

November 2017

**Dear Sigma Members,**

The Sigma Board of Directors met via teleconference in April and August 2017 and convened in Indianapolis in February, June, and October 2017. It is with a sense of accomplishment that we provide a summary of information, decisions, and actions.

**CEO Search**

The Executive Committee of the board completed its work and the new CEO, Dr. Elizabeth Madigan, was appointed to begin in September 2017.

**Audit and Budget**

The board received and approved the audit report from the external auditors. There were no adjustments or disagreements that arose during the audit. Auditors recognized the excellent work of Sigma's staff and the audit process. The board recognized outgoing CEO, Dr. Patricia Thompson, for increasing the net assets of the organization by US \$10 million over the course of her leadership.

**Strategic Planning**

There was agreement to add to the existing strategic plan by focusing, strengthening, and expanding efforts in the areas of policy, technology and social media, rebranding, and program offerings across global regions. The board made a firm commitment to focusing policy efforts in the areas of evidence-informed leadership, scholarship, and service.

**Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing & Midwifery (GAPFON®)**

The final GAPFON report was released in July 2017 during the 28th International Nursing Research Congress. Dr. Hester C. Klopper will chair the GAPFON Committee beginning in January 2018. Sigma members can access the final report and are kept informed of related activities via the GAPFON website at [www.gapfon.org](http://www.gapfon.org).

**Sigma Branding**

After much consideration of the input from focus groups and surveys of the membership, a determination was made to have branding include "Sigma" and "Global Nursing Excellence" to honor our past and move the society into the future. The laurel branch was also included in the society's new logo design. A decision was made to launch the brand at the 44th Biennial Convention. The rollout will occur over two biennia (four years).

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Cathy Catrambone  
Sigma President

Dr. Laurie Carbo-Porter  
Sigma Secretary