

Theta Tau Scholar



Fall Issue

Region 7

October, 2003

Theta Tau Member Presents at International Conference

On October 2, 2003, Theta Tau member, Rita Lumansoc, presented at the International Conference, "Custody and Caring: Nurses Role in the Criminal Justice System" in Saskatoon, Canada. Rita's presentation was entitled, "The Role of Psychiatric Nursing in the Reduction of Seclusion and Restraint in a Maximum Security Hospital."

There were approximately 200 attendees from several countries including Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and the United States. Ms. Lumansoc was the only Georgian in attendance!

Ms. Lumansoc's presentation was well received; she had a very rewarding experience and has pictures to share. If you are interested in more information, please contact Rita Lumansoc at Rlumanso@dhr.state.ga.us

❖ Way to go Rita!
Note: Rita is a Clinical Nurse Specialist at Central State Hospital.

Next Theta Tau Meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2003 at 6:00 PM at the Olive Garden in Macon.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Presentation at an International Conference
- 1 Theta Tau Officers for 2003 - 2005
- 2 President's Message
- 2 Associate Dean's Corner
- 2 Poster Presentation: APNA
- 3 Completion of Doctoral Studies: Dr. Carol Sapp
- 3 Special Notes
- 4 Calendar of Events

Theta Tau Officers for 2003 - 2005

The following officers were elected to serve for 2003– 2005:

President: Liz Conway
Vice President: Sandra Copeland
President Elect: Dean Baker
Secretary: Pam O'Neal
Treasurer: Alice Loper
Counselors: Lynn Waits & Susan Darby

The new President, Liz, will be appointing members for the committees listed below. Please email her at jlcon@ix.netcom.com if you are willing to serve on the following committees: (Note the number of additional members needed for each committee.)

Publicity/Newsletter: Cindy Jackson, Chair—2 members

Archives/Heritage: Dianne Rogers, Chair—2 members

Finance: Need a chair and 2 members

Research: Margie Johnson, Chair—2 members

Nominating: Sherry Smith, Chair—3 members

Mentoring/Membership Involvement: Carol Sapp, Chair—3 members

Program/Induction: Sandra Copeland, Chair—this committee has enough members

By-Laws: Need a chair and 3 members

Eligibility: Need 3 members and counselors

Awards/Scholarships: Amanda Hudson, Chair--2 members

Please consider working on a committee. Our chapter only grows as strong as the members who participate and assist in planning future goals. ❖ Margie

Please feel free to contact any of the officers at the following addresses if you have concerns, comments or questions:

President: Liz Conway jlcon@ix.netcom.com

Vice President: Sandra Copeland copeland.sandra@mccg.org

President Elect: Dean Baker dean.baker@gcsu.edu

Secretary: Pam O'Neal POneal@mail.maconstate.edu

Treasurer: Alice Loper alice.loper@gcsu.edu

Counselors: Lynn Waits lynn.waits@gcsu.edu

and Susan Darby susan.darby@gcsu.edu

President's Message

Sigma International has many proposals related to governance and financial issues that will be on the agenda for the convention in Toronto October 31st through November 5th. A change in the structure at the International level will necessitate changes within chapters and the manner in which our dues are regulated. We plan to discuss these items at the meeting this month so that our delegates will be knowledgeable as to which direction to cast their votes when the issues are brought before the House of delegates. After reviewing the changes that are proposed, our chapter should function well with or without the proposed changes being in effect. Transitions are an important process for growth and, although the issues are extremely controversial, International seems to be attempting to direct services toward the societal and economic changes within our country and abroad. It will be very interesting to see how the voting evolves. Your input as a member is extremely important to those of us who will be representing you at the convention in Toronto.

On October 23rd new leadership will begin to direct our chapter. Please give Liz and her officers the continued support that you have provided to me over the years. Theta Tau members have contributed to the scholarly endeavors in our community as well as providing service oriented contributions. Each member is a valuable link to our chapter's growth. The Induction in Spring, with provisions for CEU's and an exciting national speaker, is one every member should make plans to attend. We will also need members to assist Sandra Copeland in transporting the speaker, setting up for Induction, etc. so please let her know if you will be available to assist: copeland.sandra@mccg.org.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president these past years. Our chapter will continue to have my support as a member and I invite all members to join me with their support through their attendance at meetings and their volunteering to be on committees and assisting with projects. ❖Margie

Associate Dean's Corner

We are encouraged by the number of qualified applicants to the undergraduate nursing program this year; fifty letters of acceptance for the fall 2003 nursing class have been mailed, leaving 62 qualified students on the waiting list. Additionally, springfest, a recent occasion for prospective students, brought so many health science majors and families to the School that we did not have a large enough room to seat all of them.

The 21st annual pinning ceremony for the professional nursing programs at GC&SU honored the BSN Class of 2003 on May 2nd. Several awards were presented to deserving students:

- Outstanding Major Department of Adult & Gerontological Health - Molly Andrews
- Outstanding Major Department of Family Health – Andrea Taylor-Jones
- Outstanding Major Department of Health Systems and Informatics – Leigh Hamilton
- School Contribution Award - Andrea Taylor -Jones

Sixty-five BSN students received diplomas on May 3rd at the University's 116th Commencement Ceremony. Eleven MSN students also graduated: two in nursing administration, one in adult health, and nine from the FNP program option.

We are excited to announce the Nursing Education Certificate program option for those who want to teach in academic settings, staff education, or patient education programs. This option includes four courses: Designing Educational Programs for Nursing, Implementing Educational Programs for Nursing, Integrating Technology in the Health Science Educator Role, and Evaluating Educational Programs for Nursing. Students interested in learning more about the educator role may enroll as post-baccalaureate or post-MSN students or take these courses as part of their MSN education. Preparation as a college teacher of nursing is particularly compelling to many students who appreciate that there is a critical shortage of nursing faculty in the country. By 2010, there is an expectation the shortage will be so acute that many nursing programs will be forced to close.

Dr. Jan Andrews, the International Liaison for the School of Health Sciences, is currently in Ireland arranging an international exchange for nursing students; later in the summer, Mrs. Flor Culpa-Bondal travels to the Philippines to attempt to establish an exchange program there. These opportunities will be in addition to the existing exchange options between our programs either with Australia or England.

The faculty is pleased to announce the addition of Donna Thompson, RN, MSN to the Department of Adult & Gerontologic Health and to congratulate Dr. Debbie Clark on her recent doctoral degree from Georgia State University.

❖ Cheryl

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

Poster Presentation at the Psychiatric Nurses' Association Conference by Theta Tau Member

On October 6 – 8, 2003, Theta Tau member, Flor Culpa-Bondal presented a poster at the annual American Psychiatric Nurses' Association Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The poster was the results of a research project that she and two other Theta Tau members, Rhonette Coleman and Cindy Jackson, conducted, entitled "The Significance of Client Education on Clients in an Acute Psychiatric Inpatient Unit." The presentation included the design of the study, research questionnaire, abstract, analysis, and clinical significance of the research. The research concluded that clients who are able to attend more educational opportunities on the unit are more likely to receive increased reinforcement of what had been previously taught, as well as support and feedback. It is important to provide a variety of classes to keep the client's interest high and to encourage participation.

Researches with similar presentations at the conference validated the findings.

Congratulations Flor!!

Note: Flor is a Assistant Professor at GC&SU; both Rhonette and Cindy work at Central State Hospital.

Two Members Recently Completed Doctorate Programs

Dr. Carol Sapp recently completed her doctorate studies. Her dissertation title was: "Adolescents with Asthma: Effects of personal Characteristics and Health Promoting Lifestyle Behaviors on Health Related Quality of Life." She has accepted a new position as Associate Professor of Nursing in the Adult and Gerontological Health Department at GC&SU, which she is really enjoying!

Dr. Sapp has also been involved with a two day Hispanic Health Fair in Fitzgerald in August, and with the Georgia Golden Olympics in September in Warner Robins.

Dr. Rebecca Corvey recently received her Ed.D from the University of Georgia in Adult Education. Dr. Corvey's research focus is professional communities of practice.

❖ Congratulations Dr. Sapp & Dr. Corvey!!

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

Two Members Attend the American Psychiatric Nurses' Association Annual Meeting

Theta Tau members, Flor Culpa-Bondal and Dr. Martha Colvin, recently attended the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Nurses' Association. The organization plans to offer certification at the baccalaureate and masters (advanced practice) level within the next several years. There is some interest among Georgia members in starting a state Chapter. If you are interested in membership in this organization (it is open to all RNs at any level of psychiatric practice), please notified either Flor or Martha (flor.culpabondal@gcsu.edu / martha.colvin@gcsu.edu).

CE & Certification Reimbursement Program

An application is now available at the Theta Tau Web Site. Completed applications should be mailed to Sandra Copeland, 609 McCrackin St., Juliette, GA 31046.

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.... Rhonda Findley who recently was promoted to Educator on 3 West at MCCG.

*Congratulations to.....*Ellen Goodrich who was installed as the Azalea District of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. at the State meeting in Augusta in April. Ellen has served on the Garden Club of Georgia State Board for 15 years, 9 years as Garden Therapy Chairman. There are 79 clubs in the Azalea District.

Congratulations to.... Amanda Hudson who was featured on 13 WMAZ to discuss the serious crisis in health care with both an aging population and the shortage of nurses. She presented the goals established by MCCG to address the issue.

*Congratulations to.....*Cynthia Norris-Hicks, a graduate student in the Masters of Science in Nursing Administration/ Healthcare Informatics program, was recently awarded the Spillman Bischoff Scholarship by the Georgia League for Nursing (GLN) this semester. GLN awarded three scholarships this year.

*Congratulations to...*Maidana Nunn who was named the GNA 14th District honoree of the year.

*Congratulations to...*Sandra Copeland. Sandra presented at the GNA's Nurses Appreciation Day in Atlanta on August 19, 2003. Her CE offering was intitled, "Troubleshooting Bradycardia and Pacemakers".

Congratulations Jean Sabido! On the birth of her 3rd child, Kayla Rose. Jean is a former graduate student and is now in the military. She is interested in research since she is at a research facility with free statisticians. If you need a research partner in Texas, contact her at jmsabido@earthlink.net

/ Please note that Contributions may be made to the Scholarship Fund by contacting Alice Loper at 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>

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: Lynn Waits: lynn.waits@gcsu.edu or Susan Darby: susan.darby@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

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

QUARTERLY THETA TAU MEETINGS

OLIVE GARDEN IN MACON AT 6:00 PM
DECEMBER 3, 2003

37TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE


TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA
NOVEMBER 1-5, 2003
DELEGATES: MARGIE JOHNSON & BECKY CORVEY

THETA TAU INDUCTION CEREMONY

March 27, 2003 at 2:00 PM
GC&SU Campus, Kilpatrick Auditorium

CE OFFERING ON ETHICS

Dr. Carol Sapp is putting together a program for the chapter. More details to come.



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

| |
|------------------------|
| PLACE STAMP HERE |
|------------------------|

Affix Label Here