Delta Omega Officers 2018-2019

President- Aris Eliades aeliades@chmca.org

President Elect- Carolyn Murrock cj4@uakron.edu

Past President- Linda Shanks shanks@uakron.edu

1st Vice President- Dina Dornack ddornack@chmca.org

Treasurer- Laurel Celik dcelik@neo.rr.com

Secretary- Diane Brown dbrown1@uakron.edu

Faculty Counselor- Sheryl Stuck sds43@uakron.edu

Governance Committee- Eileen Fleming eilafleming@aol.com

Leadership Succession- Larissa Bair l4olson@hotmail.com

Research Grants & Recognition Co-Chairs- Marlene Huff mhuff@uakron.edu Barb Brunt bruntb1@gmail.com

Leadership Intern- Kathryn Burke kbb8@zips.uakron.edu

Leadership Extern- Connie Teal cteal@akronchildrens.org

Newsletter Co-Editor- Ashley Capestrain anc69@zips.uakron.edu Emily Ferstler emf46@zips.uakron.edu

Message from the President

Aris Eliades, PhD, RN
President, Delta Omega Chapter

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer! This newsletter reflects amazing activities of the Delta Omega Chapter. In March, Chapter members attending the Region 10 Conference networked with each other and Sigma members from other Chapters in our region including Canada. Dr. Lori Kidd and Sheryl Stuck did a wonderful job planning the Chapter’s Induction Ceremony held in April at The University of Akron Student Union. We welcomed new members and recognized achievements of excellence. Ashley Capestrain provided the inspirational keynote at Induction, sharing her story of leadership development in the Chapter from induction as a member to serving as a student intern and as a leadership extern. During Sigma Volunteer Week, Chapter leaders and members present at the April meeting were recognized with Volunteer Appreciation certificates. Our Chapter’s excellence is due to the hard work of the members!

In May, we celebrated Nurses’ Week by providing awards and monetary gifts to nurses selected by local hospitals for recognition of excellence. Those nurses biographies appear later in the newsletter. Thank you to all who made these celebrations a success! The Collaborative 2018 Research Conference was held with outstanding presentations and the opportunity to network with members of Delta Omega, Delta Xi and Pi Chi Chapters. Thank you to Dina Dornack and Lisa Hart for representing Delta Omega on...
the Planning Committee and to the presenters and attendees who made our Chapter shine.

Our June meeting was the Annual Transition meeting with the installation of officers. The newly elected officers and committee members are as follows: President Elect, Dr. Carolyn Murrock; Treasurer, Laurel Celik; Governance Committee, Meghan Weese; and Leadership Succession Committee members, Linda Shanks and Cynthia Didado. Congratulations to our new officers and thank you to everyone who voted! Diane Lorenzen and the Leadership Succession Committee did a great job developing the slate and conducting the election. The Board looks forward to working with Connie Teal as the Chapter Leadership Extern and our new Delta Omega Intern will be senior nursing student Kathryn Burke. We rely on our Intern to help keep us up-to-date on Facebook and put together our newsletter. Emily Ferstler has done an amazing job and we look forward to working with Kathryn in the upcoming academic year! A heartfelt thank you to outgoing Officers and Committee members Dr. Lori Kidd, Diane Lorenzen, and Tony Sunire. A special thanks to our Leadership Intern, Emily Ferstler, and our Leadership Extern, Ashley Capestrain.

Delta Omega will be providing another hot lunch for OPEN-M on October 31. Mark the date on your calendar and watch your email for details. We appreciate all the volunteers who help to make this a success! This is just a quick summary of some of our many activities that will be discussed in more detail in this newsletter. Your Delta Omega Board meets the 4th Monday of every month at 5:00 pm at The University of Akron in room 101F. We do not have a monthly Board meeting in July or December, but we welcome members to attend the monthly meetings to hear more about our activities. Participation of the chapter members is needed to accomplish our goals and activities. Please let us know if you want to become more involved and I will get you connected with the chair of the appropriate committee. I can be reached at 330-697-0156 or aeliades@akronchildrens.org I look forward to hearing from you!

Sigma Spring 2018 Induction Ceremony

Delta Omega, The University of Akron chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honor Society of Nursing, held its 37th annual induction ceremony on Sunday, April 15 at the Student Union. 25 students and 1 nurse leader (already an RN who has made contributions in the community) accepted this year’s invitation to join. 12 nursing students (10 undergraduate and 2 graduate) attended the induction ceremony. Founded in 1922 by six nurses in Indiana, Sigma Theta Tau is the only Nursing Honor Society and has more than 135,000 members in over 90 countries globally. Membership is selective. Students in the School of Nursing from all undergraduate programs (generic BSN juniors and seniors, RN-BSN, and Accelerated) and graduate programs (Masters and PhD) are invited to join only if they rank in the top third of their class academically.

Following a greeting by 2nd Vice President and faculty member, Lori Kidd, an explanation of the history of the honor society as well as its key values of Love (Sigma), Courage (Theta) and Honor (Tau) and its symbolic crest was provided. Then a brief keynote speech was given by Ashley Capestrain, RN, BSN, Class of 2017, who has served as chapter student intern and community extern. Next, inductees took a new members pledge and received a call to action led by chapter President Aris Eliades. Finally, each new Delta Omega member was personally greeted by Chapter President Aris Eliades and Vice President Dina Dornack, and given a certificate and the signature purple and white honors cords of Sigma Theta Tau International.

Delta Omega chapter also honored practicing nurses from local agencies with ten awards for Nursing Leadership, Nursing Practice, Nursing Education, Nursing Research, Nursing Mentoring, and Nursing Research Utilization, as well as Outstanding Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing students, Outstanding Chapter Contributions, and Lillian DeYoung Research-Based Knowledge Translation Award. Students
were inspired to hear Dr. Marlene Huff, School Director and co-chair of the Awards and Recognition Committee, read impressive lists of nursing accomplishments achieved by the honorees. The ceremony concluded as new members, honorees, and proud family and friends in attendance were invited to a reception of light refreshments and Zippy cookies.

Delta Omega chapter at The University of Akron is one of two chapters worldwide to be awarded Sigma Theta Tau International’s Key Award honor 13 times. This award acknowledges chapters achieving excellence in membership recruitment and retention, publicity and programming, professional and leadership development, and local, national and international collaboration.

**The Delta Omega Chapter presented a variety of awards at the Induction ceremony on April 15th.**

**Excellence in Nursing Leadership,**

**Julie Tsirambidis, MSN, APRN-CNP**

As the first Director of the Center for Advanced Practice Providers at Akron Children’s Hospital, Julie has been a pioneer and fierce advocate of Advanced Practice. She has received local, national and/or international recognition as a nursing leader including being named Outstanding Nurse Leader at Akron Children’s in 2016; National Greek Foundation 2014 40 under 40 Greek America’s Leaders in the USA and Canada recipient; Ohio Chapter of NAPNAP 2012 Nurse Practitioner of the Year; and serving as an invited speaker for the 2013 TEDx Women- University of Akron, “Women Leaders- The Space Between, Julie influences leadership in nursing through visionary and innovative approaches to leadership by providing organizational structure for APPs and APP leadership to effectively address APP specific needs at Akron Children ’s Hospital. The APP Council was created and grown under her leadership. Julie has also been able to establish Lead APP positions in most departments, advocating for the role and support needed in each department while providing liaison mentorship with APP Center. Julie serves as the APP Council chair. Julie creates an environment that enhances the image of nursing and nurses. She is a resource and advocate for APPs and advanced practice at the local, state and national level. Julie helped to initiate and implement a Professional Advancement Model for APPs that has been recognized nationally. She is currently leading by example in going back to school for her DNP at Kent State University.

**Excellence in Nursing Practice,**

**Sharon Inzetta, MS, RN, CBCN, CN-BC**

Sharon is currently the Breast Care Coordinator and Nurse Navigator for Breast Cancer Care at Summa Akron Campus. In 2017 a primary nursing navigational role involved coordinating the implementation of a Multidisciplinary Breast Clinic (MDC), the first to be implemented on July 21, 2017. A Navigational Model for the MDC was developed, with coordinated intake patient assessment forms, scheduling, educational materials and outcome surveys for both patients and providers. This would be used as a team project for our Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Project. The new Multidisciplinary Clinic (MDC) allows all patients timely access in a single same day visit to our Summa Health Interdisciplinary team of specialist and supportive breast care providers. This program was accepted for a poster presentation at 28th annual Interdisciplinary Breast Conference National Consortium of Breast Centers in March of 2018. Sharon coordinated an application for Grant funding of $50,000 to develop Zen Connection Cancer Survivor Program. Newly diagnosed breast cancer patients may feel overwhelmed in navigating the initial
treatment decisions. The requested funding will allow for expanded services in our multidisciplinary breast clinic, to include integrative therapy, collaboration with local community agencies, improving availability and utilization of educational materials, and developing a Comfort Bear Program providing a therapeutic teddy bear program to be used for post-operative recovery in chest splinting, arm elevation, and encouraging arm/shoulder exercises in recovery.

**Excellence in Nursing Education, Jayme Speight, MSN, RN-BC**

Jayme is the Education Coordinator at Akron Children’s Hospital. She regularly presents topics related to the Magnet® Recognition Program to the Nurse Residents and Assuring Success with a Commitment to Enhance Nurse Diversity (ASCEND) students at Akron Children’s Hospital and is a BLS instructor. Through her professional practice and involvement in the American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN) she advances the science of nursing through clarifying, refining and/or expanding nursing’s knowledge base. Jayme has served as a writer and reviewer for the Lippincott Ambulatory Care Nursing Procedure Manual since 2014. When Jayme volunteered to serve as a writer for the content on pediatric telephone triage in the 2nd edition of the Core Curriculum for Care Coordination and Transition Management (CCTM) text book, the editors replied by assigning her to contribute a Spotlight on Pediatrics for six chapters in the book. She is certified in ambulatory care nursing, is an active member of the American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nurses and serves on many taskforces and special interest groups. Jayme was selected as a Green belt candidate in the Center for Operational Excellence at Akron Children’s Hospital. Jayme’s Green Belt project on peer evaluation resulted in significant improvements to the process. She has influenced the professional practice of nursing and the public’s image of nursing in her roles as Program Director for Akron Children’s Hospital Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference; Event Planner & Volunteer at the Annual Cerebral Palsy Patient and Family Picnic; Simulation Lab Facilitator, Akron Children’s Hospital Simulation Center; and as a Booth Presenter on Nutrition at the Healthy Steps Kick-off Event for the Ohio and Erie Canal Coalition. She has published on practice as a Telephone Triage nurse. Jayme is a two-time March of Dimes Nurse of the Year Finalist in the Education category and was the recipient of the Creative Project Award for the nursing career ladder at Akron Children’s.

**Excellence in Nursing Research, Karen Frantz DeSeptis, BSN, RNC**

Karen Frantz has been a nurse for over 40 years, many of those years in Obstetrics, first in Special Care Nursery and the past 18 years as Case Manager for Women’s Health Services at Summa Akron Campus. Karen is best known for is her coordination of care for the pregnant woman addicted to opiates. As a key member of the Women’s Health Research Team, Karen facilitates the Maternal-fetal Opiate Medical Home (MOMH) and the Centering Pregnancy Program at Summa to improve outcomes for the opiate addicted pregnant woman. Karen presented findings at the AWHONN National Conference as well as state and regional presentations. The Ohio Hospital Association awarded the Ohio Patient Safety Institute (OPSI) Award in 2014 to her hospital for improved outcomes. Karen was honored to receive the Ohio March of Dimes Case Manager of the Year Award as well as Summa Hospital received the 2016 Risk Management Award from AEIX, an insurance exchange. Karen’s involvement in many projects and activities that promotes
women’s health has been recognized as a recipient of the Cameos of Caring Award, Clinical Nurse III in the Clinical Ladder Program. Karen was nominated for this recognition for her work in wanting to change that statistic by improving the care of our vulnerable moms and their babies.

Excellence in Utilization of Nursing Research, Susan Hazelett, MSN, MS, RN

Sue, as the Manager of the Seniors Institute Research at Summa Health, has created many innovative programs that have impacted the health and care of the geriatric population. Sue, as principal investigator and project manager received federal funding of $3 million from HRSA for two three-year grants, Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) and Nurse Education Practice Quality Retention, Inter-professional Collaborative Practice in a Falls Risk Reduction Clinic. Both grant projects have been disseminated at national meetings: poster presentations on falls risk reduction at the QSEN 2017 National Conference and accepted for poster and paper presentation at the American Geriatrics Society 2018 Conference and a poster presentation on GWEP was presented at Sigma Theta Tau Biennial Symposium 2017 and accepted for the American Geriatrics Society 2018 Conference. Sue has been project manager for other inter-professional care management trials that focused on the acute care hospital, Acute Care for the Elderly (ACE), post- stroke care (STEPS, NINDS) and post - acute chronic illness (ADLIFE, AHRQ). As co-author Sue, has numerous publications in peer reviewed journals and text books.

Excellence in Nurse Mentoring, Ginnie Abell, BA, RN, CIC

Over her 50+ year career as a registered nurse, Ginnie Abell has mentored hundreds of nurses and physicians. As the Director of Safety and Infection Control at Summa Health System until she retired in 2017, she was the “go-to” person for any questions relating to infection control or safety. Ginnie was a member of our system Institutional Review Board and our Nursing Research Council for many years. She mentored many nurses on nursing research and quality improvement projects. Ginnie facilitated a hand hygiene project by introducing me to the Internal Review Board (IRB). As a result, we were able to publish two (2) articles in AJIC American Journal of Infection Control. Ginnie is a member of the Summit County Refugee Health Task Force addressing issues of interpreters for languages and cultural differences and assimilating refugees into primary care, dental, mental health and the community. She provides monthly education to refugees in the resettlement program in Summit County as an International Institute Instructor on Health and Hygiene. She is now an Infection Control Consultant mentoring many healthcare professionals in the community.

The Lillian DeYoung Research-Based Knowledge Translation Award, Meghan Weese, MSN, RN, CPN, NEA-BC

Meghan demonstrates excellence in clinical scholarship, skills in using educational forums to change practice and commitment to advanced nursing practice in clinical practice, quality and safety, leadership and education. In 2009, Meghan received a Master of Science in Nursing with a Nursing Service Administration Specialization and is a Certified Pediatric Nurse and Certified Nurse Executive Advanced. She is currently in the last semester of course work in the joint PhD in Nursing program at the University of Akron. Meghan is a member of Delta Omega Chapter and has served on the Research Grants and Recognition
Awards Committee. Her research interests are mentoring and leadership. Meghan’s first study as a co-Investigator, Nurse Mentoring Study, was awarded $1,900 funding from Delta Omega Chapter. Her work has been presented at local, regional, national and international Sigma conferences. Meghan is the author or co-author of 9 publications, 14 poster presentations and 26 podium presentations. As Supervisor and Magnet Coordinator in the Department of Nursing Professional Practice at Akron Children’s Hospital, Meghan has led the organization to successful Magnet re-designation twice with the most recent designation with 10 exemplars achieved January 2012. Meghan is a Leadership Development Trainer for The Leadership Challenge workshop. She coordinates and authors the annual Akron Children’s Hospital Nursing Outcomes Report that focuses on quality and safety initiatives of the Nursing Division.

Outstanding Graduate Nursing Student, Connie Teal, DNP, RNC-CIC, APRN-CNS, WCC

Connie graduated from the DNP program in Dec. 2017 and is the Clinical Nurse Specialist for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Akron Children’s Hospital. She has long been an advocate of evidence-based practice (EBP) and completed the EBP Certificate Program at the Center for Transdisciplinary EBP at Ohio State University. She is mentor for nurses in the EBP Learning Community at Akron Children’s Hospital An area where Dr. Teal has led utilization of nursing research to impact practice change is in developing evidence-based clinical policies and practice change. She is the contact person for more than 80 neonatal care clinical guidelines. She contributes to the nursing knowledge base by serving as a principal or co-investigator for numerous local and national research projects. Dr. Teal is a frequent presenter at neonatal and nursing conferences including those of the Vermont-Oxford Network. Her work includes initiatives to apply best practices related to safe sleep, skin integrity, alarm management, neutral head positioning for premature infants in the neonatal intensive care unit, cue-based feedings, and reducing central line associated blood stream infections. Her DNP project illustrates that, as a student, Connie sought and enjoyed the search for knowledge. For her project titled, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: A Quality Improvement Project, she created, implemented and evaluated a non-pharmacologic intervention bundle for neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). Her project demonstrated that non-pharmacologic interventions, provided by nurses, can positively affect the length of pharmacologic treatment for NAS and can also decrease the health care dollars used in treating NAS. Dr. Teal is currently completing a manuscript on her student DNP project.

Outstanding Undergraduate Nursing Student, Brooke Hromiak

Brooke is an outstanding student, both academically and clinically. Brooke recently completed her Senior Leadership practicum experience where the student is required to develop a personal mission statement. Brooke’s mission statement included “I will enjoy my work where I can feel like I made a difference in my patients’ lives. Her assignment brought her to a very busy stepdown neuro med/surg unit on the night shift. Her journal provided examples of how she improved in organization-caring for up to 5 patients, improving in medication administration, interpreting lab values, gaining experience in technical skills-she had a small victory-she was successful in
starting an IV on someone who was viewed as a “hard stick”. What stood out was a challenging situation when another nurse’s patient had a medical emergency. Everyone, Brooke included, provided assistance until they were able to transfer the patient to ICU. Brooke described this as a great learning experience for her to see all the nurses coming together to help their fellow co-worker. Their teamwork made a difference in that one patient’s life.

Outstanding Contributions to the Chapter, Dina Dornack, MSN, RN, first Vice-President of the Delta Omega Chapter

Dina is currently the Nurse Manager of the Emergency Department at Akron Children’s Hospital. However, she is receiving recognition for her outstanding contributions to the chapter for her numerous contributions to the Delta Omega chapter over many years. Most recently, she assumed the responsibilities of President while the current president was on a medical leave. For several months, she ensured all the chapter activities continued seamlessly. This role was not new to her, as she served as President of the chapter from 2007-2009. The Delta Omega chapter is one of only two chapters in the world to receive the coveted Key Award thirteen times. Dina is currently serving as the First Vice-President of the chapter and in that role is responsible for the chapter’s programs. She recently coordinated a showing of a movie about human trafficking, followed by a CE program on that topic. Dina has been a strong supporter of serving lunch at OPEN-M, coordinating that event multiple times, and consistently helping serve lunches. She has also spearheaded Delta Omega’s participation in the Christmas for the Love of Children program numerous times. Dina has been a staunch supporter of the chapter for many years in various roles, and we wanted to recognize her for her hard work and devotion.
Chapter By-Laws Report

Chapter Bylaw changes Eileen Fleming, Chair, Governance Committee

The Governance Committee with Board and Chapter approval submitted the following changes to the Delta Omega Chapter bylaws to Sigma International headquarters for review and approval.

- Removal of the 2nd Vice-President officer position
- Addition of the following Standing Committees:
  a. Communications
  b. Induction
  c. Membership
  d. Program
  e. Research Grants and Recognition Awards

Members interested in being involved in any of the Standing Committees are encouraged to contact a Delta Omega Board member for more information.

Students are invited to learn more about Sigma and Delta Omega Chapter membership and once a member, be involved in the Communications Standing Committee. Contact any Delta Omega Chapter board member for additional information.

Delta Omega Chapter member’s contact information can be found listed next to their name and title at the beginning of this newsletter.

Delta Omega Fall Event

On the Table Akron Discussion and Scarf Making
Spaghetti Warehouse
510 South Main Street | Akron, OH 44311
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM (EDT)

On the Table Greater Akron is a one-of-a-kind initiative where thousands of diverse residents from all walks of life and socio-economic backgrounds gather to share a meal and discuss meaningful ideas to strengthen our community. It’s an opportunity to shape our region into a strong, vibrant, safe and dynamic place to live and work. Members of the Delta Omega Chapter of Sigma will come together to discuss issues identified as concerning for the community during the 2017 On the Table event. The two issues we will discuss are:

- Drugs and Addiction
- Public Safety and Judicial System

Additionally, during the conversation we will do "arm knitting" of scarves to
donate to the Haven of Rest. No knitting talent is required.

- Please bring 3 skeins of chunky/bulky yarn. Lion’s Brand Homespun is a good brand. You can also find 3 or 4 one pound skeins at Pat Catan's in bulk.

This is a free event and your meal will be provided by the Delta Omega Chapter. This is an opportunity as nurses to have open discussion regarding issues identified as concerning for the community in which we live and work. This will also give us an opportunity to participate in 90 Minutes of Service for Sigma Founder’s Day by making scarves for the Haven of Rest.

Seating limited to 45.

Registration available via Eventbrite link below.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/delta-omega-fall-event-on-the-table-akron-discussion-and-scarf-making-tickets-49879196018

How can I contact the organizer with any questions?

Dina Dornack, Vice President - ddornack@sbcglobal.net

Welcome New Members!

**Nurse Leaders**

Karen Frantz BSN RNC – presently Case Manager Women’s Health Services at Summa Health System

Sophia Gardner BSN RN – pursuing an Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Master’s Degree, working as an Emergency Nurse

Christine Young, MSN, MBA, RN, NEA-BC – Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer Akron Children’s Hospital

**Graduate Students**

Helen Martina Mathichetty Anthuvan
Danielle Dutton
Shayla Knox
Jessica Elizabeth Neely
Todd Jay Painter
Melissa Stallings

**Undergraduate Students**

Jamie Baker
Quiniece Banks
Alison Ann Belcher
Elena Bocola-Mavar
Catherine Brusko
Kathryn Hill Burke
Andrea Cuff
Catherine Victoria Farrance
Victoria Igboaka
Emily Klotzschke
Kathleen Ann Knoblock
Mckenzie Raine Koch
Stefanie Gayle Lin
Kelly McCurdy
Nicole Marie Richani
Nakiaa Tamarah Robinson
Joanna Marie Rohrer
Katharine Ann Subotnik

We are happy to welcome you all to Sigma! We can’t wait to help you all get involved in the Delta Omega chapter.

**Pay it Forward**

Our members are changing lives and advancing healthcare with their donations.

The Delta Omega Chapter would like to thank the following members who donated to our chapter while renewing their Sigma membership between March 1, 2017 and January 1, 2018:

Donna Marie Jacobs Gorring
Roslyn Messerly
Josephine Velasquez
Members who made donations of US $60 or more to Sigma Foundation for Nursing in the 2017 calendar year:

Barbara Brunt
April Wertz

These members paid it forward to allow the Delta Omega Chapter to offer book scholarships to students, helped fund research grants, induct new members and send members to conferences to name a few of our activities.

Due to more stringent state regulations regarding fundraising solicitation, you will no longer be able to donate to our chapter when you renew your membership with Sigma. If you would like to make a donation to our Delta Omega Chapter, please send the donation directly to us. Any amount is appreciated and put to good use for our members.

Delta Omega Chapter Sigma Theta Tau
University of Akron School of Nursing
209 Carroll St
Akron, Ohio 44325-0014

**Call for Delta Omega Research Grant and Evidence-Based Project Proposals**

Do you want to do research or complete an evidence-based project but don’t have funds to support your proposal? Consider submitting a proposal to Delta Omega Chapter of STTI.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Sigma Theta Tau International Delta Omega Chapter research or evidence-based project grant is to encourage quality nurses to contribute to the advancement of nursing through research. Proposals for pilot and/or developmental research may be submitted. All research topics and designs are eligible for support.

**Eligibility Criteria:**
- Be a registered nurse with current license
- Have a master’s or doctoral degree, or be enrolled in a graduate program
- Submit a completed research application electronically
- Be ready to implement research project when funding is received
- Complete project within one (1) year of funding
- Be an honor society chapter member in good standing
- Submit an abstract and final report 90 days following the end of the one-year funding period
- Credit STTI Delta Omega in all publications and presentations of the research

**Grants Available:** 5 per year (2-3 funding cycle)
Funding: $2,500 (max)
Deadlines: **September 30, 2018**
**February 15, 2019**

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**Hiring!**

_The University of Akron_  
_School of Nursing_  
_Part-time Clinical Faculty Positions_

If you are interested in working with a group of University of Akron nursing students in a part-time clinical faculty position please contact Dr. Michele Zelko at mzelko@uakron.edu. Please attach a resume with your email. A BSN is required with two years of experience in your clinical area. The School of Nursing hires new faculty at the beginning of each semester depending on need.
Proposal Application Guidelines and the review checklist can be found at: https://www.uakron.edu/dotAsset/b877412c-a48d-45bd-8670-89c413d6e02e.pdf

Any questions about the process can be directed to either Marlene or Barb. Deadline for the next grant application submission has been extended to September 30, 2018.

Best regards,

Barb Brunt, Co-Chair
Research and Recognition Committee
Bruntb1@gmail.com

Marlene Huff, Co-Chair
Research and Recognition Committee
mhuff@uakron.edu

Did you know?

Your gift to the Sigma Foundation helps the organization fulfill its mission to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide. And you can decide where you want to designate your support – research, leadership, future, or the unrestricted fund giving categories. Sigma provides small grants and research grants to members. In addition, they give co-sponsored partner grants. There are numerous leadership development opportunities provided by the organization. Consider donating today to help support nurses around the world heal, lead, and learn.

Book Scholarship Opportunity

Delta Omega offers up to three book scholarships for active members in the Delta Omega Chapter. The applicant must be currently attending an undergraduate or graduate nursing program, or be a nurse attending a PhD program in a related field. Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of $300. Each awardee may only receive one scholarship per academic year. Preference will first be given to applicants who have not previously received the scholarship regardless of GPA. If more than three applications for the scholarship are received, GPA will be considered to determine the awardees.

Application found at the end of this newsletter

The Delta Omega Leadership Scholarship

The purpose of this Scholarship is to provide monetary assistance to an undergraduate or graduate level University of Akron nursing student pursuing an enrichment experience beyond curriculum requirements in leadership development. Application information can be found on the Delta Omega website at: https://www.uakron.edu/nursing/about-us/stti/leadership-scholarship.dot

Scholarly Activity Funding

Do you have the results of a research or evidence-based project you would like to share, but do not have funds to attend a conference to share them? Delta Omega has funds available to fund scholarly activities. The application form can be found on the Delta Omega website at: https://www.uakron.edu/nursing/documents/delta-omega/scholarly%20funding%202016.pdf

Monies are available for Delta Omega members and nursing students with current qualifications and intent to be inducted in STTI. Delta Omega will support up to $300 for participation at a state conference, $500 for participation in a regional or national conference, and $800 for participation in
an international conference for individuals who have been accepted for an oral paper or poster presentation. In exchange for the funding, the individual must agree to participate in a Delta Omega event to share information and acknowledge the Delta Omega support during the presentation or on the poster.

**Region 10 Conference**

Attendees: Aris Eliades, Barb Brunt and Emily Ferstler

Our Chapter is one of 28 Chapters in Sigma’s North America Region 10 which encompasses part of Ohio, Michigan and Ontario. Every 2 years, the Region holds a conference and the 2018 Region 10 Conference, Bridging Nursing Leadership, Research & Practice, was held March 23 & 24, 2018 in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Delta Omega Chapter supported attendance by Aris Eliades, President; Barb Brunt, Research Grants and Recognition Awards Co-Chair and Past President; and Emily Ferstler, Chapter Intern. Maher M. El-Masri PhD, RN provided the keynote address titled “Shattering Obstacles and Seeking Greater Heights: The Destiny of the Daring Nurse”. The story of his journey from an impoverished child in Palestine to education in the USA to his current position as Professor and Faculty Research Chair at the University of Windsor, Faculty of Nursing and Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Nursing Research was uplifting. With extensive teaching and research expertise in research methodology, biostatistics, and clinical epidemiology, Dr. El-Masri believes that “knowledge is the seed from which every human achievement stems and it is what makes us special. Knowledge is the power that shapes who we are and empowers us to enhance our unique sense of self and community…and that excellence in nursing practice starts with excellence in nursing research and education.” Graduate students, faculty and practicing nurses provided intellectually stimulating oral and poster presentations on a wide range of topics related to research and evidence-based practice in education and practice.

For our leadership intern, Emily Ferstler, this conference was a special event before beginning her nursing career. Please read below to learn more from her perspective…

My name is Emily Ferstler, and I was fortunate enough to attend the Region 10 conference with the support of the chapter’s board. This was the first nursing conference of my career, and it was nothing short of inspiring. To learn about the hard work and success of the many presenters opened my eyes to all of the opportunities that the career of nursing has to offer. The research presented was completed with rigor and passion. It was truly amazing to see how the field of nursing directly impacts medicine in its entirety. I especially enjoyed the keynote speakers, as they shared their motivating stories and words. I thank the chapter for allowing me to experience such an important event. I look forward to bringing the knowledge and motivation I gained from this experience into my new career as a registered nurse.

**Nurse Excellence Awards (Hospitals)**

Amy Kidd BSN RN CEN TNCC, Western Reserve Hospital, Clinical Coordinator in the Emergency Department was the recipient of the STTI Delta Omega Chapter Excellence in Nursing Practice Award, where the hospital honored their super heroes during Nurses Week.
Sarah McBride, RN, Summa Barberton Hospital was the recipient of the Sigma Delta Omega Chapter Excellence in Nursing Practice Award, as the hospital honored their nurses during Nurses Week.

Isabel Ricker, BSN, RN-BC, Akron Children’s Hospital was the recipient of the Sigma Delta Omega Chapter Excellence in Nursing Practice Award.

Stacy O’Brien, BSN, RN, PCCN, Summa Akron City was the recipient of the Sigma Delta Omega Chapter Excellence in Nursing Practice Award. (Not pictured)

Collaborative Research Conference

On May 15, 2018 the Delta Omega, Delta Xi and Pi Chi Chapters of Sigma held our annual collaborative research conference. The event was held at the Conference Center on the Stark Campus of Kent State University. Approximately 75 people were in attendance. The speaker provided us with an opportunity to work through the critical appraisal process as well as weigh the level of evidence. This was accomplished in small groups and was very interactive, engaging and informative. Additionally, we add over 20 poster presenters participate in the conference. Giving us an opportunity to see the great work being accomplished both in academia and clinically at our area hospitals.

Dina Dornack MSN, RN
1st Vice President
**Health Fair**

On Thursday, June 14th, 2018, Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Omega Chapter helped sponsor a health fair held at Bridges Day Center for adults with developmental disabilities. Eight senior community nursing students from the University of Akron, under the direction of Dr. Sheri Hartman, supported this informative, fun-filled day. The students provided health screenings and health information regarding summer safety which included: (1) sun safety, (2) outdoor/camping safety, (3) healthy eating with home grown fruits and vegetables, and (4) relaxation education. With the funds provided by Delta Omega the participants were able to learn in a very interactive way.

Information for sun safety was provided through trivia and decorating sun visors with sun screen provided.

The outdoor/camping safety station included education about bug safety and first aid. Participants were able to make their own bug repellent to take home with them.

At the nutrition/planting station, the participants were able to make cookbooks with simple recipes using fresh fruits and vegetables that they planted.

In addition, the participants were able to engage in a scavenger hunt consisting of trivia clues that led them to healthy habit prizes such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, journals, water bottles, Chap Stick, soap, Kleenex, and stress balls.

At the relaxation station, participants relaxed by engaging in art therapy and yoga exercises.
The day completed with a dance party demonstrating that exercise can be fun!

It was a great day for everyone- participants, staff, and nursing students!

Thank you, Delta Omega for making this day possible!!

Help Wanted

As a society that continually strives to improve, especially in communicating with all of our members, we are in need of some tech support. We are currently beginning the process of migrating to The Circle; the professional networking site of Sigma Theta Tau International. If you, or someone you know, would be able to assist the board in this exciting technological advancement, please contact President Aris Eliades by email @ aeliades@akronchildrens.org

Get Involved!

Looking to get more involved in the Delta Omega Chapter? There are various committees with open positions to join! If interested, please contact President Aris Eliades by email @ aeliades@akronchildrens.org

Find us on: Facebook

Find us at:
Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Omega Chapter
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Table with information for students at College of Health</td>
<td>September 14, 2018</td>
<td>10am-2pm Taber Student Union U of A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professions 5-Star Kickoff</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Grant Proposals Due</td>
<td>September 15, 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Leadership Connection</td>
<td>September 15-18, 2018</td>
<td>Indianapolis, Indiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>September 24, 2018</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Program: Hosting On The Table Akron Dinner for Chapter members</td>
<td>October 9, 2018</td>
<td>Spaghetti Warehouse 5:30 – 7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>with scarf knitting as our Chapter’s 90 Minutes of Service for Sigma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Founders’ Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>October 22, 2018</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Activity OPEN-M HOT LUNCH</td>
<td>October 29, 2018</td>
<td>OPEN-M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Published</td>
<td>November 2018</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>November 26, 2018</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Happy New Year!</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>January 28, 2019</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Grant Proposals Due</td>
<td>February 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sigma Creating Healthy Work Environments</td>
<td>February 22-24, 2019</td>
<td>New Orleans, Louisiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>February 25, 2019</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Program with Cameos of Caring Alumnae on Human Trafficking</td>
<td>Saturday March 9, 2019</td>
<td>8am-12pm Considine Auditorium at Akron Children’s Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Reserve District 5 Science Day</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Student Union UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>March 26, 2019</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Induction Ceremony and Recognition Awards</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Student Union UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>April 22, 2019</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletter published</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2019 Collaborative Research Conference</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>May 20, 2019</td>
<td>5-6:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elections</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting/Annual Meeting with Installation of Officers</td>
<td>June 24, 2019</td>
<td>5-7:30pm MGH 101C UA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma 30th International Nursing Research Congress</td>
<td>July 25-29, 2019</td>
<td>Calgary, Alberta, Canada,</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Delta Omega offers up to three book scholarships for active members in the Delta Omega Chapter. The applicant must be currently attending an undergraduate or graduate nursing program, or be a nurse attending a PhD program in a related field. Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of $300. Each awardee may only receive one scholarship per academic year. Preference will first be given to applicants who have not previously received the scholarship regardless of GPA. If more than three applications for the scholarship are received, GPA will be considered to determine the awardees.

Name________________________________________________________________________

Address_______________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Email ________________________________________________________________________

Primary phone number _________________________________________________________

Alternate phone number _________________________________________________________

University currently attending ___________________________________________________

Current cumulative GPA _________________________________________________________

Please provide a copy of your unofficial transcript for verification

Current or past Delta Omega Chapter activities (examples: board member, volunteer with Delta Omega for OPEN-M hot lunch, helping with Induction Ceremony, etc.).

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Please submit this application with a copy of your unofficial transcript to:

Laurie Celik
Delta Omega Treasurer
dcelik@neo.rr.com