



Candidate Statements

2019

2019 SIGMA BALLOT



PRESIDENT-ELECT

- ☐ Kenneth Dion
- ☐ Thóra Hafsteinsdóttir

VICE PRESIDENT

- ☐ Karen Gorton
- ☐ Anna McDaniel

TREASURER

- ☐ Jose Alejandro
- ☐ Scott Emory Moore

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

(elect 3)

- ☐ Janice Agazio
- ☐ Debra Anderson
- ☐ Irmajean Bajnok
- ☐ Rachel Choudhury
- ☐ Cynthia Diefenbeck
- ☐ Sara Horton-Deutsch

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2-year term (elect 3)

- ☐ Myrna Doumit
- ☐ Trina Embrey
- ☐ Debra Kramlich
- ☐ Keondra Rustan
- ☐ Amanda Veasart
- ☐ Elizabeth Weathers

4-year term (elect 2)

- ☐ Debbie Anglade
- ☐ Rita Munley Gallagher
- ☐ Steven Palazzo
- ☐ Jenny Sauls

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE

2-year term (elect 4)

- ☐ Pauline Anderson-Johnson
- ☐ Tina Antill Keener
- ☐ Diana-Lyn Baptiste
- ☐ Sheila Burke
- ☐ Teresa Hultquist
- ☐ Laly Joseph
- ☐ Beverly Reigle
- ☐ Tara Whitmire

4-year term (elect 3)

- ☐ Li-Chi Chiang
- ☐ Karen Grigsby
- ☐ Monina Hernandez
- ☐ Peggy Jenkins
- ☐ Sara Kaylor
- ☐ Elizabeth Rosser

REGIONAL CHAPTERS COORDINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

- ☐ Ellen Buckner
- ☐ Carole Liske

SIGMA GLOBAL REGIONAL COORDINATORS (elect only the representative for your region)

AFRICA

- ☐ Fhumulani Mavis Mulaudzi
- ☐ Stanley Rungua

ASIA

- ☐ Sally Chan
- ☐ Janet Wong

EUROPE

- ☐ Marie-Louise Luiking

LATIN AMERICA/ CARIBBEAN

- ☐ Roxana De las salas
- ☐ Luz Patricia Díaz Heredia

MIDDLE EAST

- ☐ Yasmin Nadeem Parpio

OCEANIA

- ☐ Elizabeth Halcomb
- ☐ Eleanor Horton

NORTH AMERICA

REGION 1

- ☐ Wanda Borges
- ☐ Sujatha Shanmugasundaram

REGION 2

- ☐ Pamela Fuller
- ☐ Susan Opas

REGION 3

- ☐ Karen Maxwell
- ☐ Dylan Severson

REGION 4

- ☐ Stephanie Bruce

REGION 5

- ☐ Lynda Bartlett
- ☐ Susan McReynolds

REGION 6

- ☐ Stacey Knight
- ☐ Kimberly Lewis

REGION 7

- ☐ Shena Gazaway

REGION 8

- ☐ Pamela Johnson
- ☐ D'Ann Somerall

REGION 9

- ☐ Kady Martini
- ☐ Angela Opsahl

REGION 10

- ☐ Shannon Brunt
- ☐ Donald Rose

REGION 11

- ☐ Janice Jones
- ☐ Rebecca Norman-Eck

REGION 12

- ☐ Joanne August
- ☐ Jennifer Graber

REGION 13

- ☐ Tamatha Arms
- ☐ Deanna Mulvihill

REGION 14

- ☐ Amita Avadhani
- ☐ Selena Gilles

REGION 15

- ☐ Patricia Bartzak

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT-ELECT (ELECT ONE)



Kenneth Dion PhD, MSN, MBA, RN



I am honored to be slated for the office of President-elect. I have served the healthcare industry for over 40 years as a paramedic, emergency department nurse, nurse consultant, nurse entrepreneur, and currently as Assistant Dean for Business Innovation and Strategic

Relationships at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. This background provides me with the requisite analytic, communication, and leadership skills, and when combined with the depth of organizational knowledge obtained through my service to Sigma, uniquely qualifies me to serve the membership as President-elect.

I have served on the Sigma Board of Directors for the last four years as Treasurer. During my tenure, I guided the financial health of the organization in conjunction with the board and staff. I have chaired the Corporate Audit and Accountability Committee moving to a sustainable investment policy, served on the Executive Committee which was responsible for selecting and developing the incentive policy for the current CEO, served as a member of the Presidential Information Technology Task Force, acted as Board Liaison to the Building Corporation as well as three Global Regional Councils. There is a common thread that runs through all of my service activities for Sigma and that is my focus on our membership.

From the time that I mentored my first student into a leadership position on my chapter board of directors until today, my mission has been membership. Whether it be creating compensation structures that incentivize our Chief Executive or informing the board and staff on information technology investments, all of these efforts have been directed toward creating benefit for our members. Members are the life blood of our organization. We must provide service and value

to our members to remain true to our mission. As President-elect my first goal will be to remain steadfastly true to that mission.

During my tenure as President-elect and then President, in the spirit of service to our members, I would ask the board and members work toward establishing a "Twinning Program" of established chapters with new and/or challenged chapters to provide mentoring support as I have facilitated between Nu Beta and Phi Xi who will be hosting the 2020 Sigma European Conference in Coimbra, Portugal. Strengthen ties between Sigma and student organizations to provide a pathway from student to Sigma Leader. And, establish a three year discounted membership for newly graduated members of our organization to allow them to experience the value of Sigma when the pick their heads up after their first year as a professional nurse.

My service to Sigma spans my entire nursing career from new graduate on my chapter board to service on the Foundation and International Boards of Sigma. Love, Courage, and Honor. These are our values. These are my values. I have loved this organization for over 25 years since being inducted as a student, I have the courage to embrace the future. I will always honor our past.

Thank you for reading my statement and your continued support of our organization.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT-ELECT (ELECT ONE)



Thóra Hafsteinsdóttir PhD, MSc, RN



Dear Colleagues,
It is a great privilege to be a candidate for President-elect of Sigma Theta Tau International.

Sigma's vision is to be the global organization of choice for nurses. Sigma has been developing as a global organization for nurses worldwide. My interest in putting myself forward for the position of President-elect stems from my passion for nursing, Sigma as a global organization and my experience as a Board Director.

I have a strong working knowledge of Sigma. Over the past 22 years I have served in international and chapter positions. As one of the founder of the Dutch Rho Chi at-Large chapter, I served as chapter president (2010-2014), developed good understanding of chapter operations and challenges. With the new global regional structure, I became the first regional coordinator in Europe (2011) (reelected in 2013). I set up regional structure for Europe, supported chapters in different time zones, developed strategic planning, worked with nurses from different countries and speaking different languages. Since 2014 I am serving as a Board Director (2014-2019). I actively provided strategic leadership, took part in strategic planning, worked on global committees, global regional structure development, piloting of the first office outside the North America, the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing (GAPFON) and Global Regional Councils.

As an academic leader, researcher and educator, I am internationally orientated, have for years been working in Iceland (my native country) and the Netherlands and speak three languages fluently. As a senior researcher at the University Medical Center Utrecht, University of Applied Sciences Utrecht and professor of nursing, University of Iceland I secured

funding for research and development of leadership programs for postdoctoral nurses in European countries and supervise Masters and PhD students. Together with academic leaders, I coauthored: Leadership in Nursing: Experiences from the Nordic European Countries, published recently. This requires that I am very able to balance between strategic vision, daily operations and being culturally sensitive. I see leadership as strongly founded in relationships and helping people/organizations to move towards achieving a vision, creating a long-term strategic vision, enabling people to work towards change, helping people to develop a shared sense of mission, inspiring and motivating others and tackling political and organizational barriers.

As President-elect, my priorities are:
Growth of Sigma Globally: to focus on global expansion, diversity, to improve chapter health, membership experiences and retention by sharing best practices, development of chapter models and technological/virtual innovations.

Fiscal soundness: to continuously monitor the fiscal soundness of all organizational efforts.

Leadership - Mentoring: to strengthen leadership and mentoring opportunities in chapters/regions, through technological/virtual innovations to promote scholarship of nurses to stimulate evidence based practice in all arenas of health care worldwide.

Global Connection and Partnerships: to strengthen Sigma as an important strategic, influential, collaborative partner with stakeholders, global organizations and further implementation of GAPFON strategies, strengthening leadership and scholarship of nurses globally.

I am honored to be a candidate for President-elect and pledge to serve you with commitment and enthusiasm. I respectfully ask for your vote.
Thank you.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

VICE PRESIDENT (ELECT ONE)



Karen Gorton PhD, RN, FNP, MS



I am honored to be a candidate for Vice President (VP) of Sigma. Sigma fosters the development of nursing leaders who in turn are capable of transforming world health. Personally, I have benefited from my membership in Sigma; it has fostered my professional growth

and development through program offerings and the valuable mentoring I have received. If elected, I would take seriously my role to steward Sigma's vision and mission to nurses globally.

I have been fortunate to engage with Sigma in a variety of ways: as a general member; a volunteer; an elected chapter officer; Regional Coordinator, and as a member of the Board of Directors. Through these experiences I have seen first-hand the impact of Sigma on the development of nurse researchers, leaders, and students. I am eager to continue to support Sigma in the development of future nurse researchers, leaders and students.

I have had numerous nursing leadership experiences that prepare me to serve as VP of Sigma. I have served as: Team Leader in the Emergency Department (ED); ED Council member; Nursing Lab Manager; Director of Nursing; Assistant Director of Undergraduate Programs; Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Programs; Co-Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs; and Co-Interim Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity. These experiences, in collaboration with my work in Sigma have shaped my approach to as a leader: I value collaborative and future oriented approaches. I embrace diversity as fundamental to professional growth globally as we seek to change world health.

Currently, I am an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing and Health Studies at the University of Missouri – Kansas City. I teach in the graduate

nursing programs with a key role in the Nursing Education concentration of the PhD Program.

As a member of Sigma, I am excited by, and proud of, the work Sigma has done to advance nursing globally alone and through collaboration with other organizations (UN, ICN). Sigma's work with GAPFON and the Global Regional Councils brings nurses, and nursing organizations, together in new ways, raising our visibility and credibility globally. I believe that Sigma should continue this work as long as it is financially feasible and fitting of our strategic goals.

I believe that Sigma needs to focus on providing value for all of our members that is consistent no matter where one lives or works. As members gain increased understanding of all the benefits available through Sigma, I believe that there will be a positive impact on membership.

If elected, my priorities as Vice President are:

- Seek out, and listen to, diverse global perspectives on issues facing members and chapters
- Use diverse global perspectives to inform decision making and strategic planning for Sigma
- Incorporate Sigma's guiding principles in all decision making
- Champion inclusivity and equity for all members globally
- Support development of leadership opportunities for members which could lead to transformation of global health
- Create strategies to increase membership retention and facilitate chapter health

Thank you for taking time to read my candidate statement.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

VICE PRESIDENT (ELECT ONE)



Anna McDaniel PhD, RN, FAAN



Sigma Theta Tau International has been an important part of my professional development for over 40 years and has shaped me into the nursing leader that I am today. I was inducted into Sigma when I was an undergraduate student at Ball State University in Muncie, IN as a charter member of the Beta Rho Chapter. Next, I was the faculty adviser of the nursing honor society at Indiana Wesleyan University when the Eta Chi Chapter was chartered. Thus I am a two-time charter member. I was on faculty at Indiana University for 21 years and served on the board of directors (8 years) and as president-elect and then president of our own Alpha Chapter. Now, as Dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Florida, I am a proud member of Alpha Theta Chapter. I have participated and presented at multiple Sigma biennial conventions as well as research and leadership conferences at the local, regional and international levels. In addition to my active involvement with Sigma, I am a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, serving on the academy's expert panel on informatics and technology as well as chair of the tobacco control subgroup of the health behavior expert panel. In keeping with our organization's vision for board service (Nurses on Boards Coalition), I was pleased to be appointed to the Board of Directors for the Oak Hammock at the University of Florida, a vibrant retirement community focused on lifelong learning, fitness and health. I look forward to bringing my talents in strategic planning, nursing research, academic leadership, and community service to the work of the Board of Directors. As dean of nursing and chief academic officer at one of the top ten public universities in the US and Associate Vice-President of Academic-Practice Partnerships in the UF Health System, I am skilled at working with and through faculty, staff, students, and interprofessional colleagues to achieve the

highest level of excellence. Under my leadership, the college has experienced significant growth in research funding, is nationally recognized for its nurse-managed, federally designated rural health clinic, and continues to provide leadership in innovative academic programs. As my academic record reflects, I am fully committed to the values and standards of Sigma for advancing the impact of nursing to improve health locally, nationally, and globally. Through my international involvement in health care in Central America (humanitarian medical service in Cuba, Nicaragua and Guatemala), Africa (visiting faculty at Moi University in Kenya), and Asia (academic partnership with Chulalongkorn University in Thailand), I have developed an understanding of the importance of cultural humility, communication, and collaboration with diverse groups. I have been called a "boundary-spanner" as my work bridges across disciplines (nursing, behavioral science, informatics), across institutions (academic, clinical, policy-making, and research agencies), and across the research-practice divide. I believe these characteristics, my history of successful leadership, my commitment to seeking innovative approaches to overcome challenges, and my motivation to serve the society make me an ideal candidate for Vice President of Sigma.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

TREASURER (ELECT ONE)



Jose Alejandro PhD, RN-BC, MBA, CCM, FACHE, FAAN



Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing has and continues to provide a significant foundation to my professional career and is a rich resource that affords mentorship and life-long learning that supports my passion of assisting vulnerable and at-risk

populations. My role models have taught me the importance of servant leadership and developing a legacy that supports a culture that engages others in advocating for the well being of individuals in our global community. If elected Treasurer of Sigma Theta Tau, I am committed to working diligently with the entire Board to assure the financial stability of our organization, while creating opportunities to develop creative solutions that embrace our transforming global healthcare community.

My career in nursing began as a Licensed Vocational Nurse in the military and I continue military service as a Lt. Colonel in the Army Reserves. As a life-long learner, I continued to advance academically and professionally obtaining my PhD in Human Services, Fellowship in the American Academy in Nursing and the American College of Healthcare Executives. I am currently the Director of Care Management at the University of California Irvine Health, which is a Level One Trauma and Magnet designated academic medical center in Orange County, California. I have budget responsibility for over \$25 million annually. I am an Assistant Professor at Mount St. Mary's University – Los Angeles and Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of San Francisco where I teach in the undergraduate and graduate programs. My attainment of a Master's in Business Administration in Accounting and Healthcare Management and financial background has allowed me to bridge finance and clinical operations.

I have had the privilege to serve as Treasurer for Sigma's International Honor Society of Nursing Building Corporation for the last four years. This experience has provided me with the opportunity to give back to Sigma and become involved in the organization's fiduciary operations. My other service includes being a Sigma Foundation for Nursing Virginia Henderson Fellow, Strategic Planning for the Delta Beta at-Large Chapter (Tampa); nominations committee for Delta Theta Chapter (University of Texas – Arlington) and Keynote Speaker for Alpha Eta Chapter (University of San Francisco – Orange County Campus).

I also have significant past national professional association and non-profit board experience serving as past President of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses and past Treasurer of the Case Management Society of America. My current national experience includes President of the Case Management Society of America and President for the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing Foundation. I am active in the American Academy of Nursing since induction in 2014 by serving as the Nominations Committee Chair (2018) & Committee Member (2017) and Lead Co-Chair (2018) & Co-Chair (2017) for the Cultural Competency & Health Equity Expert Panel.

My servant leadership, academic and healthcare experience, and finance knowledge provides me with a solid professional association leadership background to be an engaged Sigma Theta Tau Board Member. I will work diligently to represent the membership and am committed the values, mission, and vision of Sigma Theta Tau International.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

TREASURER (ELECT ONE)



Scott Emory Moore PhD, MS, APRN, AGPCNP-BC



One of the most rewarding decisions that I have made in my life has been the decision to become a Nurse. I began my professional life as a high school teacher, but through volunteering in the local free clinic I found my passion for Nursing. I began my Nursing

career as an emergency and trauma Nurse in Greenville, South Carolina, USA (2009). I then studied to become an Advanced Practice Nurse (2013). As a Nurse Practitioner I worked in both a Nurse-managed health center and a major tertiary care center. I then earned a Ph.D. in Healthcare Genetics from Clemson University (2016). I then completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing (FPBSON), Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, USA and continue there as Assistant Professor teaching and maintaining an active program of research.

Since my induction (2009), Sigma has been a key part of my professional development as a Nurse. Early mentoring and involvement with Sigma provided me with opportunities for engagement, service, and leadership development at the local, regional, and global levels all shaping my understanding of the Society. Some opportunities I have had include service as Chapter President; Regional Coordinator for Region 7 (2009-2011); member, international Leadership-Succession Committee (2015-2017); and Chair, Next Generation Leaders Taskforce (2013-2015).

Beyond my work with Sigma, I have gained other valuable experiences by serving on the boards of other nonprofit organizations. Through these prior experiences, I understand that a Board's work is often complex as they seek to balance present circumstances with future goals while pursuing the mission of the organization. Boards require

dedicated, deliberative, and objective directors as they engage in making high-level strategic decisions. My prior nonprofit Board experience includes: National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence (NHCGNE), a Nursing organization with global membership; and two Cleveland area non-profit boards. Additionally, my understanding of non-profit finance is a strength I will bring to the role of Treasurer. I currently serve on budget/finance committees for NHCGNE and FPBSON. I also serve as Treasurer for a local non-profit organization overseeing budgeting, fiscal responsibility, and transparency.

As Treasurer I will promote stewardship of resources while advancing Sigma's mission and strategic plan. I will also work to ensure compliance with Indiana and Federal laws, and protect the Sigma and its wholly owned subsidiaries from risk. I will continue supporting chapter operations sharing financial best practice resources. Sigma has a history of transparency and thoughtful financial oversight, and I will work with the Board and CEO to ensure it continues.

Healthcare is changing rapidly and the ability for Nurses to share knowledge is key; Sigma must continue to facilitate global dialogue and knowledge-sharing at all levels and across practice settings. As a member of Sigma's Board, I aim to enhance the support we provide to our members globally, across practice settings and specialties.

The passion to serve Sigma is not unique to me; however, I believe my prior experiences have uniquely prepared me to be Sigma's next Treasurer.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (ELECT THREE)



Janice Agazio PhD, CRNP, RN, FAANP, FAAN



I am honored to be nominated for a Director-at-Large position on the Sigma Board of Directors. As I ask for your support, I would like to introduce myself and share how I will contribute and promote the vision of Sigma.

If elected, I would work to strengthen the position of nursing in the global community in collaboration with the board, regions, and chapters. I bring a well-rounded perspective and understanding of Sigma, a respect for divergent thoughts and positions, and strategic thinking in moving Sigma initiatives forward. I am a hard worker and effective communicator and bring a can-do energy and transformational focus. I support Sigma's vision for scholarship and promotion of global health especially through involvement in GAPFON and the UN. I pledge to stay connected with members and chapters to communicate board actions and work to empower our membership in advocating for worldwide health and wellness

I currently serve as Assistant Dean for the PhD and DNP programs at Catholic University of America. Previously, I retired from active duty in the Army Nurse Corps as a pediatric nurse and nurse researcher. My research has primarily focused upon military nursing practice and family separations particularly for active duty mothers and children, as well as studies in virtual reality, Korean American infant care, and technology-dependent children. Living in Korea and Germany, guiding international students, and extensive travel have broadened my perspective in global health awareness and given me experience in working cross-culturally.

I have always been dedicated to Sigma's mission and goals as an active, engaged member. I joined as a charter member of Gamma Omicron; was president of two chapters, Kappa and Tau Theta;

and served on most committees from treasurer, programs, newsletter, to leadership succession. I completed two terms as Region 12 Coordinator that connected me with the grassroots challenges of our chapters and gave me an in-depth understanding of the organization. I also participated as a mentor in Sigma's Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy and most recently on the Key Award Task Force. I remain involved with chapters in the region through the Tristate and Washington Regional Consortia. All these experiences in Sigma have provided an understanding of chapter issues to bring forward as a board member.

Committed to service to the nursing profession, I stepped up early in my career for leadership roles. I have been active in continuing education chairing Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) program since 1991 and serving as CCNE site visitor since 2010. I have also served in leadership positions in MNA, Eastern Nursing Research Society, MD-NAPNAP chapter president, and as Secretary and Bylaws Chair, Southern Nursing Research Society. Through these positions, I have developed my leadership skills as a consensus builder, gained insights into the board member role, and built community with members that I will bring to this position.

I am ready to "hit the ground running" in meeting the mission of Sigma and achieving the goals set for this biennium. Thank you for your support in this election!

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (ELECT THREE)



Debra Anderson PhD, MNS, GDNS (ed), BA, RN



I am running for the role of Director-at-Large in Sigma. I am keen to play a part in the next chapter of Sigma as it moves forward to a new level. Since working with Sigma to establish and act as President for the Phi Delta Chapter in Australia and then working with

Sigma as the first Oceania Regional Coordinator role, I have seen tremendous opportunities and potential for Sigma to be an influential health force globally and specifically in Australia and the Asia-Pacific regions. Sigma has the opportunity and flexibility to adapt to the ever-changing environments both internal and external to Nursing. This, I believe is a key strength of Sigma and where I see a good fit with my leadership, teaching, research and community engagement experience.

I have a record of leading and managing teams and achieving outcomes. I believe that this experience will be critical to success in this role. Significantly I have extensive leadership experience as a Director of Research and Director of Postgraduate Education (The Queensland University of Technology, School of Nursing). My most recent leadership experience is as a Head of School at Griffith University, Australia. The School is a large and complex School which spans over 2 disciplines (Nursing and Midwifery), two countries and four campuses (Nathan, Logan, Gold Coast and Singapore). The School employs over 350 staff members including continuing fixed term, casual and adjunct positions.

I also have an extensive record of providing leadership in major administrative, research and managerial roles in the area of global health. I am on the board of the International Council of Womens Health Issues, was a member of Sigma Theta Tau International United Nations Advisory

Council, a member of the United Nations NGO Committee on Education=CoNGO Substantive Committee and an elected member of the Executive Committee of the Australian Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery. I am on a number of editorial boards of scholarly journals including acting as an editorial board member of the Journal of Nursing Scholarship.

I have a distinguished international reputation as a scholar and leader in the field of women's health and am a collaborator on the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health. This reputation has been achieved through extensive publication, leadership of the women's wellness research group, conferences and editorial work, and invited keynote presentations on my research to academic conferences, including four times (2015-2019) to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and in 2018 at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva. I have also undertaken a Nurse Scholar position working with the Chief Nursing Scientist and the Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery (SDNM) 2010-2015 working party on the SDNM, and have been invited to Harvard University twice to present findings from my research.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (ELECT THREE)



Irmajean Bajnok PhD, MScN, BScN, RN



Dr. Irmajean Bajnok is a renowned executive leader whose rich and dynamic career has left a mark in service, academia and professional associations. From 2007-2017 Dr. Bajnok Directed RNAO's International Affairs and Best Practice Guidelines (IABPG)

Centre, leading strategic development and enhancements of the guideline development, implementation science, and evaluation pillars. She successfully secured special project funding, and oversaw ongoing projects related to smoking cessation, mental health, Indigenous health, elder abuse, and ehealth. She has been involved in numerous international speaking and teaching engagements, addressing evidence-based practice and education, healthy work environments, leadership and change management. As part of RNAO's Best Practice Spotlight Organization Designation, and using RNAO's evidence-based implementation science methodology, she introduced and supported sustained implementation of RNAO's evidence-based practice guidelines, in academia and service, across five continents. The work of the IABPG Centre is chronicled in the best-selling book *Transforming Nursing Through Knowledge*, (2018), which she co-edited with Dr. Doris Grinspun. From 2000-2007 Dr. Bajnok directed RNAO's Centre for Professional Nursing Excellence, leading development and delivery of professional education and health-care consultation services. Prior to that, Dr. Bajnok held senior leadership positions in home care and acute care, and was founding Executive Director of a multi-pronged, Canadian government sponsored women's health program in Pakistan. Her career included administrative and professorial roles at Western University; University of Toronto; and Ryerson University, where, as Director, she led faculty in developing a basic baccalaureate nursing degree -

the first basic degree program at Ryerson. Bajnok has received numerous academic achievement awards including, in 2008, the Sigma Nursing Education Excellence Award (Lambda Pi at-Large Chapter).

I applaud the enduring values and the vision of Sigma, supporting the knowledge base and professional development of nurses for practice and academic excellence to improve health for all. As a director-at-large I want to contribute to Sigma's strength and success, and am prepared to apply my expertise, knowledge and commitment to help achieve three key goals:

1. growing the country memberships to strengthen the international presence of Sigma;
2. developing strong partnerships with other international nursing and health organizations to foster collaboration for maximum nursing and global health impact; and
3. continuing to develop practice setting memberships in partnership with academia - locally, regionally and globally.

I am very familiar with the organized profession through elected and staff roles, and have served as President of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO); a board member of the RNAO and Canadian Nurses Association; a founding and executive member of the Iota Omicron Chapter of Sigma in London, Ontario; and as a member of the Sigma International Leadership Succession Committee from 2015-2017. I was also a member of the Council of the College of Nurses of Ontario from 1998-2004. I believe my understanding of the organized profession; my success in motivating and leading sustained system change across the globe based on best evidence; and my ability to forge strong team partnerships, and those between service and academia will be an asset in my unwavering commitment to further strengthen Sigma.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (ELECT THREE)



Rachel Choudhury MSN, MS, RN, CNE



Rachel Choudhury, MSN, MS, RN, CNE has been a nursing professional for 17 years. In the Director-at-Large position, Ms. Choudhury aims to serve the membership by supporting the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma) mission and vision, as well as promoting the President's Call to Action initiatives.

continue to support the new graduates. In these leadership positions, Ms. Choudhury has responsibly and effectively managed the fiscal budget by prioritizing key initiatives that focus on meeting the strategic goals of the organizations. Rachel Choudhury, MSN, MS, RN, CNE has demonstrated commitment to development and implementation of quality programs and initiatives that foster innovation, growth, and success throughout her professional career!

She served Sigma as a member of the 2013-2017 Leadership Succession Committee. More recent Sigma activities include membership in the Digital Transformation Task Force which works to support the organization's international efforts leveraging technology and engaging members. Ms. Choudhury served on the boards of various Sigma chapters including as Secretary-Treasurer of Phi Gamma (2018-2019) and President of Rho Omicron (2010-2012). Other Sigma involvement includes being named a Virginia Henderson Fellow, volunteering for Sigma events, and presenting podium and poster sessions at international conferences. She is also involved in leadership, committee, and task force memberships with the National League for Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Nurses Association – California, and Philippine Nurses Association – South Riverside County/North San Diego County Chapter.

Ms. Choudhury is currently the Associate Dean and Program Director of the prelicensure BSN program at Brandman University. She leads the program initiatives in collaboration with the faculty, Dean, and Provost. She also holds a position as Program Coordinator for the New Graduate Nurse Residency Program at Palomar Health System, where she collaborates with several stakeholders to foster positive program outcomes. The program has >90% retention rate of new graduate nurses after their first year. She is currently working on enhancing the nurse Preceptor Program to

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (ELECT THREE)



Cynthia Diefenbeck PsyD, APRN, BC



I am thrilled to be considered for Director-at-Large. I trust that I have the qualifications and experience necessary to serve Sigma and its membership in this role. I will first share service endeavors and professional experiences that are relevant to this position and conclude with my vision for leadership in this role.

At the international level, I served as elected member and appointed chair of Sigma's International Governance Committee for 3 biennia (2009-2015). I worked closely with Sigma leadership and staff and gained incredible insights into the functioning of the society, the needs its members, and the values of its founders. I led the House of Delegates bylaws voting sessions and successfully steered the organization toward new membership and chapter categories. I presided over the committee's work across those six years, including chairing meetings and reporting to the Board of Directors. In addition, I have served on Sigma's International Leadership Succession Committee (2005-2007) where I participated in cultivating leaders and preparing the international election ballot.

At the local level, I have had numerous experiences which allow me to understand the opportunities and challenges of chapter leaders. I have served as President-Elect/President/Past-President (2004-2008), Secretary (2002-2004), Faculty counselor (2000-2002 and 2010-2012), and Governance Committee member (2000-2002 and 2012-2014), among others.

I currently serve as immediate Past-President of the Delaware Psychological Association (President-Elect 2014-2015, President 2016-2017), a subsidiary of the American Psychological Association. I led the Executive Committee,

presided over the state-wide membership, and worked intimately with the Executive Director to manage organizational finances, governance, membership, continuing education, and advocacy.

As an Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nurse and a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, I currently serve as Psychiatric Team leader at Mid-Atlantic Behavioral Health in Newark, Delaware where I provide medication management and therapy to clients with behavioral health concerns. I lead the team through program development, training, and operations. Prior to taking on a full-time clinician role in 2017, I was a tenured associate professor in the University of Delaware School of Nursing. During my academic career, I was Principal Investigator and Project Director for a \$1.05 million, three-year nursing workforce diversity grant, founded the Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner master's program, and was active in curriculum transformation throughout my academic career.

I practice active listening, astute assessment, and careful conceptualization – all of which allow me to see problems and concerns in complex, multi-faceted ways. I can acknowledge multiple viewpoints and achieve group consensus, even on particularly challenging topics. This is important for the position of Director-at-Large, which is charged with maintaining the integrity of the organization, while also encouraging flexibility and innovation through changing times. I desire to help maintain the organization's values, rich history, and heritage, while also being open to embracing opportunities to grow and strengthen the organization – meeting the needs of a diverse group of members whose careers span novice to expert to retiree, and meeting the needs of a diverse members from across the world. If elected, I will provide a thoughtful and forward-thinking perspective to the Board.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (ELECT THREE)



Sara Horton-Deutsch PhD, PMHCNS, RN, FAAN, ANEF



I am excited to share a summary of my service, professional experiences, and what I aim to achieve as a member of the Board of Directors. I have been an active and engaged member for over 30 years. At Rush University from 1986-1999, I served on the

Research Committee, as a Counselor, Vice President, and President of Gamma Phi Chapter. While at Indiana University (IU) from 1999-2013, I served as a Member of the Research Committee, Chair of the Regional Chapters Program and Mentoring Committees, Heritage Society Host Committee, Judge of the International Book Award, Member of the Reflective Practice Task Force, and a Member of International Program Committee. During this time, I co-authored two textbooks through SIGMA on Reflective Practice. While at the University of Colorado from 2013-2018, I was part of the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy, co-author a second edition of the original Reflective Practice text, and a book on Caritas Coaching. Now, at the University of San Francisco, I am eager to extend my service to the Board of Directors.

Similar to how my service has built over time, the experiences I bring to the discipline and profession of nursing have taken an expansive trajectory. At Rush University, I served as a Teacher/Practitioner and taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels. While at IU, I served in both the Schools of Nursing and Medicine. Within the former, I coordinated the Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Track and served as Interim Department Chair. In the later, I served as the Co-Chief of the Psychiatric Consultation Liaison Service at University Hospital, where I supported critically medically ill persons with both traditional and holistic health practices. In 2013, I accepted the Watson Caring Science Endowed Chair Position at the University of Colorado where I facilitated the

development of a Caring Science Ph.D. focus area and expanded my contributions to whole person health and healing. In this role, I had the opportunity to travel globally and listen to nurses from around the world share their successes and challenges in meeting the needs of their communities. At the University of San Francisco, where I now serve as the Kaiser Permanente Partnership Program Director, I further integrate my scholarship in reflective practice and Caring Science with Jesuit values in both education and practice settings. These foundational frames emphasize caring for the whole person, striving for excellence, and being humans that are for and with others ...preparing global citizens.

As Sigma continues to expand its global presence and influence through membership and partnerships, it necessitates an ongoing critical dialogue on shared values and understandings. Appreciating philosophical orientations, ethical perspectives, missions, values, and experiences strengthens connections. Our global agenda calls for increased attention to building, enhancing, and sustaining active membership and global partnerships. My contributions will focus on seeking ways to further expand and strengthen membership and global partnerships to responsively address the pressing humanitarian and environmental issues of our time. Importantly, I look forward to listening to your stories and integrating your experiences and recommendations.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Myrna Doumit PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN



I am a founding tenured Associate professor and Assistant Dean at the Lebanese American University School of Nursing and a Fellow at the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN). I am also the President of the Order of Nurses in Lebanon which is a similar

position to the president of ANA in the USA. I am the director of a community project in Lebanon for breast cancer awareness which aims to raise awareness in rural areas of Lebanon. I also sit on two committees of the Ministry of Public Health in Lebanon related to breast cancer awareness and palliative care and pain. I am a founding member of the Chi Iota chapter in Lebanon and I was the first elected Middle East Coordinator for Sigma. I am the recipient of many awards for my academic and community achievements. I am well published in the area of breast cancer and oncology.

During the different positions held I had the opportunity to develop and sharpen my leadership and managerial skills and I think it is my turn now to pay back to my profession. My expertise allow me to play the role as designated by the governance committee. I am well prepared to deal with bylaws, policies and procedures. My position about bylaws is that they are not engraved in stones and they are put to serve the mission of the organization and to help its members grow and flourish. Giving me your support, trust and vote will allow me to join the Governance committee and fulfill the outcomes of this committee which is having the needed bylaws, policies and procedures to help Sigma achieve its mission.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Trina Embrey DNS, RN



Hello! My name is Trina Embrey and I am honored to be a candidate for a position on the Governance Committee for Sigma Theta Tau International. I would like to present myself by organizing my thoughts into four areas: Professional Background, Qualifications, Leadership

Experience, and What I Would Like to Accomplish if Elected.

Professional Background: I have had the privilege of using the title Registered Nurse for thirty-one years. Soon after graduating with a BSN I became a commissioned officer in the United States Air Force Nurse Corps. During this time I gained valuable experience both professionally and personally. Clinical experiences included Critical Care and Post Anesthesia Care. After serving 4 years I decided to continue my education and completed a Master of Science in Nursing while continuing to work in the Critical Care/PACU areas. My newly obtained master's degree coupled with relocation provided my first opportunity to teach nursing. I then took time to fulfill personal and family goals. When the time was right I returned to nursing academia and completed my Doctor of Nursing Science in 2014. I have been teaching for the past 10 years and currently am an Assistant Professor of Nursing as well as the Undergraduate Program Director on tenure track in a large nursing program at a public University.

Qualifications: What qualifies me for serving on the Governance Committee for Sigma? I have an understanding of how important it is for an organization to have correct, current, and up to date by-laws. By-laws are the governing document and provide direction to the organization for conducting the business to fulfill the mission and vision of the organization. I have many years experience ensuring by-laws compliance, making

recommendations for changes and rewriting the School of Nursing by-laws due to my leadership roles. I have also served as the Chair of the By-Laws Committee for a statewide organization known as the Georgia Association for Nursing Education (GANE) for the past 2 years.

Leadership Experience: Serving in the United States Air Force provided many leadership development opportunities and learning experiences. I was awarded an Air Force medal for my contribution in obtaining hospital accreditation. I am currently part of the Leadership Council in the School of Nursing due to my role as the Undergraduate Program Director. I am the course Coordinator for the Adult Health 2 Medical-Surgical Nursing course, serve as committee chair for departmental and graduate project committees, and also serve as the representative from my college on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. I am currently in my second term as President of the local chapter of Sigma during which time I have been the leader through the consolidation of 2 Sigma chapters into one.

What Would I Like to Accomplish: If elected to the Governance Committee I would like to fulfill my role in serving Sigma through doing my part in overseeing bylaws compliance, making recommendations for bylaws changes, and overseeing member and chapter eligibility issues. Thank you for considering me for this leadership development opportunity!

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Debra Kramlich PhD, RN, CNE, CCRN-K



I am an Assistant Professor and the Assistant Director for Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) Education at the University of New England School of Nursing and Population Health. In addition to my teaching and administrative responsibilities, I chair several

committees at the departmental and college levels. Prior to entering academia, I was clinical nurse educator in the pediatric intensive care unit at Maine Medical Center; as a Clinical Nurse IV, I chaired committees at the unit and institutional levels. I have served in various leadership positions within the Kappa Zeta at-Large Chapter of Sigma since 2010, including President (2014-2016) and current Leadership Succession Chair. I am currently chairing the planning committee for the second annual Region 15 Research Symposium on Collaboration in Leadership, Research, and Scholarship, A Call for Research that Begs to be Translated into Practice. In that role, I work closely with our Regional Coordinator and leaders from other Region 15 chapters to build on the success of our first regional symposium in 2018.

Outside Sigma, I serve on the boards of other professional nursing and community organizations, including the local chapter of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (chapter president 2008-2010) and the Maine Parent Federation, a private non-profit organization that provides information, referral, one on one telephone support, and training to parents of children with disabilities or special health care needs and the professionals who work with these families through numerous grant-funded projects. On the latter board, I serve with educators, health professionals, community members, and parents of children with special needs to assure the organization is ethically, legally and financially sound. The depth and breadth of leadership skills

gained through these diverse experiences will serve me well on the Governance Committee.

I believe my experience as chair of the committee that facilitated the successful Kappa Zeta at-Large Chapter charter amendment to become the first chapter internationally to include a practice site uniquely qualifies me to serve on the Governance Committee. In that role, I developed a deeper understanding of the charter amendment process and the importance of building and sustaining collaborative relationships across diverse institutions. It was a rewarding and enriching experience, and the resulting partnership has strengthened our chapter in myriad ways. Historically, many students inducted in their academic programs would not renew membership upon entering practice as they did not see the relevance to their work life. The enhanced academic/practice partnership has not only changed that perception, it has also increased interest in the nurse leader membership option and participation in chapter activities. If elected to serve on the Governance Committee, I hope to support other chapters considering amendment of their charters to include practice partners. I believe my patience, persistence, and attention to detail can help chapters navigate the complex charter amendment process. I would like to see many more chapters successfully adopt this collaborative model as I believe it can only increase member recruitment and retention, improving sustainability of the organization from the chapter level.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Keondra Rustan PhD, RN, CHSE, CNE



I am a registered nurse with over 13 years of nursing experience. My clinical background is in cardiac, emergency medicine, and critical care. I have been a nurse educator for more than six years in the academic and clinical setting and have earned a Ph.D. in nursing education. I

have received leadership training and training in communication strategies. I am certified as a nurse educator (CNE) and a certified healthcare simulation educator (CHSE). I have a considerable amount of experience in developing and implementing policies for healthcare facilities and academic institutions to improve practice and knowledge retention. I have experience as both a clinical assistant manager and director of a nursing program. I have also served as lead faculty and helped to train and mentor others. I have developed and implemented many large projects such as faculty development programs and transition from paper charting to electronic health records. I want to continue the great works that Sigma is doing and expand upon them by reaching out locally, nationally, and internationally to improve upon training strategies for nurses (during their academic and professional periods). I would review the bylaws to ensure that Sigma is fully accessible to all qualified and interested parties to use to its fullest extent. I will ensure that the mission and vision of Sigma are followed and executed according to its highest standards. I would help promote a smoother transition from scholar to practitioner and the development of high performing competent nurses. I have a great desire to assist in retaining active members and chapters and upholding or editing the bylaws as needed to exemplify the professional standards of Sigma and increase the accessibility of our wonderful resources. I want to serve in any manner that I can so that I can use the knowledge and skills that I have developed from years of training and

mentorship to help others. Thank you for your consideration.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Amanda Veersart PhD, RN, CNE



Dr. Amanda Veersart started her career in healthcare in 1999 as a phlebotomist in a small county hospital. She began her nursing career in 2001 on a cardiac unit located in Amarillo, Texas. Her nursing career has consisted of emergency nursing, trauma, cardiac and surgical intensive care, and now, nursing education. In 2010, she started teaching at the School of Nursing at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, that same year, she was inducted into the Iota Mu Chapter of Sigma. She graduated from Texas Tech University with a PhD in Higher Education in 2016. Over the last 5 years, Dr. Veersart has had the pleasure of overseeing faculty and curriculum development in the Traditional program as the program director including: assessing curriculum development and delivery, providing reports to faculty on quality improvement areas, student satisfaction evaluation, faculty mentoring, recruitment, and hiring of new faculty. The program has three campuses, with 512 students and 52 faculty. Dr. Veersart is currently an Associate Professor and will begin serving as the Associate Dean for the Traditional BSN program September 1st, 2019.

In 2012, Dr. Veersart was elected to her first board position, governance chair. She served as the governance for two years, then was elected as the first counselor. In 2017, Dr. Veersart assumed the role of President of Iota Mu, due to an early vacancy. Under her term as President, the Iota Mu chapter has increased enrollment, retained more members, and has reengaged in the community. Iota Mu currently boast 654 active members, many being inducted as nurse leaders.

Personal Statement:

I believe the success of an organization is directly related to the work of the people, the committees and the board. If elected, I would bring thoughtful

ideas, and solutions to the committee to help impact policy change and support the mission of Sigma. As a first generation graduate and a millennial leader, I hope to provide insight through a different lens of diversity. Aside from my faculty and administrative duties, I have a great passion for nursing as a profession and believe dissemination serves as a great conduit for sharing. I have represented TTUHSC School of Nursing locally, regionally, state, nationally, and internationally with scholarly activities. I have three areas of research identified, organizational leadership, cultural competency, and curriculum development, all of which I have published and presented. I intend to use my scholarship experience to influence or assist the governance committee in policy making, while upholding the mission and vision of Sigma.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Elizabeth Weathers PhD, BscN, RGN



Thank you for the wonderful opportunity of consideration for a position on the Governance Committee of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma). I am from a village called Banteer situated in County Cork, Ireland. Since 2014, I have served as President and Co-Founder of the Omega Epsilon at-Large Chapter of Sigma (formerly the SIA Honor Society

of Nursing and Midwifery). This is the first Sigma chapter in Ireland and is a tri-partite collaboration between University College Cork, the Institute of Technology Tralee and Waterford Institute of Technology. The initiative is also supported by the Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Unit of Cork/Kerry. I have led the development of the society from its conception to the Chapter Chartering Ceremony that took place on 29th November 2018. The chartering ceremony was a huge success with over 40 members inducted and high-profile guest speakers in attendance including Ireland's Chief Nursing Officer, Dr. Siobhan O'Halloran; the Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services in Ireland, Ms. Mary Wynn; Sigma CEO, Dr. Elizabeth Madigan; and Sigma President, Professor Beth Tigges.

As President of the Irish Chapter, I have become very familiar with chapter and membership eligibility requirements and bylaws development. I understand the opportunities and challenges that can occur when setting up a new chapter, especially in a country outside of North America, where Sigma is not yet well-known. As an active member, I am committed to Sigma and have attended several Sigma events in the past including the Biennial Convention in Indianapolis in October 2017 and the Emerging Global Healthcare Leadership Symposium in London in September 2018. I am now actively engaged in the European Region. I consider myself an advocate for Sigma and have already aided other developing honor societies in the region and encouraged them to submit the application for chapter status.

In my career, I have gained significant experience in diverse international settings. I am currently working as Clinical Research Manager for a global proton therapy medical device company called Ion Beam Applications (IBA). In this role, I am the key contact point for the whole organization regarding the preparation, set-up, and follow-up of clinical investigations. As subject matter expert, I am responsible for ensuring that clinical investigations are carried out according to regulatory requirements and the development

of clinical research policies and procedures. Aside from my role at IBA, I also lecture part-time and supervise MSc and PhD students online in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork, Ireland. Previously, I worked as a Lecturer, in Bahrain and Ireland and before that, as a Clinical Research Nurse. I have also worked in the public and private hospital sector in Ireland, and across acute and community care practice settings. I use my clinical and academic knowledge and expertise to ensure that the best interests of the patient are always kept at the center of every health process, including the medical device development process. I am passionate about highlighting the transferable skills that nurses can offer in non-traditional work settings such as the medical device industry, and I will deliver an oral presentation at the 2019 Biennial Convention on this topic. Furthermore, as a result of my diverse academic and clinical background, I was recently invited to deliver a keynote speech at an international medical device conference in Frankfurt, Germany in October 2019. In my prior clinical, research and academic roles, I have lots of experience participating in various committees and boards and have developed my team working abilities accordingly. I am also skilled in administrative leadership with experience as Undergraduate Year Director, Chair of Examination Review Panel, Coordinator of BSc Curriculum Review, Investigating Officer for Examination Appeals Committee, Clinical Trial Coordinator, Clinical Lead Nurse, and Conference Coordinator.

This migration and diversity in my career path has given me an understanding and insight into cultural nuances and how Sigma can benefit nurses and midwives working in all countries and settings. It provides a unique opportunity to access a global community of peers and career development opportunities. I have experienced the many benefits of Sigma membership first hand and I seek out opportunities to share my experience with others, especially with colleagues outside of North America who are often unfamiliar with Sigma and what it can offer.

My experience and skills showcase my insight into overcoming the global governance challenges faced by Sigma as well as my readiness to participate on the International Governance Committee. I am more than willing to dedicate my career to enhancing a culture of support, comradery, and solidarity amongst the global nursing profession to ultimately advance world health; a vision that is well-aligned with the goals and vision of Sigma.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT TWO FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Debbie Anglade PhD, RN, MSN, LHRM, CPHQ, CCM



I am a healthcare professional with over 35 years of experience spanning from staff nurse to nurse scientist. I currently serve as an Assistant Professor of Clinical at the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies (SONHS). I teach adult health

clinical and lead the research and evidence-based practice efforts of nursing staff at a comprehensive cancer center with a primary goal to positively impact patient outcomes. I authored multiple research papers and presented at domestic and international research conferences. My collaborative style of engagement, subject matter expertise, and language fluency has led to assignments on doctoral dissertation committees, interactions with visiting international groups, and student mentoring.

My previous work experiences include Director of Quality, Infection Control, and Medical Staff Office for a comprehensive cancer center, Supervisor of Compliance/Quality Improvement/Case Management for a national insurance company, Nurse Consultant in Utilization Review/Discharge Planning for a national Insurance carrier, Clinical Coordinator of an Out-Patient Surgery Center for a health system, and Nurse Education Coordinator of the Operating Room for a general hospital. My clinical experience includes senior staff nurse, operating room staff nurse, and inpatient psychiatric staff nurse positions.

I believe in volunteerism and in that vein, served as an officer in my local Beta Tau Chapter, a Jonas Nurse Leader Scholar Advisory Board member, the University of Miami SONHS Alumni Association president, and Florida Action Coalition regional lead and Diversity Council member. I was a founding member and officer of the Children of Haiti Enhancement Foundation supporting

underprivileged children in Haiti, and a medical volunteer with the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help to implement an open-heart and endoscopic program in Dakar, Senegal (Africa). I also had the privilege of working with a research team conducting maternal child health study in South West Haiti.

I received my BSN from The City College of NY, and my MSN and PhD from the University of Miami SONHS. I hold national certifications in Case Management (CCM) and Quality Management (CPHQ), and I am a Licensed Health Care Risk Manager (LHRM). I have been a Sigma member for over 30 years. Most recently I served my local Beta Tau chapter as Secretary, Governance Committee member, and as Electronic and Convention Delegate.

If elected to the Governance Committee my prior leadership experiences, understanding of the Sigma bylaws, and attention to detail will serve the Sigma organization well in overseeing said bylaws, chapter development, and address eligibility issues. I am now ready and prepared to volunteer and commit my time and skills to the larger International Sigma organization.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT TWO FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Rita Munley Gallagher PhD, RN



Rita Munley Gallagher, PhD, RN is a Sigma Foundation for Nursing Virginia Henderson and Billye Brown Fellow and serves on the Sigma International Nurse Leader Review and Heritage Society Fellows Committees and the Sigma Charter Review Task Force. Gallagher began her term

as Phi Gamma Chapter President on 1 July 2019. She previously served as Phi Gamma Governance Committee Chair and took an active role in the revision of the Chapter Bylaws. She was Delegate to the last three Sigma Biennial Conventions. Dr. Gallagher was inducted into Lambda Chapter, was charter President of Theta Psi Chapter and in addition, is a member of Ireland's Omega Epsilon at-Large Chapter.

Dr. Gallagher has engaged in governance activities within professional associations for more than three decades. Gallagher belongs to numerous professional organizations including the American Public Health Association (APHA) where she is a member of the Committee on Bylaws and is a Governing Councilor, representing the Public Health Nursing (PHN) Section which she also serves as Treasurer. She is an American Nurses Association (ANA) Individual Member Division (IMD) Executive Committee Member-at-Large and Representative to the Membership Assembly. Gallagher previously served as Chair of ANA's Professional Policy Committee and on its Committee on Bylaws. Gallagher represented ANA on the United States Pharmacopeial Convention and Council of the Convention and was a member of The Joint Commission Nursing Advisory Council. Dr. Gallagher began her term as Phi Gamma Chapter President on 1 July 2019 and served as Phi Gamma Delegate to the last three Sigma Biennial Conventions. Added to over seventeen years as a staff member at ANA, Gallagher had over ten years' experience in the education of healthcare

professionals in Oakland University's School of Nursing in Rochester, Michigan and Dominican College of San Rafael, California where she directed the School of Nursing.

The potential for improving the health of the world's people is increased when nursing (and Sigma, its international honor society), advances. This forward movement must be predicated on a strong organizational structure based on a framework of clear and explicit bylaws. Bylaws serve to protect the purpose(s) and mission of an organization. The Sigma bylaws should not address the day-to-day operational details that the Sigma Chief Executive Officer and/or other employees oversee, but provide underlying principles, framework and policies for the overall governance of the organization, in other words, how Sigma's structure is maintained. The Bylaws are intended to be the "rule book" to which members can go for answers, when fundamental problems or questions arise regarding the overall governance of the society. Bylaws must be in compliance with all applicable laws. However, in general, well-crafted bylaws are simple, flexible and easy to understand. As the operating manual for the society, the Sigma bylaws serve multiple purposes and are an important reference for the Sigma Board, society members, and staff. It is the role of the Governance Committee to carefully consider the myriad of issues of relevance to professional nursing and incorporate applicable provisions into the Sigma Bylaws.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT TWO FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Steven Palazzo PhD, MN, RN, CNE



As an international organization that recognizes and supports nursing excellence and strives to develop current and future leaders of the profession, it is my honor and privilege to ask for your consideration in serving on the International Governance Committee for Sigma. I have

been an active member of Sigma for over eight years and have been the recipient of leadership development opportunities offered by the organization. I am an alum of the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (NFLA) and Emerging Educational Administrator Institute (EEAI).

As a member of the Governance Committee, I will bring my leadership training, nursing clinical background, and research experience to the position. The primary responsibilities of the role are to ensure bylaws compliance and make recommendations for bylaws changes and oversee member and chapter eligibility issues. I was the President of the Alpha Sigma chapter at Seattle University where our team of dedicated members increased research awards and provided opportunities for scholarship dissemination at various campus events. With an eye for detail, I will be an active and contributing member of the International Governance Committee to ensure that the committee work is aligned with the mission and values of Sigma.

I earned an Associate in Nursing (ADN) from Shoreline Community College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), a Master in Nursing (MN), Nurse Educator Specialty Training (NEST) certificate, and a PhD in Nursing Science from the University of Washington. I earned certification from the National League of Nursing (NLN) as a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) in 2014. I have eight years of clinical experience in critical care at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Washington.

My Academic leadership training opportunities have included: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Nurse Faculty Scholars program (2013-16) scholar; Sauvage Fellow with the Hope Heart Institute, and the 2013 recipient of the Hope Heart Endowed Fellowship. Additionally, I was the co-recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Strategic Training fellowship and recipient of Seattle University's College of Education's Academic Service-Learning Faculty Fellows Program (ASLFFP). I served on the Membership Committees for the National League of Nursing (NLN) and the International Academic Nursing Alliance (IANA) of Sigma.

I joined Seattle University's College of Nursing as an Assistant Professor in 2011. I am Associate Professor in the Seattle University College of Nursing and the Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs. My research and scholarship focuses on developing and implementing a sustainable interdisciplinary program of cardiovascular health promotion and disease prevention aimed at creating a culture of wellness in adolescents. I am also interested in creating a pipeline for men in nursing and I am working with DNP students to survey area high schools to determine students' perceptions on nursing as a professional career choice. I mentor nursing students in the areas of quantitative research methods, critical care, systems change, service learning, health promotion, survey instrument development, workplace incivility and violence, and behavior change.

CANDIDATES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (ELECT TWO FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Jenny Sauls PhD, MSN, RN, CNE



I am honored to be on the ballot for Governance Committee. If elected, I will do my best to uphold the office and to collaborate with the other members of the committee and the BOD to continue to move us forward in the pursuit of our mission and vision to become

the organization of choice for nurses in advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence.

I have been an active member of Sigma for more than 30 years and have served in most leadership positions at the local level. I have been active in chartering two chapters, have been a member of 3 chapters, and I understand the challenges that are faced by the chapters at the grass roots level.

I have served on the Leadership Succession Committee at the international level, the Sigma Building Corporation BOD, and have served as delegate numerous times. I have participated in and coordinated numerous meetings, scholarly workshops, and education activities sponsored by my local chapter.

I am currently the Director for the School of Nursing at Middle Tennessee State University. I have also served as Administrative Fellow for the Provost as well as the Associate Director for the School of Nursing at MTSU. I have chaired numerous academic committees to include Promotion, Tenure, and Review, Admissions and Standards, Curriculum, Faculty Appeals, Resources, Student Services, Sick Leave Bank, Nursing Alumni, and Faculty Services.

I have served on various boards at the state level to include Committee for Continuing Education, Planning Committee for State Convention, and the Committee on Education. I have served as delegate at the state convention for Tennessee Nurses

Association several times. I currently serve on the BOD for HCA TriStar Stonecrest Medical Center, the June Anderson Women's Center Board of Directors as well as the Scholarship Committee for the Center, the American Heart Association Board of Directors, and as President for the TN Deans and Directors.

After practicing clinical nursing in the acute and critical care setting for more than 8 years, I became a nurse educator, teaching students at the baccalaureate level for more than 25 years. I have excellent organizational and communication skills that serve well in completing necessary tasks in a timely fashion. I have served as a faculty mentor for numerous faculty.

As an educator, I passionately encourage my students to continuously strive for excellence in the care they provide. I stress the role of the nurse as key in providing safe, cost-effective care that includes the patient, family, and all members of the healthcare team making a difference in the lives of those for which we care.

If elected to the Governance Committee, I will actively work with other members of the committee to achieve the mission of the organization to advance global health and to promote Sigma as the global organization of choice for nursing.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Pauline Anderson-Johnson MSc, BScN, RN



Qualifications: MSc
(Epidemiology), BScN, RN

Professional Background:
I am a Lecturer at the UWI School of Nursing, Mona, Faculty of Medical Sciences at the University of the West Indies (UWI). I have been in academics

for 11+ years with current teaching focus in: Research Methods and Epidemiology (Undergraduates) Advanced Research Methods in the Graduate programme. I am involved in many activities of the school, including playing a key role in the execution of the required activities of the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Caribbean. I have past experience in statistics and data analysis at the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute (CFNI), a PAHO Centre. Research interests are: Chronic diseases, especially diabetes and hypertension; evidence based practice; professionalism and job satisfaction.

Leadership experience

I have been a member of Sigma since 2012 and have been the driving force (through team work) behind the development and finally the chartering of one of Sigma's newest chapter. I now serve as president of the Omega Kappa Chapter. As a Nurse Leader in Education, I am the course leader for three courses conducted among six schools of nursing in three Caribbean countries. I have been co-lead for the annual 4-week intensive research internship and I chair the Abstract Committee for our Annual Nursing and Midwifery Research Conference. I also mentor and supervise graduate students and staff in research and data analysis.

What I want accomplished if elected:

Nursing Leadership has been identified as an area for improvement in the Caribbean and Latin American Region. I therefore think it is imperative

that leadership development be placed in the top priority nursing development plans. I would like to ensure the implementation of strategies to improved quality of care including implementation of evidence based practice guidelines both in the education and clinical practice settings. I will work towards increasing research output among nurse leaders and ensure that students are given opportunities to learn and grow in the area of research as well. Overall there will be advancement in providing responsible and excellent patient care to all our people. Mentorship is an area I am very interested in and would like to be more engaged in - mentoring younger professionals in leadership and research. Carrying out the mandate of Sigma is compatible with these desires and I think with team work and commitment it can be done. In this regard, I will work toward increasing membership in the Omega Kappa Chapter and Sigma and assist in the development of new chapters.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Tina Antill Keener PhD, MBA, MSN, CPNP, RN



My name is Tina Antill Keener, and I am a candidate for the Leadership Succession Committee. I earned a BSN and MBA from Waynesburg University, MSN with a PNP focus from the University of Pittsburgh, and a PhD in Nursing from West Virginia University. I

have worked as a pediatric staff nurse, primary care PNP, and assistant professor at Waynesburg University and currently at West Virginia University. My dissertation work was related to symptom management in children with cancer. Through a great deal of reflection and personal experiences, I was inspired to make a significant shift in research focus from symptom management in children with cancer to compassionate care. This shift represents my passion for maintaining the art of nursing as healthcare science and societal technology abounds. I hope my work will reinforce the importance of recognizing and acting to alleviate the physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering of patients.

I have been an active member of Sigma since 1997. Since 2004, I have held leadership roles in two local chapters. I have served as president, vice president, and as faculty counselor. I am most proud of my accomplishments during my recent tenure as vice president of Alpha Rho Chapter. The president of Alpha Rho Chapter and I shared a similar vision of recruiting new members, engaging existing members, and offering events that impact nursing practice, professional development, and our community. We worked diligently and made this vision a reality through establishing yearly 'Meet and Greet' receptions for eligible inductee candidates, offering several continuing education events, including End-of-Life-Care Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) training and certificate courses, executing a research conference and student professionalism conference,

implementing service initiatives, and developing a peer-to-peer mentoring program to build resiliency among students entering into a baccalaureate nursing program. My 15 years of chapter leadership experience is invaluable to me, and I look forward to furthering my leadership role within the organization.

I encourage students and my children to embrace challenges and choose the least comfortable option because the best learning comes from the new and unexpected. If elected, I will use this mantra to nudge the 'hidden' and great leaders within our organization. I want to collaborate with the Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee to identify and recognize outstanding chapter leaders. This recognition may serve as a reward for their outstanding leadership, build confidence that may encourage the pursuit of other leadership roles within the organization, and help to establish a mentoring relationship. I envision a leadership mentoring program offered through The Circle to cultivate and prepare these individuals for leadership roles within the organization.

I have encountered many changes throughout my 22 years in nursing. These changes include varying roles and diverse settings. Through all the changes and challenges, one community stayed the same. That one constant has been and remains Sigma. I am honored to be a candidate on the international ballot for the position of Leadership Succession Committee. I believe my long-term commitment to Sigma and listed accomplishments highlight I am a diligent, organized, and visionary leader.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Diana-Lyn Baptiste DNP, RN, CNE



As a registered nurse for more than 20 years, I have specialized in cardiovascular health care and prevention among underserved populations. I am an Assistant Professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, teaching across all levels of the pre-licensure graduate nursing program and adviser to students in the Doctor of Nursing Practice and Post-Master's Nursing Education Certificate programs.

As a nurse leader, experienced clinician, educator and advocate, my work aligns with the Sigma vision, creating strong links between academia and practice, and building international alliances to improve the health of the world's people. My career is committed to understanding and reducing health disparities among vulnerable populations with cardiovascular disease, and the impact of social determinants of health on outcomes. I have established strong scholarly collaborations with nurse researchers and clinicians across the United States, Australia, China, Haiti, Panama, and United Kingdom.

Over the last decade, I have served in many chapter positions and worked to revitalize the Nu Beta chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International by increasing recruitment of nurse leaders, engaging and retaining current members, and promoting the Sigma mission of leadership, education, and service. In 2018, as President of Nu Beta Chapter, I led the effort to create the first Chapter at-Large that incorporates an academic health system and university in a formal structure, including more than 100 nurse leaders and 600 chapter members. The chapter amendment was used to formalize partnerships between the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and six hospitals within the Johns Hopkins Health System. Through this

endeavor, there is improved collaboration in research, education, leadership, and community service between both entities.

Nationally, as North America Region 12 Coordinator for Sigma for the 2017-2019 Biennium, I provided leadership for more than 38 Sigma chapters across Maryland, Delaware, Washington DC and Eastern Pennsylvania, influencing leadership development and community service. I have provided support and guidance to chapter officers in regards to distributing chapter research awards, reconciling financial issues, implementing new technology practices, and increasing use of social media, fulfilling the Sigma Presidential Call to Action; Connect, Collaborate, and Catalyze. I expanded my service through Sigma Theta Tau International, providing mentorship to emerging Sigma chapters in Europe and Asia. These types of activities enables me to carry out my commitment to the Sigma mission of advancing the nursing profession by promoting collaboration, research and scholarship.

If elected as a member of the Leadership Succession Committee, I will work to improve the efficiency of the Sigma organizational leadership roles, developing and mentoring chapter leaders and collaborating with members of Sigma to carry out the mission locally, nationally, and globally. I work frequently with a variety of global colleagues, presenting and publishing internationally in the interest of promoting nursing global excellence. I am confident in a global arena serving as nursing advocate, educator, and scholar. I appreciate your vote consideration, and look forward to the opportunity to serve.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Sheila Burke DNP, MBA, MSN, RN, BC-NEA



My interest in serving on the Leadership Succession committee stems from my deep commitment to Sigma's mission. Since learning about Sigma as an undergraduate student in the 1980s I have sought to support the value it offers to the profession and society. My commitment to Sigma deepened when, as a Dean, I led our faculty through the development of a Sigma Chapter. In the ensuing years I have witnessed the tremendous potential Sigma has achieved and its current position influencing the future of the nursing profession and healthcare delivery globally.

I can bring to the Leadership Succession Committee a unique combination of understanding of Sigma's mission shaped by my knowledge and experience in the field of leadership development, and the ability to identify characteristics of outstanding leaders who can achieve change in complex environments.

In recent years the science of leadership has expanded commensurate with the science of healthcare. Specific leadership attributes have been identified that support the achievement of outstanding results. My qualifications for the Committee include participation in AONE (AONL), ACHE, and mentoring of multiple nurse leaders that led to receipt of the 2017 Sigma Lucie S. Kelly Mentor Award. My service has included work on state and national level health organization boards and committees.

While my professional background may be similar to other nurse leaders in beginning with an associate degree and then completion of a bachelor's degree as a working nurse, I also worked in leadership roles within healthcare systems collaborating with top level leaders who emulated key behaviors that resulted in positive change. In

the past few years I have served on the Sigma Policy Task Force, the ANA Illinois Chapter Finance Committee and as an ANA Mentor. My graduate education includes a MBA as well as a MSN in Healthcare Administration. My doctoral studies focused on investigating the attributes of nurse leaders who achieved outstanding results in organizations. As part of my doctoral program I completed advanced leadership training and worked with exceptional nurse leaders. I hold ANCC certification as a Nurse Executive-Advanced and in 2017 completed additional leadership training focused on leadership in executive positions. For ten years I have held national leadership positions in nursing education and I am intensely aware of the national and international trends in healthcare and the demands for nursing education to transform and respond to both the changing student population and the dynamic and profound issues facing society for which nursing can make a substantial positive difference.

My role on the Leadership Succession Committee will be to facilitate the committee in clearly defining the characteristics of the ideal Sigma leaders, identifying individuals who will best represent Sigma with the combination of strategic vision, advanced emotional intelligence, capacity and resilience essential to Sigma realizing its potential.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Teresa Hultquist PhD, MSN, RN, PHCNS-BC, NE-BC



Professional Background:
I'm an Associate Professor and Director of Evaluation at the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing (CON). My professional background includes practice and academic positions in obstetrics, public/community/home health, and

various leadership/administrative roles over my 39-year career in nursing. I spent 18 years working in hospitals and clinics in obstetrics and home health, as a staff nurse and a leader. I have been in academia for 21 years, teaching undergraduate and graduate nursing students, doing research, providing community service, and serving in leadership roles.

Qualifications/Leadership Experience:

I have been in leadership and committee positions in professional/service organizations (Midwest Nursing Research Society, Nebraska Organization of Nurse Leaders, Public Health Association of Nebraska, Public Health Nursing Section, March of Dimes Nebraska Chapter). I have served in several roles in the Gamma Pi at-Large Chapter, including Publicity Chairperson (2004-2006), President-Elect (2012-2013), President (2013-2015), Past President (2015-2106), Leadership Succession Chairperson (2016-2018), and Chapter Delegate (2009-2015). Several colleagues and I coordinated Chapter Key Award submissions, and we received Chapter Key Awards in the last three biennia. I've worked with all six of our chapter locations to identify members to serve in a variety of committees and work on service grants. We've implemented service grant opportunities, encouraging students, members, and community leaders to partner together to improve health for the population in that area. Our chapter partners with other Nebraska chapters to offer various continuing nursing educational opportunities. I've been involved in chapter fund raising events for various charities, chapter

service grants, and scholarships. I am co-chair of the statewide March of Dimes Nominations Committee (since 2014), encouraging leaders, nurses and patients to submit nominations for Excellence in Nursing Awards.

My peers have recognized me for my leadership and mentorship expertise. I've received our CON's Spirit of Shared Governance Award (2018), two awards as part of nursing college teams (2015, 2016), UNMC College of Nursing Virginia Tilden Leadership Development Award (2014), and Donna Westmoreland Excellence in Faculty Mentoring Award (2012). I was the Nebraska Chapter March of Dimes Excellence in Nursing Distinguished Nurse in 2010. I was inducted in the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Interprofessional Academy of Educators in 2016. I have American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) certifications as both a Clinical Specialist in Public/Community Health Nursing and as a Nurse Executive. I currently serve as a Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education site reviewer for College of Nursing accreditation visits, manuscript reviewer for several journals, and have served as a consultant for national grant reviews. I have been in leadership roles in 11 grants/projects, first author or co-author on 13 publications, and presented 11 state, 9 regional and 29 national/international podium/poster presentations.

What I would like to accomplish:

- Connect members with volunteer opportunities to sustain the organization and focus strategic succession planning efforts
- Develop and mentor organizational leaders with innovative leadership service preparation
- Actively engage members and chapters using quality improvement activities

I would be honored to serve on this committee, thank you for your consideration!

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Laly Joseph DVM, DNP, CNE, RNC, ARNP, ANP-BC



I was a practicing Veterinarian before making a career change to the nursing field. I obtained my BSN (1993), MSN (2002), & DNP (2009) from Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU), NJ. I was inducted into Sigma in 1993 upon graduation and since then, kept my membership active,

have attended and presented at several national and international conferences and have several publications in the Virginia Henderson Global Nursing e-Repository.

I became more extensively involved since entering academia 17 years ago. At FDU, Epsilon Rho chapter, I have held leadership roles such as Leadership Succession and Governance Committee Chair, Delegate, Vice-President, President-Elect, and President and was instrumental in obtaining their first chapter key award. At the University of Miami, Beta Tau chapter, I served as President, Delegate, President-Elect, Vice-President, and Governance committee chair. As President, I helped them obtain their first chapter key award in their 43-year history. I have also been a volunteer and moderator for several of the Sigma conferences.

Sigma has given me numerous professional development opportunities in the areas of education, leadership, career development, evidence-based nursing, research, and scholarship nationally and internationally. During my career trajectory, I have held several leadership roles such as Nurse Manager, Administrative Nursing Supervisor, Program Director, Director of Education, Associate Director, & currently as Senior Associate Dean and Professor at the Philips School of Nursing (PSON) at Mount Sinai Beth Israel in NY. I am currently in the process of initiating a chapter at PSON. I am also a 2018-2019 ENFLA scholar and honored to have Drs. Diane Billings and Carol

Huston as my mentors who have helped refine and strengthen my leadership skills.

On the state level, I am a member of the Nursing Consortium of South Florida and the Editorial Board. End of Life Nursing Consortium (ELNEC) training on palliative and end-of-life care has given me the expertise to educate nurses at the state, national and international level. As a nursing consultant for a long-term care network, I provide mentoring and leadership to new nurse practitioners through empowerment, optimizing patient outcomes and promoting best practices. I am a board member & Editorial/Journal committee chair of the National Association of Indian Nurses of America. At the international level, I serve as a curriculum development consultant to Bharathi Vidyapeeth University, India and the University of Malaya, Malaysia. This has given me a global perspective to embrace diversity, cultural differences and advance world health.

In my several leadership roles at Sigma, I have helped promote nursing excellence through leadership, scholarship, and service. I believe leadership is a journey as opposed to a destination and see myself as a transformation leader. I am a dynamic and passionate educator, have a motivational influence on people, am solution-focused, and seek to inspire others. Being elected as a Leadership Succession Committee member would be an honor, and am confident in using my organizational, communication, strategic planning, creativity, and visionary skills to educating and mentoring members on the different leadership roles at all levels of the organization.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Beverly Reigle PhD, RN



As a Leadership Succession Committee candidate, I bring a rich background of leadership experience derived from my 29 years as a faculty of nursing, my role as a director within a cancer institute, and my extensive work with professional and community organizations. I am

an Associate Professor, Emerita at the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing and former Director of the UC Cancer Institute Survivorship Program. Educationally, I earned my PhD in Nursing from The University of Texas at Austin, MS in Nursing from Texas Woman's University; and BS in Nursing from Wheaton College. My research, publications, and community service are focused on cancer survivorship and the role of cancer rehabilitation and fitness exercise.

My commitment to Sigma Theta Tau International began 35 years ago in the Beta Beta Chapter at TWU. Since that time, I have had the privilege of serving in multiple positions at the international, regional, and local levels and supporting Sigma's global growth as a Virginia Henderson, Billye Brown and Sigma Theta Tau Fellow.

Internationally, I served as Sigma Board of Directors (BOD) Secretary for four years. In that role, I served as a liaison to the International Honor Society Nursing Building Corporation (IHNSB) and Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee (RCCC) and chaired the BOD Leadership Development Committee and Biennial Convention Resolutions Committee. Prior to the BOD position, I served on the IHNSB Corporation Board of Directors, Bylaws Task Force, Panel of Visitors & Consultants, Honorary Chair of the Conventions Arrangement Committee, and Chair of the Biennial Convention Registration Committee.

Regionally, I served three terms (six years) as a regional coordinator (Region 4 Coordinator for two years involving 74 chapters and Region 9 Coordinator for four years involving 31 chapters). During this time, I also led in the formation of the Southern Ohio/Northern Kentucky Consortium. Locally, I served in multiple positions such as chapter President twice, Vice President, Counselor, Secretary (2 terms, Strategic Planning Task Force Chair, Leadership Development Advisory Council Chair, Leadership Succession Committee Chair, and Communications Advisory Council Chair (10 years). Currently, I serve on the chapter's Research and Awards and Scholarships Committees.

Leadership positions in other organizations include the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) BOD, Cincinnati Sexual Health Consortium BOD, National Quality Forum Cancer Standing Committee, Southwestern Ohio Nurses Association BOD Vice President, Ohio Nurses Association Bylaws Committee Chair, Tri-State Oncology Nursing Society BOD Secretary, Hamilton County American Cancer Society (ACS) BOD Secretary, and Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation Chair.

If elected, I will pursue nursing leaders who are committed to ensuring the standards of excellence espoused by Sigma and who are dedicated to fulfilling Sigma's global vision and mission. Such leaders will be advocates for the development, dissemination and translation of nursing knowledge; be strategic in addressing global health; and serve as mentors of our newer members while engaging our seasoned leaders. I am excited to share in Sigma's initiatives to impact health care worldwide and I embrace the motto, E pluribus unum, "from the many one".

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT FOUR FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM)



Tara Whitmire DNP, APRN-NP, CHFN



I am an Associate Professor and the Director of the BSN-DNP program at Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha, NE. I have served in this role for over 3 years and learn something new every day. I am in charge of maintaining the rigor of the program. This includes

keeping the curriculum up to date, managing adjunct faculty and making budget decisions. I also practice part-time as a nurse practitioner at Nebraska Methodist Hospital in Omaha. I love that I am able to practice and teach. I can impact patient care and shape young professionals minds. It's like the best of both worlds! I previously worked as a nurse practitioner in general cardiology and was the Structural Heart Coordinator for 4 years at CHI Health in Omaha. My previous nursing experience includes intensive care, post-intensive care, and outpatient surgical services. My passion has always been cardiology.

I earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Iowa State University in Ames, IA. I then decided that nursing was my true calling and earned my Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science-Family Nurse Practitioner from Creighton University in Omaha. I earned my Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA. I am a board-certified family nurse practitioner from American Association of Nurse Practitioners and am a Certified Heart Failure Nurse from the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses (AAHFN).

I has been actively involved with organizations and activities since high school and college. I participated on several committees while at Iowa State University, including VEISHEA, the largest student-run organization at the time. As a nurse and advanced practice nurse, I have been active at the state and national level. I am currently the

President of the Sigma Chapter at Nebraska Methodist College. I am also the President of Nebraska Nurse Practitioners (NNP), the state nurse practitioner organization. I have served on many committees and in the chair position, including the Legislative Committee with NNP. At the national level I have served on many committees and in the chair position for the AAHFN. I was recently elected to the Board as a Director.

Being a leader is a privilege. My aim as a leader is to foster the engagement of others and to leave the organization better than when I arrived. I believe my democratic leadership style allows for all voices to be heard and promotes discussion, and thus encourages all members of the team to be involved and engaged. I have a strong internal desire to be involved. My top Strength is Responsibility. This means that once I commit to something, I see it through to the end. To be involved with Sigma at an international level and serve on the Leadership Succession Committee would allow me utilize my strength by committing to Sigma's mission and vision and to support nursing locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. I look forward to seeing all that Sigma can accomplish.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Li-Chi Chiang PhD



Multiple training background let me have a broad view and diversity perspective in future nursing development. My undergraduate and graduate degree were specialized in nursing, and my Ph.D. degree was in health education and health promotion. Since my

expertise was in pediatric nursing, medical-surgical nursing and family nursing. I suppose that nurses could help children and their families by educating, empowering, motivating their self-management, mastery the crisis, and mobilized the recourses to successful developmental transition. In 2014, I was indexed as Sigma International Nurse Researcher, Hall of Fame, that was my great honor that My research efforts could be acknowledged.

As a nursing professor for twenty years, I am not only teaching in the university, but also devote my efforts to several NGOs. Firstly, I am the only nurse in Taiwan Asthma Council (TAC), we initiated the accreditation and qualification of health care providers in asthma, and we also translated the GINA guideline into Chinese annually. Secondly, I was elected as the President for Lambda Beta at-Large Chapter in Taiwan from 2008 to 2012. At that time, I promoted the internationalization of Taiwan's chapter through inviting the international well-known scholars visited Taiwan, endorsed the Chinese-version of Cochrane's abstract to promote evidence-based practice and encouraged the chapter members participated the Sigma International Nursing Research Conference. Thirdly, I was the standing director (2009~2015), and Vice-President (2015 to 2018) of Taiwan Nursing Association, I have established the regulations for poster award of annual nursing research congress, and the grant for young emerging scholars. I initiated the evidence-based nursing clinical application competition to encourage all of the nurses in different levels of the hospitals could ap-

ply the current based knowledge into clinical practice and we provide the Gold, Silver, and Bronze prize to encourage them. In 2018, I initiated to establish the EBN Cloud Library to share the current EBN knowledge, application experiences and current best clinical practice guidelines for all nurses in Chinese-language areas.

I believed my personal expertise in pediatric nursing and family nursing could have good knowledge sharing with the nursing leaders in the Sigma members. All the leaders working together, and brainstorming could develop innovative strategies for promoting the nursing profession internationally. I wish I could meet with the international nursing leaders to advocate for nurses and discuss the nursing issues about professional development in different countries. In the future years, I could develop and implement the young nursing leaders' promotion internationally to help the nursing profession's contribution to people's health been visible in the world. We are nursing scientists, we care about patients' best benefits, and we share the nursing knowledge. I believe if our nurses have very strong knowledge-based for promoting people's health, we could have the better social image, better salary, and mutual respect in the health care team, and also the respect from people. We have the well-education background, good study findings and publications, therefore, we are scientists with equal value as the other medical personals. Only good social image could attract better future nurses to join this profession.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Karen Grigsby PhD, RN



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND. I achieved my BSN from the University of Cincinnati; my MS degree (Parent-Child Nursing) from the University of Colorado, and my PhD (Nursing Administration) from The University of Texas - Austin. Additionally, I am certified as an

Organizational & Life Coach from the Academy of Coaching Excellence. I have held teaching positions in nursing at The College of Mt. St. Joseph (OH), the University of Mississippi Medical Center (MS), the University of Missouri-Columbia (MO), and the University of Nebraska Medical Center (NE). I have worked in nursing education since obtaining my MS degree in 1973. Most recently, I taught nursing administration, leadership, complexity science, and education in the BSN, MSN, and DNP programs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). My research has been in the areas of program development, coaching, and leadership.

QUALIFICATIONS. I have served in a variety of leadership positions. I served as Department Chair for the Department of Families and Health Systems, Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Programs, and Interim Director of the MSN Programs at UNMC. I also served as Coordinator of the Nurse Leader Administrator/Executive Specialty. This was a grant supported program that developed students for leadership roles across healthcare organizations in both rural and urban areas. For the Gamma Pi at-Large Chapter, I served as President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, Eligibility Committee Chair, Counselor for the Omaha Campus, and delegate to the Biennial Convention. I was elected as Regional Coordinator for 2 terms and then served as the Region 3 Mentor Counterpart. I was elected to a Director position on the Sigma Board of Directors. While in that position, I participated in the Futures Advisory Council and Chaired the Global Health Priorities Task Force.

After my term on the board was completed I worked as a member of the Building Corporation Foundation for 4 years. I have also chaired/participated in judging various awards for Biennial conventions and served as a mentor for individual Sigma members and a faculty participant in the Experienced Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy. Currently, I chair the Sigma Retired Members Task Force.

If elected to the Leadership Succession Committee, it is most important to me that I work toward finding the most qualified and committed Sigma members to assume Board of Director and Officer positions throughout all the Sigma organizational levels. I believe that working on the Leadership Succession Committee requires not only finding members who are willing to run for positions at the International, Regional, and Chapter levels of Sigma, but also mentoring and coaching individuals to assume these leadership positions. Materials can be prepared to mentor members at the Chapter, Regional, and International levels so members can continue to develop leadership skills that can be used in various Sigma positions. Interested individuals can also be encouraged to access Sigma online materials about leadership. Only by mentoring members into leadership positions can we be assured that Sigma will continue to evolve and meet its mission and vision.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Monina Hernandez MNurs (Hons), PGDip HSc, PGCert TTeach, BSN, RN, RM



I am an experienced leader with governance experience in both public and not-for-profit roles in New Zealand and the Philippines. I am a director of the Nursing Council of NZ - the regulatory authority responsible for registration of nurses in New Zealand. I was also an elected

director of the New Zealand Nurses Organisation - the biggest nurses' organisation representing close to 52,000 nursing staff all over New Zealand. I am involved in shaping future NZ immigration and health and well-being policies as a member of the Multicultural policy committee and the Health and Well-being policy committee. I am also an advisory board member for the Safer Nursing 24/7 project in NZ, a project that developed tools to manage nurses' fatigue and a Code of Practice to improve health service delivery. I am a technical committee member of a specialty group within the Joint Standards Australia/Standards NZ Committees and President of the Filipino Nurses' Association of New Zealand, Inc.

I have been a leader-member of Sigma since 2010. I have been present in all annual research congresses since 2015 to present my work and to volunteer as moderator for research sessions. I have also been an active contributor of articles for Reflections on Nursing Leadership.

I am a future-focused leader with strong leadership and communication skills, whose work ethic is driven by compassion, integrity, fairness, respect and excellence. I enjoy working collaboratively with people from various backgrounds to identify short-term and long-term strategies for organisations.

My nursing career spans more than 27 years in two countries. A community health nurse-midwife, educator and clinical nurse specialist for infection

control by profession, my extensive work experience has equipped me with in-depth understanding of culturally safe, quality nursing service. I have been involved in research and publication, policy development, audit and risk analysis, quality improvement, strategic planning and decision-making and have engaged with diverse and multi-cultural groups in my past roles. Thus, I hope to bring the wisdom that I gained from my experience to the leadership succession committee.

I am currently a lecturer at the School of Nursing, Massey University where I teach, develop learning materials and lead teaching teams across its three campuses aside from supervising master's level research and performing administrative functions, research responsibilities and engaging in clinical collaboration. I have a Masters' degree in nursing with honours and postgraduate degrees in health science and tertiary teaching. I am currently completing my doctoral studies with research focused on nursing migration.

I actively volunteer my services in mentoring new leaders and advocating for the welfare of women, children, older people, migrants and nurses with members of the NZ parliament. I am output oriented and I aspire for a truly inclusive world where everyone has equal access to evidence-based, culturally safe health care.

If elected, I intend to bring in additional members from the southern hemisphere, mentor members for leadership positions, actively perform the responsibilities of a committee member and ensure alignment of volunteer/leader opportunities with Sigma values and contemporary global practice.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Peggy Jenkins PhD, RN



At Sigma, as in the profession of nursing, we need to grow our young into outstanding leaders through knowledge transfer from excellent, experienced, end of career leaders. If elected, I will work to engage seasoned and aspiring nurse leaders to volunteer for leadership posi-

tions within Sigma Theta Tau. In addition, I will connect novice leaders with mentors who can guide apprentice members to learn leadership skills within Sigma.

My recommended priorities as Leadership Succession Committee member will include:

1. Educate members about the fantastic, honorable, prestigious leadership opportunities at chapter, regional, and international levels.
2. Inspire novice and seasoned members to enthusiastically, energetically, and powerfully apply for Sigma leadership roles.
3. Mentor aspiring, talented, service-oriented leaders across the globe and connect beginners to seasoned leaders for knowledge transfer, support, camaraderie, and action.
4. Contribute to all functions of the committee through active participation and prioritization of time.

Specific actions I will take to advance recommended priorities include:

1. Leverage Sigma tools, resources, social and web-based media to inform members of leadership positions throughout the organization during the biennium.
2. Network broadly and eagerly with diverse members to understand specific leadership interests, ambitions, hopes. Connect members to opportunities based on unique desires and dreams. Prepare a full ballot for the board.
3. Attend Sigma orientation, webinars, and committee meetings to learn best practices for

developing potential leaders. Encourage participation in Sigma's online mentoring program to connect neophyte and experienced leaders. Continue to participate as mentor in the program.

4. Participate actively in international committee as needed/requested including preparing membership materials, monitoring campaign, vetting nominations.

Candidate Experience

I am Assistant Professor and Specialty Director of iLEAD, Master's level leadership program, at the University Of Colorado College Of Nursing. I developed a DNP Health Systems Leadership program and am currently conducting participatory, action research for an intraprofessional education pilot to encourage collaboration between PhD and DNP students. I have been a nursing leader for over 38 years, serving in various clinical, administrative, consulting, and academic roles. I fulfilled several leadership roles with VHA healthcare alliance, worked across the United States geography, and led regional teams remotely for nineteen years. My leadership style is relational, reflective, action-oriented, and I seek to bring out the best in others.

I participate on a national work-group creating a research data warehouse for nursing value, most recently co-chairing the governance committee. I have published in JONA and Nursing Economics and presented nationally and internationally. With honor, I place my name on the ballot. I enjoyed serving the past 2 years as Sigma Region 3 Coordinator, 5 years on the local Alpha Kappa at-Large Chapter of Sigma board. I mentored a PhD student from Africa who received a Sigma small research grant. I love to teach aspiring nurse leaders. If elected, I will mentor members to lead at all levels of this wonderful organization.

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Sara Kaylor EdD, RN, CNE



“Love. Courage. Honor.” Three words that—in Greek language—represent the founding roots of Sigma Theta Tau, and three words I strive to embody within my personal, scholarship, leadership, and service arenas. It is my honor and privilege to present myself as a candidate

for the Leadership Succession Committee. Over the years, my involvement with Sigma has opened more doors and possibilities for me than I had ever thought imaginable, and it is now my hope to return and extend such blessings to others.

I have been a nurse for fourteen years, beginning with a clinical background in trauma/surgical intensive care nursing and have subsequently been led to a career in academia. For the past six years I am an Assistant Professor at The University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing, with areas of teaching expertise in undergraduate Health Assessment and Fundamentals courses, as well as graduate-level Nurse Case Management courses. My areas of research interests center upon innovations in teaching, learning, and curricula design, and the role that health and wellness behaviors play in promoting healthy living, learning, and work environments.

I hold a strong commitment and love for service within the profession of nursing and have served in multiple leadership roles across various levels and organizations. Perhaps my proudest accomplishment was participating as a Scholar in Cohort III of Sigma’s Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (2016-2017), an opportunity in which I discovered the true value and power of mentorship as I pushed the boundaries of my own unique leadership abilities and style. I also currently serve as Vice President of my local Epsilon Omega chapter; past chapter positions include Chair of the Leadership Succession Committee and Newsletter Editor.

Outside of Sigma, I serve as treasurer for three local chapters of national organizations (specifically local chapters of American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, Case Management Society of America, and Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama). I also currently serve on the Editorial Board for the Journal of Nursing Education, and conduct peer-reviews for 3 additional professional journals.

As an elected member of the Leadership Succession Committee, my responsibilities will center around networking, seeking out, identifying and developing Sigma’s next generation of leaders. I believe the future of any organization is held in the supporting hands of its membership; therefore, I seek diversity, passion, and compassion in the potential leaders who will reflect and represent a membership of international proportions and perspectives. Such leadership takes courage, courage to expand, courage to change direction, courage to grow in areas unexpected or uncharted. My role, then, is to identify this courageous potential in others, so that they may be mentored and encouraged to answer the call for future leadership, service, and excellence.

Thank you for your support and consideration of me for this position!

CANDIDATES

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION COMMITTEE (ELECT THREE FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM)



Elizabeth Rosser DPhil, MN, RN, RM, Dip NEd, RNT, Dip RM, PFHEA



I am currently Professor Emeritus at Bournemouth University, England and I feel highly privileged at completing a four-year term on Sigma's Board of Directors. Prior to retiring in August 2018, I held a number of leadership positions including Dean of the Faculty of Health

and Social Sciences, Bournemouth, with over 5,000 students, an exceptional 7-year position on Bournemouth University's board of directors, a four-year visiting professor role in Norway and lead co-ordinator in a 6-year British Council funded project introducing the new role of nurse-midwife into NE Brazil. I believe passionately in strong leadership for nurses, globally, and my Sigma Board experience has given me great insight into the needs of members wishing to step up into leadership positions in the society. I am now keen to take a role in helping prepare and mentor them. If elected onto the Leadership Succession Committee, I would encourage those who have taken a lead within their own chapters to apply for leadership roles centrally and enable the Leadership Succession Committee to draw members for the ballot from around the world to ensure elected committees reflect the diversity of its membership. I am highly motivated to develop younger colleagues in their leadership roles, to always see the best in others and to help them to seek creative ways of asserting their leadership. To this end, for the past two years, I have been a member of Sigma's global leadership mentoring programme, mentoring professors in Australia and Japan and have learned immensely from the experience. I took the lead in preparing and developing the first all-England chapter to charter in 2011 and became their first President. Having spent 4 years on the central Governance committee, I am now working with teams in Italy, Spain and Malta to support them applying for chapter status. In May 2019, I had the great fortune

of representing Sigma in the 'Nursing Now' pre-World Health Assembly's event in Geneva, supporting 22 young nurse and midwife leaders globally, develop their careers through facilitated sessions and personal mentoring. This has been immensely satisfying to support these young leaders as they position themselves for their future leadership roles and I seek to use this experience to promote others if elected to the Leadership Succession Committee. Having represented Sigma's Board on an expert leadership panel at the Leadership Connection conference and presented at Sigma's first Global Healthcare Leadership conference outside of the US, I feel privileged to have maximised my 4-year Board position with Sigma in seeking creative leadership opportunities for the promotion of the society. If elected, I am keen to encourage, support and develop Sigma members from across the globe, step up to significant leadership positions which will ultimately contribute to the enhancement of the society.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL CHAPTERS COORDINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR (ELECT ONE)



Ellen Buckner PhD, RN, CNE, AE-C, FNAP



The Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair (RCCC Chair) serves both as a member of the Sigma Board of Directors and as the liaison connecting and supporting the Regional Coordinators (RCs). In this dual role I would bring a passion for regional chapter

development, a commitment to building Sigma relationships globally, and a personal history of leadership through mentoring.

As a three-term Regional Coordinator (RC), I worked with chapter leaders to strengthen chapters, engage members and connect with Sigma's international community. At the regional level, we initiated the Membership Ambassador role and established a regional conference. When global regions were created in 2011, I was one of several RCs who sought to build relationships among Sigma members across global regions. Our conversations led to the founding of the Global Leadership Mentoring Community (GLMC). This online Sigma community now includes 28 mentors and mentees across all seven global regions.

One of my continuing goals is to demonstrate how Sigma's motto, "Global Nursing Excellence," can be encouraged and shared. As RCCC Chair I will apply technology to collaborate with RCs and to learn about their goals and aspirations. I will work to make the RCCC network more integrated and responsive to the needs of RCs as they mentor chapter leaders and support the chapters' contributions to our society's international leadership.

As a member of Sigma's Board of Directors, I would advocate for the regions and chapters, speaking to their priorities in strategic discussions. I have served in multiple local, state, and national organizations as a board member and chair. I am a member of three Sigma chapters and have held

several chapter leadership roles, including chapter president. These first-hand experiences have prepared me to support the 21 RCs around the world.

Mentoring is an essential process in organizational development. I have served as a mentor in three Sigma nurse faculty leadership academies and have begun and chaired three leadership mentoring programs, each of which has been transformational. Through the GLMC, mentors and mentees from every Global Region connect and collaborate. These cross-region relationships have given me a window into the potential of mentoring for all Sigma regions represented by the incoming RCs. As RCCC Chair, I would invest time and energy to mentor the RCs and engage members as global leaders for Sigma and nursing.

I serve as Professor in the Ida Moffett School of Nursing, Samford University, and formerly taught at the University of South Alabama and University of Alabama at Birmingham. I am a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE), Asthma Educator (AE-C), and Distinguished Fellow in the National Academies of Practice (FNAP). These experiences and others have prepared me for the scope and significance of the RCCC Chair position and for service on the Sigma Board of Directors. This role is significant to me personally because of its importance to chapter leaders and subsequently to all Sigma members as well as the overall organization's welfare and future. I ask for your vote and your continued support for the growth of our society.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL CHAPTERS COORDINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR (ELECT ONE)



Carole Liske PhD, MS, RN



My chapter team jokes that I bleed Sigma purple, but I am your typical Sigma member. I felt gratitude at induction, juggled membership with personal and professional demands, and even forgot to renew my membership!! My story is not unique, but as my nursing career developed, Sigma has been there -- supporting, inspiring, and mentoring.

My first real involvement began in 2006 when I was asked to serve as President of a struggling chapter. I accepted and immediately thought, "I have no idea what to do." I reached out to my Regional Coordinator (RC), Cathy Catrambone, who patiently answered my myriad questions, connected me with resources, reminded me to take a deep breath, and reassured me that support would always be there from Sigma. Three years later, I stood nervously on stage at Biennial Convention when our "struggling chapter" won its first Key Award!

As a member of Sigma's international virtual chapter, Phi Gamma, I accepted the call to serve in exciting officer positions, including President. Working with nurses worldwide, I learned to leverage technology to conduct meetings and events entirely online -- working around time zones and internet issues. We inducted exceptional nurse leaders from around the globe, many of whom did not have a local chapter. Their incredible professional accomplishments continue to amaze and inspire me, and as a result of our shared commitment, at the 2015 Biennial Convention enthusiastically accepted our first Key Award. Currently, I serve as President of a newly chartered chapter, Psi Upsilon, connecting virtually with members in all 50 states. Through innovative technologies, an awesome team, and support from my RC, we qualified for the 2019 Key Award.

Serving at the regional and international levels extended the depth of my experience and passion for Sigma. The International Membership Engagement Task Force showed me ways to provide value to new members from varied backgrounds and the importance of connection. As Chair of the Next Generation Leader and Digital Transformation Advisory Task Forces, I mentored new nurses and listened to tech-savvy nurse leaders. We eagerly shared our ideas and recommendations with the Sigma Board to help chapters navigate technology and connect with members.

These experiences taught me to courageously step forward to develop, build, and rebuild chapters -- and that what we do matters. Through engaging members, we are gifted with lifelong friendships that bring joy and inspiration to our professional lives.

My service is grounded on Sigma's pillars -- I LOVE what we do, HONOR each person, and muster the COURAGE to embrace innovation. As Regional Chapter Coordinating Committee Chair, I'll build on the accomplishments of those who served in this role and support our RCs to help you, our chapter leaders, build meaningful relationships with your members. Most importantly, I'll listen to you and share your successes, struggles, and recommendations to the Sigma Board.

With pride I wear my purple cord as a reminder of the power of this organization and the stories, friends, and connections that continue to take my breath away.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR AFRICA (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Fhumulani Mavis Mulaudzi DLitt et Phil (Nursing), M Cur, B Cur, B Cur HONS, RN, RM



Background information
I am a registered nurse (RN), registered Midwife (RM) and a nurse educator (NE). I completed a B Cur, a B Cur Hons, a M Cur and a Doctorate of Literature and Philosophy at the University of South Africa with the latter in 2004. I also completed a postgraduate diploma in health research ethics in 2007. I worked as a nurse in hospitals and clinics and I have been a lecturer since 1991. I have vast experience in leadership and management in the nursing profession and the higher education sector. I have held the positions of Head of Department and Chairperson of School of health care sciences at the University of Pretoria since 2010 and 2012 respectively. My research focus areas are Indigenous knowledge, Reproductive health, Human rights and ethics. I am currently the chairperson of the Forum for University Nursing Deans and the first deputy president of the Democratic Nursing Organization of South Africa (DENOSA). I served as a member of the research portfolio in Tau Lambda from 2006-2009 and I was the President-elect of Chi Xi at-Large Chapter from 2015-2017 and the chapter president from 2017-2019.

Collaboration and networking

My role as the Africa Regional coordinator will assist me to foster collaboration and unify the nursing voices and efforts. This will enable nurse leaders to speak in unison to inform policy and decision making using evidence based information. I will ensure collaboration among all chapters in the region and seek for partners in the global sphere of Sigma. My networks in the nursing association provide me with opportunities to collaborate with other nursing colleagues and external organizations such as Southern African Network of Nurses And Midwives and East Central and Southern Africa College of Nursing as they are organizations that

are existing and strong in the African region. I will also extend the networks to other regions and organizations in Africa to increase membership and enhance scholarship regionally.

Unity

Unity will enhance more collaboration between different sectors such as education, leadership, practice, Sigma and national associations. The collaborative efforts will unite the minds and strengthen the efforts of nurse leaders to take scholarship forward and promote the use of evidence for policy-making and decision making in the profession.

Succession planning

Mentoring and education of the young and upcoming nurse leaders, educators and researchers will be one of my priority area. Projects such as training of young Sigma ambassadors will be introduced to ensure that the young leaders are mentored and ushered well in leadership roles. My experience in research will assist me to use data, promote dialogue and promote evidence-based decision making.

Mainstreaming ubuntu

Promotion of Unity and cohesion in the African region will be my priority. The members of different chapters will be encouraged to embrace Ubuntu philosophy, promotes solidarity, cohesiveness, unity, mutual understanding, sharing and problem solving through consensus. My slogan will be "Unity is strength: United we stand and divided we fall".

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR AFRICA (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Stanley Rungua BSN, RN



I am a Lecturer at the Presbyterian University of East Africa Kikuyu Campus in Kenya and a graduate student in Pediatric Nursing at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. I have taught undergraduate nurses at various colleges and universities in both theoretical

and clinical courses. My nursing experience spans a period of 26 years in multiple pediatric specialties and in leadership roles as a Charge Nurse and Senior Nursing officer.

I am a Sigma member and was selected to participate in the Global Leadership Mentoring Community (GLMC) as a mentee. This community has made it possible to network and collaborate with other nurses from all over the world. I will be presenting a joint paper with other mentees of the GLMC at the biennial convention in Washington, DC.

I am eager to advance nursing leadership in Kenya and beyond when given the opportunity to serve as a Regional Coordinator. Upon election, I plan on using my experience with various video conferencing applications in the GLMC to increase connectivity and collaboration among nurses in Africa. I also plan to revitalize nurses' participation by encouraging enrollment to Sigma and establishing a chapter in Kenya. The revitalization plans will be made in consultation with Tau Lambda which is the largest chapter in the African region and the one representing Kenya. This will ensure that our goals are cohesive and contribute to the overall growth of all chapters in the region.

Engaging in scholarship contributes to quality health outcomes for the populations we serve and the growth of the profession. Over the course of my different roles in nursing, I have worked to identify problems and developed proposals to address them. For example, while working in the

pediatric operating room, I developed a survey on the operating room utilization rates. The results were presented at a plastic surgery conference to aid key stakeholders in the allocation of resources to the operating room. I plan on using this experience to serve as a facilitator of research or community projects in the African region by helping nurses identify funding opportunities to support health improvement initiatives.

As the first and only person in my family to graduate from college and hold a professional job, I have developed a deep sense of gratitude and responsibility to others. The tenet to whom much is given, much is required holds true for me. I am acutely aware of how fortunate I am and have consistently paid it forward not only to my family but also to communities both locally and internationally. Over the years, I have volunteered as an operating room nurse for Operation Smile. I also serve as a club secretary of the Mtwapa Rotary Club. A recent appointment at my church has enabled me to serve as a mentor to young men in my community by assisting them to access the tools they need to transition into adulthood successfully. I plan to use these experiences to encourage and facilitate service initiatives in the African region.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR ASIA (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Sally Chan PhD, MSc, BSc, RN, FAAN



As an experienced global healthcare educator and researcher, I have been making significant contributions to realizing the tripartite mission of research, education and practice for advancing the nursing profession. My work focuses on translating research

evidence to improve healthcare practice outcomes, educating and mentoring new generations of nurses and midwives. I have led many exercises of transforming nursing practice and education in Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia in my role as academic, researcher, Head and Dean of School in universities.

For the Sigma's work, I have gained full understanding of its operation and development through direct participation in its chapters. I have joined the Pi Iota Chapter in Hong Kong since 2000 and Upsilon Eta Chapter in Singapore from 2010.

I was the President of Upsilon Eta Chapter from 2011 to 2014. Apart from the Sigma, I have extensive leadership experiences in many nursing professional organizations. I was the Chairperson of Hong Kong Society of Nursing Education and President of the Hong Kong College of Mental Health Nursing. I was also a prominent member of the Executive Committee of Singapore Nursing Association, and the Hong Kong College of Nursing. My contributions to healthcare policies were made through the appointment as a member of the Expert Group on Mental Health Services by the Hong Kong Government; and the National Nursing Task Force by the Singapore Government.

My experiences with professional and academic leadership have expanded to international and regional level. As a member of the Council of Deans of Nursing & Midwifery, Australia & New Zealand, I worked with other Nursing Deans to promote the quality of nursing and midwifery education. For

advancing doctoral nursing education, I was the chair of the East Asian Forum of Nursing Scholars (EAFONS) which consists of seven member-countries. At global level, I participated in the work of World Health Organization (WHO) as a member of the Primary Care Consultation Group for Revision of ICD-10 Mental and Behavioral Disorder.

In 2013, as a recognition of my professional contributions, I was inducted as the Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, and to the Sigma 'International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame'. These awards have encouraged me to move further to the next level and be more engaged with the Sigma's work.

I am committed to the role of the Sigma Regional Co-ordinator. I will:

- Facilitate chapter's strategic planning to achieve Sigma's biennial goals for the region: work with chapter's board of directors to create a strategic plan that has a clear path for the chapter and has actions that can be implemented.
- Promote communication, networking, and collaboration among regional chapters and committee members.
- Enhance unity in regional chapters to increase their aggregate voice in supporting nurses' efforts to improve the health of people in the region and worldwide.
- Organize activities to recognize and showcase chapters for their achievement.
- Mentor, educate and support individual chapters according to region needs and circumstance.
- Act as a bridge between regional chapters and Sigma headquarters staff to further enhance communication and collaboration.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR ASIA (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Janet Wong PhD, RN



I am currently the Associate Professor in School of Nursing, the University of Hong Kong. As a nurse researcher and educator, I have been committed to promoting women's health and gender equality through research, and demonstrating leadership in nursing education.

From conducting workshops, developing innovative websites and conducting a multi-site randomized control trial to evaluate a technology-based intervention to prevent dating violence and sexual coercion in college students, my work has demonstrated the positive impact through scientific evaluation. My leadership in nursing education is evidenced by the newly developed teaching innovations, education grants and manuscripts.

In the past year, I have been contributing in professional service locally and internationally in Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing and International Council of Women's Health Issues. It will be my great honor to continue with my meaningful work and encourage more nurses in joining us for service and professional development in the field.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR EUROPE (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Marie-Louise Luiking MA, RN



At present I am the standing European Regional Coordinator for the Biennium 2017-2019, my first term in this voluntary position. I came to this position hoping to build upon the work already done by the European Regional Committee in making Sigma in Europe an even more

attractive and valued community for nurses to join and connect with each other on a global scale. Promoting the Vision 2020 goals within the European region I saw as very important. I also knew that the further strengthening of membership involvement by reaching out to other chapter leaders not only those concerned with academia but also to engage with those in clinical practise, was new and would be challenging but also very rewarding for Sigma Europe.

I have seen this European Regional Coordinators role as actively contributing to and giving support to other chapters to sustain their chapters health. Especially in areas such as member retention, growth and participation at a local, regional and global level.

Having served as past chapter president and being instrumental in achieving the first chapter key award within Europe for our chapter and at the last Biennial Convention receiving the Ethel Palmer Clarke Award I would be very able to promote, encourage and help other European chapters to get involved in these activities, e.g. the Chapter Key Award, Regional Excellence Award and Delegate representation.

My in-depth knowledge of the regional topics and concerns having been involved in the region as past president and current regional coordinator allows me the insight needed to lead this region in the next biennium. We have raised a substantial amount in funds last year with our Regional Conference, for

our European Development Fund, to further the work the fund has been set up to undertake. In this Biennium I have initiated a Social Media presence with setting up a Facebook and Twitter account. These the communications committee use to inform the members about issues taking place, celebrating members achievements and giving a European blend to Sigma for the members. This has also had an effect for potential members and honor societies for the future. Our regular newsletter has taken on a different approach as we celebrate all the members achievements and newsworthy events taking place in Europe.

A great part of our regional work has been setting up and sustaining two groups of members interested in nursing research and nurse education topics. It was felt necessary to go outside of the remit of Sigma, as these are thought an asset for us in Europe as members.

In the research group our first paper has been published in the Nursing Scholarship journal on Migration Healthcare experiences and our second paper is to follow. In our Nurse education research interest group our research paper is well under way. These two groups have shown that working together does achieve more and gives a community spirit to build upon for the members.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

LATIN AMERICA/CARIBBEAN (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Roxana De las salas MSc, BSN



My name is Roxana De las salas BSN, MSc and PhD candidate in Pharmaceutical Sciences. I am a Upsilon Nu Chapter (Universidad Nacional de Colombia) member, assistant professor and researcher at the Department of Nursing at Universidad del Norte (Barranquilla, Colombia). My

experience in appropriate use of medicines in the practice of Nursing, especially in chronic diseases, have given me opportunity to connect clinical practice with academy.

I have served as Virtual Delegate for one year, as my Chapter Leadership Succession Committee (LSC) (four years position), and currently I am part of the Latin America & Caribbean Global Regional Council as well. I have volunteered in my chapter and region. So, Sigma has given me the opportunity to enforce my leadership skills such as empathy, commitment, resilience, dedication, discipline, motivation, strategic planning, problem resolution and effective communication which I put up at Sigma disposal. In my time with Sigma, I have gained a broad understanding of the organization. I would be a good choice for Latin America & Caribbean Regional Coordinator not only because of my previous leadership experiences in my Chapter and Region but because of my professional career as well.

Finally, if I were elected as Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) Regional Coordinator I would help to define the Regional prizes for recognizing the excellence and leadership of nurses in LAC. Another important challenge is to make the research production of the region more visible and to maintain the visibility in Spanish, Portuguese and English using a monthly newsletter as well and creating a web page or blog for the region.

Thank you!

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

LATIN AMERICA/CARIBBEAN (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Luz Patricia Díaz Heredia PhD, MSN, RN



I am a Colombian Nurse, Doctor of Nursing, magister in nursing and specialist in cardiorespiratory care. I am a senior researcher belonging to the cardiorespiratory health care research group. I am currently working as Associate Professor of the Faculty of Nursing of the

National University of Colombia (South America).

My experience as a nurse, researcher, and teacher has allowed me to develop clinical, assistance and leadership skills in diverse areas of professional performance. I have been editor and reviewer of documents in national and international journals. I have been a secretary (2012-2014) and president of the chapter (2016_2018) Upsilon Nu. I have held management positions within the faculty of the National University of Colombia and I have coordinated national and international scientific events such as the international care seminar and the international meeting of advanced nursing training.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

MIDDLE EAST (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Yasmin Nadeem Parpio MSc, EB, BSc Nursing



I am Yasmin Nadeem Parpio. I am working as an Assistant Professor at AKUSONAM. I have served as an educator and researcher for more than a decade. With regard to my academic credentials, I completed my Master of Science in Epidemiology and

Biostatistics from the Aga Khan University in 2005. This has led me to research the mental wellbeing of adolescents in the local context. I have been a member of proud and dedicated member of Sigma since 2000 and has served as a member in Rho Delta Chapter. I also served as a chapter president and worked for the betterment of community and vulnerable population by several activities like school carnivals, mental health day celebration, senior citizen day, capacity building and mentorship programs for members of chapter. These efforts were acknowledged by several awards to the Chapter.

I am leading Public Health Stream in the department and providing strategic direction to stream members for public health initiatives in communities. I have always tried to work with multidisciplinary teams and integrated nursing dimension with other health disciplines that have eventually helped in the augmentation of the image of nursing. With proficient research skills, I have more than 30 publications on my credit in national and international journals and supervised over 30 graduate nurses and medical residents. I am humbled to share that I was able to contribute significantly at local, regional and international levels.

I am the first elect regional coordinator, Middle East Region from South Asia. I am proud to share that I am actively engaged in the networking with various chapters in region and working in my full capacity to make a significant impact.

My recent international experience at the French Medical Institute for Mothers & Children in Afghanistan led me to work as a head of Research Support Unit & Examination Cell. My stay in the conflict zone enabled me to work with more diverse groups of people and their development with a pluralistic mind. Because of being affected by war, the people need support and confidence in their work so that they do not feel left behind and develop themselves like developed country's citizens.

I am humbled to share that I have significantly contributed my knowledge, time and services for nursing profession at local, regional and international levels for last 12 years. If I am elected as a regional coordinator, Middle East Region I will render my services with dedication and commitment to enhance nursing standards in education and scholarship. My diverse experience of working with international associations and particularly in conflict areas is a testimony to my strong leadership trait as well as adaptive and cooperative skills. All the relevant experiences that I have gathered throughout my professional journey make me a confident candidate and I look forward to work for nursing profession in developed and developing countries. I am positive that this position will give me an opportunity to excel in nursing education and scholarship and continue networking with other chapters of Sigma.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR OCEANIA (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Elizabeth Halcomb PhD, BN(Hons), GradCertICU Nurs, GradCert HE, RN, FACN



An internationally award-winning nurse academic, Professor Liz Halcomb gained her PhD from the University of Western Sydney in 2006 and is currently employed at the University of Wollongong as the Professor of Primary Health Care Nursing. Before undertaking her

PhD, Professor Halcomb worked in the Intensive Care Unit and Trauma Department of a major metropolitan hospital for over ten years.

Professor Halcombs' research expertise relates to the primary care nursing workforce, chronic and complex disease and lifestyle risk factor reduction. She is also passionate about building capacity within the nursing profession and has led research about the nursing academic workforce and teaching and learning in nursing. A key feature of her work is the collaborative way in which Professor Halcomb has inspired and mentored novice nurse scholars to develop into independent researchers. This has led to both knowledge gain and improved outcomes, through increased uptake of higher degree study, particularly by primary health care nurses. In 2018, Professor Halcomb was inducted into the Sigma Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame in recognition of the significant and sustained national / international recognition of her work and its positive impact on the profession and the community.

At the University of Wollongong, Professor Halcomb plays a leadership role developing primary health care nursing research, as well as engaging multidisciplinary primary health care academics to address the growing challenges in providing health care within the community. As Head of PostGraduate Studies she works closely with PhD candidates and their supervisors to develop research training capacity and promote timely completion of Doctoral studies. Professor

Halcomb also mentors a range of early and mid career academics to develop their careers. Professor Halcomb has been an active Xi Omicron Chapter member since 2002, serving as Chapter Secretary, Vice President and President (two-terms). This service has allowed her to appreciate the complexity of the various Board roles and understand support needs. The two terms as President has demonstrated her capacity to lead the Chapter, as well as to appreciate the complexity of running a Chapter in Oceania Region so far from the US based support of Sigma. During her term as President the Chapter was rechartered to an at-large chapter, bringing four Schools of Nursing together.

Professor Halcombs' vision for the Oceania Region, now that the number of established Chapters has grown, is to advance networking and collaboration across the Region to optimise the value of Sigma membership and promote Sigma values. Her priorities would be to clearly define an Oceania region Leadership group, develop a Regional strategic plan for Oceania over the next five years and establish social media communication across the Region and its Chapters. Additionally, the potential to plan an Oceania Conference to bring together members from across the Region to share knowledge and promote networking would be explored.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR OCEANIA (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Eleanor Horton PhD, MHlthSc, BHlthSc, ADN, RN



I am a registered nurse with work experience in Australia, England and New Zealand. I have teaching experience in undergraduate and postgraduate nursing programs in Queensland, New South Wales and New Zealand. I completed my Post Graduate studies in New Zealand and Australia.

I have an Advanced Diploma in Nursing, a Certificate in Professional Leadership and Adult and Tertiary Teaching, Bachelor in Health Science (Nursing), Masters in Health Science (Nursing) and Doctor of Philosophy.

My management and clinical experience spans the public and private health and community sectors. I have been employed as a Theatre Supervisor, a Director of an Aged Care Facility and in the management of a large not for profit community organization. I have been Program Leader of Undergraduate and Post Graduate Programs and courses in Schools of Nursing and for faculty wide programs. I have co-ordinated the Nursing Programs at satellite campuses and have established a new Nursing Campus at a Satellite Campus and co-ordinated Nursing Program delivery. I have served terms on various University Boards and committees.

I was involved with women's healthcare in New Zealand and served on the Board of Directors for the International Council for Women's Health Issues. I have served on the Executive Board for the Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia, provided editorial reviewing for Nursing journals, text books and education conference papers, and review for research grants and awards.

My history includes consumer involvement and advocacy in healthcare and I am on National and

State Stroke organizations. I am an active consumer advocate in the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service District and am on various committees and working groups to improve patient outcomes at all levels of service delivery.

My research areas are care of the older client, stroke, rehabilitation, and the politics of difference in nursing.

I have been an active member of Phi Delta at-Large Chapter for over ten years and have served in various roles. Currently I am president of the Phi Delta at-Large Chapter, a member of Psi Eta Chapter and a member of the Sigma Oceania Regional Council. I am currently Regional Coordinator for Oceania and am running for re-election.

During the time I have served with Sigma I have become aware of the challenges of maintaining membership growth and engagement. If I am successful in being re-elected to this position I would like to accomplish the development of a regional conference as is being discussed at the present to enhance regional scholarship and research and promote membership; support chapters to sustain membership activities and the use the social media sites for engaging with members to build a stronger sense of community. I would like to continue to work with chapters to keep them informed of initiatives, opportunities and resources available to them from Sigma to achieve the mission and to collaborate with other regions to enhance global health and nursing. My passion is advocating for quality healthcare and for increasing the visible presence and growth of Sigma in the Oceania region.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 1 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Wanda Borges PhD, RN, ANP-BC



I am an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing and Health Professions at University of San Francisco. Having worked as a nurse for more than 20 years in a wide variety of settings, I have specific training as an Adult Health CNS and Adult Nurse Practitioner and obtained my

PhD from University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston in 2004. Since graduation I have continued to build my research trajectory and focused my research efforts in Community Based Participatory Research. I served as the Associate Dean for 5 years and transitioned to a faculty role in 2018. I currently teach in the Population Health Leadership DNP program and in the FNP program. I continue work I started as Associate Dean to establish intentional Academic Practice Partnerships with health care agencies that have a shared mission and values with USF to provide students the opportunity to learn to solve real world problems. I believe nurse leaders must recognize the importance of building community within the work environment and connect with communities they serve.

Throughout my nursing career I have been engaged in Sigma, first joining a Nursing Honor Society at my local school as we sought to establish a Sigma chapter. I was one of the founding members of the Sigma chapter at my school and continued to serve at the chapter level in multiple positions as a community member. Once I transitioned into a faculty role, I continued to serve in board positions at the local chapter level and worked to coordinate research conferences with other regional chapters. I continue to serve in a board position at my local chapter.

Sigma emphasizes the importance of staying connected and engaging in the community of global members. Members have many resources

available through Sigma that often go unused. In the role of Region 1 Coordinator I hope to empower chapter leaders and members to use the resources available and connect in meaningful ways with each other. As nurses we are being called on to be more effective and efficient, working with fewer resources without sacrificing quality outcomes. The tension that we feel in our daily work lives is compounded when as volunteers we have difficulty meeting our commitments. Working with chapter leaders, I hope that chapters can come together to maximize resources and continue to promote excellence in scholarship, leadership and service. One of my goals would be to work towards establishing a regional strategic plan that would incorporate individual chapter priorities to provide support and maximize resources. I believe that Sigma is more important to nursing now than ever as we seek to address global challenges of climate change and migration. We need to come together as a global nursing community to establish priorities and share solutions that have worked locally that might have an impact in other regions of the world. I look forward to working with nursing leaders to define common goals and realize shared solutions.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 1 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Sujatha Shanmugasundaram PhD, GCTE, MACN



Dr Sujatha Shanmugasundaram is an Associate Professor of Nursing from Fresno, California. She is an experienced international academic and a researcher with strong international alliance in community health nursing, palliative care nursing, nursing education and aged care nursing.

Dr Shanmugasundaram has been an active member of The Honour Society of Nursing, Sigma since 2005 and currently she is serving as a Treasurer of Mu Nu Chapter for the past 2 years. Since then she was committed to serve for the Sigma's mission, in advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

In addition, Dr Shanmugasundaram held an Extra-ordinary Research Chair position with The Honour Nursing Society of Eta Pi Chapter, Wisconsin University, Oshkosh, USA for the 2 consecutive terms from 2012-2014. Dr Shanmugasundaram also a one of key person of Board of Directors of Victorian-Tasmanian At-Large Honor Society of Nursing at Melbourne, Australia in which she actively engages with the current project in developing a chapter. She organised an induction ceremony and professional development day in June 2015 at Victoria University which was a grant success. She played a major contribution in recruiting the members of the society and currently sitting 136 members in 2 years time.

Dr Shanmugasundaram has been playing a vital role as Global Ambassador of Sigma for the past 3years. As an Ambassador she travelled internationally to few universities in Middle-East and promoted the importance of part of the Sigma to the academics. She made a huge contribution

in creating a global visibility to the nursing community across the world.

As a Research Scholar, Dr Shanmugasundaram was successful with several grants and awards from the professional organisations and Sigma. In particular, she received Edith Anderson Education Leadership Award in 2012 and Research Dissemination Award in 2015 Biennial Convention. Currently she involves in many numbers of collaborative researches with national and international universities of India and Middle-East. She has done several publications in international referred journals and she presented her research papers in national and international conferences. Also, Dr Shanmugasundaram is an accredited research supervisor for Masters and PhD courses. In addition, she is also an international thesis examiner for both Master's and PhD students. Her areas of teaching interests were: aged care nursing, palliative care nursing, research methods and research interests includes both quantitative and qualitative research in palliative care, chronic illness, dementia, simulation, nursing education, aged care, and oncology.

Her passion towards nursing profession is countless and she contributed a lot through evidence based practice in her teaching, research and clinical practice globally. She is very dynamic and enthusiastic person and always strives to move forward with Dr Klopper's slogan of serve locally, transform regionally, and lead globally.

As a Sigma- Regional Coordinator, Global Region-1 (2019-2021), Dr Shanmugasundaram will focus on:

- Global initiative to become a member;
- Promoting network through professional development programs;
- Strengthening an international alliance with nurses, academics and researchers;
- Recruiting and retaining the members across the globe.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 2 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Pamela Fuller EdD, MSN, RN



My name is Dr. Pamela Fuller, Ed.D, MSN, BSN, RN and I am running for Regional 2 Coordinator for a second term.

It has been a fun and exciting two years to serve as Region 2 Coordinator where I have strived to connect to all chapters across southern California, Arizona, New Mexico and west Texas. I gained much knowledge and skills over the last two years, but I feel I have much more work to do to achieve a higher level of connectivity for the region. There is a large variation in chapter maturity and membership involvement. One of the areas I would like to improve besides regional connection is membership engagement and leadership development. To this end, I believe my experience as an academic administrative leader for the last 27 years brings value to my role as Region 2 Coordinator. I have served as a leader in multiple state-wide committees and served on a board which gives me insight to operational effectiveness. I understand very well how a chapter can struggle if they are not fully staffed, connected to resources, or understand processes. I feel that my professional and voluntary work and oversight in multiple state locations will help me serve the region, better.

My Sigma history includes being a founding and active member of Sigma since 1995 through Omicron Delta. I also joined Phi Pi Chapter approximately six years ago in order to serve members of Phi Pi and be a representative from my work location. In my role with Omicron Delta I served as President twice (from 1998-2000 and 2010-2012) while maintaining my role as academic Dean for a large nursing program in the US with multiple state locations. Under my leadership as president of Omicron Delta I was instrumental in building strategies to engage over 5700 active members in all 50 states and internationally.

Below is a partial list of the chapter accomplishments under my guidance that are still being implemented.

- Two research scholarship and professional development funds for members was created and implemented. These funds continue to be a Chapter annual priority.
- Partnered with Sigma Foundation and created an international leadership grant that supports an international member to attend the Biennial Convention. This is still sustained by the Chapter.
- I was flattered to have a Scholarship named in my honor called the Dr. Pam Fuller Founder's Scholarship.
- Most notable for me personally, was receiving the Melanie C. Dreher award in 2011 for consistent and outstanding support of a chapter.

In summary, I have been active in Sigma for 24 years, currently serving as Region 2 Coordinator 2, served in a nursing leadership role for 28 years and have been a nurse for 40 years. As a dean of a large university and now a campus president for a nursing school I have accountability for operations and oversight of academics. I am retiring from my full time position with Chamberlain in late September. I will remain as a consultant with Chamberlain for project work.

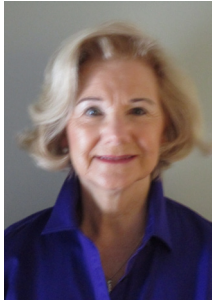
CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 2 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Susan Opas PhD, RN-C, PNP-C, PMHS-C, CNS, CHES



One great success of this Biennium's leadership has been to encourage chapters to recruit and induct Nurse Leader Candidates. I am sure we will be hearing of the growth and diversity in membership this challenge produced.

Fortunately for me, in 1982 I was

a Nurse Leader candidate inducted into Gamma Tau at-Large Chapter. Receiving this honor encouraged me to live up to the Society's mission by remaining an active Chapter member. Choosing to apply granted me opportunities to devote time and effort through service and I am ready to strengthen our Honor Society by connecting with newly inducted professional nurses from diverse Local, Regional and Global academic and clinical settings by sharing resources and mentoring about Global Health Care and Nursing's concerns and opportunities.

Beyond the global importance of recruiting Nurse Leaders, as Region 2 North America Coordinator Candidate, I feel we continue to miss our greatest opportunity to inspire and retain the largest group of members -our newly inducted undergraduate and graduate student scholars. By our International Bylaws, each of the more than 530 International Chapters invites the top 35% of its basic nursing program's student scholars to be inducted. All graduate students showing excellence, according to our Bylaws standards, are also eligible and invited to membership upon completing one-quarter of their nursing curriculum. To illustrate, our January 2018 Gamma Tau at-Large Induction joined 46 undergraduate and 89 graduate students. However, our recent International quarterly "Leader Lines" reported a membership lapse by 28 active members. I believe we 30 Chapters of Region 2 can do better to mentor our newly inducted students to engage and inform them of the vast and diverse benefits our Society offers.

As Region 2 Coordinator I will begin by contacting your Chapter's leadership to gather ideas; past, present and future of how each has engaged and potentially retained the majority of our newest members, before and after induction. I will then share successful efforts, and brainstorm challenges to interest and invest new inductees in Sigma, our International Nursing Honor Society.

I bring to the table years of active Chapter Leadership and a decade of Regional and International experience, first serving President Beth Baldwin Tigges in 1989 as her Regional Awards Chair. I later served as International By-laws Chair 1995-1997 and International Eligibility Chair 1997-1999. In 2001 I resigned my Assistant Professor position at UCLA School of Nursing to enter full-time Nurse Practitioner clinical practice with Kaiser Permanente in Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics. In 2017 I reduced my work schedule by 20% to increase volunteer time for organizations I love, Gamma Tau and Sigma International being at the top of my list. As a voting delegate to this 45th Biennium, be assured in electing me as Region 2 Coordinator I shall devote my time and my energy to provide your chapter with ideas and strategies to engage and retain a greater number of your members during this Biennium and beyond.

Susan R. Opas, PhD, RN-C, PNP-C, PMHS-C
Virginia Henderson Fellow, Billye Brown Fellow,
Orchid Society Member

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 3 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Karen Maxwell EdD, RN-BC



Karen Maxwell EdD, RN-BC has been a nursing leader for 42 years serving in various staff nurse, clinical education and academic roles. She graduated from Georgia Baptist School of Nursing in Atlanta, Georgia with her Diploma in nursing in 1977. She completed her BSN from

Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa in 2000, her MSN, with a focus in nursing education, from Mercer University, Atlanta, Georgia in 2004, and her EdD in Instructional Leadership from the The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama in 2014. She holds a certification in Nursing Professional Development from the American Nurses Credentialing Center and is certified as a BLS and ACLS Instructor. Dr. Maxwell currently serves as an Associate Professor at the Loretto Heights School of Nursing at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. Her current teaching responsibilities include, Comprehensive Health Care of the Adult and Older Adult, Clinical Leadership in Professional Nursing, and Clinical Reasoning for Professional Nursing. Prior to her position at Regis University she served as the New Graduate Residency Coordinator for Emory Healthcare in Atlanta, Georgia. Her research interests include transition to practice for new graduate nurses, and quality and safety education for nurses. She has presented her work nationally and internationally, and has been published in The Nursing Clinics of North America and Nursing Education Perspectives.

Dr. Maxwell is a current member of Sigma's Alpha Kappa at-Large Chapter where she serves as Treasurer. In her previous Sigma Chapter, Pi Gamma, she served as Treasurer for 6 years, Vice President for 2 years, President Elect for 1 year, and President for 2 years. She has consistently served in a leadership position since her induction into Sigma in 2004 demonstrating her passion for and commitment to Sigma. She is also a member of the

Association of Nursing Professional Development, American Nurses Association and National League of Nursing.

Dr. Maxwell has 3 children and 2 grandchildren. She loves to play tennis, snow ski, hike, and spend time at the beach. She is currently pursuing her certification to become a Pilates Instructor.

Dr. Maxwell brings a wealth of experience from her service to her local chapters. She understands the challenges that many local chapters face. If elected to serve as the Regional Coordinator for Global Region 3 she will work with chapters to help overcome some of these challenges while encouraging chapters to showcase the good work they are performing. Other goals Dr. Maxwell has established are to:

- (1) Serve as a liaison between the Region 3 chapters and Sigma
- (2) Recruit and lead a regional committee to help support chapters within the region
- (3) Facilitate regional connections and collaboration between Region 3 chapter leaders
- (4) Provide chapter assistance with the development of strategic plans.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 3 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Dylan Severson BSN, RN, PCCN



I am currently in my third year of the Doctor of Nursing Practice-Family Nurse Practitioner program at the University of Kansas School of Nursing (KU SON). I eagerly await my anticipated graduation date in May 2022. I obtained my BSN from KU SON in May 2017.

Since graduation, I have been a clinical nurse on a medical-telemetry and pulmonary hypertension progressive care unit at The University of Kansas Health System (TUKHS). In the last year, I acquired my PCCN (Progressive Care Certified Nurse) certification from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses to demonstrate my continual commitment to professional development as well as providing quality care for my patients.

I have been an affiliate faculty member at KU SON for the past year. In such a role, I facilitated first year nursing students' learning in the simulation lab and the hospital units of TUKHS as a clinical instructor. I look forward to continuing to work with undergraduate nursing students in a similar capacity as a graduate teaching assistant this upcoming fall. Likewise, I am currently a research assistant for a nursing PhD candidate. Through measurements of the Lasater Clinical Judgement Rubric, we are investigating the impact of classroom simulation on the clinical reasoning skills of undergraduate nursing students.

Additionally, I enjoy serving as the graduate student representative for the Cultural Enrichment and Diversity Committee at KU SON and as a facilitator for the University of Kansas Medical Center's (KUMC) Foundations of Interprofessional Collaboration program. Outside of the classroom and clinical setting, I am a proud board director for the Kansas City Center for Inclusion (KCCI), the LGBTQIA+ community center of KC. In conjunction, I also volunteer weekly as an ambassador for KCCI,

whereby I supervise the center and assist the needs of queer persons as they pertain to the local community.

Recently, I was re-elected as an officer for the Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. As the corresponding secretary of Delta Chapter, I function as the digital media and electronic communications strategist. If elected as Region 3 Coordinator, I desire to employ my leadership and technological expertise to create greater cohesion amongst chapters in region 3 through webinars, The Circle, chapter leader calls, and other preferred means of correspondence. Moreover, I intend to provide the necessary support, representation, and advocacy of Region 3 as a liaison between chapter leaders and members, Sigma Headquarters, and the Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee (RCCC).

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 4 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Stephanie Bruce MS, RN, APNP, ACNS-BC



I am an associate professor of nursing in the JoAnn McGrath School of Nursing and Health Professions at Alverno College with expertise in undergraduate curriculum development, in both traditional and on-line courses, related to pharmacology, geriatrics, clinical practice, and nutrition. My clinical background includes significant experience in geriatrics, inpatient physical rehabilitation, and occupational health. My doctoral dissertation is on the effect of an asynchronous webinar education module on nurses' knowledge, skills, and attitudes toward older adults to provide quality geriatric medication management in a home care setting. I have served in a variety of leadership positions over my career, including: faculty senate member, chair of Aesthetic Engagement, faculty advisor for three student nurse groups, and facilitated the creation of a free diabetes clinic in my community.

I became a member of Sigma in 2008. I am currently treasurer of the Delta Gamma at-Large Chapter and have served in this position since 2014. As an active member of the board, I spearheaded initiatives focused on increasing the services to, and involvement of, our members. Some of these initiatives include the development of: an annual scholarship award, an annual continuing education scholarship award, social networking events, and ways to connect our members through the use of social media. To this end, I directed the creation of a social media liaison as a new position on the board of directors which has led to additional involvement and retention of members. Through my leadership, encouragement, and mentoring, several new members have successfully run for board positions and have become more engaged in the chapter. Additionally, I continue to find ways to involve the general membership while keeping our finances stable. In addition to the new

initiatives, over the last five years, I have decreased the cost of events for our current and future members (students) and have increased our charitable giving all while maintaining a balanced budget by finding areas of redundancy or reallocating funds to maintain the solvency of the organization.

If elected as Regional Coordinator Global Region 4, I will build on the previous work between chapters to strengthen and facilitate new connections through the use of social media and technology in order to break down geographic distances. I will provide mentorship, support chapters in networking events, and advise and troubleshoot challenges within our region's chapter leadership. Lastly, I will showcase the great work of our region's chapters and members by sharing these resources through The Circle email list serve.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 5 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Lynda Bartlett MS/MBA, RN



I am very pleased to be running for Regional Coordinator North America Region 5. I am currently the Case Manager Lead for Care Coordination at the University of Chicago Medicine where I have been a nurse for 33 years. I act as a resource for other case managers, create the

schedule for the adult, pediatric and ER case manager coverage, and coordinate home care services for a variety of complex care patients in the areas of oncology, surgery, neurology/neurosurgery, general medicine, transplant, ortho, cardiology, cardiac surgery, vascular and thoracic. Prior to this role, I was the Patient Care Manager of the Clinical Resource Center for 17 years where we provided nursing care at the bedside to research subjects participating in a wide variety of research studies. The center was a combined adult and pediatric unit that supported more than 70 different research protocols from diverse disciplines including pediatric and adult endocrinology, psychiatry, clinical pharmacology, molecular genetics, pulmonology, sleep medicine, transplant and surgery. I am a member of the Nursing Research Committee; I review nursing research protocols and assist in the planning of the annual nursing research symposium. I also serve on the IRB at the University of Chicago Medicine where I review research protocols for continuing review. During Nursing Grand Rounds, I presented Neonatal Diabetes: A Model for Personalized Genetic Healthcare.

Since 2005, I have been an adjunct faculty member in the School of Nursing at Saint Xavier University; I teach the Nursing Care of the Adult Practicum. The students participate in mock codes using simulation and provide nursing care to patients with complex disease process. I have also served on the alumni board and adjunct faculty council for Saint Xavier University.

I have also participated in a medical mission with the Diocese of Joliet in Sucre, Bolivia and have observed healthcare systems in the countries of Cuba, Jordan and Croatia.

I have been actively involved with Sigma at the chapter level since 2003. I have served as president, vice-president, leadership succession committee, and governance chair. I have helped coordinate many chapter events and have mentored many new board members to their various roles. I have also assisted with the submission of the Chapter Key Award. At the International level, I am a Virginia Henderson Fellow, I serve on the Major and Planned Gifts Committee, I have also served as a judge for the Chapter Key Award and the International Awards and have served as the Region 5 Coordinator for the last four years. I am also a contributing author to Night Shift Nursing: Savvy Solutions for a Healthy Lifestyle; a book that is published by Sigma.

My goal as Region 5 Coordinator is to continue to increase regional connections and collaborations between chapters in Region 5; act as a liaison between Sigma and region 5 chapters, develop a strategic plan and create committees that focus on increasing active membership involvement, communication and member engagement for Region 5.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 5 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Susan McReynolds MS, RN, CNE



In my 24 year career as a nurse I have had a variety of experiences including community health, home health, medical-surgical bedside nursing, and for the past 14 years - being a nurse educator. Within each of these roles I have developed significant experience

in leadership, which has played a huge part in my joy of being a Sigma volunteer.

Following graduation from my undergraduate nursing program, I was asked to be on the steering committee to establish a Sigma chapter within our college for nurses within our tri-state area. This process was very exciting for me as a new graduate nurse and quickly contributed to my leadership skills. I have been very actively involved in our chapter since becoming a Charter member of the Pi Pi Chapter in 2000! I have held leadership roles of President and Vice President as well as being the Membership Development/Involvement Chair, Program Committee Chair, and Leadership Succession committee member.

My chapter works very hard to insure that we are awarded a Chapter Key Award each Biennium. Our development of a Strategic Plan to provide programming, research awards, scholarships, recruitment, and retention provides us with the goals and interventions needed to keep our chapter active and strong. I find that membership engagement is the key to a successful chapter and to do this we need to provide a variety of programming that will appeal to the vast array of nursing careers as well as generations of our members.

I have not only been an active in my local chapter, but I have been a volunteer within Region 5. I am currently a member of the North America West Global Regional Council. In the past I have also

served as an award judge for Showcase of Regional Excellence.

Our chapter was honored to be the recipient of the Ethel Palmer Clarke Award for Chapter Excellence in 2007. The following biennium I had the pleasure of being a judge for the 2009 Ethel Palmer Clarke Award.

At the International level I have been a volunteer for judging the Chapter Key Awards. I look forward to many more opportunities to serve at the International level in the future.

My goals for Region 5 include increased membership engagement, retention, and recruitment. I look forward to the opportunity to work with the chapter leaders within Region 5 to develop Strategic Plans. I would like to see each chapter develop a strategic plan with intentional goals and interventions being made to adequately meet the criteria for submission of a Chapter Key Award application. These criteria are key to providing individual members with professional and leadership development opportunities - thus providing value to their membership and increasing membership engagement.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 6 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Stacey Knight DNP, RN, CNE



Dr. Stacey Knight is both a nursing leader and advocate. She has been a member of Sigma for eight years serving on the Governance Committee, a Delegate for two biennial conventions, and Secretary of her local chapter. She has initiated opportunities for

serving the homeless, organized induction ceremonies to welcome new members, and is involved in scholarship activities to disseminate research and provide Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) for local nurses.

Dr. Knight is inspired to contribute to cultural competence initiatives and global health awareness. She developed the first immersive service-learning opportunity in the Dominican Republic for nursing students from Lamar University. Students collaborated with local health officials by providing home health visits, led a rural health clinic performing health screenings and met with students to learn about their educational path to become nurses. She previously led study abroad experiences to London and Ireland encouraging students to learn about alternative healthcare systems and practices while exploring the history of nursing.

Dr. Knight is an Assistant Professor and Articulation Coordinator for post-licensure tracks at Lamar University and has twice been a Daisy Award nominee. She teaches undergraduate and graduate students nursing theories, adult medical-surgical concepts, and management and leadership principles. She graduated from Loyola University with a DNP with focus on Executive Leadership and a MSN with focus on Health Care Systems Management. She is a Certified Nurse Educator, a member of the Transcultural Nursing Society, and served as a DNP mentor for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Dr. Knight is an innovative thinker and believes in the power of DNP and PhD collaboration for improving healthcare. Her current efforts, a research study exploring the Immediate and Lingering Effects of Hurricane Harvey, exemplifies her desire to serve and assist her local community. Other interprofessional collaborative efforts have resulted in an exploration of mergers and acquisitions and the effects on Chief Nursing Officers.

Acting as student advocate, Dr. Knight and colleagues implemented an intervention to reduce anxiety in nursing students by providing mindful meditation techniques as a coping strategy which resulted in receiving the Excellence in Research Award for the Texas Organization for Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Education (TOBGNE). Dr. Knight is published and has presented her research, scholarship and creative endeavors to local and international audiences.

Dr. Knight has demonstrated leadership qualities, ethical decision-making, and patient advocacy as a nurse leader in her community. She has been appointed to multiple university and departmental committees and to the Quality Committee for the Board of Directors for CHRISTUS Health Southeast Texas. As a Director of Nurses, she received a deficiency free initial survey and as a Wellness Director, received the Rising Star Award given for excellent performance out of 207 other facilities across the nation, while coordinating quality care for residents and their families.

As the North American Region 6 Coordinator, Dr. Knight intends to use innovative methods to showcase the three Sigma foundational pillars of Service, Scholarship and Leadership while advancing her knowledge of global health initiatives.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 6 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Kimberly Lewis MSN, RN



I am delighted to be considered for the Regional Coordinator Global Region 06 position. I have the necessary experience, education, motivation, and commitment to fulfill the expectations of this role.

In my current professional role, I am a Clinical Nursing Research Scientist for Ascension Seton, a network of more than 100 clinical sites and 15 hospitals across Central Texas. I assist nursing practice with the design and implementation of research and evidence-based practice projects across the spectrum of healthcare (e.g., maternity, pediatric, adult health, end-of-life, critical care, etc.) working with a diverse, interprofessional team of healthcare providers. I also lead a Nursing Research Fellowship for bedside nurses at our hospitals.

I will complete a PhD in Nursing at the University of Texas at Austin in Fall 2019. I hold a master's degree in Advanced Child Health Nursing with a focus on Nursing Education, and a bachelor's degree in Nutrition Science & Medical Nutrition Therapy. My clinical experience has been in pediatric critical care, pediatric home health, global private duty pediatric nursing, and clinical research. Prior to becoming a nurse, I gained experience in food and nutrition administration, recipe and dietary development, and research about the effects of diet on health and disease.

I have served in a variety of both formal and informal leadership roles in multiple professional and service organizations, including president, vice president, secretary, delegate, representative, and member. With Sigma, I am the outgoing Vice President of the Epsilon Theta Chapter at the University of Texas at Austin and I have been a Sigma member since 2011. I have presented at a variety of Sigma's international and local

conferences. I have experience with institutional and governmental policy development.

Sigma is an international network of leaders and scholars, and while we act locally, we know that we are part of a large and strong global community. Global Region 06 has benefitted from a highly skilled and impressive previous Regional Coordinator. As the next regional coordinator, I would like to build on previous successes to continuously drive membership and engagement, with enhanced collaboration among the chapters. Professional organizations are continuously challenged with remaining relevant to both existing and potential members from all walks of life. I would like to work with the chapters to build and sustain programming that adds value to our membership. As a leader in the clinical setting, I would like to see enhanced collaboration between clinical institutions, community leaders, and our academic members.

What we do in Region 06 matters not only to our local members, but also because we are a part of a global effort to advance the nursing profession. Thank you for your consideration for the Regional Coordinator Global Region 06 position. I look forward to another year of prosperity and growth for both Sigma and nurses worldwide.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 7 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Shena Gazaway PhD, MSN, RN



Dear Sigma Region 7 Members, As a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, for many years, I am running for the office of Region 7 Coordinator. I am qualified for this office because I am committed to regional growth and connectivity, and as the current Region 7 coordinator,

I am familiar with the region's unique challenges. Chapter leaders have shared difficulties with leadership development/succession, nurse leader/student recruitment, and member engagement/retention. Due to my past leadership experiences, I have the skill and chapter leader connections to Region 7 to continue and elevate our work as we seek to hold a regional conference and to meet identified region goals and set new ones as needed.

As a past chapter leader (VP and President) and regional coordinator, I have helped with program planning, lead bi-monthly chapter leader phone calls, and supported chapters with strategical planning and troubleshooting as they have arisen. I have sought to utilize Sigma resources and share those resources with chapter's leaders openly and honestly. Moving into the next term, after reflecting on my first two years of service, I plan to create additional avenues for chapters who are thriving to be involved and integrated into Sigma more at the regional level. My goal is to develop a chapter mentorship program. This program would ask selected robust chapters (mentors) to work with chapters seeking support (mentees) in - chapter growth, leadership succession, or member engagement. The main objective of the program would be the mentee chapter creating a strategic plan that addresses their area to be enacted within the next fiscal year. To ensure the growth of this program and other supportive measures for chapter leaders in the region, if elected, I will increase the regional committee by 2 chapter

leaders and seek their knowledge to help identify priority needs for the region as we move forward.

Inherently, I desire the best for Region 7, and I am proud of the chapter leaders who have engaged and worked diligently over the past two years towards your chapter's achievements. The last two years have been a humbling experience, and I am excited to see where the next two years take us, either as your coordinator or as a committed ally to whomever you choose.

I want to thank you for your consideration and an incredible two years collaborating with you all.

Thank you,
Shena Gazaway, PhD, MSN, RN

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 8 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Pamela Johnson DNP, RN



I am an Associate Professor at the University of South Alabama College of Nursing (USACON) in Mobile, Alabama. I earned my Doctor of Nursing Practice in 2011. I teach both undergraduate and graduate courses, predominantly online.

I serve as track coordinator for our RN to BSN program. As track coordinator, I oversee eight faculty that teach courses in the program. I recently led the total revision of our curriculum for the RN to BSN program in order to make it more pertinent to the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are needed in today's nursing workforce. I continue to work with faculty to set up new courses and content in an orderly manner in our new learning management system.

I am active in recruiting new students to the nursing programs at USACON. I serve on several college and university committees, and am on the board of trustees for the Mobile Medical Museum. I have held offices of Secretary, and VP/President elect of Sigma's Zeta Gamma Chapter. In 2017, I attended annual conference as a delegate for our chapter. I enjoyed networking and learning more about the mission, vision, and initiatives that are supported by Sigma. I learned more about the inner workings of Sigma International, and more about individual chapter's processes. I came away from the conference with a greater commitment to Sigma I also returned home with several ideas that have since been put into place to advance the scholarship, leadership, and service missions of our chapter members.

If elected, I would like to increase participation of Region 8 chapter leaders in our chapter leaders' conference calls through the use of Zoom (webinar technology). Communication and comradery are so important in forming a region of chapters that are able to inspire and support one another. I feel that

the option to see, hear, and share information through Zoom will enhance the opportunity for chapter leaders to collaborate and share their chapter's successes and challenges. These sessions could be recorded and a link sent out to any chapter leaders who were not able to attend the live event. Secondly, I want to work with our chapters to utilize The Circle in a more effective way. I know our chapters are working hard and doing amazing things, so I would also like to encourage and assist chapters to apply for and receive recognition for their efforts through regional and international awards.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 8 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



D'Ann Somerall DNP, MAEd, CRNP, FNP-BC



Dr. D'Ann Somerall was inducted to Sigma Theta Tau International-Nu Chapter at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Nursing (SON) in 1995. Dr. Somerall has been an active member of Nu Chapter holding offices of counselor, secretary, treasurer and president. Upon retiring from UAB as the specialty track coordinator for the Family Nurse Practitioner program in 2017, she continues to divide her clinical practice time between two clinics that serve patients who are uninsured or under-insured. Dr. Somerall's scholarship focus is on mentoring and improving the scope of practice for nurse practitioners in the state of Alabama.

As the past Nu Chapter president, Dr. Somerall developed and implemented a progressive Chapter Strategic Plan that served to increase opportunities for scholarship, membership and leadership. Most recently, Dr. Somerall led the charge for the Nu chapter collaborating with the UAB University Hospital and Tuskegee University, the oldest historically black university in Alabama, SUCCESSFULLY forming the Nu at-Large Chapter. This partnership will expand opportunities for joint research and scholarship by promoting nursing at all levels and by creating strong leaders for the future.

Dr. Somerall, if elected, will serve as a resource for the chapters of Region 8 to help increase individual chapter membership, assist with the submission of applications for international awards, assist chapters in developing chapter at-large applications to increase the number of organizations involved with Sigma, and assist in hosting chapter and regional events. Dr. Somerall believes by working together Region 8 can create an even greater impact in scholarship, research, and

learning by providing opportunities for networking to share creative ideas.

Dr. Somerall believes now is the time for expanded opportunities to continue the work of the present Regional Chapter Coordinator Dr. Sonja Fuqua, by working closely with the Region 8 Conference host chapters to create and deliver an impactful, entertaining Region 8 conference. The conference will consist of scholarship presentations, leadership development, and networking opportunities. Dr. Somerall served on the Region 8 2018 Conference Planning Committee and is serving on the conference planning committee for the 2020 Conference.

The task of the regional coordinator is to provide leadership that establishes and maintains networks for communication and sharing among chapter and regional committee members. Dr. Somerall will continue to host quarterly regional calls to provide opportunities for chapters to share methods of membership recruitment, chapter projects, leadership opportunities, and fun facts. Drawing from Dr. Somerall's past experience of developing strong chapter strategic plans, she will offer assistance to Region 8 chapters in their development of strategic plans for the needs of the individual chapter.

Dr. Somerall currently serves on the Sigma North America Central Global Regional Council. The sharing of ideas and creative visions by the Council members regarding the future of nursing and Sigma has provided Dr. Somerall with a strong, positive vision for the future of nursing, leadership, and scholarship in nursing.

Dr. Somerall believes the future of Region 8 is so BRIGHT we will ALL need PURPLE sunglasses for the shine!

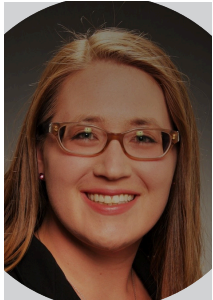
CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 9 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Kady Martini DNP, RN, NEA-BC



Dr. Martini is running for region 9 coordinator for the 2019 biennium. She is an assistant professor of clinical practice at The Ohio State University College of Nursing and a per diem clinical administrator at Mercy West Hospital. Dr. Martini has a passion for Sigma as

demonstrated by six years of leadership in the Epsilon chapter, four of those years serving as chapter President. She was able to breathe new life into the chapter and visualize a plan that led the Epsilon chapter into the future. Dr. Martini was able to build two strong philanthropic programs with in the chapter focused on human trafficking education and prevention, as well as a mentorship program with two inner-city high schools. Through Dr. Martini's leadership the chapter was able to double the chapter's financial giving through grants to Epsilon members, offer members multiple continuing education opportunities each year, and build lasting relationships with community partners. A plan for succession was put into place with the development of the Epsilon chapter's graduate and undergraduate interns and boards. Dr. Martini shares in Sigma's mission and led the chapter to innovative new ideas focused in nursing excellence, through scholarship, leadership, and service. Dr. Martini is excited to work with all of the region 9 chapters in order to continue to further Sigma's mission and each chapter's individual goals.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 9 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Angela Opsahl DNP, RN, CPHQ



It is an honor and privilege to be selected as a candidate for the North America Region 9 Coordinator of Sigma during the 2019 biennium. I have been a proud member since 1994, when I was inducted into Alpha Chapter (Indiana University). I have volunteered on the local

board through positions as leadership succession member, leadership succession chair, treasurer, and vice president. I have collaborated in coordinating chapter events (induction ceremonies and educational offerings). I have mentored new board members in different roles and provided the keynote presentation for the 2019 Alpha Chapter induction ceremony.

With 29 years of nursing experience, I was the Quality Data Manager in my prior professional role for Franciscan Health at their three regional hospital campuses. This leadership position allowed me to impact patient care through data collection submissions and analysis of patient outcomes by communicating trends to staff, physicians, and administrators to improve the patient experience and patient outcomes. I continue to support quality professional as a board member for the Indiana Association for Healthcare Quality.

As an Assistant Professor and a coordinator of the honors program for Indiana University School of Nursing, I enjoy mentoring students at all levels of education and find it to be one of the most rewarding aspects of teaching. I have supported students with Sigma Rising Stars of Research and Scholarship poster presentations in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Melbourne, Australia. I recently traveled to the 30th International Nursing Research Congress in Calgary with my students for a podium presentation of their study, Perceptions and Understanding of Antibiotic Use with

Caregivers of School-Age Children. In addition, I was the 2019 award recipient of the Rebecca T. Markel Excellence in Mentoring Award from Sigma Theta Tau Alpha Chapter and the Indiana University Trustees Teaching Award.

I am grateful to have been competitively selected as a scholar for the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy (NFLA). The NFLA was a 20-month program created by Sigma Theta Tau International and funded by the Elsevier Foundation, which fostered the leadership growth of novice nurse faculty through an intense mentoring relationship with accomplished nurse faculty. The scholar's leadership behaviors were cultivated through an individualized leadership development path with experienced faculty mentors. The leadership project, initiated by this NFLA scholar, was a visual program review dashboard for the evaluation of nursing program outcomes and communication to the community of interest. This valuable experience has produced manuscript publications in Nurse Educator and Nursing Forum.

If given the opportunity to serve as Regional Coordinator, I will focus on the following priorities:

- Serve as the liaison between all the region chapters,
- Expand regional communications among chapters through technological solutions,
- Increase the regional committee engagement,
- Assist chapters with the implementation of strategic plans,
- Act as a conduit between the Board and chapter leaders,
- Support chapter leaders to become future Sigma leaders, and
- Collaborate with chapter leaders in planning educational events.

I appreciate the consideration of your vote and look forward to the opportunity to serve you. Thank you!

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 10 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Shannon Brunt MSN, APRN, ACCNS-AG, CCRN



I have been a nurse for the past 15 years. I graduated first with an associates of Nursing from a community college, later achieved my Bachelors of Nursing from Madonna University, my Masters of Nursing from the University of Detroit Mercy, and am currently

pursuing a Doctorate from the University of Michigan - Flint. My professional career began in medical-surgical nursing and found my passion in critical care. During my time in critical care, I worked mainly in trauma and burn intensive care units. I earned my advanced practice degree as a Clinical Nurse Specialist and currently provide care to nurses and patients in four medical-surgical units. I have been a local and state board member within the Michigan Jaycees organization, am the current membership committee chair for the National Organization of Clinical Nurse Specialists, and have been an ambassador for the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

I look forward to working with the chapters of Region 10!

As a Regional Coordinator my goals are to engage and invigorate our current members, bring awareness to the work of Sigma, and to encourage nursing scholars to join the greatest nursing scholarship organization in the world, Sigma! It is my belief that people don't join organizations - they join people. If our members are advocates for Sigma and engaged in the work we are doing, others will want to be a part of those amazing accomplishments as well. As a Regional Coordinator, it will be my responsibility to connect and engage the chapters in Northern Ohio, Michigan, and Ontario, Canada. For the 29 chapters in Region 10 I would be a strong advocate, cheerleader, mentor, and advisor connecting leaders and providing networking opportunities for the sharing of ideas. My previous experience as a board member will help me to assist chapter leaders in strategic planning and goal achievement.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 10 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Donald Rose PhD, MN, BScN, RN



I am honored to be nominated for the Regional Coordinator (RC) - North America – Region 10 position for the 2019-2021 biennium. Serving in the RC role 2017 - 2019, has enhanced my appreciation and knowledge of Sigma and of the chapters within Region 10. Our region is diverse,

dynamic, and innovative. It has been a pleasure to connect with you this past biennium and I look forward to building upon these relationships if re-elected.

I have been a member of Sigma since 1998 when inducted into the Lambda Pi at-Large Chapter in Toronto, Canada. I have held the positions of vice president, president, past president and finance chair. I collaborated in coordinating multiple chapter events. In addition, I have mentored many new board members to various roles. While employed at the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Nursing, I volunteered with the Alpha Lambda Chapter. I have also been a member of the Region 10 Conference Planning Committee since 2016.

In 1981, I began my nursing career as a Registered Practical Nurse (RPN) and then completed the Registered Nurse (RN) diploma in 1990. As an RN working in a psychiatric facility I took on informal and formal leadership roles. I completed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) in 1993, a Master of Nursing (MN) in 1999 and a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) in 2007.

Upon completion of my MN, I transitioned to academia and am currently an Associate Professor at the Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing, Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada. My career has included both clinical and academic leadership roles. My administrative experience spans both academia and health services in Canada and the

US. I have a reputation as a team player, good communicator, quick problem solver, and hard worker with excellent organization skills. Colleagues comment on my skill in “fostering the best in others” and building successful teams.

If re-elected to the Region 10 Coordinator position, I will continue to support individual chapter leaders and members as they promote nursing scholarship, leadership and service. The diversity of the Region 10 chapters is an advantage that can be utilized towards achieving Sigma’s goal of becoming a global community of nurses who lead through nursing knowledge, education, service and research to improve healthcare of the world’s people.

The Region 10 Coordinator role provides an opportunity to create strong regional identity among chapters and concurrently build collaborative relationships within and between chapters. It is equally important to work with chapter leaders to ensure President Ricciardi’s Call to Action 2019-2021 is operationalized. As chapter members are the foundation of Region 10 I will work to co-develop with our chapters outreach strategies to continue to engage new, inactive and retired members whose energy and vitality are essential to building chapter sustainability as well as achieving the goals of Sigma.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 11 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Janice Jones PhD, RN, CNS



As a professor at the University at Buffalo (UB) since 1990, I am currently the Coordinator of the MS in Nursing Leadership and Health Care Systems program. During my tenure at UB, I have served on, or chaired, numerous committees and task forces at the department and university

level. I am also a member of the Organization of Nurse Leaders and sit on its NYS Education Committee, planning continuing education programs for our members. With a passion for informatics, I was a major contributor with two other faculty to the Technology Informatics Guiding Education Reform Initiative (TIGER) Initiative and was recently awarded the Open SUNY Online Teaching Ambassador award. In addition, I have presented papers at many conferences including Sigma and interdisciplinary conferences, published in major peer-reviewed journals and co-authored one of F. A. Davis's best selling book, Critical Care Notes, translated in over nine languages.

I serve on the editorial review board for the peer-reviewed journal Clinical Supervisor and am also an invited nurse reviewer for McMaster Online Rating of Evidence and PLOS One, both with an interdisciplinary focus.

A funny thing happened to me at my first Sigma convention. I truly fell in love with Sigma and all it encompasses. As a result, my commitment to Sigma has been longstanding. I have served in many capacities at the chapter and regional level and have been mentored by two excellent Regional Coordinators. Being an active member of Sigma Nursing, I served on the Gamma Kappa board as President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Counselor, Leadership Succession, Governance Committee and Past-Presidents Advisory Council. At the regional level I have served for the past four

years on the Communications and Virtual Membership Committees in addition to being a recently invited member of Sigma's Northeast Global Council. I have served as a delegate for my chapter for the past nine bienniums and have attended Leadership Connection and the International Research Congress. Being an abstract reviewer for major Sigma conferences and a reviewer for the Virginia Henderson Repository has shown me the depth of nursing's contribution to the science and mission of Sigma Nursing as the society expands into a more global focus.

Promoting shared scholarship and scholarly activities is a hallmark of Sigma. I have been fortunate to do this on a local level in collaboration with other Sigma chapters in the region and would like to further promote sharing members' expertise at the regional level.

I firmly believe in mentoring not only current chapter leaders but future leaders as well. The Regional Coordinator can serve as a conduit for new ideas for recruitment and retention and organizational efficiency at the chapter level. Given the members' time commitments, I prefer short exchanges with chapter leaders and members that promote chapter health. Identifying best practices through collaboration can enhance a culture of working together with renewed enthusiasm for participation both within and across Sigma chapters. I plan to give the Chapters tools to work "smarter, not harder" and promote the efficiency of the chapters.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 11 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Rebecca Norman-Eck MSN, RN



Biographical Information

My nursing experience spans 24 years, with expertise in high-risk antepartum, psychiatric, and forensic nursing. Currently, I am an associate professor for the SUNY-Delhi School of Nursing's BSN program, and adjunct clinical faculty for Midlands

Technical College.

Sigma Involvement:

My Sigma background and involvement is as follows:

- Induction - Alpha Xi Chapter (University of South Carolina, 1995)
- Joined Beta Epsilon Chapter (Duke University, 2005)
- Founding officer of SUNY Delhi's, Chi Tau Chapter
 - o Vice president during the new chapter designate process (2013-2015)
 - o President (2015 – present)
- Edith Anderson Leadership Education Grant recipient (2016)

While president of Chi Tau Chapter, our chapter instituted some unique programming such as:

- Simultaneous on-campus and online member inductions
- Virtual bi-monthly "Coffee Chats", presenting current nursing topics
- Free annual CEU programs for chapter members in both online and face-to-face format
- The annual Founder's Day Community Volunteer Challenge using The Circle

Under my leadership, Chi Tau Chapter was awarded:

- Showcase of Regional Excellence Awards
 - o 2018 (Connect, Catalyze, Collaborate)
 - o 2017 (Philanthropy & Lifelong Learning)
- Chapter Website of the Month (May 2017)

Leadership Experience

Throughout my career, I have functioned in leadership positions and fulfilled board roles for both professional and community organizations that expanded my knowledge with strategic planning,

shared governance, and multi-disciplinary collaboration. For example, as the first statewide forensic nurse examiner coordinator for South Carolina (SC), I chaired the SC Sexual Assault Protocol Task Force, developing the first statewide protocol guidelines for multi-disciplinary sexual assault care in SC, promoted forensic nursing programs and sexual assault response teams expansion, and collaborated with the SC State Board of Nursing to recognize forensic nursing as a specialty on the licensure renewal form. My years of experience as Student Nursing Association Advisor and Treasurer for the International Association of Forensic Nurses South Carolina Chapter strengthened my ability to serve in diverse capacities and contribute to my qualifications.

Regional Coordinator Objectives:

If elected as the Region 11 Regional Coordinator, I pledge to continue the excellent work of my predecessor and be a voice and a resource to Region 11 Chapters. I will:

1. Be a liaison and advocate for the 33 chapters in our region with Sigma International
2. Support each chapter by hosting individual quarterly meetings to identify their needs and assist with strategic planning
3. Coordinate regional officer meetings that encourage chapter collaboration
4. Mentor newly elected chapter leaders as needed
5. Integrate the components of SPARK to increase chapter recruitment and increase retention by reigniting existing members
6. Cultivate creative ways to meet the diverse needs of our region and remote member participation

Sigma Theta Tau has played an integral role in my professional growth and leadership skills. I value and respect the support and mentorship I have received by its esteemed leaders. My desire to serve in a new capacity is one way I can give back to the organization that has given me so much. It would be a privilege to serve as regional coordinator for Sigma Region 11 chapters.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 12 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Joanne August MSN, RN, CMSRN



My name is Joanne August and it is a distinct honor to be selected as a candidate on the 2019 international ballot for the position of Regional Coordinator Global Region 12.

I am a full time clinical lecturer in Nursing at Widener University, School of Nursing. In my faculty role, I teach in a variety of subjects in the entry level and accelerated undergraduate programs. I have personal experience with each of Widener's Nursing Programs, receiving a BSN in 2010, a MSN in the Family Nurse Practitioner tract in 2013 and currently am a PhD candidate. My interests include interprofessional education, communication and collaboration, and integration of technology into nursing curricula. As an Edmond J. Safra Visiting Nurse Faculty Program scholar, I am interested in Parkinson's disease research.

I was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International, Eta Beta Chapter, in 2017 and am a Leadership Succession Committee Member. Technology integration is essential to engage members to cultivate partnerships and collaborative endeavors. In my role as a leadership succession committee member, my goal is to effectively integrate technology, for example video conferencing, to attract qualified applicants and engage members in discussion through Webinar, social events, and presentations, as well as an e-mentoring initiative.

Region 12 consists of approximately 40 chapters and covers the geographic area of Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Northeast Virginia, and the District of Columbia, USA. The regional coordinator role provides a great opportunity to facilitate networking and collaboration opportunities at the chapter, regional, and international levels.

My personal goals for Region 12 include the development of a strategic plan for a regional symposium to recognize and showcase these amazing chapters for the work they do as well as the development of e-mentorship programs at the chapter level.

If elected, I would serve as the Coordinator of Region 12 to the best of my ability to increase active engagement at the chapter and regional levels through networking and collaboration opportunities.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 12 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Jennifer Graber EdD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC



I am seeking election to the Region 12 Coordinator position for Sigma Theta Tau International. I have been a proud and dedicated Sigma member since 2006. At the International level, I am currently an active member of the Charter Review Task Force, a

sub-committee of the Governance Committee that reviews chapter charters and amendment applications. Since 2015, I have continued to volunteer for Sigma in a variety of roles including being a moderator, conference greeter, career mentor and advisor, and Key Award judge. I have also previously served as an Electronic Delegate and Biennial Convention Delegate for the Beta Xi Chapter. As a previous Delegate, Past-President of the Beta Xi Chapter, and now Charter Review Task Force member, I am very familiar with Sigma policies and procedures. I am eager to become the Region 12 Coordinator if elected and will continue to uphold the mission and vision of Sigma.

Since 2012, I have been a Planning Committee member for the Tri-State Consortium. I have also assisted the Region 12 Coordinator with Chapter Excellence Award reviews since 2016. From 2014 to 2016, I was a Planning Committee member for the Chesapeake Consortium where I was instrumental in obtaining speakers for the annual conference. At the local level, I have served as Secretary and President twice, as well as being the Chair for the Outreach and Service Committee, and most currently the Past-President. I have been involved with the Special Edition Newsletter as an editor and a liaison/second reader. I continue to have an active role in the application for the Chapter Key Award, having received 4 under my tutelage.

I am currently an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Delaware and an Advanced Practice Nurse in Psychiatric Mental

Health Nursing. As the sole specialist in mental health at the School of Nursing, I have been responsible for development and advisement of the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner/doctorate of nursing practice program. This experience has provided me with opportunities to create and edit student policies and develop curriculum. Given my professional background, I have skills in active listening and mentoring. I believe that I am capable of acknowledging multiple viewpoints and working to achieve consensus, even on particularly challenging topics. These are valuable attributes to possess in order to be an effective leader and mentor for Region 12.

I aspire to help the organization meet the needs of its members who are a diverse global group of individuals with careers spanning from novice to expert to retiree. While embracing new ideas, I strive to maintain the mission, values, and rich history of Sigma. If elected, I will provide a considerate, forward-thinking, and unique perspective to the region with the goal of strengthening Sigma's position as the only global honor society for nursing. I will provide input and guidance into making the organization relevant to the diverse membership across the career spectrum and foster global health and policy to improve the health of the world's people.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 13 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Tamatha Arms **DNP, PMHNP-BC, NP-C**



Tamatha (Tammy) Arms entered nursing with an associate degree in nursing (1997), followed by a baccalaureate in nursing (2003) and then a Master of Science in nursing with adult/geriatric nurse practitioner concentration (2006). She earned the Doctor of Nursing practice with psych mental health nurse practitioner concentration in 2013. Early in her career, she worked as a critical care nurse, and then moved to nephrology with a focus on hemodialysis. She practices as both an adult/geriatric and family psych mental health nurse practitioner and holds the position of associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Her research interests are geriatric psychiatry, which provides an overarching umbrella for life-space constriction and bio-psycho-social aspects of aging. Tammy was recognized by Sigma Theta Tau International (Sigma) as a Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy scholar (NFLA), 2015-2017, and was honored by Duke University and Donald W. Reynolds with a faculty mini-fellowship to Advance Geriatric Education (2015). She was recently invited by Medscape to be part of an expert panel for an audiovisual continuing education activity. She holds elected board positions in Gerontological Advanced Practice Nursing Association (GAPNA) as well as Sigma. She actively dedicates her time in service to her community, university, and profession. Tammy is chair of the Nu Omega chapter Region 13 2020 conference committee and the vision behind coordinating the next Region 13 conference. Tammy is very active in Sigma and has been on the chapter review task force for the past year. She serves as the vice-president of her local chapter, Nu Omega and has been honored to serve the Wilmington area. Tammy believes in team leadership and the regional coordinator being a very instrumental position within Sigma. The regional coordinator serves the chapters within

the region and provides essential communication between chapters of the region and between headquarters and the region. Over communication is an aspect of team leadership that Tammy is passionate about. She has authored/co-authored twelve articles in professional journals, one book and one book chapter, with three publications under review. Other scholarly activities include organizing an international symposium, a national workshop, and numerous nationally and international individual podium and poster presentations. Having received funding for seven research projects, she plans to continue her research, seek federal funding, advance nursing science and patient outcomes as well as continuing her career trajectory as a nurse educator.

I would be honored to serve as Region 13 coordinator of Sigma. Thank you for your consideration.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 13 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Deanna Mulvihill PhD, MSc, BScED, RN



I have been a direct care nurse, an educator, a researcher, middle and executive administrator in Canada, Saudi Arabia and the United States. I have consulted in New Zealand, Cyprus, and Macedonia. I am presently a faculty member at South University, Virginia Beach

campus. I teach pediatrics, mental health, theory and research.

Since my early days in nursing I have been a volunteer in leadership positions for professional nursing organizations and was inducted into Sigma in 2004. I have been a committee member, Chapter Leader and both President Elect and President. I honor both nursing and Sigma and would love to be the representative for Region 13.

I hope to encourage more membership and more joint projects between the different chapters. Sigma has so many benefits for its membership that are not fully utilized. I would love that when a Sigma member has a need that they would look first to Sigma to fulfill it. I am thinking especially about our library resources and of our continuing education programs I would also like our mentorship program to be more active in assisting novice nurses in their first few years of practice. I believe that this would not only benefit our new nurses but would provide new and exciting opportunities for research, administrative innovation and compassion satisfaction.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 14 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Amita Avadhani DNP, DCC, ACNP, ANP, CCRN, FAANP



My name is Amita Avadhani and I have a diverse international nursing experience spanning over 31 years. Of those 31 years; 20 years have been as a Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN), 16 years and ongoing as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in the Intensive Care Unit, and 9 years

and ongoing as a Nurse Practitioner (NP) faculty. As far as my education; I earned my Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) from Rutgers University, Master of Science Nursing from Seton Hall University, Master of Arts in Psychology and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from India. I am also currently pursuing my dissertation towards a Ph.D. in Psychology. My certifications include Diplomate of Comprehensive Care (DCC), Acute Care NP, Primary Care NP as well as CCRN.

In addition to being a dedicated Sigma member and a Virginia Henderson Fellow, I am a graduate of Sigma's Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy program. Further, I just completed my tenure as the President of the Alpha Tau Chapter and have been representing Region 14 as the member of the Global Regional Council as well as the awards committee. I am also currently serving as one of the Chapter Key Award judges. My other leadership experience includes; the Secretary of the Rutgers University School of Nursing Alumni Association, the President-Elect of the Forum of Nurses in Advanced Practice of the New Jersey State Nurses Association.

I am happy to share that in the past few years, I have also expanded my scope of influence to the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) through my work on the conference committee, dissemination of my scholarship via presentations as well as my contributions to the Faculty Practice Toolkit-2016 (a written guide for nursing educators interested in

developing faculty practices). As a NP and a NP faculty in acute care, I take pride in engaging in leadership opportunities with the organizations beyond nursing as well. In line with this motive, I have served on the Item Writing Editorial Board and the Social Media Committee of the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) and was recently elected to serve as the Advance Practice Subcommittee Co-chair. Further, I have also served on the New Jersey Governor's taskforce for-Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and currently serve as the governing board member of the American Lung Association-New Jersey. It is also important to share that all my efforts towards the leadership in nursing education as well as an exemplary clinical practice have been validated by American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) through my induction as a Fellow of AANP (FAANP).

I believe that I have the leadership experience, the commitment to Sigma as well as the dedication to serve as the coordinator of Region 14 and Sigma. My vision for Region 14 is to breakdown the silos and improve networking among all the chapters of this region so that innovation, service, and scholarship can be shared and optimized. I humbly ask for your vote to serve as the Region 14 Coordinator.

Thank you!

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 14 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Selena Gilles DNP, ANP-BC, CNEcl, CCRN



I have been in the nursing profession for almost 15 years and am deeply committed to nursing, nursing education, and community service. In addition to being a Certified Clinical Nurse Educator and certified in Critical Care Nursing, I am an Adult Nurse Practitioner,

specializing in Neuro and Pain Management. As a founding member and Program Committee Chair for the Greater New York City Black Nurses Association (GNYC-BNA), I am dedicated to serving my community by participating in community health outreach, school career fairs, and professional mentoring. I am the Program Director of the GNYC-BNA Opioid Overdose Prevention Program, conducting trainings all over NYC. I am very passionate about global health, currently working with organizations aimed to care for the underserved communities in Haiti and Ghana via medical missions. I'm so grateful to Sigma for giving me the opportunity to participate in the Global Health Institute Emerging Global Healthcare Leadership Symposium last year.

As a Clinical Assistant Professor at NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing, over the last 5 years, I have taken on many leadership roles. Serving as Course Coordinator in various courses, my primary teaching assignments have been vital to the success and growth of Meyers' undergraduate program. In addition to my scheduled coursework, I serve as Faculty Advisor for the Oncology Nurses Student Association, I am a core member of the NCLEX Advisement Team instrumental in improving the institutions NCLEX pass rates, and serve as Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. In addition to other leadership roles and committee memberships, I continue to serve as a mentor for faculty and students. I am active in the NYU Upsilon Chapter of Sigma, formerly serving as the Chair of the Scholarships, Grants, and Awards

Committee (2017 – 2018) and President-Elect (2018). Being President over the last year has been such a rewarding experience.

I have the honor of being one of 46 nurse educators and practice leaders chosen from colleges, universities, and health care institutions around the world to make up the 2019 NLN Leadership Institute cohort. The leadership qualities and attributes that I possess include being extremely organized, detailed oriented and focused. I possess the ability to take charge, communicate effectively and put others first. I am able to practice without prejudice, regardless of my personal opinions, feelings, and sometimes opposing ideas I may face. My core motivation to run for the Regional Coordinator of Region 14 stems from the desire to give back to my colleagues what meant most to me during my education and career, including guidance, inspiration, support, and motivation to excel. Region 14 has so many wonderful chapters and if elected, I look forward to more collaborative events and initiatives amongst its members. I believe that by joining forces, we can certainly have more of an impact on our community. Obtaining this position supports my personal philosophy of the importance of continuous self-improvement, and leads me closer to my professional goal to become a leader in nursing both locally, nationally and globally.

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 15 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Patricia Bartzak DNP, RN, CMSRN, TNCC, ABLs



As a nurse, I have contributed to the profession as a bedside clinician on a level-1 burn/trauma unit, nurse educator in both academic and hospital environments, and as a researcher in the development of a novel nursing theory related to nursing care of the trauma patient.

I am a doctoral-prepared nurse and hold certifications in medical-surgical nursing, trauma and burn care nursing. I am a past President of the Pi Epsilon at-Large Chapter in Massachusetts, a current Region 15 Coordinator, and have coordinated and contributed to the Sigma Planning Guide.

Since serving as Region 15 Coordinator, I have worked with local chapters to host Regional Sigma Symposiums, including a regional event hosted by Mu Delta at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut in October 2018. This event included a tour of the United Nations. Many nurses from around the region attended. We developed sub-committees to review submissions, and provided opportunities for poster presentations, panel discussions and oral presentations.

Currently, we are planning a similar regional event to be held in October 2019 hosted by Kappa Zeta at-Large Chapter at the University of New England in Maine. We look to showcase the pillars of Sigma: research, education and clinical innovation.

Communication in Region 15 is an important aspect of leadership. One of my favorite methods of communication is to pick up the phone and build relationships one-by-one. I have a great group of ambassadors who help with knowledge dissemination, as well as posting on The Circle, and seeking advice from other Regional Coordinators on the Workgroup. When in doubt, I use my

resources at Sigma Headquarters to find answers that are not readily findable.

I have grown in leadership abilities over the last two years since becoming Region 15 Coordinator. I typically respond to any request within 24 hours and value each interaction with every nurse I encounter.

Moving into the next 2 years, I would like to complete the 5-year plan of annual Sigma Regional Symposiums. We set a written plan in December 2017, and we are almost half-way to completion of our goals. These goals were developed collaboratively in the region.

I would also like work toward rapid dissemination of research through a protected "You Tube" type format where nurses log-in to learn about emerging nursing research as a technological adjuvant, not replacement of, the Research Congress.

I am also interested in helping Sigma in whatever way possible to become a grantor of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to eliminate duplication at the chapter level.

I am committed to the profession of nursing, and work of Sigma. I am proud of Region 15 and the collaborative spirit that is evident throughout the work we accomplish together.