

# Theta Tau Scholar



Summer Issue

Region 7

July, 2005

## Delegates to the 2005 Biennial Convention in November

Amanda Hudson and Dianne Rogers have been selected to represent the Theta Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau at the 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention in Indianapolis. The convention will take place this year from November 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

Each year, Theta Tau supports two delegates—at least one officer and one member, both of whom have not been supported with chapter funds to attend a STTI conference in the last three years.

Additionally, several Theta Tau members will be presenting this year at the convention—Amanda Hudson, Jan Johnson, Sandra Copeland, Patti Hill, and Becky Corvey.

❖ We look forward to a great report from the convention!

Next Theta Tau Meeting is scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at MCCG, Trice #8.  
We look forward to seeing you there!

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## Congratulations Theta Tau Inductees!

The Theta Tau Induction Ceremony at GC&SU featured Ms. Patti Hill, RN, MSN as the guest speaker on "Genetics: The Cancer Connection." Ms. Hill is an Assistant Professor-Division of Nursing & Health Science at Macon State College.

The following new members were inducted:

**Undergraduate Students:** Melissa Archer, Lindsey Barnes, Cindy Battle, Tracey Blalock, Onie Bray, Courtney Craine, Laura Frawley, Kathleen Frazier, Andrea Fuller, Ronald Fuller, Aleshia Greene, Veronica Hobgood-Sewell, Haley Jackson, Amanda Jones, Erica Lane, Tania McGrotha, Katherine Morgan, Daphe Patterson, Mark Philips, Sarah Pittard, Janice Rutledge, Christina Smith, and Amanda Youmans.

**Graduate Students:** Arlisa Colbert, Krystal Ellington, Amy Glover, Sharoyn Harris, Joy Humphries, Tracey Jensen, Rebecca Mathews, and Dorothy Reese.

**Community Members:** Aimee Clance, Debra Davis, Linda Davis, Lenda Dillard, Alfreda Harper-Harrison, Terry Jackson, Jan Johnson, Anne Moshtael, Laura Mullis, Melissa Payne, Noreen Peyatt, and Sherry Sims.

During the ceremony the following members were honored:

- Laura Frawley – "Highest Academic Award"
- Amanda Hudson – "Outstanding Member"

❖ Congratulations inductees and honorees!

### Fundraiser CPR Class

Margie Johnson and Cindy Jackson taught a CPR class as a Theta Tau fundraiser for the new nursing students on July 15<sup>th</sup>. There were 12 participants. The money raised goes into the Theta Tau treasury with exception of \$7.00 for each CPR Card.

## President's Message

Theta Tau had a record number of inductees this year. We had forty three inductees. In addition to traditional nursing student inductees we also had community members inducted.

Theta Tau also applied for their second National Sigma Theta Tau Key Award. We are looking forward to next year. There are a lot of positions available on the board of directors so please contact Dean Baker if you are interested in serving at the local level.

There will be discussion about the rotation of meeting sites. Any agenda items can be forwarded to Dean Baker at [cbaker5127@cox.net](mailto:cbaker5127@cox.net). I look forward to serving as your president next year.

❖ Dean Baker

## Associate Dean's Corner

What could be a better way to spend a rainy April Friday afternoon than to celebrate the scholarship and leadership of 57 inductees to Sigma Theta Tau International? Not only did our chapter do that on April 22, 2005, the ceremony was witnessed by an audience of support persons, from a newly born girl to a grandmother celebrating her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. I believe it is safe to say that not the least reason for the success of these inductees is the remarkable support they have received from significant others over the years.

Recently, at the end of a workday, a small group of students walking out with us speculated that while they studied for an exam or wrote a care plan, faculty would be spending the evening watching TV with feet propped up. Forty years ago when I was a nursing student, I'm sure I envisioned my faculty doing the same thing. Wrong then – wrong now! As evidence, I provide the following statistics, in the true spirit of using an evidence base to make a point.

For example, this academic year, 100% of the GC&SU faculty engaged in continuing education as well as in some form of community service. Additionally, this year alone, they mentored students in providing more than 1025 such hours. Fifty percent of the faculty hold national certification in at least one nursing specialty. Several serve as officers of professional associations or panels, others engage in professional consulting, and 100% are active members of at least one professional organization.

Additionally this year, the faculty has published 13 book chapters and 6 journal articles; two are currently writing textbooks and four serve as referee reviewers. Two have mentored graduate and undergraduate student publications in national journals and several have mentored quantitative or qualitative research studies with student teams.

There have been 11 regional and 7 national or international presentations. Grant funding has amounted to more than a million dollars. Four faculty (Kendra Russell, Flor Culpa-Bondal, Dean Baker, and Lynn Waits) are enrolled in

doctoral programs at Georgia State University, Texas Women's University, University of Wisconsin, and UGA, respectively. Another (Donna Thompson) is completing the post-MSN nursing education certificate option at GC&SU prior to doctoral study. There are currently four research projects underway --both quantitative and qualitative.

Having taught elsewhere, I know that these same kinds of statistics are reflected by faculty at other schools. As one example, three faculty of Macon State College were inducted as community members of Theta Tau this week. Feet propped up, indeed!

Let this be a lesson in role modeling for the recent inductees; commitment to leadership and scholarship doesn't end with induction. This particular recognition isn't just about a nice honor for a Curriculum Vita, it's about making a commitment to professional contributions beyond those of the work day.

While they have (and deserve) our congratulations, they should please know that it shouldn't end here – this should be a continuation of welcoming a task that makes them go beyond themselves. Graduation doesn't represent a time for foot propping. Why else would they call it commencement?  
❖ Cheryl

## Congratulations Officers

The Theta Tau officers for 2006 are noted below. Newly elected officers are so noted by an “\*” beside their name. Installation of the new officers will take place at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President: Dean Baker

President Elect: Amanda Hudson

Vice President: Flor Culpa-Bondal\*

Secretary: Patti Hill

Treasurer: Kay Gatins\*

Counselor(s): Lynn Waits\* & Donna Ingram

Research Chair: Vickie Brown\*

Membership Chair: Leslie Moore\*

Awards Chair: Margie Johnson\*

Newsletter Editor/Publicity: Cindy Jackson

If you are not already involved in one of these committees, contact the chair and offer your assistance. The experience is a learning experience and rewarding. All of these committees are vital to the growth of our organization.

❖ Plan to get involved in 2006!

## Theta Tau Chapter News

Research Day was held in Augusta. The program was co-sponsored by the Beta-Omicron Chapter, Augusta. Margie Johnson, Amanda Hudson, Jodi Warren and students (Amanda Youmans, Marci Golden, & Shannon Plunkett) presented their research. Pam O'Neal was also in attendance; a picture was taken of the chapter members with Mary Wykle, past president of STTI and the keynote speaker of the conference.

Sandra Copeland presented a CEU offering entitled, "Trouble-Shooting Bradycardia and Malfunctioning pacemakers," at MCGG with good attendance on February 9, 2005.

MCGG Magnet Hospital Application Survey was in March. Many of our Theta Tau members played active roles—Amanda Hudson, Dawn Cole, Sandra Copeland, Kim Mancin, Rebecca Weathersby, and Patti Hill.

Chapter Key Award Update: Sandra Copeland and Patti Hill are collecting data for inclusion in this application in July 2005.

Becky Corvey, Pam O'Neal, Vickie Brown, Margie Johnson, & Dean Baker attended the Southern Nursing Research Society Convention in Atlanta during February 2005.

Theta Tau was featured in the *Chapter Leader Emphasis* magazine in February 2005

## Up for Discussion at the October Meeting

Due to not having a quorum at the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, voting could not be completed. However, there was discussion related to reimbursement for certification. The following points were made with a plan to discuss and vote at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- < Reimbursement should be provided for activities that benefit the chapter as a whole.
- < The chapter should recognize the achievements of all members—certifications, promotions, degree attainment, etc. through meeting announcements, newspaper articles, regional chapter news, chapter newsletter, etc. rather than monetary awards.
- < Monetary awards should be directed toward scholarships/research awards, sending delegates to conventions, etc. which benefits all members through the information they bring back to the chapter.

❖ Plan to attend so you can have input into this discussion!

The Theta Tau Scholar is a publication of Theta Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. Statements and opinions expressed in the articles are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the chapter. Theta Tau disclaims any responsibility or liability for such material.

## Special Notes:

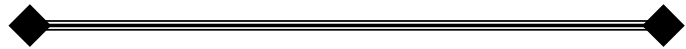
*Congratulations to....* Jan Johnson & Amanda Hudson for receiving the \$500 scholarship/research grant for 2005.

*Congratulations to....* Kay Gatins whose abstract has been accepted for a poster presentation in Taipei, Taiwan for Summer, 2005.

*Congratulations to.....*Julie Sanders on the birth of her daughter , Jocelyn, on July 26, 2005.

*Congratulations to.....*Julie Sanders who completed her doctorate at the University of Tennessee in June 2005.

*/ Please note that Contributions* may be made to the Scholarship Fund by contacting Alice Loper at [aloper@mail.gcsu.edu](mailto:aloper@mail.gcsu.edu)



## Theta Tau Chapter Web Site

You can access the Theta Tau web site through the GC&SU School of Health Sciences Home Page at: <http://www.angelfire.com/ga3/thetatau/> The Theta Tau Scholar is also available at this site, so be sure you add this site as a bookmark and visit often. The Sigma Theta Tau International web site is located at the following URL: <http://www.nursingsociety.org>

*Please send any items you wish to be published in the newsletter to...Cindy Jackson at [ckjackso@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:ckjackso@dhr.state.ga.us)*

## Theta Tau Chapter Dues

During the March meeting, there was discussion about the possibility of an increase in chapter dues. Membership present reviewed the current financial status of the chapter and unanimously agreed to leave the current due structure intact.

Make plans to attend future meetings so you can have input into chapter decisions.

*For endorsements to the PLUS-N scholarship, contact Vickie Brown [Vbrown@mail.maconstate.edu](mailto:Vbrown@mail.maconstate.edu)*

## CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS

If you have a change in your name or address, please notify Sigma Theta Tau International. This can be done on-line at [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org). Also notify Margie Johnson via e-mail at [margie.johnson@mail.gcsu.edu](mailto:margie.johnson@mail.gcsu.edu) or Patti Hill via at [phill@mail.maconstate.edu](mailto:phill@mail.maconstate.edu)

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO...

- ❖ Run for an office? Contact Dean Baker: [dean.baker@gcsu.edu](mailto:dean.baker@gcsu.edu)
- ❖ Nominate someone as a community member for membership in the Theta Tau Chapter? Contact Counselors: Lynn Waites: [lynn.waites@gcsu.edu](mailto:lynn.waites@gcsu.edu) or Donna Ingram: [donna.ingram@gcsu.edu](mailto:donna.ingram@gcsu.edu)
- ❖ Complete free CE courses for professional growth & certification requirements? Visit the Theta Tau home page for topics ranging from Basic Life Support to Chemotherapy. <http://www.angelfire.com/ga3/thetatau/>

Theta Tau Scholar  
Georgia College & State University  
School of Nursing  
CBX 064  
Milledgeville, GA 31061

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### NEXT THETA TAU MEETINGS

MCCG—TRICE #8 IN MACON AT 6:00 PM

OCTOBER 10, 2005

MEAL TO BE PROVIDED BY A TAKE-OUT RESTAURANT. MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY \$5.00 EACH. RSVP SO MEALS CAN BE ORDERED PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

### 38<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL STTI CONVENTION

November 12 – 16, 2005

Indianapolis, Indiana

### OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBER MEETING

A MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN AUGUST TO SET 2006 GOALS.

PLACE & TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED.

.....  
● *Newsletter Committee Members:*  
● Cynthia Jackson, RN, MSN, Editor  
● Rhonette Coleman, RN, MSA, Jeanne Sewell, RN, MSN,  
● Margie Johnson, RN, CS, MN, and  
● Maidana Nunn, RNC, CS, DNSc  
● .....

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