



Honor Society of Nursing
Sigma Theta Tau
International

Rho Chapter

University of Michigan
Chartered 1957

www.nursing.umich.edu/info/current-students/clubs-organizations/sigma-theta-tau

Fall 2017, VOLUME 17 NUMBER 2

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 Follow us on Instagram:
Rho Chapter user id is [sttirhchapter](https://www.instagram.com/sttirhchapter)



Rho Chapter participates in the 44th STTI Biennial Convention

Summary of the 44th Biennial Convention:



Influence Through Action: Advancing Global Health, Nursing, and Midwifery

More than 2,000 nurse professionals gathered in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, to share information, learn, and network with one another. After the time-honored flag procession and presentation of the Sigma Theta Tau International/ATI Educational Assessment Nursing Research Grant, STTI President Cathy Catrambone, PhD, RN, FAAN, reported on the progress of STTI and the initiatives that support her call to action, Influence to Advance Global Health and Nursing.



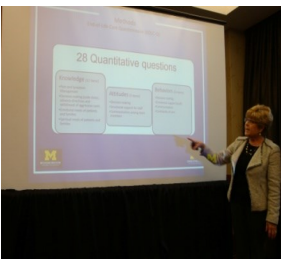
New Sigma Brand

One of the highlights of the convention was the unveiling of the new Sigma brand. Sigma Theta Tau International will be known as "Sigma." After 95 years, freshening the look and language is a great way to prepare for continued success. We want to ensure we stand out against other nursing organizations and reduce the potential of being misperceived as a fraternal, social, or academic-only organization. The Board of Directors and leadership team have worked diligently to develop the new look and feel for Sigma that will serve us well for years to come. STTI will still retain its official name and will remain an honor society, but members are welcome to call the organization by its new brand: "Sigma."



Mary Gravier (center) is honored for serving as Region 10 coordinator

At the Region 10 meeting chapters gathered to acknowledge chapter achievements, as well as recognize Region 10 Coordinator Mary Gravier for her 6 years of dedicated service. Rho chapter received the Showcase of Regional Excellence recognizing outstanding achievement for Philanthropy and Lifelong Learning. Rho members Diane Ferguson, Amber Prong and Dorothy Nagle were recognized for their time and resources as a Regional Committee member.



Deb Price presents her work on palliative care

Several Rho Chapter members presented their scholarly work. Dr. Bonnie Hagerty provided a well-received podium presentation on her work with Dr. Melissa Bathish on "*Influence of Treatment of Depression and Utilization of a Self-Management Intervention*". Dr. Deborah Price provided an EBP session on "*Perceived Palliative and EOL Care Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors Among Health Professionals*." Both sessions had lively discussions and great interest from participants. In the poster session, Dr. Barbara J. Kupferschmid presented her co-authored project, "*Factors Predicting Mastery of Informatics Competencies in Doctor of Nursing Practice Students*." Summaries of these projects can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

Rho Chapter proudly received its second Chapter Key award during the Chapter Awards Recognition event. The Chapter Key program honors STTI chapters that show excellence in membership support, programming, professional development, and collaboration at the local, national, and international levels.



Our Chapter Key Award!



By Debbie Price, DNP, MS, RN,
President, Rho Chapter

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The 44th STTI biennial convention was held in Indianapolis and it was a memorable experience for Ann Kruszewski and me as your Rho Chapter representatives. Ann and I attended different sessions based on our areas of interests. I attended sessions related to my interest in palliative care. Ann attended useful presentations on academic-service partnerships and member engagement and retention. Several amendments to the STTI bylaws and new resolutions were approved at the convention. There were six amendments for consideration by the House of Delegates. Five amendments to STTI Bylaws were passed that involved minor changes for clarity and consistency of wording. One amendment that would provide for electronic voting for election of international officers, directors and committee members generated a great deal of discussion and was tabled until a specific plan for electronic voting can be presented. In addition to the amendments, seven resolutions were passed which supported the continued work of the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing and Midwifery (GAPFON), supported the work of healthcare providers responding to needs of refugees, supported programs of global mentoring and engagement in STTI, as well as expressions of appreciation for STTI's United Nations Liaison and Youth Representatives, retiring president Cathy Catrambone, and the work of STTI's board of directors and committees.

The House of Delegates Session 2 included election results, business of the House, recognition of chapter anniversaries, acknowledgement of new chapters and charter amendments, the departure and recognition ceremony, of retiring officers and installation and transition of elected officers. After the transition ceremony, new Sigma President Beth Baldwin Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP, BC, delivered her call to action address, *Connect. Collaborate. Catalyze*, focusing on how we can make use of cutting-edge technologies to digitally transform as an organization, and that by being intentionally collaborative, we must be a catalyst for action to transform global nursing. There are many changes coming in STTI with the new brand identity, "Sigma." It was very interesting to be a part of the brand roll out.

One of the best moments of convention was receiving our second Chapter Key Award. Only 15% of chapters received this recognition for high achievement in the mission of STTI. This award belongs to all of you because your participation as a Rho member made it possible. Ann and I are thankful for the opportunity to attend and represent Rho Chapter and we are so proud to be your delegates!

Happy holidays to everyone!



Deb Price and Ann Kruszewski, Rho
Chapter delegates

MEET OUR NEW STUDENT INTERN



2017-18 Student Leader
Intern, Caroline Kremers

Rho Chapter began a student internship program several years ago to mentor future leaders among our undergraduate students. We are proud to introduce this year's Student Leader Intern, Caroline Kremers:

"Hi, my name is Caroline Kremers and I am a senior in the University of Michigan nursing program. I am from Grand Rapids Michigan, and this summer I was a student extern at Metro Health Hospital in Wyoming, Michigan. I spent my time working with nurses on the assisted breathing center unit, and enjoyed growing in my knowledge of tracheostomy care and ventilators. I am passionate about women's health and labor and delivery nursing, and I hope to become a nurse midwife or neonatal nurse practitioner. Some things I am a part of in addition to STTI are the nursing student government and a community day care before and after school program in Ann Arbor. I look forward to learning from and working with the Rho Chapter board this year and plan to focus on projects involving community outreach."

Welcome, Caroline! We are looking forward to working with you.

RHO CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Deborah Price, DNP, RN (debprice@umich.edu)
President-Elect: Laura Struble, PhD, GNP-BC (lstruble@umich.edu)
Vice-President: Elizabeth Brough, PhD, RN (ebrough@umich.edu)
Treasurer: Cristina Wojack, MS, RN, AGACNP-BC, CCRN (wojackc@umich.edu)
Secretary: Paul Edick MSN, RN (edickp@med.umich.edu)
Faculty Counselor: Kitty Murtha MSN, RNC-OB (kmmu@umich.edu)
Faculty Counselor-Elect: Beth Russell, MS, RN (bethcrus@umich.edu)
Student Leadership Intern: Caroline Kremers SN4 (kremerc@umich.edu)

COMMITTEES

Governance Committee (Membership & Bylaws)
 Chairperson: Nadia Charania, PhD, RN (charania@umich.edu)
 Member: Amber Prong, SN4 (amberpro@umich.edu)
 Member: Brad Liestenfeltz, BSN, RN (bliesten@umich.edu)

Leadership Succession Committee
 Chairperson: Kathleen Standish MSA, RN, CJCP (kstandis@umich.edu)
 Member: Julie Buser, CPNP-PC, RN (jbuser@umich.edu)
 Member: Alex Fauer, BSN, RN (ajfauer@umich.edu)

Excellence in Nursing Awards Committee
 Chairperson: Corinne Lee, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC (leeco@umich.edu)
 Member: Mary Sue Webb, BSN, RN (mswebb@med.umich.edu)

Newsletter/Publicity Committee
 Chairperson: Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN, (annkrusz@umich.edu)
 Social Media: Julia Morrissey, MS, RN (julmorri@med.umich.edu)

Research/Special Projects Committee
 Chairperson: Esther Bay, PhD, ACNS-BC, (pdq@umich.edu)
 Member: Carol Loveland-Cherry, PhD, RN (loveland@umich.edu)

Membership Involvement Committee
 Chairperson: Tayler Lenzen, BSN, RN, (tlenzen@umich.edu)
 Member: Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN, (annkrusz@umich.edu)

Finance Committee
 Chairperson: Cristina Wojack, BSN, RN (wojackc@umich.edu)
 Member: Paul Edick, MSN, RN (edickp@med.umich.edu)

Meet the Rho Chapter Board & Committee Members 2017-2018

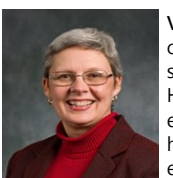
Here is an introduction to your chapter leaders for the upcoming year: Thank you to everyone who serves Rho Chapter as an officer or committee member. Rho Chapter is grateful for your service.



President: **Deborah Price, DNP, MS, RN** is a faculty member of the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She holds a DNP in Nursing from Oakland University and a M.S. and B.S.N. from the University of Michigan. She currently teaches undergraduates and also mentors graduate students. Deb's research and scholarship focus on interdisciplinary palliative and end-of-life care. She has presented nationally and published on teaching innovations in undergraduate education and palliative care.



President Elect: **Laura Struble, PhD, GNP-BC**, is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She holds a PhD, GNP, and an Acute Care M.S. degree from the University of Michigan. Dr. Struble has made geriatric and dementia care her life's work through clinical practice, education and research. She serves as the gerontology curriculum expert for all of the advanced practice nursing programs and is an experienced nurse practitioner with a background in neurology, acute care and geriatric psychiatry.



Vice-President: **Elizabeth (Libby) Brough, PhD, RN**. Libby is currently a Clinical Instructor at the School of Nursing, where she serves as a clinical faculty in the undergraduate program. Her recent research has focused on understanding the role of emotions in chronic illness and using tailored messages to help women reduce hypertension. Her clinical work includes evidence-based practice projects with clinical nurse specialists and staff nurses



Secretary: **Paul Edick MSN, RN**, is a staff nurse on the inpatient child and psychiatry unit at UMHS. He received his BSN from Michigan State University's College of Nursing second career program after receiving his BA from the University of Michigan. He recently graduated from WMU with his masters in nursing. Paul is currently teaching undergraduate nursing students in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing course.



Treasurer: **Cristina Wojack, MS, RN, AGACNP-BC, CCRN**, is a Nurse Practitioner at Beaumont Health System in Grosse Pointe with the SICU/Trauma team and a staff nurse at the University of Michigan. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan for both her MS and BSN. She serves as a mentor to ACPN graduate nursing students.



Faculty Counselor: **Kitty Murtha, MSN, RNC-OB**, is a Leo Lecturer I of the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She holds a MS in Nursing from Walden University, and a BSN from Saginaw Valley State University and began her Nursing profession as a Diploma RN from St. Joseph Mercy School of Nursing of Detroit. She is Certified in Inpatient Obstetrics. She currently facilitates Mother-Baby Clinicals for 3rd year undergraduate students and has also facilitated Med-Surg Clinicals for 2nd year sophomore students.

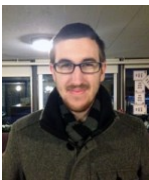


Faculty Counselor-Elect: **Beth C. Russell, MS, RN**, is a graduate of West Virginia University and the University of Maryland. Beth has been faculty at Michigan since 1995, currently teaching junior and senior students in Pediatrics and Complex Care. She is also faculty advisor to the Mott Patient and Family Council and the Congenital Heart Center Family

Governance Committee: This committee oversees new membership and bylaws.



Chairperson: **Nadia Charania, PhD, RN**, Dr. Charania's research and teaching focus on psychiatric-mental health nursing. She has studied major depression in Pakistani women with the goal of providing culturally sensitive care. Dr. Charania teaches at the undergraduate level and has extensive teaching experience with both national and international nursing students and nursing staff. Prior to her appointment at UMSN, Dr. Charania was an Assistant Professor at the Aga Khan University School of Nursing, Pakistan.



Member: **Bradley Liestenfeltz, BSN, RN**, is a 2nd year PhD student at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. His program of research focuses on improving engagement in and utilization of diabetes prevention interventions through community outreach, engagement of healthcare providers, and changing individual behavior. He currently works part-time on the adult bone marrow transplant unit at Michigan Medicine and hopes to work as a college-level educator after completing his graduate degree.



Member: **Amber Prong** is a senior nursing student at the University of Michigan School of Nursing and works in the Emergency Department at a Beaumont Hospital as an Emergency Tech. She currently is a member of the STTI Region 10 Committee and is the Teacher's Assistant for the sophomore Health Promotion and Risk Reduction Nursing Course.

Leadership Succession Committee: This committee is responsible for selection of members to serve in chapter leadership positions and handles officer elections.

Chairperson: **Kathleen Standish MSA, RN, CJCP**



Member: **Julie Buser, CPNP-PC, RN**, works in pediatric hematology, oncology & bone marrow transplant nursing at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and is a second-year PhD student at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She also has extensive experience in international medical humanitarian assistance. Julie is interested in global child health as well as pediatric hematology/oncology nursing. In the doctoral program, her program of research focuses on newborn and infant outcomes at maternity waiting homes in low- and middle-resource countries.



Member: **Alex Fauver, BSN, RN**, is a first year PhD student at the University of Michigan School of Nursing in Ann Arbor. Alex received his BSN from the University of Michigan School of Nursing in Ann Arbor. He is interested in the health care quality and patient experience in various populations of adults with cancer. Alex works clinically on an inpatient internal medicine & telemetry unit at University Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Excellence Awards Committee: This committee oversees the Nursing Excellence Awards and the annual awards ceremony held in April.



Chairperson: **Corinne Lee, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC**, is an Educational Nurse Specialist in the Department of Professional Development & Education, UMHS. She holds a DNP from the University of Michigan. She is involved in many leadership development programs for nurses at various levels. She also is involved in continuing education for the nursing community at the University of Michigan.

Excellence Awards Committee Members - Continued



Member: Mary Sue Webb BSN, RN, is a float nurse in Ambulatory Care, working among Family and Internal Medicine clinics. Mary Sue states, "I'm using my experience to help all the clinics and provide some tools to enhance the efficiency of those working in the RN role."

Research/Special Projects Committee: This committee oversees the grants awarded semi-annually to support members' research and scholarly projects.



Chairperson: Esther Bay PhD, ACNS-BC, is a Clinical Associate Professor within the School of Nursing, earned her BSN & PhD from the University of MI, and her MSN, specializing in critical care nursing, from Wayne State University. She has a broad teaching background with undergraduates and graduate nursing students within private and public 2 and 4 -year institutions. Her research program, following her PhD, focuses on enhancing symptom self-management practices for persons with mild to moderate traumatic brain injury with emphasis on mindfulness based meditation.



Member: Carol J. Loveland-Cherry, PhD, RN, FAAN, is Professor Emerita, University of Michigan School of Nursing. Dr. Loveland-Cherry holds a BSN and a MPH in Nursing from the University of Michigan, and a PhD in Nursing from Wayne State University. Her NIH funded research focused on development and testing of health promotion interventions for families with infants, children and adolescents. She was a faculty member at Wayne State University College of Nursing and a faculty member and Executive Associate Dean at The University of Michigan School of Nursing.

Newsletter/Publicity: This committee oversees development of the chapter newsletter and handles publicity for Rho chapter events.



Publicity: Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN, is emeritus faculty from the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Although retired, she is still passionate about involvement with the next generation of nurses.



Social Media: Julia Morrissey, BSN, RN, is the Clinical Nurse Supervisor of the Adult Bone Marrow/Hematology/Oncology Unit at Michigan Medicine. She received her BSN from Eastern Michigan University's School of Nursing RN to BSN program after receiving her ADN from Washtenaw Community College. Julia is currently enrolled at the University of Michigan School of Nursing in the Nursing Leadership MSN program.

Membership Involvement: Promotes membership renewal, engagement, and involvement for current and new members.



Chairperson: Tayler Lenzen, BSN, RN, is a staff nurse at the University of Michigan Neurology/Neurosurgical unit, as well as, the Stroke unit. She received her BSN from The College of Saint Scholastica in Duluth, MN.

2017 UMHS Nursing Poster Day

The Nursing at Michigan Poster Day was the most successful ever! This event was held on October 9 and 10 and featured 48 posters showcasing the scholarly work of nurses in practice, advanced practice and education at the Michigan Medicine healthcare system. This annual event was supported by Nursing at Michigan, the School of Nursing, and Rho Chapter. Practice improvements related to infection prevention, airway management, infant driven feedings, medication safety, opioid prescription reduction and mobility interventions were just some of the topics presented. Awards were given for posters in the categories of Research, Clinical Innovation, Evidence-Based Practice, First Time Presenter and People's Choice (determined by vote of attendees). Each winning team received a donation to the nursing education fund on their nursing unit.

The People's Choice Award was funded by Rho Chapter. Rho is proud to recognize this year's recipients, the team from University Hospital 5A unit, whose project focused on promoting early ambulation in patients with joint replacement. Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients:

Best Clinical Innovations Poster Award: *When Units Compete – Infections are Beat!* Szpara, T., Phillips, C., Loik, C., Seymour, J., Aranda, M., Camp, J., Krem̄er, L. Kruse, L., Stodgell, A.

Best Evidence Based Practice Poster Award: *Infant-Driven Feedings in the Pediatric General Care Setting.* Crane, S. and Pehovic, R.

First Time Presenter Award: *Emergency Airway and Ventilator Procedures for Community Based Home Care Staff: Validation of an Educational Program.* Ramsey, A.M., Brennan, S., Stricker, A., Gurtowsky, R., Brown, D., Riek, K., Filbrun, A.

People's Choice Award: *Mobility Technician Influence on Early Ambulation Among the Orthopaedic Joint Replacement Population.* Hulteen, J., Windel, B., Falzon, R., Hinkle, K., Banfield, M., Coleman, C., Diroff, L., Leistner, D., Gillespie, T., Jordan, M., Smyth, D., Terry, M.



5A Nursing team with their winning poster for the People's Choice Award.



People's Choice Award. winner Jessica Hulteen with CNO Devin Carr, DNP, RN

RHO CHAPTER PROJECT SUMMARIES

The following projects were presented by Rho Chapter members at the 44th Biennial Convention. Summaries are included here so that all Rho members can benefit from these colleagues' work. The abstracts have been abbreviated but complete abstracts are available at the URL's listed below.

Perceived Palliative and EOL Care Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors Among Health Professionals

Deborah M. Price. Co-authors: Smith, HM, Oldfield, JH,, Zyberty, JA, Montagnini, M., Strodman, LK

abstract URL: <https://stti.confex.com/stti/bc17/webprogram/Paper86448.html>

The purpose of this study was to complete a comprehensive, baseline assessment across health care disciplines to identify self-perceived deficits in providing competent palliative and end-of-life (EOL) care to hospitalized patients. Low perceived competence/discomfort can adversely affect palliative/EOL care provided to the dying. These skills are rarely natural and must be first assessed, then learned. This descriptive study electronically surveyed participants using the End-of-Life Questionnaire (EOLQ) (Montagnini, Smith & Balistrieri, 2012). Participants in the study (N=1200) included physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, physical and occupational therapists, social workers, pharmacists, chaplains, and child-life health care professionals. Quantitative data analysis revealed that overall perceived competency in palliative/EOL care for all respondents was moderately high (\bar{x} = 3.68; r = 1-5). Subscale analysis revealed that self-perceived EOL competency behaviors were significantly lower compared to knowledge and attitude competencies ($p < .0001$). Perceived EOL Care competencies were significantly influenced by educational preparation ($p < 0.0001$), years in current practice ($p < 0.0001$), acuity level of unit population ($p < 0.0001$), role on treatment team ($p < 0.0001$) and physician specialty ($p < 0.0002$). Significant differences in individual and team behaviors were found for physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, and social workers ($p < .05$). When team behaviors were compared according to nursing unit acuity level significant differences were found in attitude, knowledge and symptom management between adult ICU and adult acute care nurses ($p < .00001$). Qualitative analysis (N=475) identified 7 major themes 1.Communication, 2.Decision-making, 3.Educational needs of patients and providers, 4.End-of-life Care needs, 5.Ethical concerns, and 6.Satisfaction of PC and EOL Care, and 7.Spiritual and Cultural Care, The results indicated that educational needs related to the provision of competent palliative/EOL care may be different depending on the hospital unit acuity level, patient population, experience level of staff, and professional role. Interventions should be focused on improving communication, collaboration and decision-making behaviors between the disciplines and with the patients and family members, with earlier palliative care consultation and involvement when needed.

Influence of Treatment of Depression and Utilization of a Self-Management Intervention

Bonnie M. Hagerly, and Melissa A. Bathish

abstract URL: <https://stti.confex.com/stti/bc17/webprogram/Paper84342.html>

The purpose of this research was to identify the influence of medication and psychotherapy treatment on the usage of a self-management intervention for depression, the Preventive Illness Management (PIM-D). Antidepressant drugs and different types of psychotherapy represent the mainstay of treatment for depression (Driessen et al., 2015; Marcus & Olsen, 2010). However, little is known about self-management of long-term depression and the interventions and strategies used to control this condition. PIM-D intervention, a self-regulation strategy for preventing or lessening the severity of depressive episodes, was presented to 23 individuals diagnosed with recurrent major depression. Participants were asked to provide information regarding types of therapy and/or medications used to treat their depression pre-intervention and 6-months post intervention. Descriptive and comparative statistics were used to identify effects of therapies on use of the PIM-D intervention. PIM-D is based on metacognition and self-regulation theories. Six months post-intervention, use of medications increased in those individuals who used the intervention more frequently and decreased in those using it less often, indicating adherence and potential commitment to long term treatment. Subsequently, those who used the intervention more frequently had a higher percentage of individuals utilizing psychotherapy than those using it rarely or never, yet usage of psychotherapy increased after 6 months in those using it less. Results suggest those who did not use PIM-D as often may have resorted to shorter-term treatments such as psychotherapies.

Factors Predicting Mastery of Informatics Competencies in Doctor of Nursing Practice Students

Barbara J. Kupferschmid. Co-authors: Creech, CJ, McFarland, MR, Haefner, J, and Filter, M

abstract URL: <https://stti.confex.com/stti/bc17/webprogram/Paper87648.html>

Healthcare is undergoing rapid transformation related to many factors including the increasing use of information technology in care delivery, reimbursement, and the utilization of big data. Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) providers are at the forefront of these changes and challenges and are in a position to use information technology to monitor and improve health care outcomes. The purpose of this study was to analyze two factors which may predict the ability of DNP students to master competencies in an online Informatics course. A descriptive design was used to examine the effects of experience and education on mastery of Informatics competencies. A convenience sample of students enrolled in an online Informatics course was asked to complete a self-assessment at the beginning of the course, rating their experience working with Meaningful Use (MU) datasets, databases, e-health systems, and clinical support systems. Data were also collected on demographic characteristics and end of course faculty determination of students' mastery of competencies which included application of MU concepts, utilization and datasets or databases, application of e-Health principles in a teaching plan, and analysis of clinical support systems. Students' scores on these competencies were assigned a value of 1 (mastered) or 0 (did not master). Logistic regression (binomial) was performed to assess the impact of experience and highest degree obtained on mastery of Informatics competencies. In our analysis we found that factors such as previous experience with specific informatics concepts may affect mastery of Informatics competencies. While this study did not find that highest degree obtained predicted competency, it is part of an ongoing analysis of factors which may predict success with mastering informatics knowledge and skills. We recommend a comprehensive assessment be constructed to evaluate students in courses which include both post-Baccalaureate and post-Masters students. This analysis should be used to determine whether course content needs revision or modification.

Congratulations to Rho Chapter Scholarship Recipients

Rho Chapter has established a scholarship fund to support one undergraduate and one graduate student each year. Here are the recipients of the 2017 scholarship awards. Thank you to all Rho members--your dues support made these scholarships possible!

Undergraduate Recipient, Brittany Gray: Brittany is a senior student in the traditional undergraduate program and is looking forward to graduating in May 2018. She is from Illinois and chose nursing because of her genuine love for people. "There is nothing more rewarding than dedicating your time and talents to others." Brittany loves the littles patients and her goal is to become an advanced practice nurse, either a pediatric nurse practitioner or nurse midwife. Brittany wrote in her letter of thanks, "From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for your generosity. Michigan is hard to finance for an out of state student...every bit of financial support is a huge help..."



Graduate Recipient, Debra Koesler: Debra has been a nurse for over 18 years and is currently at supervisor at Mott Children's Hospital. She is enrolled in the masters program in Nursing Systems Populations and Leadership Program. Her goal is to "advance into a leadership position to empower the next generation of nurses." Debra thanks Rho Chapter because her scholarship, "allows me to focus on my studies without worrying about picking up additional work time to cover costs...I also will support nursing scholarships in the future..."

Best wishes to both of the Rho Chapter Scholarship recipients.



Instagram

at [sttirhochapter](#).

RHO CHAPTER IS ON INSTAGRAM!

Our new Social Media Chair, Julia Morrissey, has been busy updating Rho's online presence. Instagram is great way to view photos from recent Rho events and activities. Follow Rho Chapter

ACT NOW!

DON' T MISS IMPORTANT CHAPTER NEWS--UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WITH STTI:

Rho Chapter compiles email addresses from the STTI database. We use the STTI database for sending the Chapter newsletter, information about upcoming events and photos from recent events. Be sure that your email address is up to date in your STTI member profile. Contact Membership Services to update your information: 888-634-7575 (toll free).

Publication Information:

Rho Newsletter, supported by member dues, is published two times a year: Fall and Winter. We welcome your comments and news about STT Rho members' activities.

Send your contributions via email by the 15th of March and November, to:

Ann Kruszewski, PhD, RN

Newsletter Editor, Rho Chapter, STTI

University of Michigan School of Nursing

400 N. Ingalls, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0482,

or via email to annkrusz@umich.edu.

Thanks!



UPCOMING EVENTS: RHO CHAPTER

Seeking Writing Mentors To Help With Scholarly Publication

Nursing at Michigan is seeking mentors to help nurses turn their clinical projects into scholarly articles for publication.

Mentors' assistance is needed to enhance these nurses' knowledge and skills related to nursing scholarly publication. Participating nurses will begin their training with a writing workshop followed by a mentored writing project. Here are the criteria and expectations for mentor volunteers:

- 6 months of commitment
- Connect with mentee monthly, at minimum
- Provide guidance and support in manuscript process
- Assist with accessing U of M Resources and tools (e.g., library, CSCAR, MICHR)
- Mentor will not be responsible for any financial support

Consider volunteering! Contact Corinne Lee (leeco@med.umich.edu) if you would like to participate in this important project.

Make Your Nominations For Rho Chapter Awards

Nominations due February 13, 2018

Consider nominating a colleague for a Rho Chapter Excellence award. Nominations are sought for excellence in practice, education, research, mentorship and more. See back page for more information or visit our website:

nursing.umich.edu/rho-chapter (click on Chapter Grants & Awards).

Awards nominations can also be submitted at this link: https://umichumhs.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Y4qBRaVKiUBNjv

Research and Special Projects Grants

Applications due January 31, 2018

Do you need support for your research or scholarly projects? Rho Chapter provides grants to support research and special projects such as patient education programs, media projects, etc. Masters and doctoral students, faculty and community members who are Sigma Theta Tau members are eligible. Please see the application process on our website: www.nursing.umich.edu/rho-chapter

Taking The Lead 2018: The Value of Nurses in Healthcare Transformation (co-sponsored by Rho Chapter along with Eta Rho Chapter and MONE)

January 18, 2018; 7:00 am - 5:00 pm,

Burton Manor, Livonia, MI

The 2018 Taking the Lead Conference will explore how nurses lead and demonstrate their value in the era of healthcare transformation as they work to manage change and improve care in their practice settings. This annual conference always provides outstanding leadership development. 5.0 contact hours for nursing will be provided, 1.0 contact hours for the optional pain session. To view conference brochure and register online go to: <https://www.regonline.com/LDR18>

SICU Conference: Stitching Evidence into Practice

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

The Kensington Hotel

3500 South State Street

Ann Arbor, MI

7:15 am - 4:15 pm

For more information email contact Mary deBardeleben at marydp@umich.edu

School of Nursing Research Day: The Science of Nursing Education (sponsored by the School of Nursing and supported by Rho Chapter)

Tuesday, 3 April 2018, 12:00 - 4:45 pm,

Sheraton Ann Arbor Hotel (3200 Boardwalk, Ann Arbor, MI)

Featuring the Suzanne H. Brouse Lecture: by Marilyn H. Oermann, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN

For information and registration: <http://nursing.umich.edu/research/research-day>

Annual Rho Chapter New Member Induction and Awards Ceremony

Sunday, April 8, 2018; 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Michigan Union, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI

Note the Michigan Union location!

Then join us on April 8 to welcome the newest Rho Chapter members

and acknowledge your colleagues' leadership and excellence in nursing.

STTI Region 10 Conference: Bridging Nursing Leadership, Research & Practice

Friday March 23 and Saturday March 24, 2018

Ann Arbor Marriott at Ypsilanti Eagle Crest 1275 S Huron St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

This biennial conference features national speakers and scholarly presentations by Region 10 members.

For more information contact Eileen Walsh at:

eileen.walsh@utoledo.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS: STTI

Apply for STTI Small Research Grant:

Deadline: December 1, 2017

Ten to fifteen grants for amounts up to \$5000 are available. More information is available at: <http://www.nursingsociety.org/advance-elevate/research/research-grants/sigma-theta-tau-international-small-grants>

Submit abstracts for the 29th STTI Nursing Research Congress

Deadline: December 11, 2017

Submit abstracts of your research and evidence-based practice projects.

Conference will be held July 19-23, 2018 in Melbourne, Australia. More

information is available at: <http://congress.nursingsociety.org/registration.html>

Nursing Education Research Conference:

April 19-21, 2018, Washington DC

Sigma and the National League for Nursing (NLN) invite you to the Nursing Education Research Conference (NERC), in Washington, DC. NERC provides nursing administrators, faculty, students, researchers and leaders in the nursing profession with the opportunity to learn more about the science of nursing education. For information and registration:

<http://www.sigmanursing.org/connect-engage/meetings-events/nursing-education-research-conference-2018/registration>

Leadership Connection

September 15-18, 2018, Indianapolis, IN

This event combines chapter and nursing leadership topics. Chapter leaders learn the skills necessary to operate well-functioning and vital chapters, while the other half of the program is devoted to a variety of topics relevant to today's nursing workforce.

Call for abstracts is open and are due **February 7, 2018:**

<http://www.sigmanursing.org/connect-engage/meetings-events/leadership-connection-2018/call-for-abstracts>

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For award criteria and submission process, visit the Rho Chapter website: www.nursing.umich.edu/rho-chapter . Click on Awards

Award Categories (check one)

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****awards for current UM nursing students**

1. Attach Summary of Nominee' s Contributions and Accomplishments
2. Additional supporting materials to be submitted with this nomination form include:
 - The nominee' s curriculum vita
 - Supporting statements from peers and community leaders or other documentation regarding award criteria

Submissions must be received by February 13, 2018
For questions, contact Corinne Lee (leeco@umich.edu) or call 734-764-5315