Greetings all members in the European region of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). This is our third joint, trans-European newsletter in our endeavours to share, connect and bring together all STTI nurses in our region. Six months since our Autumn 2013 Newsletter, we will update you on what has been happening around the Region. Our ambitions are to be able to continually support you with current developments and planning within the region, and we welcome all forms of comments from our fellow members. Please enjoy!

On behalf of the European Regional Communication Taskforce, Professor Elizabeth Rosser

The European Region Sigma Theta Tau International

Second European Regional Conference, Gothenburg:

The Swedish Chapter, Tau Omega has been working relentlessly in making sure that they are ready to launch the 2nd European Regional Conference in Gothenburg from 16-18th June 2014. The remaining four chapters have been working with them on the Planning Committee, chaired by Professor Margret Lepp. They have conducted 14 telephone conference meetings and the Scientific Committee chaired by Harshida Patel who had 5 meetings to ensure their contribution to the development meets the needs of the membership across Europe. Last minute details are now being put in place to welcome the delegates which amount to almost 200 from 26 countries across the globe. This is indeed an exciting occasion and one to really celebrate.

Congratulations to Dr Thora Hafsteinsdottir, the newly re-elected European Regional co-ordinator has recently been nominated to join the STTI Board due to a sudden withdrawal and all five Chapters in Europe are thrilled that their representative has been chosen for this very privileged position. It is anticipated that through Thora, there will be excellent representation from Europe at the top table at Sigma Theta Tau International. We look forward to a bright new future for Europe within STTI with Thora at the helm.

Third European Conference:

Two chapters have applied to host the third European Regional Conference in 2016. Remaining chapters will vote on the best application and this will be announced at the Gothenburg conference.

European Communications Task Force:

We have recently seen a change in the membership of this task force:

Ariane van Wamel-Beukers from the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands has recently replaced Pieter van der Hoeven, also from The Netherlands and is making excellent progress with our presence on the Circle. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Pieter for his excellent work on the task force.

Kristofer Bjersa from Gothenburg is one of the original members of the Task Force, as is Professor Joao Apostalo from the University of Coimbra, Portugal. Both have made a great impact on the committee and, together with all members of the Task Force, can be contacted to disseminate any items of news from the membership. Professor Elizabeth Rosser from the Phi Mu Chapter, England continues to chair the Task Force.

International Researcher Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Professor Brendan McCormack has been nominated by the European Region and accepted into the International Researcher Hall of Fame. Brendan is Head of Division of Nursing at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Scotland. He will be awarded at the STTI Research Conference, Hong Kong, July 2014.
Twitter with Rho Chi

To think globally, the Rho Chi Chapter started a twitter account (@RhoChiNl). There are 141 followers worldwide, among them STTI president Hester Klopper and nursing students. Members placed or shared tweets with website links and pictures about STTI or Rho Chi, and tweets about meetings, nursing leadership and research. We invite you to get inspired and inspire us on @RhoChiNl. If you don’t want to tweet a lot, just start to read interesting things.

Rho Chi Symposium 24th November 2014

Rho Chi-at-Large organizes her second symposium in collaboration with “Nurses Netherland, Research in Practice”(V&VN). The symposium is titled: On the way to excellent nursing: learn to recognize your role model, and will be held on the 24th of November in the Academy Building in Utrecht (Dutch language).

The Swedish Chapter

 Tau Omega Chapter combined the Induction ceremony on the 14th of May 2013 with a video-conference. From the Swedish site it was managed by Dr Helena Wigert.

Afterwards, an Induction ceremony was held with the new members. The following new members were inducted; from Austria: Daniela Deufert. From Germany: Andrea Thierkotter. From Italy: Maria Mischo-Kelling. From Sweden: Ewa-Lena Bratt, Laura Darcy, Marie Finizia, Isabel Fridh, Birgit Heckeman, Karin Högberg, Susanna Höglund Arveklev, Henrik Kling, Christina Melin-Johansson, StefanNilsson and Birgitta Wireklint. In addition two dual members: Kerstin Prignitz Sluys and Mats Christiansen. It was a success to combine the virtual scholarly event with the Induction ceremony.

The goal is to inspire and empower each other. Who is your role model? What can you learn about your role model? What are your qualities you need to develop? Following the symposium there is the induction of new Rho Chi members and a diner.

Rho Chi president in STTI board

Dr. Thóra Hafsteinsdottir, president of Rho Chi has been elected for the STTI board. Thóra: “In the STTI-board I will emphasize STTI as a Globally Sensitive Organisation, because I want to increasingly meet the needs of members in the future. I’m joyfully accepting this challenge”. Rho Chi wishes all the best with this new position within STTI.

Dr. Bianca Buijck, Chair of PR Committee Rho Chi-at-Large

So far in 2014 the main chapter activities concerns as mentioned preparations of the STTI 2nd EUROPEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE - Leadership, Learning and Research in Nursing and Midwifery (www.sttiec2014.net) which is to be held in Gothenburg, 16-18 June, 2014

There will be a preconference workshop on Leadership facilitated by Sigma Theta Tau International. The conference program includes keynotes, plenary sessions, and parallel sessions of 101 oral presentations, 7 workshops and 44 posters. The oral presentations are categorized according to the 7 themes which explore the world of the following: the patients, caregivers, nurses, midwives, students and the teachers. In addition, one theme is on Methodological issues in Research. The workshops focus is on: learning with web-based support, knowledge and caring science, nurse competence and safe patient care, capability, future of Sigma Theta Tau in Europe, Global Health Issues, Nursing and nursing education and Midwifery and Global Health. The posters are divided in 3 themes as follows: Clinical nursing (20), Maternal and children (7), Nursing education (12) and Management and leadership (5).
The English Chapter

Since last autumn, the chapter has held two scholarly events. The first, in Bournemouth University where third year student nurses attended and engaged in discussion and debate with an expert panel. The students were energized and highly motivated by the event. The second took place in Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford. The Chapter was very grateful to Dr Leslie Gelling for his support in hosting the event at Anglia Ruskin University and the great deal of work he put into managing the event.

The English Chapter

It gave members the opportunity to visit another site where several Chapter members are active and to share in the presentation of their Scholarly work. Members came from a distance to share the day with a full Board meeting in the morning and scholarly discussion in the afternoon.

The photo represents some of those who attended, with 5 presentations from research leaders in the school. In all, each with a quite different focus. The presenters have kindly given their PPPs to us and these are now posted in the Library on the Chapter website at www.thecircle.nursingsociety.org/phimuchapter/home

Access to the library can be found on our home page. Click on Phi Mu Chapter on that page the presentation folder will appear on the right hand side Clicking on that folder will give access to the PPPs.

The Portuguese Chapter

MEMBERS INDUCTION

The Phi Xi Chapter - Sigma theta Tau International welcomed two new members on April 10, 2014. These new members are: Nurse Sofia Macedo (King Faisal Specialist & Research Center, Saudi Arabia) and Professor Lourdes Lomba (Coimbra Nursing School). They made a commitment to excellence, knowledge, clinical practice and leadership in nursing. The ceremony featured a lecture by Professor Kristel Liesenborghs of Limburg Catholic University College in Hasselt about empathy training in nursing education.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY 2014

On 14 May 2014, the Sigma Theta Tau European Region celebrated the International Nurses Day. The video conference about Person-centred Nursing by Professor Brendan McCormack was attended by 45 people including Phi Xi members, teachers, students and clinical nurses. At the end of the conference the issue was discussed within the Portuguese participants.

The concept of ‘person-centeredness’ has become established in approaches to the delivery of healthcare, particularly within nursing, and is embedded in many international healthcare policy frameworks and strategic plans.

SUPPORTING Phi Xi MEMBERS

Coimbra Nursing School who hosts the Phi Xi Chapter is organizing the 10th Conference of the Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery and offers its members registration at this International Event.
The Wales Chapter

Melanie Jasper, 1954-2014
PhD, Masters in Nursing, BSc in Nursing, BA in Social Sciences, Cert Ed of Adults, RN, RM, HV.

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death of Professor Melanie Jasper, the head of the College of Human and Health Sciences at Swansea University.

Throughout her career Melanie was committed to research and practice, especially in how nurses can develop the skills of leadership and reflection in practice. This is reflected in her work such as *Effective Healthcare Leadership* (2005), *Vital notes for Nurses: Professional Development, Reflection and Decision Making* (2008) and *Beginning Reflective Practice* (2nd Ed, 2013). Her leadership capacity has been applauded by many, including the vice chancellor of Swansea University, Professor Richard Davies, and Ceri Phillips, the current acting head of the College.

Recently she served as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Nursing Management*, and her last piece of research was undertaken for the Chief Nursing Officer of Wales. This focused on improving the continuing professional development (CPD) of nurses in Wales. The outcomes of this study are set to influence future plans in Wales.

For many years Melanie has been a staunch member of Sigma Theta Tau International and fund raiser for the Swansea Chapter. In memory of her, the chapter are in early talks with the College to set up an award scheme for a CPD student who has made a difference through research and reflection. This was, after all Melanie’s genre.

Melanie leaves her devoted husband and family and many friends who will remember that she too made a difference to care and nurses’ careers.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

25th International Nursing Research Congress
24-28 July 2014 — Hong Kong, The Theme is: “Bridging the gap between Research and Practice through Collaboration”. There is an expectation of having 1000 leaders taking part from 40 different countries.

21-25 July 2014 — Coimbra, Portugal
The Nursing School of Coimbra, the Health Sciences Research Unit: Nursing, and the Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery present the 10th Conference of the Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery and the 4th Conference on Nursing Research of Ibero-American and Portuguese-speaking Countries

6-8 August 2014 — Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
The Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care presents the 6th International Conference on Patient- and Family-Centered Care: Partnerships for Quality and Safety

12-13 September 2014 — Maastricht, Netherlands
PhD students from Maastricht University present the European Doctoral Conference in Nursing Science

Leadership Connection will take place in Indianapolis between 24-27 September 2014 with the early registration deadline 30th July 2014. This is an event for both Chapter and /or Nurse Leaders. There are separate and joint sessions on each; thus they cover leadership training for Chapter Operation but also personal and professional development skills and specifically for Clinical leaders there are sessions on both Frontline and Executive leadership skills.

11-14 November 2014 — Vitoria, Spain
The Organizing Committee presents the 18th International Nursing Research Conference.
What do I do in The Circle?
The Circle was developed to connect members with each other, their chapters, regions, headquarters and with the benefits and services of membership. Features of The Circle include member profiles you can personalize according to your preferences and event notifications. You can find other members via the member directory, network with those who share the same specialty and stay active with your chapter through new chapter websites.

Who is in The Circle?
All active STTI members have been added to The Circle. Once logged in, members will determine what information they would like to share and whom they would like to share it with.

How do I log in?
If you are an STTI member, all you will need is your e-mail address and seven-digit member number.

How can I get started?
Read 10 Easy Steps to Get Started or log in at http://thecircle.nursingsociety.org to get started today! Chapter leaders can receive training for their chapter websites in the Tools and Resources section of STTI’s website.

The European Regional Newsletter is composed and distributed by the European Communication Committee, consistent of:

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