Presidents Message
Eileen Leaphart
Alpha Xi Leadership Opportunity

Bruce K. Williams, ACNP

Alpha Xi Chapter is blessed with several members who have taken elected or appointed leadership positions. We do, however, need to elect one officer in the Spring, the President Elect. If you would like to run for this important office or would like to nominate someone else, please contact the Leadership Succession Committee by e-mail at: bruceacnp@sc.rr.com

If you are nominating someone else, please include their contact information. The President Elect assists the President in duties, works on the Board of Directors, and moves into the President position at the end of the term. This process helps the President Elect grow in the position and prepare for taking the reins, rather than just jumping in with both feet. The process also helps provide for continuity of leadership. The nominees will be reviewed by the Committee and by the Board of Directors. Spring will be here before you know it, so send in your nominations soon!
I have been a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing for over 37 years. In fact, I have been a charter member of two different chapters – the first of which was located at the Medical College of Georgia (Beta Omicron) where I earned my bachelors and masters degrees, and the second being at the Mississippi College School of Nursing (Omicron Lambda) where I served on faculty member for many years. When initially inducted into STTI, my thoughts were more likely focused on graduating with a BSN and getting my first job as a Registered Nurse. I am sure that I did not completely understand or appreciate the significance of membership in such an important entity within the nursing profession – especially as a charter member. Over the last almost four decades, I have had the great fortune to meet and work alongside hundreds of fellow STTI members – and I have had the finest joy of attending a multitude of induction ceremonies where we welcome new scholars and leaders into this honor society. Through these professional interactions I have gained tremendous respect for my STTI colleagues who have made – and continue to make – such incredible contributions to nursing.

The organizational mission of STTI is challenging: “to support the learning, knowledge and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide.” This mission statement has evolved over the years, as has the honor society. What was begun in 1922 by six nurses at the Indiana Training School for Nurses (now the Indiana University School of Nursing), has become a global organization with over 130,000 active members. This serves as an incredible exemplar of creating a vision for nursing’s future – and making it happen. Not dissimilar to the 2010 IOM Future of Nursing report and the exciting challenges we have before us now!

Not everyone is invited to join STTI. Membership is selective and based on those graduating from BSN and higher degree programs with records of academic excellence; along with those chosen from within the profession who consistently demonstrate dynamic nursing leadership characteristics. As the Dean at the Medical College of Georgia told my 1975 graduating class, “with membership come responsibilities,” and I have held that charge close to my heart across the years of my own career. We were encouraged to advance our education beyond the BSN and if our lives prevented us from taking on leadership work for our STTI chapter (and our professional organization, as well!), it was our obligation to at least pay our membership dues annually to support those who were serving in our leadership positions. That was good advice then, as it remains today. And I have never allowed my membership to lapse.

During my 7 and ½ year tenure as Dean of the USC College of Nursing, I have gained even more insight and respect for the STTI organization. While I have been privileged to benefit from membership in several STTI chapters, I have never met a more active, involved and impactful membership than within our own Alpha Xi. Our College of Nursing is so fortunate to have this energetic group of professional colleagues leading the honor society chapter that was founded in 1966 as the first chapter in South Carolina and 36th in the country. Our College has been “first in SC” in many accomplishments over time, with Alpha Xi being one of the finest examples.

As I close out my service as Dean of this College, I thank all of you for your commitment to membership, scholarship, and leadership. I encourage each member to recommit toward active mentoring of new inductees and taking on new levels of responsibility and leadership as your time and lives allow. There is no greater joy than coaching up the next generation of nurse leaders – and Alpha Xi is where many of our future leaders will begin their professional journey. Remember – with membership come responsibilities!

It has been my true joy to serve you as your Dean and to have had the opportunity to belong in Alpha Xi. Best wishes to each of you in the holiday season and please join me in welcoming and supporting USC’s new nursing Dean, Dr. Jeannette Andrews, in the New Year.
## 2012-2013 Calendar (Fall/Spring)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject of Meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 21, 2012</td>
<td>Board transition meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 13, 2012</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20, 2012</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 11-13, 2012</td>
<td>SCNA/APRN Fall Pharmacology Conf - Spartanburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 25, 2012</td>
<td>Board meeting – VA campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 3, 2012</td>
<td>SCNF Nurses Walk – Riverfront Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9, 2012</td>
<td>Viana McCown Lectureship - afternoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2012</td>
<td>Board meeting – location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 27, 2012</td>
<td>Speaker meeting – restaurant TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13, 2012</td>
<td>MAP and research meeting - 1730, at CON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 17, 2013</td>
<td>Board Meeting – location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 31, 2013</td>
<td>Deadline for MAP abstracts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7, 2013</td>
<td>Speaker meeting – restaurant TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21, 2013</td>
<td>Board meeting – location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2 or 23, 2013</td>
<td>MAP and induction – College of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March?</td>
<td>InHolland visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21, 2013</td>
<td>Board meeting – location TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4, 2013</td>
<td>Speaker meeting at Palmetto Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6, 2013</td>
<td>Palmetto Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18, 2013</td>
<td>Board meeting – location TBA ballot approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19, 2013 – May 10, 2013</td>
<td>Election period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19, 2013</td>
<td>Nursing Excellence Conference - SCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16, 2013</td>
<td>Annual meeting - 1730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20, 2013</td>
<td>Transition Board meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Board Meetings for 2012-2013 will be at rotating locations, to be sent out a week prior to each meeting.**
Executive Board 2012-2013

**Officers**

President: Eileen Leaphart (12-14)  
President-Elect:

Vice-President: Amber Williams (12-13)  803/448-2020  
Secretary: Sabra Smith (12-14)  803/315-6519  803/777-0185  Smithsh2@mailbox.sc.edu

Treasurer: Ellen Synovec (11-13)  803/419-4971  803/777-4889  Synove@mailbox.sc.edu

Counselor: Gloria Fowler (11-13)  803/608-6770  803/777-0937

Past President: David Hodson (12-14)  803/920-5888  803/777-2467

**Committee Chairs/Members 2012-2013**

**Committee Chairs/Members**  
Archivist: Judith Alexander

Awards: Erin McKinney (12-14)  803/790-0464  803/777-4499  emckinne@mailbox.sc.edu

Communication: Sabra Smith* (12-14)  Patrick Hickey - newsletter  803/777-4436  Patrick.Hickey@sc.edu  
Craig Smith - webmaster  803/777-

Development: chair vacant

Finance:

Sue Haddock* (11-13)  803/206-3787  803/776-4000  Kathlyn.haddock@va.gov

Helen Collins

Haley Hinson

Leslie Hodges-Jackson

Pam Shealy  803/206-1056  803/296-5050  Ps-214@hotmail.com

Ellen Synovec (ex-officio)

Governance: Joan Creed* (11-13)  803/318-6338  803/296-3235  Joan.creed@palmettohealth.org

Leadership Succession: Bruce Williams

Ann Grogan

David Hodson

Jessica Wilkes?

Membership: Kevin Ballance?

Program: chair vacant  
Joan Culley

Research: Courtney Catledge  
Sue Heiney
Region 7 Conference (February 2013)

President Leaphart participated in a webinar for chapter presidents on October 4th. Dates are Feb 15-16, at Westin in Ft Lauderdale, 139/night hotel rate. Abstract deadline already passed in mid-October. 38 were submitted. Our chapter agreed to contribute $500, but the level for official recognition has increased, with the minimum level now being $1000. Eileen stated that we should send a board member to this conference. Will continue to get more info on program, etc. Our board has previously expressed our concerns regarding the planning of this regional conference.

Have You Joined the Circle?

President Leaphart passed along a request from the Region President that Board members register on the Circle on the STTI website. The “Circle” is a Global Member Forum and an excellent mechanism for communicating with other chapters/members. This is an important communication tool for all board members.

Check it out at: http://thecircle.nursingsociety.org/Home/

Mary Ann Parson Lectureship (Spring 2013)

Last year’s Mary Ann Parson (MAP) Lectureship turned out well and for this coming year it has been determined that the College of Nursing Center For Nursing Leadership (CNL) and Alpha Xi Chapter will set a budget together and that budget will be “handled” by the CNL. CNL will handle logistics of marketing, registration, and contract with off-site locations. Alpha Xi Chapter will be responsible for the program. President Leaphart is coordinating this event with assistance from Joan Culley and Helen Collins!

It was further determined that we need participation from people who have experience planning events of this nature. Board Members discussed the need to have other community leaders becoming more involved and President Leaphart indicated that she would call CNOs in the area to start discussions of participation in this spring’s conference. Suggestions were also made to contact DMH, DHEC leaders.

Members present decided to contact Dr. Andrews to ask if she would be the keynote speaker for this year. Hopes are that she could discuss her research and this should increase attendance to the meeting. She has already verbally agreed to speak at this spring’s induction ceremony. A goal of this year’s MAP is to showcase the new dean and her initiatives. Improving Health Outcomes for South Carolinians.

In a change from tradition it was recommended by the Board to combine MAP and Alpha Xi induction. The MAP portion of the day will be in the morning and after lunch period, then induction will occur in late afternoon. Suggestion were made to include the student nursing groups in this new format and tentative dates in March were discussed. Research committee plans to develop the type of topics and abstracts that we will want and will be reported at a future meeting.

InHolland Students (Spring 2013)

President Leaphart noted that a Board consensus was agreed upon that we are in support of continuing InHolland’s student visits but that we are not trying to coordinate their visit and MAP. It was discussed that the intent should be to avoid MAP and have the InHolland students participate in a smaller, internal research discussion.
Region 7 Conference (February 14/15, 2013)

2013 Sigma Theta Tau International Region 7 Conference
Nursing 2.0: New Generation to Globalization

When: February 15 & 16, 2013
Where: The Westin Fort Lauderdale Fort Lauderdale, FL
For more information or questions, please contact:
Jeanne Gottlieb, CNM, MSN President, Beta Tau Chapter at University of Miami (Host Chapter) jgottlieb@miami.edu
305-284-6256

**To register, please go to:**
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/region7registration2013

**Registration Fee Options:**
Registration includes both days of the conference with an opening reception on Friday evening and breakfast, lunch, and breaks on Saturday.

Please note that registration will close on **January 15, 2013**. Attendees will have to register onsite after this date.

- Student or Recent Graduate (within first year of induction): $75
- STTI Active Member: $150
- Non-member or inactive member: $200

**Onsite:**
- All: $200

**Hotel Information**
Westin Fort Lauderdale
400 Corporate Drive Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334
Phone: (954) 772-1331
Block of rooms at discounted price of $139 plus charges and taxes.
To reserve your room, please access the following website:
https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/region7stticonference2013

**Please reserve your room as soon as possible to ensure the discounted rate.**
Dave Hodson (Former Alpha Xi President) delivers a presentation on the previous years accomplishments of Alpha Xi and gives those in attendance an update on the InHolland Initiative.

Eileen Leaphart (Current Alpha Xi President) delivers a presentation on the 2012-2013 initiatives for Alpha Xi.
Chapter Photos (September 2012)

Sabra Smith (Alpha Xi Secretary) delivers a presentation on her research of perinatal care of HIV positive women.