



Sigma Theta Tau International

Epsilon Sigma Chapter

East Tennessee State University

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Fall 2007

A Message from the President

Dear Chapter Members,

Anniversaries are celebratory events. They are reminders of a significant beginning. This year, 2007, Epsilon Sigma Chapter is celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of its chartering on March 7, 1982 at East Tennessee State University College of Nursing. Years of hard work mark this important milestone. What have we accomplished in these last 25 years and what do we hope to accomplish in the future? Epsilon Sigma Chapter has always been committed to nursing excellence focused within our local community.

Members at the grass roots in practice, education, and research have sustained our chapter through student mentoring, continuing education, and scholarship development. Our chapter has spotlighted our members' accomplishments in practice, education and research by honoring them through chapter awards. Epsilon Sigma members have always been encouraged to reach out to new nurses and students in order to provide support and guidance. We have willingly shared our expertise so as to improve nursing care.

Although this 25th anniversary is a time to celebrate, we have future aspirations and goals. In the last address, we were reminded of a call to action. Members are continually challenged to develop new nursing knowledge and share that knowledge. Members are now called to service in our communities and beyond.

Sigma Theta Tau, International has invited us to broaden our horizons and think globally by providing strategic directions. Read them on the international web site at http://www.nursingsociety.org/aboutus/Documents/strategic_directions.pdf. We are directed to use our nursing research and expertise to improve the health of the world in a socially responsible way. We are called to cultivate collaborative relationships within and between communities. Only through collaboration can we sustain our excellence.

Therefore, let us celebrate our anniversary as a culmination of accomplishments, but let us also see it as a new transition; a transition to expansion beyond ourselves. Happy Anniversary to our present and to our future.

*Jean Croce Hemphill PhD, APRN, BC
President, Epsilon Sigma Chapter
Sigma Theta Tau International*

Epsilon Sigma Chapter Celebrates 25 years of Chartering

Epsilon Sigma Chapter is proud to celebrate its 25 year anniversary of its chartering. The chapter was chartered at East Tennessee State University by the College of Nursing. First housed in Lamb Hall, the nursing faculties diligently pursued development of the Epsilon Sigma Chapter with the hope of supporting scholarship and excellence. A plaque was presented to Dr. Patricia Smith at the Annual Research/Theory Symposium on March 15, 2007 at the Millennium Center in Johnson City, Tennessee.

Epsilon Sigma Chapter Calendar of Events- Mark Your Calendars!

October 4, Thursday 6pm Sigma meeting – Crazy Tomato
November 1, Thursday 6pm Sigma meeting – Picasso
November 15, Thursday 6pm Induction
Stanton-Gerber Hall (#178 VA campus)
Large Auditorium (C-023 – downstairs middle of building)
(The Sigma website has a map of the VA in word format)

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

More abstracts and presentation/conferences available at ETSU Friday newsletter:
http://www.etsu.edu/nursing/News_and_Events/fridaynewsletter.asp

Sigma website list for conferences and abstracts (too many to list)
<http://www.nursingsociety.org/research/conferences.html>

ETSU Grant for LPNs

Dr. Priscilla Ramsey (PI), Dr Sally Blowers (Co-PI) and Carolyn Merriman (Co-PI) received a 3 year, \$745, 574 grant from the Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Professions, HRSA for a project entitled, "Collaboration with Tennessee Technology Centers for LPN to BSN Career Advancement."
The objectives of the project are 1) to establish collaborative partnerships with four Tennessee Technology Centers in Elizabethton, Kingsport, Morristown, and Greeneville and 2) to recruit and retain a total of 65 LPN graduates as BSN students at ETSU from all sites over a 3 year period. This is a 5 year, "learn and earn" program of study with individualized academic advising, peer mentoring and tutoring, and role transition seminars.
Each TTC site will have an "ETSU at TTC" center for academic counseling and recruitment. Project faculty provides workshops on requested topics such as test taking skills. Partnership employers who provide tuition assistance for LPN graduate employees include Mountain States Health Alliance, Wellmont Health Systems, VA Medical Center, Laughlin Memorial Hospital, NHC at Johnson City, and Tacoma Adventist Hospital.
If interested in more information, call Janelle Grooms, Project Coordinator, at 423.434.4528.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

September 27 6-8PM Annual Legislative Reception
Holiday Inn Express, 1217 Stewball Circle, Kingsport, TN
(I-26 John B. Dennis Exit # 51—Meadowview exit)
Follow John B Dennis, Hotel is on the Right beside James Inn, less than 1 mile

October 12-14 TNA Convention, Knoxville Marriott

October 15 8-4PM Once Upon a Life: Illuminations of Ethical Dilemmas
Stanton-Gerber Hall (#178 VA campus)
Large Auditorium (C-023 – downstairs middle of building)
\$35/\$25 student
Phone: (423) 431-1924 Fax: c/o Pastoral Care (423) 431-1692

October 19 8-4PM Psychiatric Issues across the Lifecycle
Centre at Millennium Park

October 26 8-4PM Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology
Meadowview Center

November 2-7 39th Biennial Convention, Baltimore, MD
2 Board members will attend, others are welcome to attend.

December 7 Preventing and managing falls in the elderly
Centre at Millennium Park
<http://com.etsu.edu/cme>