

# THE LEADING EDGE –WINTER EDITION 2006

Editor: Maureen Greene at [mgreene12@wi.rr.com](mailto:mgreene12@wi.rr.com)

## AWARD AND HALL OF FAME RECIPIENT IS NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED



Carol Graham, The 2003 recipient of the Sigma Theta Tau Delta Gamma “Hall of Fame” award, former WI Public Health Association President, long-time public health nurse and advocate, received the Ruth B. Freeman Award. The award cites her 36 years of distinguished leadership in public health nursing (in addition to “retirement” activities), including:

- Developing a statewide public health nursing data reporting system to assist local health departments in the community health assessment process;
- Co-authoring two manuals: Computer Challenges Illiterates – A Guide to the World of Data as Information, and Community Tuberculosis Surveillance Plan for Local Health Departments;
- Leading a team of over 225 public health staff delivering a full scope of prevention services, through her role as Director of Public Health Nursing and Public Health Services, at the City of Milwaukee Health Department;
- Collaborating to craft state laws concerning qualifications of local health officials and required services of local health departments, resulting in Wisconsin being a leader in articulating the scope of public health nursing in every health department;
- Serving on many APHA committees and boards, including as WPHA’s representative to APHA.

The Public Health Nursing section noted that: “Carol Graham personifies the spirit of the Ruth B. Freeman award through her extremely distinguished career, her exemplary and continuing record of contributions to the field of public health nursing, and her demonstration of the essential role for nurses within the field of public health.” Nominators of Carol for this award indicated “an entire generation of public health nurses in Wisconsin identifies Carol as a mentor” and that Carol is “The Great Dame of Public Health Nursing.”

Carol received the award at the APHA Public Health Nursing section luncheon ceremony on December 13, 2005 during the APHA annual conference. In attendance were 300 public health leaders. At least 20 were from Wisconsin, and many are WPHA members.

The Wisconsin Public Health Association, an affiliate of the American Public Health Association, is an organization dedicated to promoting sound public health policy and providing public health education for its members and the people of Wisconsin. Formed in 1948, it is the largest organization of public health professionals in the state.



## DELEGATES REPRESENT CHAPTER INTERESTS AT BIENNIUM



Shirley Larson (Secretary), Suzanne Williamson (President-Elect), Maureen Greene (Leading Edge Editor and Region 4 Coordinator)

The 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Honor Society of Nursing was held November 12-16 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This Biennial event brought together international members to conduct the business of the Society. Education was provided through plenary sessions, multiple breakouts, poster presentations, and special programs for chapter leaders. Networking and recognition of individuals and chapters occurred at multiple events, including luncheons and dinners.

Several Delta Gamma chapter members attended. Suzanne Williamson, President-Elect and Shirley Larson, Secretary were the official chapter delegates and cast the chapters' 2 votes for officers, by-law changes and resolutions.

Dean Lea Accord and her faculty representatives hosted a reception Saturday evening highlighting the School of Nursing, and the Delta Gamma Chapter members and programs. Marquette University also had an information and display booth in the exhibit hall during the convention.

Several prominent nurse leaders and authors were on hand for book signing sessions including Tim Porter-O'Grady, Carolyn Hope Smeltzer, Fay L. Bower, and Sharon Hudacek.

Some areas of highlight members need to be aware of include:

**Bylaws issues:** In 2003 there were significant bylaws changes, whereas in 2005 session, minimal changes occurred. **Article III Membership** – The language was changed from GPA to Academic Achievement in both the basic and graduate programs to reflect different grading systems nationally and internationally. **Article IV Chapters** – Local chapters have the option to appoint or elect the members of the 2 required standing committees; Governance and Leadership Succession. **Article V House of Delegates** – Electronic voting and chapter approval may be conducted between biennial conventions via local delegates.

The 38<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention was a fantastic opportunity to meet nursing leaders, chapter members and candidates representing many areas of the globe. Keep listening and watching for some exciting chapter changes and initiatives as a result of this wonderful convention!

**REGION 4 COORDINATOR ELECTED: Maureen T. Greene, RN, CNS-BC, ACNP-BC (doctoral student) assumes 2 year term**

These are exciting times as one of our members reaches new opportunities in the nomination and campaign for Region 4 Coordinator. Maureen Greene, an active member of Delta Gamma Chapter successfully won her campaign at the November Biennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. This two year term runs until November 2007. Responsibilities include strategies to improve the 29 chapters in the Region that reaches from Wisconsin to Minnesota, North and South Dakota, East Side of Iowa, and Manitoba, Canada.

"I plan to use the skills and knowledge I gleaned from 25 years of experience in the Delta Gamma Chapter to reach out to our Regional chapters. There is much that can be done to improve common chapter efforts to enhance member involvement and meet the goals and commission of our new President, Carol Picard's charge, of "creating a global" community. I plan to seek that global outreach in our central states."

Maureen has just returned from a Learning Session with the other 14 Regional Committee Chairs and plans to disseminate the strategic plan for the fiscal year to the leaders and members of the chapters.



**Figure 1 Maureen Greene, Region 4 Coordinator 2005-2007**

### **THE CHAPTER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY IS COMING**

Planning is underway for the Chapter Leadership Academy, September 28-20, 2006 at the Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel and Suites, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Chapters should seek leaders and new members interested in growing in their understanding of how they can better serve their chapter and the community of Sigma Theta Tau International. So plan early and contact your chapter president if interested in being considered to attend on complimentary registrations. For more information visit the international website at [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org)

### **DELTA GAMMA WALKS WITH THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION**

Fall member involvement activities replaced the usual Awards and Hall of Fame event as we reach out to community service through involvement. Jacque Nook acted as captain for the Delta Gamma team as we converged on Miller Park to enjoy a brisk walk to support funding for research and services in fighting heart disease. The event was packed with teams from healthcare agencies and other service entities, like the boy and girl scouts. Delta Gamma collected a considerable amount of money that supported the AHA goals for future program planning. The Board of Delta Gamma welcomes your ideas for future community involvement activities. This is a wonderful way to focus your attention in service to Delta Gamma community outreach goals—Call today with your ideas!



**Figure 2 Arlene Kasten, Linda Masih, Barb Malecki, Jacque Nook (right picture)**



Bango Buck with part of the Delta Gamma Heart Walk Team: Cathie Whitcroft, Jacque and Pat Nook, Micha Whitcroft, Mary Darling and Arlene Kasten

**MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY HOSTS BIENNIAL RECEPTION**



Figure 3 Lea Acord with an attendee at Marquette reception at 2005 Biennium



Figure 4 Delta Gamma Membership board and MU services board displayed

Speaking of Chapter FUN!  
Great news! Two new Chapters Hit Milwaukee!  
Carroll College is now **Tau Mu!** and Columbia College of Nursing –Mount Mary College Nursing Program is **Tau Sigma!** Welcome, Friends.

SAVE THE DATES:  
APRIL 12, 2006 is the date we are trying to secure for a **JOINT MEETING WITH MILWAUKEE CHAPTERS.** See Flyer!

Induction is Coming:  
APRIL 30, 2006 at the College of Nursing. Stay Tuned.

Marquette University College of Nursing well represented at Biennium. Lea Acord and a constituent of professors and leaders from the college and Delta Gamma received visitors to the reception at the Biennial convention. Food and wine was offered freely along

with information about the university, the college of nursing programs and membership achievements in Delta Gamma. Thank you, MU for being there!



**LESSONS LEARNED: ASK AND YOU MAY RECEIVE**

An editorial comment from Maureen Greene, Region 4 Coordinator

I was sitting in a Milwaukee District Nurses Association meeting as Membership chair person and we were talking about funding mechanisms for future program planning when Mary Kay Bultman, the treasurer for this organization, commented that “it is important that nurses (and others) learn how to ask others for money, instead of always looking at assets as expendable”. I thought long and hard about that as I was driving to my next appointment.

Why was this statement such a revelation to me that day? Perhaps it was an area that I was uncomfortable—asking others for money, collecting for kids fund raisers through candy sales and Girl Scout cookies when my kids were young or other exposures to this anxiety provoking experience? Well one reason was that the Heart Walk was fast approaching and I had yet to collect any donations! Now the first thing that crossed my mind was I could ante up the money from my own funds—well, wasn’t that just what I had heard Mary Kay encouraging us not always to do! So that evening, I challenged myself and my psyche and took the dog, Eli, for a walk around my neighborhood and asked my neighbors to support my walk in the Heart Walk. I was pleased to have been received fondly by these neighbors, some that inquired where I lived and some catching up on what was new with our family. Yes, I had some that refused but I learned to smile and confidently backed away from the door to seek my next conquest.

So the moral of this story, now that the Heart Walk and our walking team benefited from by \$250.00 collection, is that reaching out to others is a good way to network, meet new people and expand our community. So go out there and see how good you are asking for money, involvement or help from others. You will be amazed at how many doors open for you and ask you in!

**THE BOARD, LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION, AND GOVERNANCE SEEKS NEW NOMINATIONS**

Nomination committee representatives are contacting members to prepare the ballot for new elected and assigned positions. Sigma Theta Tau International has redeveloped the governing structure of the board to afford creative ways to get members involved. If you would like to be considered for office, I encourage you to contact a representative from Governance Committee to facilitate this process of self-nomination.

**LEADING EDGE EDITOR SOUGHT!**

A new Leading Edge Editor is sought. This new method of emailing the Leading Edge is the chapter’s attempt to expedite our communication with you and save money! We hope you enjoy this first issue and would love to hear your comments! Please email comment s on this process to [mgreene12@wi.rr.com](mailto:mgreene12@wi.rr.com). If you want to take the position of Editor please contact Maureen Greene for transition help and positioning on the Board—we welcome our new members to consider this twice a year activity. What a great way to get your feet wet—even though you may be wet behind the ears!



### **Congratulations Nurse Leaders**

Four nurse leaders were inducted into Delta Gamma Chapter on November 9, 2005, in a special Induction ceremony, prior to a Board meeting at Marquette University College of Nursing. [Tina Rentmeister](#), [Susan Vlasney](#), [Mary Crum](#), and [Jill Jaeger](#) who had been nominated by Chapter members, were welcomed into Sigma Theta Tau, International and recognized for their contributions to nursing and health care. As they became members of the International Honor Society of Nursing, they were invited to full participation and active chapter involvement, in order to promote excellence in clinical practice, education, research, and leadership in nursing. A reception followed the Induction.

During the informal induction ceremony, the newest members were introduced to the Honor Society's goals and strategic plan, Chapter goals and programming. Board members and Dean Lea Acord were present to welcome the nurse leaders, and dialog with them about STTI, and the collegial relationship Delta Gamma Chapter has with it's sponsoring institution, Marquette University.

### **DID YOU KNOW???**

Members, did you know that you may renew your membership on-line at [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org) but no one can JOIN online, without being nominated and invited to membership. Think about it. You are invited to nominate community nurse leaders you know and work with, who may not have joined STTI while in school. Send request for nomination papers via email to our Faculty Counselor (6/2004-6/2006 term): [marybeth.gosline@marquette.edu](mailto:marybeth.gosline@marquette.edu)



Sigma Theta Tau International  
**Honor Society of Nursing**



Sigma Theta Tau International  
**Honor Society of Nursing**

**Joint Chapter Dinner Program**

**Delta Gamma Chapter – Marquette University, Milwaukee**

**Eta Nu Chapter – University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee**

**Tau Mu Chapter – Carroll College, Waukesha**

**Tau Sigma Chapter - Columbia College of Nursing - Mount Mary College, Milwaukee**

**Wednesday, April 12, 2006**

UWM School of Continuing Education

161 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53203

Located in the Plankinton Building above the Grand Avenue Mall

Parking available at Grand Avenue Mall (\$5)

5:00 PM      Networking / Cash Bar  
 5:45 PM      Business meeting (Individual Chapters)  
 6:15 PM      Dinner  
 7:00 PM      Program

**Complementary Health**

A 2002 survey conducted by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics, indicated that about 62% of US adults used some form of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) in the past 12 months. Expert panelists will discuss selected CAM topics and implications for nursing practice.

**Panelists:**

**Karen Gorton, APRN, BC, MSN - Tau Mu Chapter (Moderator)**

**Debra J. Johnson, MSN, RN, BC - Tau Sigma Chapter**

**Sunday Muniz, RPh, CCN – Naturopathic Pharmacist**

**Thomas Ryan, Program Coordinator, Integrative Medicine, Columbia St. Mary's**

**Lori Settersten, RN, PhD - Eta Nu Chapter**

**Suzanne Williamson, RN, BSN, CDE - Delta Gamma Chapter**

Contact hours will be awarded. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Nursing Continuing Education and Outreach Program is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Wisconsin Nurses Association Continuing Education Approval Committee, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. A certificate will be given to participants at the completion of the conference.

**Deadline for reservations and payment is Monday, April 3, 2006.**

**Checks payable to UWM. Members/Guests - \$25; Students - \$15**

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Phone contact \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Member/Guest @ \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ Student @ \$15

Return payment by April 3, 2006 to:

UWM Continuing Education & Outreach Program  
 P.O. Box 413  
 Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413

# ATTENTION-ATTENTION-ATTENTION

## Grant Application Announcement Sigma Theta Tau Research Award Grant

**Maximum Award: \$3,000 for one year**

**Submission deadline: March 30, 2006**

The Delta Gamma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau is now accepting applications for a research grant to be awarded to a chapter member in the spring of 2006.

**The award will be presented  
Sunday, April 30, 2006 at the Induction Ceremony.**

### Eligibility and Requirements:

- Active member of Delta Gamma Chapter
- Have the ability to carry out the proposed research. Beginning researchers need to have a qualified advisor.
- Research is to be completed one year after the presentation of the award. The researcher must submit a written copy of the completed research in spring 2006.
- The grant recipient may be required to present the completed research at the annual chapter research conference.
- Funding will not be provided retrospectively for research completed or near completion.

To apply, submit eight (8) type-written copies of the research proposal that includes:

◆ Title page with a brief biosketch (credentials, position, etc.) on only one copy. The seven additional copies

should not include identifying data

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| ◆ Introduction indicating need for research | ◆ Significance              |
| ◆ Problem statement                         | ◆ Timetable                 |
| ◆ Brief theoretical framework               | ◆ Budget                    |
| ◆ Hypothesis or research question(s)        | ◆ References and appendices |
| ◆ Methodology                               |                             |

Limit length to less than 6 pages, *double spaced* (excluding title page, budget, references, and appendices).

All applications will be evaluated using a blind review process. The recommendation of the Research Committee is submitted to the Executive Committee of the Delta Gamma Chapter for the award decision.

**Applications should be submitted no later than Monday, March 20, 2006 to:**

Kerry Kosmoski-Goepfert PhD, RN  
Marquette University -- College of Nursing  
Clark Hall  
P.O. Box 1881  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881  
Phone 414-288-3830  
Email: [kerry.goepfert@marquette.edu](mailto:kerry.goepfert@marquette.edu)



# Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

**Delta Gamma Chapter**  
Marquette University

Honor Society Inductees, Members, Faculty and Students,  
You are cordially invited to an evening of nursing excellence!

Come socialize, as well as hear the results of an exciting nursing research study partially funded by your Chapter. The study has begun to make positive changes in the dialog and culture in the clinical setting where the study was conducted.

Thursday, May 2, 2006  
Marquette University College of Nursing  
Terrace (ground floor)

4:30-5:30 PM Networking and hors d'oeuvres/ beverages

5:30 Welcome

5:45 Program

"The Path to Laboring Down,"

Lisa Hanson, DNSc, CNM, Associate Professor, Marquette University

Registration: Members/guests - \$10. April 2006 - STTI inductees—FREE.  
Students - \$5 (**\$5 door prizes for students who pre-register, and attend the program!**)

\*\*\*\*\*cut here\*\*\*\*\*

Yes, I'll be there on May 4, 2006!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ I am a new inductee (free)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I'm a STTI member/or guest (\$10 enclosed)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I'm a student (\$5 enclosed)

**Please make checks payable to: Delta Gamma**

Mail registration to: Jacque Nook, 2615 N. 111<sup>th</sup> Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Or

Place in Delta Gamma mailbox at the College of Nursing.

**Please register by Wednesday, April 26, 2006--so we have enough chairs and FOOD!**

**Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Gamma Chapter (Chapter # 097, Region 4)**  
**Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**  
**Executive Board Members (2005 - 2007)**

Elected Officers		
<b>PRESIDENT *</b> (Term: 2004 – 2006; elected)	Barbara Malecki	e-mail: <a href="mailto:barbara.malecki@Aurora.org">barbara.malecki@Aurora.org</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT *</b> Program Committee Chair (Term: 2005 – 2007; elected)	Jacque Nook	e-mail: <a href="mailto:jnook@wi.rr.com">jnook@wi.rr.com</a>
<b>PRESIDENT ELECT</b> (Term 2005-2006)	Suzanne Williamson	e-mail: <a href="mailto:suzanne.williamson@aurora.org">suzanne.williamson@aurora.org</a>
<b>SECRETARY/By Laws *</b> (Term: 2004 – 2006; elected)	Shirley Larson	e-mail: <a href="mailto:shirley.larson@med.va.gov">shirley.larson@med.va.gov</a>
<b>TREASURER *</b> (Term: 2005 – 2007; elected)	Linda Masih	e-mail: <a href="mailto:linda.masih@med.va.gov">linda.masih@med.va.gov</a>
<b>FACULTY COUNSELOR *</b> Governance Committee Chairperson; (Term: 2004 – 2006; elected)	Mary Beth Gosline	e-mail: <a href="mailto:marybeth.gosline@marquette.edu">marybeth.gosline@marquette.edu</a>
Committees		
<b>GOVERNANCE</b> <b>Chair:</b> Faculty Counselor <b>Members:</b> Secretary & minimum of 3 elected members - Oversees bylaws, membership involvement and eligibility	Joann Lomax (Term: 2005-2007)	e-mail: <a href="mailto:jlomax@fmlh.edu">jlomax@fmlh.edu</a>
	Mary Ann Mosley (Term: 2005-2007)	e-mail: <a href="mailto:mamosley@stitch.edu">mamosley@stitch.edu</a>
	Mary Darling (Term: 2004-2006)	e-mail: <a href="mailto:mdarling@covhealth.org">mdarling@covhealth.org</a>
	Terri Gallo (Term: 2004-2006)	e-mail: <a href="mailto:tagallo@wi.rr.com">tagallo@wi.rr.com</a>
<b>LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION</b> <b>Chair:</b> Elected by Group <b>Members:</b> Experienced Current or Past Board Member serves as ex-officio - Mentors members to assume board positions; serves in nomination function	Arlene Kasten	e-mail: <a href="mailto:arlene.kasten@va.gov">arlene.kasten@va.gov</a>
	Deborah Cales (Term: 2004-2006)	e-mail: <a href="mailto:debbie.cales@med.va.gov">debbie.cales@med.va.gov</a>
	Kim Paxton (Term: 2004-2006)	e-mail: <a href="mailto:klpaxton@stitch.edu">klpaxton@stitch.edu</a>

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