor</b>  Carol Heinrich, PhD, APRN Assistant Professor of Nursing UNCW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assists the first counselor in the eligibility and induction procedures</li> <li>Serves as a member of the Governance Committee</li> </ul>	<p><a href="mailto:heinrichc@uncw.edu">heinrichc@uncw.edu</a> 910-962-7590</p>

Officer	Primary Responsibilities	Contact Information
<b>Leadership Succession Committee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select nominees for chapter offices and prepare the ballot for elections</li> </ul>	<a href="mailto:patty.white@nhhn.org">patty.white@nhhn.org</a> 910-343-7391 910-815-5682
Patty White, RNC, BSN Staff Nurse, NICU Community Transition Coordinator New Hanover Regional Medical Center		<a href="mailto:sue.ballato@nhhn.org">sue.ballato@nhhn.org</a> 910-343-2574
Sue Ballato, RN, MBA Director, Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Safety New Hanover Regional Medical Center		
Judith Jarosinski, RN, MS, PhD Assistant Professor UNCW		<a href="mailto:jarosinskij@uncw.edu">jarosinskij@uncw.edu</a> 910-962-7296

# We've gone electronic!



This issue of the Nu Omega newsletter used e-mail distribution for all members for whom we have an e-mail address. This represents a savings to our chapter of about \$600 per year. **Please** verify and update your e-mail address as needed on the Sigma Theta Tau website [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org) so we may send your newsletter and keep you informed of any other additional news and correspondence. Just click on the “membership” link at the top of the site and you can update your information and even **renew online!!!** You may also contact Denise Phillips, secretary, if you have any problems or concerns: [denise.phillips@nhhn.org](mailto:denise.phillips@nhhn.org)

**Find out what’s happening in our chapter  
by visiting the UNCW School of Nursing website  
[www.uncw.edu/son/sigmathetatau.htm](http://www.uncw.edu/son/sigmathetatau.htm)**

**Click on Sigma Theta Tau under Additional Information  
on the left side of the screen.**

**UNCW, School of Nursing  
601 South College Road  
Wilmington, NC 28403**