

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 13 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Judith Cornelius PhD, MS, RN



Professional Background
It is an honor for me to be considered as a candidate for the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma) North America Region 13 Coordinator position. My professional background has prepared me to work with

diverse populations from traditional and nontraditional backgrounds. I received my BS from Hampton Institute, MS from Hampton University and PhD from Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. In my current position, I am an Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with decades of experience working with professional organizations. My first professional organization was Sigma. I was inducted as a graduate student and have been enthusiastically involved as a member. I have served in a leadership role in Sigma chapters, been a grant reviewer, peer reviewer for the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* and *Worldviews on Evidence Based Practice*, and conference moderator for several Sigma events. If elected, I will use my professional background, qualifications and leadership to showcase the work of the North America Region 13 chapters. I will champion chapter collaborations, identify the needs of the members and key stakeholders, and promote the work of Sigma by celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

Qualifications

My qualifications make me a viable candidate for this position. As an individual, I am self-motivated and have several years of experience working and leading people. During my nearly 44-year nursing career, I developed effective communication skills and gained knowledge in strategic planning, nursing leadership and management. In my current position, I have chaired committees, served as a chapter liaison and Commissioner for Workplace issues for the Virginia Nurses Association, and been

an ambassador for the National Institutes of Health and the National League for Nursing. As a state liaison, I served as an intermediary for chapter leadership. As an ambassador, I championed diversity and health initiatives. As the Commissioner of Workplace Issues, I communicated to nurses with a monthly column. This column was disseminated to over 85,000 practicing nurses. Presently, I serve as vice president of the Board of Directors for RAO Community Health and co-chair of the Black AIDS Treatment Network in Charlotte. Last, I am the lead researcher on a study with nurses from 8 different countries globally representing Sigma chapters.

Leadership Experience

Sigma has provided me opportunities to mature as a professional and a leader. I have been mentored by Sigma leaders and have served in several leadership roles. As a leader, I have been nationally recognized for my contributions to health care. The time that I have spent in service to Sigma has provided me with a sense of accomplishment in being part of an organization that strives for excellence. Through my service to Sigma, I recognize the international impact of the organization on global health, education, and research.

Professionally, I chair students' doctoral projects and mentor junior faculty. One of my mentees received an international Sigma Grant award. I am now ready to serve you as the North America Region 13 Coordinator.