Theta Tau Scholar

Summer Issue | Region 7 | July, 2004

Theta Tau Chapter Recipient of the Sigma Theta Tau International Pinnacle Award: 2004

Theta Tau won the Innovative Chapter Award for Region 7 for the Continuing Education Initiative. The award will be presented at the Chapter Leader Academy on November 6, 2004 in Indianapolis at the Omni Severin Hotel.

Sandra Copeland drafted this initiative and presented it to the chapter last year. Our chapter is very fortunate to have such devoted and talented members.

This award recognizes one chapter in each region that has creatively implemented a successful project over the past fifteen months.

❖ Way to go Sandra!

Next Theta Tau Meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2004 at 6:00 PM at the Jocks N Jill's on Riverside Drive in Macon.

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Congratulations Theta Tau Inductees!

The Theta Tau Induction Ceremony at GC&SU featured Ms. Kathy Bell, RN, MSN as the guest speaker on "Forensic Nursing: A New Way to Make a Difference." Ms. Bell is the Director of the Forensic Nursing Program at Tulsa Police Department.

The following new members were inducted:
Undergraduate Students: Natalie Bailey, Zach Barr, Hollie Carver, Tori Chaney, Laurie Cook, Leslie Croxton, Andrew Dow, Stacey Favre, Paul Griffin, Virginia Hayes, Lisa Hubbard, Bryan Justice, Erin Landers, Julie Lewis, Casey Mercer, Brandy Moseley, Nina Myers, Lesllie Rolader, Scarlet Sheikholeslam, Chris Spivey, Jennifer Stanley, Angela Thomas, Kimberly Thomas, and Jennifer Tolliver.
Graduate Students: Christine Boev, Marjorie Harris, and All Magaliano.

During the ceremony the following members were honored:

- Jennifer Stanley – "Highest Academic Award"
- Sandra Copeland – "Outstanding Member"

Congratulations inductees and honorees!

Pictured: Laurie Cook being inducted.

Pictures of inductees can be viewed at the Theta Tau website: http://www.angelfire.com/ga3/thetatau/

President's Message

Greetings from Alabama! We relocated to Montgomery,Alabama in June. At the May 13th meeting, new officers were inducted as follows: President, Dean Baker; Vice President, Amanda Hudson; Secretary, Patti Hill; and counselors Donna Thompson and Susan Darby (already in office). Alice Loper continues as treasurer. The meeting was held at Jocks and Jills and the private dining area worked well for the meeting. The food and service was excellant and at this point future meetings will be held at the same location.

The induction ceremony, which was held on March 27,2004 was impressive and Kathy Bell, our keynote speaker,gave all an inspiring look at forensic nursing. A special thanks goes to all who put this program together and who woked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the ceremony very special to all the new inductees and their families. Congratulations and welcome to all the new inductees and members of theta tau chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International! We look forward to having you become active members. Congratulations to Sandra Copeland who was awarded outstanding Theta Tau member of the year. Sandra set up a CE offering for a period of two years ("Troubleshooting Bradycardia and Pacemakers"). Sandra also submitted an article which is to be published in a future issue of Expressions regarding Theta Tau's application for CEU's as a source of revenue and a service to the community. In the article, Sandra discussed the process for obtaining CEU's.

The CPR Fundraiser dates were set at the last Theta tau meeting. Instructors and the number of incoming freshman needing the course were also discussed. Thanks to all the members who have taught these courses for the chapter in the past and those who will be teaching this summer.

The Bylaws committee will be meeting this summer and will be looking at revisions to the bylaws which reflect the changes made at the last international convention. Thanks to all who have expressed interest and are working this task.

A fund has been set up for Sandra Copeland's daughter who has been extremely ill in the past several months in an effort to assist with her medical bills. Our thoughts and prayers go to Sandra and her family.

I wish you all the very best in the future and I have enjoyed working with each of you. There are some dynamic individuals in this chapter and I have felt honored to serve as your president.

❖ God bless you all....Liz Conway

Associate Dean's Corner

Spring semester 2005 has verified once again that change is inevitable. Those of us in the Professional Programs in Nursing are saying "whew" after a whirlwind experience. Mrs. Linda North, soon to be Dr. North, will become Chairperson of the Department of Adult & Gerontological Health in August. We are in the process of searching for faculty positions – 3 tenure-track and several non-tenure track. We also are seeking a RN-BSN Coordinator to replace Dr. Debbie Clark, who has taken an administrative position at Clayton State College.

The program has been awarded a large grant (between ½ -1 million dollars) to increase the numbers of nursing educators in the state through the RN-accelerated MSN with Nursing Education Certificate Option. The official announcement will be forthcoming from Governor Perdue. Watch the local media!

We are awaiting the final decision from the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools but the visit was extraordinary positive and re-affirmation of GC&SU's accreditation is expected. Nursing, who served as a model for preparing for the "close the loop" evaluation required by SACS, is preparing now for the NLNAC re-accreditation visit, which has been scheduled for March 1-3, 2005. There will be an opportunity at that time for any of you to lend your thoughts about the program in a time with our site visitors or in writing. Details about that opportunity will be announced in fall semester when the agenda is set.

As part of the re-location of the Graduate Education Center at Macon State College, the MSN program has moved to a 3rd floor suite in the beautiful new Charles S. Jones Building. We feel very fortunate to have been allotted this extraordinary space and have offered written appreciation to President Bell at MSC.

One year has passed since the RN-BSN program relocated its classes to MCCG's PAHEC Building; both partners have evaluated the relocation as a great success. The new RN-BSN curriculum was launched in June. This curriculum was based on focus group research, in addition to identification of best practices nationally in educational mobility for registered nurses. It is consistent with Georgia's RN-BSN Articulation Model and broadens the students' professional depth, breadth, and scope in the discipline. The curriculum, which shows value for the ADN or diploma nursing education and eliminates redundancy, has approval from the Georgia Board of Nursing. Additional details are available at http://info.gcsu.edu/SHSfacdev/RNBSN/default.htm

Based on the success of our Critical Care Internship in collaboration with MCCG, a 5-week High Risk Perinatal Internship for eligible students that began in Spring 2004 will be expanded. This opportunity is part of the BSN capstone course, and enables students to engage in experiences with families experiencing high risk pregnancy in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

Congratulations to the following award winners this year:

- Randy Lyles – Laurie McMillan Teaching Award
- Margie Johnson – Irene Rose Community Service Award
- Jan Andrews – Best Practices in International Education Award
- Alice Loper - Faculty Member of the Semester by the GIVE Center of GC&SU.

Professional Programs in Nursing - Program of the Semester by the GIVE Center

❖ Cheryl

Margie Johnson Appointed to the Region 7 Committee by STTI

As a regional representative, Tanya, the Region 7 Chairperson, has divided our region among the five members of the committee, who will act as the representative for the chapters designated to us. Theta Tau is one of Margie's chapters. She also has the chapters at GA State, Emory, GA Baptist, Statesboro, and Americus.

Margie will identify chapter needs and then assist chapters in meeting these needs. She is asking each chapter to develop a list of chapter strengths and weaknesses as well as future goals. She plans to meet with each chapter to go over these lists, discuss ways to meet goals, as well as directions to take based on International's direction. Since Margie now has connections with the Atlanta chapters, she would like to know if we are interested in pursuing joining their research consortium?

❖ Congratulations Margie!

Theta Tau CE Offering

Theta Tau is presenting a CE offering (1 CE), titled, "Troubleshooting Bradycardias and Pacemakers."

Speaker: Sandra Copeland, RN, BC, MSN

Date/Time: July 22, 2004 at 6 PM – 7 PM

Place: Medical Center of Central Georgia; Room TBA

Cost: Active members—free; Others--$5.00 All proceeds will go to the Theta Tau Chapter of STTI.

Pre-register with Sandra Copeland: sandradawg@aol.com or 478-633-1775 Can also pay at the door. Class size is limited to 25, so register early.

For endorsements to the PLUS-N scholarship, contact Vickie Brown
Vbrown@mail.maconstate.edu

Special Account Set Up for Katie Copeland

An account for Sandra Copeland's daughter, Katie Copeland, has been set up at the Central Georgia Credit Union. Anyone who would like to contribute may do so at the following address:

Central Georgia Regional Credit Union
2069 Riverside Drive
Macon, GA 31204
(They also have a branch located inside the Medical Center.)
Please put the following on your check:
Katie Copeland, account # 23070-100.
Katie is getting ready to start more testing. I know that the Copeland family would truly appreciate our help. And please keep them in your prayers!

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.

Continued from Theta Tau Induction Ceremony…

Pictured: Jennifer Stanley, "Highest Academic Award"
❖ Congratulations Jennifer!

Special Notes:

Congratulations to…. Dr. Rebecca Corvey for receiving her Ed.D from the University of Georgia in Adult Education. Her research focus is professional communities of practice.

Congratulations to…. Rita Lumansoc for her new appointment as Assistant Professor at Georgia Southwestern University, Americus, GA.

Congratulations to…..Sandra Copeland for being recognized in the Georgia Nursing by GNA for her presentation at a Career Fair CE.

We would like to express our sympathy…Cindy Jackson for the loss of her father on June 3rd.

We would like to express our sympathy…to Sandra Copeland who lost her father last Christmas.

/ Please note that Contributions may be made to the Scholarship Fund by contacting Alice Loper at aloper@mail.gcsu.edu

Please send any items you wish to be published in the newsletter to…Cindy Jackson at ckjackso@dhr.state.ga.us

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

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 Also notify Margie Johnson via e-mail at margie.johnson@mail.gcsu.edu or Pam O'Neal at POneal@mail.MaconState.edu

Would You Like To…

- Run for an office? Contact Dr. Pamela Levi: pamlevi@bellsouth.net
- Nominate someone as a community member for membership in the Theta Tau Chapter? Contact Counselors: Susan Darby: susan.darby@gcsu.edu or Donna Thompson: donna.thompson@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/
- Participate in the CE & Certification Reimbursement Program? The application is available on the Theta Tau Web Site. For more information, contact Sandra Copeland Copeland.Sandra@mccg.org

Calendar of Events

Next Theta Tau Meetings

Jocks N Jills on Riverside Drive in Macon at 6:00 PM
September 16, 2004

Theta Tau CE Offering

"Troubleshooting Bradycardias and Pacemakers"
July 22nd from 6 PM – 7 PM
Medical Center of Central Georgia, Room TBA

Fundraiser CPR Class for Nursing Students

July 16th 8:30 AM Cost: $45.00
Georgia College &State University, Milledgeville

Chapter Leader Academy

November 4 – 6, 2004
Indianapolis, Indiana

Newsletter Committee Members:
Cynthia Jackson, RN, MSN, Editor
Flor Culpa-Bondal, APRN, Rhonette Coleman, RN, MS,
Jeannie Sewell, RN, MSN, and
Maidana Nunn, RNC, CS, DNSc

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

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