



# CONNECTIONS

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing  
BETA IOTA CHAPTER

Sigma Theta Tau International Beta Iota Chapter  
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## Summer 2007

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## COMMENTS OF THE PRESIDENT



### Once Upon A Time...

Once upon a time in a not too distant land a chapter named Beta Iota was born. Eighty people gathered on that special day (May 21, 1972) to celebrate the chapter's birth. The chapter was the first of its kind in the kingdom called Queen City. In Beta Iota's early years, many people in the kingdom volunteered to serve the chapter and they did so with excitement and commitment. When Beta Iota was 11, a sibling, Zeta Phi, was born and lived in the land of Dayton. During Beta Iota's twenties, three more siblings were born, Omicron Chi, Omicron Omicron, and Rho Theta. As members of the Sigma Theta Tau family, the siblings knew they had important work to do. Initially, the siblings performed their work individually, but soon they realized that if they worked together they could achieve their family's vision and mission more effectively. In 2002, the siblings joined together and officially called themselves the SONK Consortium. Now, at age 35, Beta Iota is the sibling with the largest number of members, has significant resources, and even has its very own room. But, all is not so perfect in the kingdom because dragons invade the land with regularity. They snatch active people (especially those who are one year of age) and take them to the land of "Inactivity". In the land of Inactivity, people no longer hear about their beloved chapter and soon forget the joy they once had in serving. Now is the time for knights in shining armor to come to the people's rescue. If you are reading this, then you are one of the active people in the land and you are a knight who can rescue the inactive. Help your chapter fight against inactivity, lack of involvement, and generalized apathy. Such dragons can destroy your chapter – put your armor on and join the battle.

Although written in fairy tale format, the story is true. Beta Iota Chapter turned 35 years old on May 21 of this year. It is the largest chapter in our geographic area with over 2500 members. Unfortunately, over 1700 are inactive members and, of our 725 active members, only about 30 to 40 attend Beta Iota events or vote for chapter leaders. Beta Iota has much to offer the "kingdom". As many healthcare facilities seek magnet recognition, Beta Iota could be a key player with its focus on nursing scholarship and professional development. Accept the challenge today and help your chapter be an integral part of the healthcare community.

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## Comments of the President

### Once Upon A Time...

As your outgoing President, I want to thank all of you who have dedicated your time and talents to Beta Iota Chapter. You have made a difference and even destroyed some of those dragons. As I turn the gavel over to Nancy Batchelor, I want to recognize those leaders who have faithfully served you: Nancy Batchelor (President-Elect), Linda D'ermínio (Vice President and Program Committee Chair), Eileen Werdman (Secretary and Communications Advisory Council Chair), Denise Gormley (Treasurer), Jeanine Swails (Counselor and Governance Committee Chair), Anita Finkelman (Awards and Scholarships Committee Chair), Judy Uhler (Leadership Succession Committee Chair), Yin Xu (Research Committee Chair), Pat Koral (Finance Advisory Council Chair) and Kristy Grimm and Brittney Duval (Race for the Cure Co-Chairs. Each of these leaders has had excellent committee/advisory council members who have also served with dedication. My deepest thanks to all of you!

With excitement, I welcome the new Board of Directors and wish them a productive tenure. The members are: Nancy Batchelor (President), Rebecca Lee (President-Elect), Linda D'ermínio (Vice President), Eileen Werdman (Secretary), Denise Gormley (Treasurer) and Jeanine Swails (Counselor). Our newest committee chair is Denise Gill-Roflow who will lead the Leadership Succession Committee.

Go fight the dragons!



achieving academic excellence, maintaining academic integrity and exhibiting leadership potential. Of the 48 undergraduate, 13 were juniors. Our chapter also inducted eight (8) nurse leaders based on achieving nursing excellence in practice, publication, research, administration or education.

Congratulations to our newest BETA IOTA NURSE SCHOLARS!

## New Beta Iota Nurse Scholars

The Beta Iota Chapter Celebration of Nurse Scholars Ceremony was held on June 1, 2007, at the Kingsgate Marriot Conference Center. Suzanne Prevost, PhD, RN, CNAA, Secretary, Sigma Theta Tau International Board of Directors welcomed the inductees and spoke to the nursing shortage and the call of each member of the society to hold high the value and mission of Sigma Theta Tau International. Beta Iota Chapter inducted 76 new nurse scholars. Forty-eight (48) undergraduate and 20 graduate students were selected based on

### Graduate

- Angela Abbruzzese
- Rhonda Arena
- Peggy Berry
- Cynthia Frey
- Misty Graham
- Michele Grimason
- Laura Huesman
- Whitney Jackson
- Nicole Johnson
- Jeri Kitchen
- Lisa Muto
- Michelle Neuman
- Dulce Perez
- Nikki Peterson
- Jennifer Richardson
- Michelle Thompson
- Bethany Toliver
- Roger Wilcox Jr.
- Rosemary Woodall
- Amy Yarbrough

### Undergraduate

- Alison Bailey
- Rebecca Baker
- Robin Borzotta
- Shelley Briggs
- Jamie Brown
- Abby Cacini
- Maria Caldwell
- Maura Collins
- Lindsay Duncan
- Marilyn Ebertz
- Hakeem Ellis
- Megan Espersen
- Brett Finkelman
- Alex Freisthler
- Kelly Friesz
- Denise Gaffney
- Jennifer Harp
- Shelley Hoyer
- Amanda Hundley-Rumpke
- Crystal Hyde
- Spencer Ingerson
- Jenna Jones
- Leslie Knepper
- Erika Lilie

### Nurse Leaders

- Audricia Brooks
- Karen Burkett
- Cheryl Coleman
- Margaret Lewis
- Karen Morris
- Melony Rosen
- Linda Rubush
- Sarah Sauntry
- Heather Lilley
- Stephanie List
- Tracie Martella
- Kathleen Miller
- Amanda Morse
- Dana Nebergall
- Shannon
- O'Shaughnessy
- Heather Oehler
- Alicia Osland
- Nicole Piero
- Eric Prichard
- Tiffany Pringle
- Lisa Pyle
- Karen Reuter
- Melissa Rodzinak
- Sandra Sawyers
- Madhavi Saxena
- Heather Schmarr
- William Snapp
- Bethany Soule
- Janna Stotz
- A. J. Ullman
- Ashley Wright
- Tiffany Zamzow

# Beta Iota Chapter

## 2007-08 Chapter Goals

The chapter goals are detailed in the strategic plan available to you at [www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/AboutUs.htm](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/AboutUs.htm)

## 2007-08 Board Of Directors, Committee & Advisory Council Chairs

### Board Of Directors

President	Nancy Batchelor	<a href="mailto:nancy.batchelor@uc.edu">nancy.batchelor@uc.edu</a>
President-Elect	Rebecca Lee	<a href="mailto:carpercc@us.edu">carpercc@us.edu</a>
Vice President	Linda D'Erminio	<a href="mailto:linda.derminio@uc.edu">linda.derminio@uc.edu</a>
Secretary	Eileen Werdman	<a href="mailto:eileen.werdman@uc.edu">eileen.werdman@uc.edu</a>
Treasurer	Denise Gormley	<a href="mailto:gormleyd@nku.edu">gormleyd@nku.edu</a>
Counselor	Jeanine Swails	<a href="mailto:jeanine.swails@uc.edu">jeanine.swails@uc.edu</a>

### Standing Committee Chairs

Governance	Jeanine Swails	<a href="mailto:jeanine.swails@uc.edu">jeanine.swails@uc.edu</a>
Leadership Succession Program	Denise Gill-Roflow	<a href="mailto:denise.gill-roflow@nku.edu">denise.gill-roflow@nku.edu</a>
Awards & Scholarships	Linda D'Erminio	<a href="mailto:linda.derminio@uc.edu">linda.derminio@uc.edu</a>
Research	Anita Finkelman	<a href="mailto:anita.finkelman@yahoo.com">anita.finkelman@yahoo.com</a>
	Yin Xu	<a href="mailto:yin.xu@uc.edu">yin.xu@uc.edu</a>

### Advisory Council Chairs

Finance Advisory	Patricia Koral	<a href="mailto:pat_koral@trihealth.com">pat_koral@trihealth.com</a>
Communications Advisory	Eileen Werdman	<a href="mailto:eileen.werdman@uc.edu">eileen.werdman@uc.edu</a>
Leadership Development Advisory	Nancy Batchelor	<a href="mailto:nancy.batchelor@uc.edu">nancy.batchelor@uc.edu</a>
Heritage Advisory	TBA	

## Awards for Nursing Excellence Recipients



Deborah Schwytzer, Molly Johantgen



Anita Finkelman, Virginia Lipke



Lisa Long, Cynthia Prows

## Committee, Advisory Council & Task Force News

### Awards & Scholarship Committee

At the 18th Annual Leadership and Professional Development Program, the committee presented the awards for nursing excellence. The awards were given to: Elaine McGuire, 2007 Beta Iota Award for Excellence in Nursing Leadership; Cynthia Prows, 2007 Beta Iota Award for Excellence in Nursing Education; Molly Johantgen, 2007 Beta Iota Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice; and Virginia Lipke, 2007 Beta Iota Award for Excellence in Nursing Research. A fuller description of each recipient's accomplishments and their picture are available at [www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/AwardsScholarships.htm](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/AwardsScholarships.htm). The Awards and Scholarship Committee is comprised of Anita Finkelman (Chair), Lisa Long, Debbie Schwytzer and Sarah Woodward (2006 graduate). The committee will continue to work to expand the number of award applications and develop criteria for a chapter scholarship.

### Leadership Succession Committee

The committee prepared the 2007 online ballot which was posted from June 4-18. The ballot contained board of director offices as well as members for the Leadership Succession Committee. For the results of the Beta Iota Board of Directors election please turn to the Local News section. The members elected to the Leadership Succession Committee were Denise Gil-Roflow (Chair), Jo-Ann Adelsperger, Claudia Mitchell, Ann Schlinkert and Susan Wallace. The outgoing members are Judy Uhler (Chair), Carol Amfahr, and Jane Christianson.

The Leadership Succession Committee is also responsible for developing leaders to serve at all levels of the organization. This year the first New Member Mentoring Program was instituted. The program began with 11 students inducted as juniors in 2006 with the purpose to embrace and encourage the newly-inducted members to become active members of Beta Iota Chapter. One of the outcomes from this program is several of the mentees serve on a chapter committee, advisory council or a taskforce.



Anita Finkelman, Elaine McGuire

### Governance Committee

The Governance committee reviewed and selected eligible students and nurse leaders for membership using a systematic process. To encourage potential members to join and to understand that membership involves commitment to the mission, vision and goals of the organization, an information session was held on May 21, 2007. The committee members are Jeanine Swails (Chair), Comfort Enah, Diane Grever, and Rebecca Lee.

### Program Committee

The Program Committee successfully presented three chapter programs and a fourth in collaboration with the SONK Consortium. For the 2007-2008 programs, please go to [www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/ProgramsEvents.htm](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/ProgramsEvents.htm). The committee members are Linda D'Erminio (Chair), Robin Dennison, Susan McGee, Donna Shambley-Ebron, Ann Schlinkert, and Susan Wallace.

### Communications Advisory Council

The council in collaboration with Susan Hardin (UCCON Information Technology Analyst) are responsible for all of the chapter publications. In addition to the Connections, the electronic newsletter, LINK was instituted in February 2007 with the goal to keep the members of the chapter up to date on Beta Iota Chapter as well as Sigma Theta Tau International. Council members are Eileen Werdman (Chair), Andy Crawford, and Jodi Yee (2006-2007 mentee and 2007 graduate).

### Finance Advisory Council

The council is putting the finishing touches on the 2007-2008 chapter budget. The budget will be available at [www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/Finance.htm](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/Finance.htm). Currently the chapter has two accounts with Fifth Third Bank, a checking account and an investment portfolio. The investment portfolio entails stocks and bonds and has been designated as the research endowment fund. Council members are: Patricia Koral (Chair) and Jane Christianson.

### Heritage Advisory Council

The council members will be appointed during the 2007-2008 year. Archival work for the chapter was placed on hold due to the relocation of the Beta Iota Room. The original 16 foot conference table, purchased by the chapter in 1955, was too long for the new room. In 2007, the table and chairs were donated to Sigma Theta Tau International and are now located in the second-floor conference room at the Center for Nursing Scholarship in Indianapolis, Indiana. A picture of the table and chairs at their new location may be viewed at [www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/Heritage.htm](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/Heritage.htm). The Beta Iota Room is once again furnished and will be available for meetings in Fall, 2007.

### Outreach Advisory Council

The council and taskforce are the outcomes of the 2007-2010 Beta Iota Strategic Plan and will focus involving the chapter in community projects that are in concert with the mission and vision.

### Susan G. Komen Foundation Race for the Cure Task Force

In September, 2006, chapter leaders formed the Beta Iota and Something in Pink Team and participated in the Race for the Cure. This year's event will be planned by Co-Chairs, Kristy Grimm and Brittney Duval (2006-2007 mentees and 2006 graduates) and mentor, Beverly Reigle. The Race for the Cure is September 9, 2007, please watch for further information and join in the Race.

### Strategic Plan Task Force

The task force completed the strategic plan for 2007-2010 and the plan will be posted at [www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/AboutUs.htm](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/SSTI/AboutUs.htm). The task force members were: Beverly Reigle and Anita Finkelman.

## Region 9 News

During the Biennial Convention in Baltimore, Region 9, (Indiana, Kentucky, southern half of Ohio and Mexico) will meet. Betsy Frank, Region 9 Coordinator, and her committee will also be sponsoring a dinner or a reception. All members are encouraged to attend and participate. Additional information will be posted in the LINK.

During the 2006 Chapter Leadership Academy, Beta Iota Chapter received two Chapter Excellence Awards out of the 14 Region 9 awarded. Our chapter was recognized for the redesign of the website and the newsletter and our chapter's focus on women's health in community service, promotion of research and dissemination of knowledge. Beta Iota undertook two projects: (a) promoting the sale of Longaberger Horizon of Hope baskets to raise funds for breast cancer research and education; and (b) submitting a grant proposal to Speaking of Women's Health entitled "Women's Focus on Fitness Program"

## Local News

### SONK Consortium

The SONK Consortium and Beta Iota are co-sponsoring the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing's first Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in Nursing Conference on August 10-11, 2007 at the College of Nursing. The theme of the conference is Evidence-Based Teaching: Aligning Academic & Clinical Classrooms. To register and obtain further information, please access the following website [www.nursing.uc.edu/Research/SoTLConference.html](http://www.nursing.uc.edu/Research/SoTLConference.html).

### 5th Annual SONK Consortium Conference

The 5th Annual SONK Consortium Conference will be held on February 15, 2008, at the Sharonville Convention Center. The theme is The P's and Q's of Writing for Promotion, Publication, Presentation, and Portfolio. The keynote speaker will be Marilyn Oermann, PhD, RN, FAAN, editor of the *Journal of Nursing Care Quality* and *Annual Review of Nursing Education*. Save the date, further information will be forthcoming.

# Sigma Theta Tau International

### 39th Biennial Convention

The 39th Biennial Convention entitled Vision to Action: Global Health Through Collaboration will be held November 2-7, 2007, in Baltimore, Maryland. To register and obtain additional information, please go to [www.nursingsociety.org/events/main.html](http://www.nursingsociety.org/events/main.html)

### House of Delegates at the Biennial Convention

The House of Delegates will meet November 6 and 7 during the convention to hear annual reports, approve bylaws changes, elect new officers, and hear the new president's Call to Action. Carol Picard, current President, will turn the gavel over to Carol Huston, current President-Elect. Participating in the House of Delegates from Beta Iota Chapter will be Jeanine Swails and Nancy Batchelor. Jeanine and Nancy were elected by the chapter board of directors to represent Beta Iota

### Other STTI Conferences

**18th International Nursing Research Congress** focusing on Evidence-Based Practice July 11-14, 2007 Vienna, Austria

### Mission

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

### Vision

*The vision 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 and learning to improve the health of the world's people.*

