Message from the President.

It is difficult to believe that autumn is here again! The air is crisp, football is everywhere, and the trees are beginning to change to beautiful shades of red, orange and gold. This summer the Xi Phi Board met in July to plan our chapter agenda. As you will note, we have an exciting year of programs. I hope that you will be able to attend one or all of them.

The first week of November, Trellis Moore (President-elect) and I will be traveling to the Sigma Theta Tau, International Biennium in Toronto. Just to let you know there are a few proposed changes that are being considered and voted on during the Biennium.

The first change relates to the governance structure. The number of standing committees at the international level and chapter level are being streamlined from the required 11 standing committees to 3 standing committees: 1) governance; 2) leadership succession; and 3) regional chapters coordinating committee. The old committees such as the library and research committees will now be under a board advisory committee that will be determined by the chapter regarding the chapter needs and desires. This change will streamline standing committees and allow chapters to determine what committees are in their chapters.

The second change relates to global eligibility from an international society. The current bylaws language is fairly egocentric and ethnocentric to the United States educational systems. Now that Sigma Theta Tau has become an international organization, the eligibility criteria in our bylaws need to be more inclusive and responsive to international educational systems. For instance, not all international educational systems have a 4.0 scale for grades so the bylaws wording needs to be changed to a “grade point average or the equivalent of grade point average” that is used in the academic system. This bylaws change will help other countries in the induction process.

The third change relates to finances and continues to be controversial. The International Board has struggled with being responsible and accountable for the organization’s health. In this struggle, the Board has seen rising costs and inflation; however, the Board has seen no increase in revenue (i.e., dues, income streams). Therefore, the Board would like the

<table>
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<th>2003-2004 Programs</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 24, 2003</td>
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<td>6-8 PM</td>
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<td>UCCS</td>
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<td>University Hall</td>
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<td>RM 109</td>
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<td>A Nurse Perspective of Afghanistan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker: Col Paula Walker, AN, Commander, Combat Stress Unit</td>
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<td>November 16, 2003</td>
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<td>2-4 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCCS, Lodge</td>
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<td>Xi Phi Induction</td>
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<td>December 2, 2003</td>
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<td>5-8 PM</td>
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<td>University Hall</td>
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<td>RM 132</td>
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<td>Induction Pizza Party</td>
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<td>February 13, 2004</td>
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<td>2-5 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCCS, Lodge</td>
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<td>Joint Research Conference-Xi Phi and Iota Pi</td>
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<td>Speaker: Glenda Reimer, DNS, MBA,</td>
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<td>May 5, 2004</td>
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<td>Location TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Dinner Meeting on Leadership</td>
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<td>Speaker: Cherie Gorby, MS, CCRN, RN</td>
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authority to adjust membership dues based on the organization’s needs using strict guidance. The language proposed indicates that the Board would have the authority to raise dues 2-3% per year, if needed. While this proposed change is not overwhelmingly supported by all chapters, the increasing costs to do business are understandable. In the past, every dues increase had to be put forth at the Biennium and voted on by chapter delegates. Giving the Board the authority to raise dues to keep the organization solvent may be a good idea; however, the Xi Phi Board does not want to out price our chapter for new inductees. We have voted this concern to the International Board and will continue to raise the cost for students at the Biennium. If you have questions about the proposed bylaws changes or would like more information, you can go to http://www.nursingsociety.org/events/delegates.html and tap into information as well as a list serve discussion on the proposed changes.

Speaking of websites, Jackie Crouch is the Xi Phi Chapter Webmaster. Jackie has done an incredible job working on the website by posting information, program and induction pictures, and scholarship and grant information. If you have not been on the site http://web.uccs.edu/xiphi/, please stop in for a visit and give us feedback on what you would like to see on the website. Also, FYI Jackie was nominated for the 2003 International Chapter Website Award. While she did not win this award (surprised us all that Jackie did not win), we know Jackie has done some excellent design work for our chapter. Thanks Jackie for what you do!

I want to thank each of your for your support to our chapter. Last year, we gave out a $500 scholarship to Melissa Morrison (Undergraduate student) and a $750 research grant to Sara Gibson (Graduate Student) for her thesis. Your continued support helps support the mission of Sigma Theta Tau. Additionally, we made a donation of $100 to the University of Arizona in honor of the three faculty members. Cheryl M. McGaffic, Barbara S. Monroe, and Robin E. Rogers, who were shot last Fall by one of their students. Recently, I received a letter from Dean Marjorie Isenberg at the University of Arizona. She informed me that our money was placed in the Nursing Faculty Memorial Scholarship Endowment to support undergraduate nursing student scholarship. Creating a scholarship fund is a great way to honor the above faculty as well as support the mission of Sigma Theta Tau International.

In closing, the Xi Phi Board wants to support the mission of Sigma Theta Tau and meet its members’ needs. If there is any program or community activity that you think we need to be involved in, please let me know. You can call me at 719-262-4488 or email me at jnelson@uccs.edu Have a great year!

Nominating Committee News
Linda Short, RN, MSN
Chairman-Nominating Committee

Wanted

“Nurses who are eager to learn, like to be involved and make new friends, want to be in on the action and decision-making.”

Positions available include President-elect, Vice-President, Secretary, and Nominating Committee. For specific information regarding these offices, applications, responsibilities and time required, call Linda Short, (391-2410) mailto:LShortRNMSN@aol.com, Jewel Chambers (262-4483) jchamber@mail.uccs.edu, or Marilynn Doenges, 633-1214, doeme@msn.com

Join us in making the slate a real contest this year and help Xi Phi continue to be a vibrant, exciting organization to be involved with.

Call for Nominations

Being a member of Sigma Theta Tau is a commitment that each of us make when we join a professional organization. What does that mean? It means that we each participate in the best way we can. For some, it means you pay your dues. For others, you may attend a meeting if the topic is interesting to you. Some may
attend all of the local meetings and perhaps you have
attended a state convention or a continuing education
program. At whatever level you participate, you are
contributing to this organization.

Then there are those who volunteer to run for office
and participate in the management of the
organization. Now is the time when we need people
to step up and put their name on the ballot. What
does that mean? It means an exciting opportunity to
be involved in making this a great nursing
organization. It means a time commitment. Specific
criteria for certain offices will be noted on the ‘Call
for Nominations’. We are doing much by e-mail and
that helps with members and officers from all areas of
the state. The process is easy. You can have a
colleague nominate you or you can nominate
yourself. Once you are nominated, you will be
contacted by the Nominations Committee (who have
all been elected) about what to do next and the
specific deadlines for each step. Just ask everyone
you know to vote for you.

Being in an elected office is a great opportunity to
have fun and make a difference in the workings of
your organization. Step up and let us know what
office you would like to run for. Watch for more
information to come.

Call for Candidates

Annual elections of the Xi Phi Chapter of Sigma
Theta Tau International will be held in March 2004.
The Nominations Committee is seeking candidates
for the following Xi Phi Chapter positions:

President-Elect
The President-Elect will succeed into the presidency
at the end of a one-year term of office and shall
communicate to the public the purposes of the
Society. The President-Elect learns the chapter
operations and facilitates the achievement of chapter
goals and mission of Sigma Theta Tau. In addition,
the President-Elect may chair various committees as
needed.

Vice President
The Vice President will perform the duties of the
President in the President’s absence. The Vice
President serves on the Program Committee. In the
event that the President vacates his/her office during
the two-year term, the Vice President will succeed to
the office of President and serve until the next
election. The Vice-President helps prepare the
Chapter Annual Report to be returned to Headquarters
by July 1.

Secretary
The Secretary records and arranges for typing the
minutes for each business meeting. The Secretary is
responsible for the distribution of minutes to all
Board of Directors members. The Secretary
maintains an official record book of the meeting
minutes. In addition, the Secretary prepares an
annual report to the chapter membership and sends a
list of new officers to Headquarters within two weeks
following officer election. He/she assumes
responsibility for writing and maintaining the
chapter’s history. The Secretary will be an ex-officio
member of the Publicity Committee.

Faculty Counselor
The Faculty Counselor serves as a member of the
Eligibility Committee. Faculty Counselors conduct
the review of applicants for membership into Sigma
Theta Tau International. The Faculty Counselor
presents all eligible candidates to the Board of
Directors, assists with membership election follow-up
and the induction of new members.

Nominating Committee Member
The Nominating Committee Member assists with the
annual election of Xi Phi officers as well as the
annual election process. Duties include seeking
individual members for candidacy of offices,
preparing and mailing election ballots to the
membership, and inducting new officers at the annual
Xi Phi meeting.

If you are interested in being a candidate for one of
the above positions, please contact Linda Short (391-
2410) LShortRNMSN@aol.com, Jewell Chambers
(262-4483) jchamber@mail.uccs.edu, or Marilyn
Doenges doeme@juno.com.
Alzheimer’s Walk  
Trellis Moore, BSN, MSN  
President Elect

Sigma Theta Tau International has teamed up with the Alzheimer’s Association for their Memory Walk. Since the Memory Walk started in 1989, it has raised more than $120 million to enhance the quality of life for individuals, families and caregivers touched by Alzheimer’s. Approximately 61,000 people in the state of Colorado and over four million people nationally suffer from Alzheimer’s disease. In teaming with the association, STTI will help to raise funds for Alzheimer’s research and provide programs and services for Alzheimer’s families and caregivers. The Alzheimer’s Association provides support to families through:

- Education of family and professional caregivers on quality care
- Advocacy for government funding for research and public policy to help families
- Public Awareness of disease, related issues and help available
- Fundraising for research, programs, services and support

The Board of Xi Phi would like to join in this fundraising effort. Nearly 78% of every dollar raised by the Association helps to fund the above programs. Additionally, the money that is raised by the Memory Walk in Colorado Springs is used for local programs. The Memory Walk takes place in September and is usually about 3 miles. Last September 6 the walk started at Antler’s Park and was 3.1 miles. The day included music, dog walk, massages, face painting, children’s games, jazzercise, information booths and resident walk. (Sounds like a family affair!) We would like to form a National Memory Walk Team, which consists of a group of 10 or more individuals walking together as a single entity. As a member of the Xi Phi team you will join your society members, friends and family in helping the Alzheimer’s Association save memories.

We will be talking more about this in the upcoming chapter meetings and encourage you to ask others to join you in walking next September. Remember the number one reason to participate in the Xi Phi team is the satisfaction you will receive from knowing that you are helping the Alzheimer’s Association fight this disease.

Proposed Dues Increase at Biennial Convention  
Richard A. Petersen, EdD, RN  
Treasurer

One of the hot topics at this year’s 37th Biennial Convention will be a proposed bylaws amendment that would “grant the organization’s board of directors the authority to make incremental, restricted dues and fee adjustments – based on the rate of inflation – as needed in the future” (www.nursingsociety.org/chapters/up2us_fin.html). If the delegates pass the amendment, it will also mean a $10.00 membership dues increase effective January 2004.

According to the STTI website, the last membership dues increase was in 1998. Since then, expenses have increased 20 percent and services have become more “comprehensive.” Also, almost two thirds of the organization’s income comes from membership dues but the number of members in the last five years has remained constant.

By passing the amendment, the international board of directors would be given the authority to increase dues without taking it to the membership (via the delegates) on an as needed basis given the rate of inflation.

At the September Xi Phi Chapter meeting, Jenenne Nelson and Trellis Moore, our delegates to this year’s convention, were given the charge to lobby for a change in the amendment. This change would be to implement a tiered dues model similar to that of the American Nurses Association that would allow baccalaureate and master’s students to join at a reduced rate. Because most of our inductees are students, this would allow them the benefit of becoming members of the nursing honor society without incurring as significant a financial burden as they currently have to pay.

Money is an issue near and dear to all of us. You can voice your opinion by contacting your delegates or by visiting the STTI website at www.nursingsociety.org/chapters/uptous.html.
Cherry Ames is making a comeback! Just in time. The last generation of nurses who might have read the Cherry Ames nursing series of books growing up, are entering retirement age. Many of us followed Cherry through her student nurse, senior nurse years in school and right into the Army nurse corps, as World War II had started. She recruited quite a few nurses through her stories as Cherry Ames, Chief Nurse, Flight Nurse, and finally, Veteran’s Nurse. After the war, Cherry went on to adventures as a Cruise Nurse, Boarding School Nurse, Department Store Nurse (if it’s Neiman’s or Nordstrom’s, count me in!), Camp Nurse, Island Nurse, Rural Nurse, and Jungle Nurse among others.

To modernize the Cherry Ames series, I propose the following new titles, based on today’s issues and events. Cherry Ames – Desert Storm Nurse. In this story, General Schwartzkoff’s brilliant manipulation of the media as a battle strategy is suggested during a chance encounter with young nurse Ames at the battalion first aid station. Or how about, Cherry Ames – Betty Ford Clinic Nurse. Although she has to fight off his romantic advances, Cherry Ames’s innovative psychiatric mental health interventions finally inspire Robert Downy Jr. to become clean and sober for good, and he thanks Cherry at his Academy Award acceptance speech, broadcast live, to the world. In Cherry Ames – Legislative Liaison, Cherry works alongside President George W. Bush to develop a national health care plan. After an impassioned plea for her little friend Timmy, Congress passes a national health care insurance plan that will pay for his liver transplant, as well as needed immunizations for school.

Helen Wells and Julie Tatham penned twenty-seven Cherry Ames books between 1943 and 1968. Wells graduated from NYU in 1934 as a philosophy major with minors in sociology and psychology. She initially worked as a social worker until writing became her life’s work. Julie Tatham, a society editor for the New York Evening Post, took over for Wells, after the first 9 books were published. She was also the author of the Trixie Belden series of books, under the name of Julie Campbell. Tatham wrote the next seven books in the series and then returned the character to Wells, who wrote the last eleven in the series. There is also a British edition of the Cherry Ames series and they have been translated into Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Finish, French, and Dutch and are also popular in Bolivia. For more information go to: http://www.netwrx1.net/CherryAmes.

Did You Know

- SSTI headquarters has the ability to underwrite up to 75% of the international membership dues for members who are experiencing financial hardship? To read more about the Edith Anderson Membership Subsidy Fund and how to apply click here. http://www.nursingsociety.org/chapters/subsidy.html.

- You can receive 20% off online continuing education classes through Dec. 31, 2003. Click here for more information http://www.nursingsociety.org/education/ceonline.html

- Free CE on Disaster Preparedness Response for Nurses by American Red Cross and STTI http://www.nursingsociety.org/education/case_studies/cases/SP0004.html
Induction Ceremony
By Jefferson M. Spicher, RN, MSN, FNP
Faculty Advisor

On November 16th 2003 the Xi Phi Chapter will be holding its annual induction ceremony. The chapter had a tremendous response to the induction letters that were sent out in early September. There were 32 undergraduate students, one RN to BSN student, 14 graduate students and one community nurse leader who responded. At the Xi Phi Chapter meeting on September 24th 2003 the candidates were presented and approved for induction. A listing of the inductees follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Morrison</td>
<td>Diane Nelson-Flores</td>
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<td>Jessica Amparan</td>
<td>Megan Morrison</td>
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<td>Leslie Stockton</td>
<td>Maria Chavez</td>
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<td>Katherine Griffin</td>
<td>Carin Colantis</td>
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<td>Faye Bates</td>
<td>Karyn Deutsch</td>
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<td>Julie Inglis</td>
<td>Cheryl Petrossi</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Montgomery</td>
<td>Tracy Brown</td>
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<td>Katherine Lindahl</td>
<td>Rebecca Penhall</td>
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<td>Chad Moore</td>
<td>Kate Scheel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Mascarenas</td>
<td>Sabrina Poyner</td>
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<td>Cassie Thorsen</td>
<td>Kimberly Meadows</td>
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<td>Jennifer Torba</td>
<td>Diane Nelson-Flores</td>
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<td>Lynsie May</td>
<td>Megan Morrison</td>
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<td>Amy Ritter</td>
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<td>Dana Shultz</td>
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<td>Jennifer Soda</td>
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<td>Alaina McFerran</td>
<td>Cheryl Petrossi</td>
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<td>Jeri Whitfield</td>
<td>Tracy Brown</td>
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<td>Kirsten Jones</td>
<td>Rebecca Penhall</td>
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<td>Kelly Smith</td>
<td>Kate Scheel</td>
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<td>Julie Bankston</td>
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Community Leaders

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<th>RN to BSN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alaina McFerran</td>
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<td>Jeri Whitfield</td>
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Peggy McKinney

Victoria Kenna