

CANDIDATES

REGIONAL COORDINATOR

NORTH AMERICA REGION 1 (ELECT ONE FOR YOUR REGION)



Laura Van Auker DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, MSN, SN-C



It is a great honor to speak to you today as a candidate for Region 1 Coordinator on the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma) Leadership Team. My name is Laura Van Auker, and I am excited to work with Sigma chapters that come from the top of the American

Continent in Canada from; British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories, and Alberta, and include the Western United States of Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, Hawaii, and northern California. We are a diverse region of cultures, geography, education, and resources which blend to create rich opportunities for nursing excellence. We also share challenges within nursing that must be met with nursing leadership, education, and research to address diversity within our profession and health disparities of our patients and communities across our North American Region. I believe we also have the capacity and responsibility to address more global ills through both local and global filters and solutions. This is our Sigma mission.

I bring leadership, nursing talents and experiences and broader community and international leadership to support the function, goals, development, and growth of local chapters within Region 1. We are called by our Sigma mission to support the advancement of nurses and midwives through local support of nursing students, nursing research and advancement of community partnerships where Sigma nurses demonstrate leadership and excellence. On a global level we must embrace Sigma's support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, engaging in sustainable solutions that impact locally and globally by enhancing abilities and resources of our global Sigma nurse partners to solve their local community healthcare problems.

I am passionate and well-qualified to support the mission and vision of Sigma through leadership and support of all local chapters in Region 1. I have always been a "nurse's nurse", personally experiencing a broad range of nursing roles, from inner-city hospital-based care to rural community nursing in public, occupational, school, and correctional health to primary care as an APRN-NP in Family Practice and Tribal Health and currently as full-time faculty in a university SON. I hear the issues and can support nurses from many areas, engaging local chapters in creative solutions for local health issues. I have served as an elected official and worked in government, understanding the impact of policies upon healthcare for groups and individuals. Within Sigma I have been chapter President, President-elect, VP, Board Member, Biennial Delegate, and the Region 1 Conference Chairperson in 2019. I am a graduate of Sigma's 2018 Institute for Global Healthcare Leadership in London and serve on the health advisory board and nurse volunteer for a Kenyan NGO as well as volunteering in Central and South America, with travel in Europe and Asia. These experiences have prepared me to be a strong nursing advocate as a member of Sigma's international leadership team. I would be honored to have your support and partnership to further serve Sigma and as your voice as Coordinator for a stronger Region 1.

Thank You.