



Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing

TO: Triangle Area Nursing Colleagues
FROM: Sandra Hoffman and Kathy Moore
Counselors, Alpha Alpha Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau
DATE: August 16, 2009
RE: Invitation to Join Sigma Theta Tau or Nominate a Colleague

If you are not presently a member of nursing's only honor society, now is the time to consider applying! Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society provides leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research to enhance the health of all people. We support the learning and professional development of our members who strive to improve nursing care worldwide. The society has 405,000 members in more than 460 college/university chapters in almost 90 countries around the world. Sigma Theta Tau contributes to and awards grants and scholarships, supports education and research conferences around the world, offers online continuing education, provides resources for career development and hosts leadership programs which include mentoring programs and global health care think tanks. Additionally, the society produces a variety of publications, such as Journal of Nursing Scholarship, Reflections on Nursing Leadership, and Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing, and other scholarly books on a wide range of topics.

It is both an honor and a privilege to be a member of Sigma Theta Tau and thus participate in advancing nursing scholarship, nursing leadership, and nursing practice. Please visit Sigma Theta Tau International's web site at www.nursingsociety.org for additional information, then join us in Sigma Theta Tau at this important time in nursing's history.

Membership eligibility criteria for Nurse Leaders are:

- Licensed to practice nursing in the US (denote supportive data in CV/resume)
- Minimally, an earned baccalaureate degree (or higher) in nursing or equivalent in a related field, and
- Demonstrated achievement in nursing.
Examples include but are not limited to: creativity/innovation in clinical practice; leadership qualities contributing to improved health care, teaching, or administration; curriculum development; improvement of the status of nursing organizations; innovative student-focused learning approaches; research development/utilization; entrepreneurial skills; staff development activities; mentoring of colleagues; and having been recognized for innovation in professional program development, among others. (Sample achievements are provided at the conclusion of this memo)

- Criteria may also be reviewed at this site:
http://www.nursingsociety.org/Membership/ApplyNow/Pages/nl_memcriteria.aspx

To apply, you must submit the following by **September 24, 2009**:

- Nurse Leader Intent Form, available on page 3 of this site:
http://www.nursingsociety.org/Chapters/Documents/mem_intent.pdf
- Two (2) endorsements for membership, one of which should be completed by an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, available online at:
http://www.nursingsociety.org/Chapters/Documents/mem_endorse.pdf
- A copy of your resume or CV
- An 8.5 x 11 inch photocopy of bachelor's degree (or higher) diploma
- Note: there is an application fee of \$100 (cash or check only; no credit cards please) which is not due until you receive a formal invitation to membership. This fee supports your international dues, local chapter dues and all publication fees for one year

Materials should be collected into one packet and submitted via personal delivery, USPS or fax (919 966 3540) to:

Kathy Moore, STT Counselor
C/o Office of Admissions and Student Services
1200 Carrington Hall, School of Nursing, CB #7460
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7460

It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure the completeness of her/his application. If you have any questions about the application process, please email Sandra Hoffman at shoffma1@email.unc.edu or Kathy Moore at Kathy_moore@unc.edu or 919 966 4260.

Your completed application will be reviewed upon receipt by the Eligibility Committee, and presented to the general membership of Alpha Alpha Chapter for final approval in late February. You will be notified of your membership status soon thereafter. The formal induction ceremony is planned for **Sunday, November 14, 2009 at 2pm** on the UNC Campus in Chapel Hill; a reception to honor new members will follow. (Precise location of Induction is being determined).

We hope you will consider honor society membership as an important step in your professional career development, and look forward to having you as one of our new inductees at the fall ceremony!

If you are already a member of Sigma Theta Tau, please think about nominating an outstanding colleague as a Nurse Leader by sharing a copy of this memo and supporting their submission.

Thank you for considering this exciting professional opportunity for yourself or a colleague!

Sample list of achievements by previous Nurse Leader applicants:

- Nursing faculty member for xx years
- Published articles for Nursing Spectrum (or other) magazine
- Recognized for outstanding care of treating special patients in Saudi Arabia
- Adjunct instructor, writes monthly health columns for local newspaper
- Active preceptor for new nurses or nursing students
- Developed classes to help educate the staff in certain areas
- In charge of a 24 bed open heart surgery unit
- Team leader of a critical care ambulance
- Care of indigent, homeless, migrant patients
- Developed and ran nursing health education services for rural education
- Increased nursing services with Medicaid grants
- Team researcher in Distance Learning Project
- Reviewer for The Journal of Nursing Education
- Forensic nurse who forged collaboration between police, rape crisis counselors and medical teams
- Expert witness in area of forensic medical evaluations
- Senior leadership as a nurse in the Navy for xx years
- Received military medal for excellence
- Spoke at a convention of a national organization
- Advocates for the profession in state government
- Received award from AANP (or other national organization)
- Nominated as Nurse of the Year by _____ organization
- Served on various task forces, staff retention teams, and councils
- Held executive offices in nursing organizations
- Served as an undergraduate curriculum committee representative
- Experienced lecturer on topic of expertise
- Developed cancer screening programs to meet the needs of the under-insured and those in rural communities
- Serves on the board of directors of nursing or other organization
- Worked on developing policy, procedures and nurse position statements to improve patient care