

# CANDIDATES

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



### Leslie Gelling PhD, MA, BSc(Hons), PGCertHE, RN, FHEA, FRSA



It is a great privilege to have been selected as a candidate on the 2021 international ballot for a position on Sigma's Governance Committee. Whilst I might still have much to learn about Sigma, I would bring an enthusiasm and considerable commitment to this important position and to the work of this Committee.

I joined Sigma 10 years ago and was inducted as part of the Phi Mu Chapter's chartering ceremony at the US Embassy in London in July 2011. As someone committed to developing the practice of nursing and every nurse's potential to impact positively on people's lives, I was immediately struck by Sigma members' considerable enthusiasm for leading the profession in seeking to meet these same objectives through Sigma.

Sigma is unlike any other nursing organisation because of its focus on leadership in nursing locally, nationally and internationally.

Locally, I am Chair of the Phi Mu Chapter's Awards and Recognition Committee, I am a member of the Chapter's Communication Committee and I am a member of the Chapter's Board. Through these important positions I have demonstrated local leadership and helped to build the Phi Mu Chapter into a successful chapter with a vibrant membership. Most notably, the Awards and Recognition Committee has been successful in multiple nominations, including three Researcher Hall of Fame nominations over the past two years.

Nationally, I chaired the Local Organising Committee and the Scientific Committee for the 2018 Sigma European Conference in Cambridge (UK), which attracted delegates from around the world and was a great scientific and social success.

My leadership of this event helped turn this conference into an important event on the conference calendar in Europe and around the world.

Internationally, I was delighted to have been invited to be a keynote speaker at Sigma's 30th International Nursing Research Conference in Calgary in 2019. This provided an exciting opportunity for me to share ideas around the ethical conduct of research wherever it is conducted around the globe. Attending the Conference also gave me an opportunity to network with members from around the world and this highlighted to me that nurses in different parts of the world and in very different cultures share many of the same ambitions and face many of the same challenges. It also became much clearer to me how Sigma can play an important role in providing leadership for nursing globally.

If elected to the Governance Committee, I would commit to serving Sigma's members to the best of my ability and would continue to support the growth of Sigma around the globe. I would bring knowledge and experience from outside North America but would also want to continue building on Sigma's amazing history. Sigma has achieved much since its formation but could achieve so much more in the future. I hope to be able to play my part in Sigma's future through the Governance Committee.