

CANDIDATES

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



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



My name is Tina Antill Keener, and I am a candidate for the Leadership Succession Committee. I live in the northeastern United States in the state of Pennsylvania. I earned a BSN and MBA from Waynesburg University, MSN with a pediatric nurse practitioner

(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 am currently at West Virginia University. My program of research aims to enhance compassion through cultivating nurse resilience.

I have been an active member of Sigma since my induction in 1996. I have held leadership roles in two local chapters, serving as president, vice president, faculty counselor, and program coordinator. Through my years of chapter leadership, I have learned much and worked to address challenges chapters often encounter, including engaging and retaining members and sustaining activity during the pandemic. I have learned that a dedicated leadership team can come together and do great things to benefit their chapter, profession, and community. For example, our Alpha Rho leadership team shared a vision of recruiting new members, engaging existing members, and offering events that impact nursing practice, professional development, and our community. To actualize that vision, we established yearly 'Meet and Greet' receptions for eligible inductee candidates, provided several continuing education events, executed local research and student professionalism conferences, and developed a peer-to-peer mentoring program to build resiliency among students entering a baccalaureate nursing program. We organized food and clothing drives, benefiting university students and the local community.

Chapter leadership experience has taught me to lean into challenges and embrace times that I may feel unsure or uncomfortable-for example, taking this leap and having my name on the Sigma international ballot! If elected, I will encourage chapter leaders to pursue new opportunities, even those outside one's comfort zone. I will devote energy and time to identifying outstanding chapter leaders who may serve as future international leaders and thoughtfully and carefully select nominees for the biennial ballots.

The pandemic underscored the vital role of nurses in caring for patients and maintaining community health. Now more than ever, we need to nurture our vision and mission to develop nurse leaders to improve and transform healthcare. I am honored to be a candidate on the international ballot for the position of Leadership Succession Committee and will work diligently to advance the goals of Sigma.