

## Knowledge of Our Past

The following is the second half of a talk that founder Mary Tolle Wright gave at the 1970 Alpha chapter Induction Ceremony. The first half of her presentation was published in the Winter, 2011 issue of Connections.

### Founder's 1970 Chapter Induction Talk (Part two)

In particular, I remember that she gave me a "project" in Senior Ethics class, the assignment of writing to State Universities to make a survey as to how many had Schools of Nursing. I cannot help but believe that, even then, Mrs. Clarke must have been doing some of her own dreaming beyond Alpha Chapter, but wisely wanted it to be our idea. Thus a provision for expansion to other University Schools was born and written into our plan. In the beginning this area was to be a rough and rocky road, as you well know from our history.

Dorothy Ford Buschmann (Class of 1919 and deceased October 3, 1953) gave us invaluable help in the writing of our Constitution and ritual and also a great deal of encouragement and much of her time and patience. Her husband, C. Severin Buschmann, Sr., an attorney, gave us legal assistance and helped in consummating our Articles of Incorporation. This document, signed by the six of us on October 4, 1922, at the Indiana State Capitol, named Elisabeth Russell, Dorothy Buschmann and myself as Directors. Dyer Jewelers, Indianapolis, helped us with designs for Pledge pins, Chapter pins and insignia. They were commissioned as our official jewelers after many long, hot, laborious sessions.

Our first patronesses were: Mrs. Charles Philip Emerson, wife of the Dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine; Mrs. Willis Dew Gatch, wife of the Chief of Staff of the Hospital; and Mrs. John W. Carmack, wife of Dr. Carmack, Indiana University Professor of ENT. Mrs. Carmack sent a lovely vase of flowers for our first initiation.

On October 16, 1922, our induction of charter members was held in the Buschmann home, with Mary W. Tolle acting as President and Dorothy F. Buschmann acting as Conductress. (These were the Founders). The first Officers elected, following the induction, were: President, Elisabeth Russell; Secretary, Marie Hippensteel; and Conductress, Mary W. Tolle.

For our first group of pledges, the second Alpha initiation was held in the home of Dr. and Mrs. Gatch at 8:00 PM, December 2, 1922. In keeping with the occasion, it

was very formal, very solemn, and we agreed very impressive. We later agreed, too, that it was most impressive for the six of us who conducted it, and who had labored so hard over the details. Our first four initiates were (sic) the pledge ribbons until pledged when they wore the little orchid enamel pledge pins (until induction night.) They had demonstrated superior scholastic achievement through their Junior year, had already shown evidence of potential leadership, and possessed desirable personal characteristics. That night, with them, we pledged faith and devotion. Sigma Theta Tau became a living part of our nursing heritage from that day forward.

We had high hopes for Sigma Theta Tau. I believe it was Patrick Henry who said "It is natural to men to indulge in the illusions of hope." We did just that. Thus, Sigma Theta Tau had been conceived, and thus was it dedicated as an educational force, standing for the best in nursing, encouragement for future nursing leaders, and excellence in the preparation of leaders for the future.

Alpha Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, like your Founders, you have not aged, you have just gotten a little older. With age, like us, you have developed insight and you have extended your vision. Your frontiers now reach from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from our Canadian neighbors to the north to the Gulf of Mexico on the South. You have expanded the aims and objectives of Sigma Theta Tau to forty-three chapters with more in the immediate offing.

If I may speak for your six Founders tonight, may I say we are very proud of you and we are deeply touched by your honoring us with Life Membership in Alpha Chapter. It is really **SOME-THING TO REMEMBER**. We thank you.

Permission granted by Sigma Theta Tau International to present the above information in the Beta Iota Chapter newsletter, *Connections*.



## Nurse Scholars Achieving Excellence

### Sigma Theta Tau International Inductees, June 2011

The Celebration of Nurse Scholars, formerly called the Induction Ceremony, was held June 5, 2011 at Kresge Auditorium, UC College of Medicine. Region 9 Coordinator, Dr. Donna Miles Curry challenged the new inductees to think about What Would Florence Do? as they pursue professional excellence. Sixty-seven students and

one nurse leader attended the ceremony and were formally inducted into STTI Beta Iota Chapter. This year, we welcomed into our chapter a total of 199 students and nurse leaders. Many of those who did not attend were students in the distance learning programs. The names of the new inductees follow:

Rachel Adeta  
Florence Anyaneu  
Carolya Ballinger  
Brenda Barnhill  
Sunshine Barnhorst  
Kymbre Barrett  
Carmen Ball  
Kimberly Benkner  
Alysia Billows  
Suzanne Bodine  
Carolyn Boiman  
Sandra Boldog  
Nicole Brabender  
Nylene Brittain  
Delora Brooks  
Rochelle Brown  
Vickie Browne  
Teresa Buckley  
Lisa Byrd  
Brittany Caldwell  
Erica Capasso  
Rebecca Carter  
Tiffany Castle  
Kelly Choate  
G. Laurent Choiniere  
Elaine Clouse  
Carrie Clifford-Bennett  
Nikka Cohan

Chelsea Colburn  
Dawn Copeland  
Latrell Copeland  
Abby Cornwell  
Jamie Dansa  
Kimberly Dietrich  
Elizabeth Dixon  
Holly Dobie  
Heather Drouin  
Callie Durham  
Nicole Durkee  
Keith Edinger  
Paula Elmsworth  
Candace Engler  
Maggie Eubanks  
Anna Fahay  
Shawana Faulk  
Susan Faulkner  
Marcy Fitzgerald  
Jennifer Freeland  
Sarah Gamble  
Tiffany Gamble  
M. Suzanne Gamel  
Maureen Gartner  
Tara Gebhard  
Catherine Geering  
Theresa Giersz  
Sarah Glenn-McAuliff  
David Gosselin

Patricia Gorma  
Melissa Goring  
Laura Gray  
John Greene  
Kathleen Griffin  
Rachel Griffiths  
Julia Guard  
Julie Guenther  
Kimberly Haag  
Danielle Hall  
Keith Hammersmith  
Katherine Harmon  
Sherry Haubert  
Robin Hauser  
Jaclyn Hayes  
Shelley Henderson  
Paige Hendrix  
Erica Hereda  
Amanda Higgins  
Adam Hill  
Rita Hill  
Kimberly Holmes  
Kari Hopfensprenger  
Mary Horsfall  
Jennifer Jackson  
Angela Johnson  
Kelly Johnson  
Caitlin Jones  
Sharon Karn

Marie Kehr  
Megan Kingdom  
Katie Kist  
Christa Knoll  
Sarah Kuhlneil  
Harriet Kumar  
Carrie Kychik  
Pamela Lamb  
Sara Lamphier  
Alison Lane  
Julie Largent  
Aimee Larouere  
Laurel Latta  
Gina Lauderbeck  
Rachel Lawrence  
Lisa Lent  
Katrina Lock  
Holly Long  
Donna Lopez  
Brenda Lott  
Brighton Loveday  
Jessica Lykins  
Kimberly Malo  
Kimberly Martin  
Melanie Martin  
Leah Mason  
Renee McCormack  
Jessica McCullough  
Christopher McPhillips

Sara Meiers  
Kristen Menkhaus  
Jennifer Merritt  
Ashley Merryman  
Danielle Miller  
Cheri Monteith  
Elizabeth Moore  
Megan Moore  
Susan Moore  
Melissa Morris  
Leann Mount  
Jacquelyn Mountel  
Kevin Mullen  
Amanda Mullins  
Christa Nagle  
Darcy Neago  
Demarcus Nelson  
Kathy Nolte  
Jeri Noltensmeyer  
Darlyn Nonato  
Mary O'Brien  
Ed Park  
Allison Parks  
Sara Pasquinnelli  
Adam Peddicord  
Hu T. Pham  
Isaac Pokojni  
Jeanine Price  
Jennifer Prows

Nancy Raborn  
Scott Rawlings  
Eric Reynolds  
Christine Revenel  
Lu Ann Viola Reed  
Eva Reisenbuchler  
Sherrine Richmond  
Elena Roach  
Wendy Rose  
Lisa Roseberry  
Craig Rouben  
Kristen Roush  
Jaime Ruhe  
Aaron Rutz  
Sherena Samuel  
Vicky Schaefer  
Tracy Schoenholt  
Kimberly Schwartz  
Hope Schweitzer  
Jasmine Shafto  
Kelly Shields  
Molly Shoemaker  
Jill Skladamy  
Diana Smith  
Louise Smith  
Scott Snider  
Angela Snyder  
Amy Sprong  
Jacquelyn Stansberry

Rebecca Stein  
Judi Sublett  
Wendy Suttiriana  
Susan Suttle  
Jane Temple  
Gretchen Todd  
Lynn Tutor  
Nina Turner  
Sheilla Uridil  
Bostella Walker  
Christy Ward  
Katherine Watkins  
Nancy Warren  
Bobbi Watson  
Kalaine Weatherly  
Kim Weinstock  
Trista Wehner  
Andrea Welsh  
Natasha Wesley  
Sarah Wilder  
Dorianna Williams  
Kimberly Williams  
Jill Wiltz  
Amber Wolf  
Lisa Worthy  
Shauna Wood



## President's Proclamation

### Rebecca Lee, Former President Summer 2011: Navigating Transitions

It is with much emotion that I share with you my message of farewell as your departing President of Beta Iota. Our chapter is now engaged in the biennial process of transition in leadership. In reflecting on this developmental period in the life of a Sigma Theta Tau chapter, I am drawn to the work of an eminent nurse scholar – Afaf Meleis, PhD, FAAN. Dr. Meleis' theory of transitions provides a fitting framework within which to conceptualize this time of transition for our chapter, and the role you play in assisting this transition.

According to Meleis, Sawyer, Im, Messias, & Schumacher (2000), "transitions are both the result of and result in change in lives, health, relationships, and environments" (p. 13). Two of the essential elements of the transition experience described by Meleis et al. which are especially relevant to our members are awareness and engagement.

Awareness is related to our perception, knowledge, and recognition of a transition experience. As busy nursing professionals distracted by multiple competing demands, Beta Iota members often fail to take the time to become aware of the critical events taking place in the life of our chapter. We assume that the chapter will maintain its vibrancy, placing our faith in the hands of what we know to be a capable Board of Directors. However, it is important to remember that the Board of Directors functions in order to represent the needs and desires of the general membership. Your voice and guidance is crucial during times of transition as new leadership determines future goals. I challenge each of you to become aware during this time of transition for opportunities to provide input into shaping the vision of our chapter.

Engagement reflects the level of involvement in the process of transition. This involves seeking out information and actively preparing for the transition. Not surprisingly, our level of awareness during a transition event influences our level of engagement. Therefore, I reiterate my challenge that each member of Beta Iota seek out information, and take an active role in engaging in the process of transition that we have embarked upon as a chapter. Together, let us pledge our support to newly elected President, Claudia Mitchell, and her Board of Directors, as they steer the path of Beta Iota during this transition. Together with their expert leadership, our chapter can indeed navigate this transition and reach new levels of excellence!

(Continued inside.)



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## President's Proclamation

(Continued from front page.)

Nurses are seen as playing a crucial role in transition experiences, helping to facilitate healthy navigation of transitions by their clients. Therefore, each of you, as a nursing professional and member of Beta Iota, has an important role to play in supporting the life of our chapter as we navigate this time of transition. I challenge you to examine your own commitment to this organization as you seek to become aware of and engage in fulfilling your duties of membership.

In closing, I would like to thank each of you for your support during my term as President of Beta Iota. I take my leave today with the same passion and vision for nursing excellence and pride in Beta Iota chapter that I possessed when I was first inducted into membership, and when I first entered office. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this wonderful organization. Your support and faith in my leadership abilities has facilitated my own successful navigation of this developmental transition in my professional life.

With much caring and gratitude,

Rebecca C. Lee, PhD, RN, PHCNS-BC, CTN-A  
2009-2011 President, Beta Iota Chapter,  
Sigma Theta Tau International

Reference: Meleis, A. I., Sawyer, L. M., Im, E., Messias, D. K., & Schumacher, K. (2000). Experiencing transitions: An emerging middle-range theory. *Advances in Nursing Science*, 23, 12-28.

# Welcome & Farewell

## Welcome President, Claudia Mitchell

It is a great honor to serve as president of the Beta Iota chapter of Sigma Theta Tau for the next term. While an active member of Beta Iota, I have had the privilege to work with many outstanding nurse leaders over the years. It has been a pleasure to serve with past president, Dr. Rebecca Lee. She has been as an inspiration through her chapter leadership and extensive community service.

As our Beta Iota prepares to celebrate 40 years as a chapter, I pause to reflect on our mission and vision. With the goals of knowledge generation and professional development, our organization and our chapter make an impact of the health of the world. Every day Beta Iota members provide leadership in health care settings across the continuum of care and make a difference in the health of our region and our world. In congruence with our society mission, I am hopeful that Beta Iota will continue to serve as a leader in professional development and in service to our community. You are the key. It is through our members that power exists to make strides toward our mission and vision to make a difference within our world. As a member of Sigma Theta Tau, you have a global voice and the power of many in a collective organization. I encourage you to become involved in Beta Iota and share your many talents. In the words of Andrew Carnegie, "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. It is the ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results". I encourage all members of Beta Iota to share your vast talents with the organization and serve. It is through the synergy of our membership that great things can be achieved for the health of our world.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Founder's Day**  
**October 24**  
**SONK Consortium**  
**Annual Conference**  
**February 10, 2012**  
**Leadership in Nursing**  
**April 23, 2012**  
**Celebration of Nurse**  
**Scholars (Induction)**  
**June 3, 2012**

## Knowledge in the Making

### 2011 Beta Iota Article of Distinction Award

The article, *Second-Degree Prelicensure Master's Graduates and Their Transition to Practice*, was selected as the 2011 Beta Iota Article of Distinction. The article, co-authored by Linda Moore, Cynthia Kelly, Susan Schmidt, Margaret Miller, and Marie Reynolds, was published in a 2010 issue of *JONA*. The purpose of the article was "to gain an understanding of the transition-to-practice experience of second-degree prelicensure master's graduates" (Moore et al., 2010, p. 219).

## Nurse Scholars in the Lead

### Call for Nominations for Excellence in Nursing Education, Practice, Leadership & Research

The Awards and Scholarship Committee invites you to nominate active Beta Iota members who have demonstrated excellence in one of four areas: nursing education, clinical practice, administration, and research. Nomination/application forms are posted on the Beta Iota website, <http://betaiota.org>. Deadline for submission is February 1, 2012. Award recipients will be recognized at the Leadership Program April 23.

### 41st Biennial Convention

The 41st Biennial Convention, People and Knowledge: Connecting for Global Health, will be held in Grapevine, TX from October 29 to November 2, 2011. President Karen Morin will conclude her tenure and transfer the gavel to President-Elect, Suzanne Prevost.

# Knowledge

### Beta Iota 2011 Excellence in Nursing Awards

The Leadership Program, Nurse Scholars Achieving Excellence, was held on April 11 at the UC College of Nursing. Following dinner, two Beta Iota active members were recognized for their outstanding achievements in nursing. Christine Colella received the Excellence in Nursing Education Award and Suzy Alvarez-Hussey was the recipient of the Excellence in Clinical Practice Award. Anita Finkelman, speaker challenged members with her outstanding presentation entitled *Perfect Opportunity or the Perfect Storm for Nursing Education: Implications of Current Reports on Health Care and Nursing*.

### Christine Lind Colella, MSN, CS, CNP Excellence in Nursing Education Award

Christine is an Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing and Director of Nurse Practitioner and Ambulatory Practitioner programs at the University of Cincinnati (UC) College of Nursing. She received her nursing diploma from Quincy City Hospital School of Nursing, MA, her baccalaureate and masters degree from the UC College of Nursing and her post masters Adult Practitioner Certificate from Northern Kentucky University. She was inducted into the UC Academy of Fellows for Teaching and Learning in 2008, was recipient of the 2004 College of Mount St. Joseph Nurse Educator award, received the UC College of Nursing Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award in 2005 and 1998 and the Dean's Teaching Award. She has served on university and college committees and in leadership positions in professional nursing organizations. Christine has coauthored numerous publications, presented locally and nationally, and served as a legal consultant. She maintains clinical expertise through work as an Adult Nurse Practitioner at the Lincoln Heights Health Center and volunteering at the Trinity Health Clinic, Lawrenceburg, IN. Christine believes that professional excellence involves a high degree of integrity, knowledge, competence and interpersonal skills.



### Maria (Suzy) Azucena Alvarez-Hussey, MSN, CS, CRT, ARNP Excellence in Clinical Practice Award



Suzy is a Clinical Nurse Specialist at University Hospital and Nurse Psychotherapist with Northern Kentucky Psychiatry Associates. She received her BSN from the University of St. Tomas, Manila, Philippines and her masters degree in Adult Psychiatry from the UC College of Nursing. Her nursing career and professional contributions to mental health care span 43 years. She has worked in multiple nursing roles such as Clinical Nurse Supervisor at an alcoholism clinic in New York, Head Nurse at Rollman's Psychiatric Institute, Cincinnati, Director of Nursing Research and Development at University Hospital, Director/Nursing Administrator and Psychiatric Clinical Specialist at The Christ Hospital, and Clinical Instructor at Northern Kentucky University. Suzy is a consummate presenter on multiple mental health topics. She is a member the ANA, Kentucky Nurses Association, Institute for Reality Therapy, Association of Psychiatric Nurses in America, and has served in leadership positions in the Filipino Association of Southern Ohio. Suzy is founder of the Philippine Nurses Association of Ohio in Cincinnati, where she serves as an advocate and mentor of Philippine nurses, facilitating their acculturation within society and in the nursing profession.

## Knowledge Sharing

### Nurse Researcher

### Jean Anthony, PhD, RN Associate Professor, College of Nursing University of Cincinnati

In 2010, Dr. Jean Anthony's proposed study, African American Clergy and Depression: What They Know What They Want to Know, was funded by Beta Iota Chapter for \$300.

The following abstract was authored by Jean Anthony, PhD, RN, April Johnson, RN, BSN, Cynthia L. Cook, PhD, and John Schaefer, PhD.

The purpose of this study was: 1) to examine factors that African American clergy use to recognize depression in their congregants and 2) to identify from the clergy's perspective, their needs in order to more effectively identify and manage depression in their congregants.

**Research design:** This was a descriptive, quantitative research study. There were two sources of data: a Personal Profile Questionnaire and a Mental Health Counseling Survey.

**Sample:** The survey and questionnaires were mailed to 300 African American clergy in the Greater Cincinnati area with a stamped return envelope. Sixty five participants returned the data collection tools.

**Findings:** Forty-nine (N=49) males and sixteen (N=16) females participated in the study. Sixty-two (N=62) identified themselves as African American and three (N=3) identified themselves as being of mixed heritage (AA and /white). Approximately 50% had had some training in counseling. Seventy-two percent had counseled depressed congregants in the previous week. The primary cues indicating depression were withdrawal, crying and a loss of pleasure in usual activities. Eighty-one percent of participants felt it is appropriate and necessary for clergy to have training in counseling individuals with mental health issues, particularly depression.

**Conclusions:** African American clergy have frequent encounters with depressed congregants and want to learn more effective strategies to recognize and counsel congregants. By educating themselves and their congregations, and establishing liaisons with mental health professionals clergy may help to decrease feeling of stigma associated depression and assist individuals to enter into treatment earlier thus improving their quality of life.



# Beta Iota Chapter

### Board of Directors

President	Claudia Mitchell
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Treasurer	Jane Christianson
Counselor	Deborah Schwytzer

Connections Editor	Beverly Reigle <a href="mailto:reiglebs@ucmail.uc.edu">reiglebs@ucmail.uc.edu</a>
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## Mission

*The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International* is to support the learning, knowledge & professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide.

## Vision

*The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International* is to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service & learning to improve the health of the world's people.

