

# DELTA CHAPTER

University of Kansas School of Nursing

Volume 15, Number 2

Fall/Winter 2005

## DELTA CHAPTER OFFICERS

President..... Sharon Kumm  
Vice President..... Sally Whitaker  
Corresponding Secretary..... Teresa Ilten  
Recording Secretary ..... David Martin  
Treasurer ..... Claudette Metsker  
Graduate Counselor..... Ginger Breedlove  
Undergraduate Counselor..... Jo Ellen Greischar-Billiard

## DELTA CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Leadership Succession Chair..... Katherine Fletcher  
Finance Chair ..... Karen Wambach  
Research/Awards Chair..... Susan Parker  
Governance Committee Chair... Jo Ellen Greischar-Billiard



### DO YOU KNOW A NURSE COLLEAGUE WHO DEMONSTRATES SUPERIOR LEADERSHIP OR CLINICAL EXCELLENCE?

Please consider nominating your nursing colleagues for the awards of community leadership or clinical excellence. The application/nomination deadlines for Outstanding Student Awards, Community Leadership Award & Clinical Excellence Award are April 1, 2006.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### October 20, 2005

Executive Board Meeting  
3025 SON  
4:00-5:00 p.m.

### November 10, 2005

Executive Board Meeting  
3025 SON  
4:00-5:00 p.m.

### November 10, 2005

Fall Program and Meeting  
University of Kansas School of Nursing  
School of Nursing Building  
5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Further Details Inside

### November 30, 2005

Sigma Theta Tau Informational Tea  
Stoland Lounge  
3:00-5:00 p.m.

### December 8, 2005

Executive Board Meeting  
3025 SON  
4:00-5:00 p.m.

### January 18, 2006

Executive Board Meeting

### March 16, 2006

Spring Program and Meeting  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

### May 18, 2006

Spring Induction Banquet  
5:00-9:00 p.m.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Fall has arrived with cooler temperatures and hopefully renewed energy. If you have been receiving the monthly e-newsletters, *Create the Future through Renewal*, you have already heard some of the events that have occurred since the last newsletter. If you do not receive the e-newsletter, you need to update your email address through STTI. The link to update your profile is on the right side of the home page or at <http://sttiportal.meisoft.com/>

On May 19, 2005 Delta Chapter inducted 64 new members: 58 undergraduate and graduate students and 6 nurse leaders. We are hoping that you will welcome the new members at future events.

In July, we were notified that Amanda von Schrilz would receive the Pillar of Service Award during the Biennial Convention in November. Amanda was nominated because of her service to Delta Chapter from January 2004 until she started nurse anesthesia education in August 2005.

In August, Dan Pesut, President of STTI, attended a conference at KU School of Nursing on complexity science. Delta Chapter sponsored the breakfast on the morning that Dr. Pesut spoke on clinical

reasoning. The attendees recognized that nursing is a complex science that deals with complex conditions. Dr. Pesut explained how clinical reasoning helps students understand the complex nature of patients and the health care system and identify nursing actions that will have the greatest effect.

Sally Whitaker, Vice-President, and I will be attending the Biennial Convention in November. We need your input on the suggested bylaw changes. Please read about the proposed changes later in the newsletter and let us know what you think. We are especially interested in receiving feedback from the chapter members about the proposed change for the governance committee.

I look forward to meeting with you on November 10, 2005 at the Fall Business Meeting and Program.

Sincerely,

*Sharon Kumm*



## DELTA AWARDS

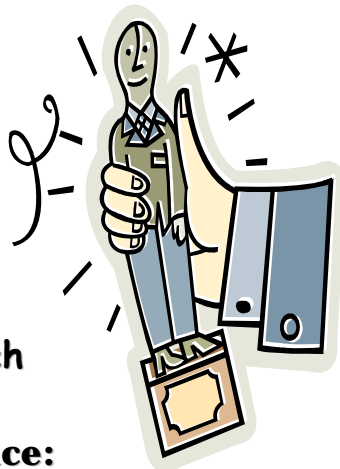
In May of 2005, Delta Chapter awarded the annual Outstanding Student and Excellence in Clinical Practice Awards during the spring banquet. These awardees were:

**Undergraduate Student:**  
**Michelle Bosworth**

**Master's Student:**  
**Caryl Goodyear-Bruch**

**Excellence in Practice:**  
**Beth Clark**

**Community Leadership:**  
**Beth Vandenberg**



## DELTA 2005 RESEARCH AND TRAVEL AWARDS

The Delta Chapter has provided funds to assist their members in research and scholarly activities. This year we are happy to announce the Research & Travel Awardees:

**Hasan Al Omari:** Abstract, "Rituals and Rules in the Wheat Valley Assisted Living Culture." MNRS Research Conference, Cincinnati, OH.

**Charlene Ludwig:** Poster, "On-line Course Feedback: What Does It Mean?" NLN Education Summit 2005, Baltimore, MD.

**Phoebe D. Williams:** Presentation, "Pediatric Chronic Illness, Well Siblings, and Families." University of Coventry Research Centre, Coventry, UK.

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR FUTURE TRAVEL & RESEARCH AWARDS??

**Research eligibility has been expanded to include thesis and doctoral research projects.**

Information and application forms regarding the various awards are available at the Delta Chapter website or you can contact:

Susan Parker  
Chair, Research & Awards Committee  
Delta Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau  
The University of Kansas School of Nursing  
Mail Stop 4042  
3901 Rainbow Blvd.  
Kansas City, KS 66160  
E-mail: [sparker@kumc.edu](mailto:sparker@kumc.edu)

Upcoming Deadlines: 3/1/06

## UNDERGRADUATE NURSING STUDENT WINS DELTA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP AND PRACTICE

On September 21, 2005, the Delta Chapter Awards Chair, Susan Parker, awarded **Kelsey Beaver** the Sigma Theta Tau Undergraduate Nursing Student Scholarship. This scholarship will be awarded each fall during the senior year of nursing school to recognize a student with academic and clinical excellence. To qualify for the scholarship the senior student must have the highest GPA and have received a Level I or Level II Nursing Student Clinical Excellence Award. The chapter was pleased to reward Kelsey for all her hard work and excellence in practice.



## STTI SUGGESTS BYLAWS CHANGES

STTI has suggested several changes to the International Bylaws. Some are merely rewording for clarification and to make the bylaws apply to institutions that have different grading scales than those used in the United States. Some of the changes will be reflected down to the chapter level. Below is a brief review of the major recommendations:

- Change the name to "the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, Incorporated"
- Include the statement: "**Active regular members shall make a commitment to the purposes of the Society**" to clarify expectations of member's responsibility
- **The governance committee will be appointed rather than elected.** This is in response to chapters reporting difficulty in filling the ballot.
- **The term of the house of delegate membership shall be from the opening of the convention for which the delegate is selected to serve until the opening of the next convention.** This means the delegates serve for two years and will be able to vote beyond the time of the biennial convention. The purpose for this change is explained in the next recommendation.
- **Chapter delegates may vote electronically on chapter charter applications.** The procedures and time limitations for electronic voting shall be set by the Board of Delegates.
- The term of the 5 officer directors is two years. **Officer Directors may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms.** A director who is elected president-elect may serve a maximum of 4 terms on the Board of Directors.
- Regional Chapters Coordinating Committee Chair will hold a non-officer position on the Board of Directors for a two year term and may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

- Once an Officer Director has served two consecutive terms, that director will only be eligible to serve in the next biennium as president-elect.
- A member who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term.
- New members who have paid the induction fee and chapter induction fees are entitled to all benefits for one year from the member's anniversary date. (This was previously stated as through the succeeding fiscal year.)

Your delegates to the Biennial Convention are Sharon Kumm and Sally Whitaker. Most of the changes are for clarification. However, we need to hear how you feel about the International Governance Committee being appointed rather than elected. We want to vote according to how the chapter members feel about these proposed changes.

Please think about the recommended changes and bring any concerns to the Business Meeting on November 10, 2005 or let Sharon Kumm [skumm@kumc.edu](mailto:skumm@kumc.edu) or Sally Whitaker [swhitaker@kumc.edu](mailto:swhitaker@kumc.edu) know what you think.

The recommended changes can be found at

[http://wwwnursingsociety.org/convention/bylaw\\_changes.doc](http://wwwnursingsociety.org/convention/bylaw_changes.doc)



## NOMINATIONS FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP

If you know a nurse who would foster the high standards of Sigma Theta Tau and who is not a member of Delta Chapter, consider nominating them as a community member. The nurses nominated for community membership must hold a minimum of any baccalaureate degree or the equivalent and have demonstrated marked achievement in education, practice, research administration or publication. The purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International are to recognize superior achievement, recognize the development of leadership qualities, foster high professional standards, encourage creative work, and strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. The Membership Intent form and the Endorsement for Membership form are both located in this Newsletter.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

In January 2006, the Leadership Succession Committee will be looking for a few good men or women who would be willing to run for positions on the Delta Chapter Executive Board. This year the chapter will need the following positions:

**Recording Secretary** - shall prepare and distribute minutes of the board and business meetings.

**Treasurer** - shall be the custodian of the funds of this chapter, and an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee. This person prepares a report for each Board meeting on the current state of the Chapter's funds.

**Undergraduate Counselor** - is a member of the faculty at the University of Kansas School of Nursing and will serve as a member of the Governance Committee. The major responsibility of this member is to prepare a list of eligible undergraduate students, invite those eligible to be members and then prepare a list of those who accept the responsibility for this membership to the Board and the Chapter membership for acceptance.

**Governance Committee Member**  
[1 member needed] - member of a committee that oversees the bylaws compliance, makes recommendations for bylaws changes and oversees members and chapter eligibility issues.

**Leadership Succession Committee Member** [2 members needed] - members of this committee are responsible to assist in developing members in organizational leadership roles across the span of their careers and mentoring chapter members to assume organizational board and officer positions at all levels of the organization. The committee shall

solicit nominees for executive board positions and prepare the ballot each year.

Interested individuals can notify Kathy Fletcher at [kfletche@kumc.edu](mailto:kfletche@kumc.edu). We need your valuable leadership in our chapter!

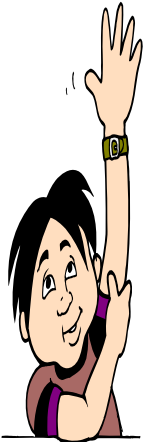


### **\*\* Notification of International Membership Dues Increase**

Effective January 1, 2006, the international portion of your Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International membership dues will increase to \$60. The dues increase reflects the cumulative increase in the Consumer Price Index since November 2003, the last dues increase.

**DELTA CHAPTER DUES  
WILL NOT INCREASE.**

***\*\* Delta Chapter will receive its 7<sup>th</sup> Key Award at the Biennial Convention in November ... what an accomplishment!!***





## RESEARCH CORNER – DELTA MEMBERS INVOLVED IN RESEARCH

Murray, L. & Thompson, N. "Psychiatric Indicators for National Database for Nursing Quality Indicators," University of Kansas School of Nursing. Nancy Dunton, PhD. (PI).

Murray, L., Thompson, N., with E. Hunter, PhD and L. Palikathayil, RN, DNS (PI). "The Experience of Living with Chronic Mental Illness: A Camera Study."

Setter, R. & Steen, C. "Post-Baccalaureate Graduate Nurse Residency Program Evaluation Study." Mary Krugman, RN, PhD (PI).



### New Leadership Interns Chosen

The Chapter has chosen three new leadership interns for the Delta Chapter Odyssey Experience. The members chosen for this experience are **Heidi Boehm, Stephani Painter and Rachael Small**. Heidi Boehm graduated from the University of Kansas School of Nursing in 2002 and has worked for two years on a medicine floor at the University of Kansas Hospital. She is currently working on a master's degree in Organizational Leadership. Stephani Painter is a recent graduate of the University of Kansas School of Nursing and currently is employed in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at University of Kansas Hospital. Rachael Small is a recent graduate from the University of Kansas School of Nursing and currently works in the

Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University of Kansas Hospital.

The Delta Leadership Odyssey Experience was a program designed by Michael Bleich for the Delta Chapter. The main purpose of this program is to mentor selected Delta members in leadership experiences to develop future Delta leaders as well as to foster the position of the Delta Chapter with other organizations and leaders. This program was designed to be flexible in order to meet each individual mentee's leadership goals but also will provide a mentoring experience where critical touchstones help to keep the mentee on target with optimizing and fulfilling their leadership goals. For more information regarding this leadership mentoring program you can look at the Delta Chapter website. New mentees will be chosen each year in August. If you have an interest in this experience, please let Kathy Fletcher [Chair of the Leadership Succession committee] know of your intentions at [kfletche@kumc.edu](mailto:kfletche@kumc.edu).

# Thank you Thank you

The Delta Chapter would like to thank the following members for their donations to support the induction of new members:

- \*Lauren Aaronson
- \*Michael Bleich
- \*Judith Bowers
- \*Elizabeth Clark
- \*Rita Clifford
- \*Helen Connors
- \*Jan Davidson
- \*Elaine Domian
- \*Sandra Hanson
- \*Sharon Kumm
- \*Claudette Metsker
- \*Geri Neubrger
- \*Karen Wambach
- \*Sally Whitaker
- \*Anita Wingate

# **Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Fall Meeting**

Thursday, November 10, 2005  
University of Kansas  
3901 Rainbow Blvd.  
Kansas City, KS

5:00 p.m.  
Appetizers & Networking  
School of Nursing Atrium

5:30 p.m.  
Business Meeting  
School of Nursing 1050

6:00 p.m.  
Program  
School of Nursing 1050

***“Identified Factors that Promote and Hinder  
Academic Integrity among Baccalaureate  
Nursing Students”***

***Presented by  
Kathleen Brewer, PhD, ARNP, BC***

Reservations requested  
To RVSP, contact Sally Whitaker at (913) 588-1647  
or [swhitaker@kumc.edu](mailto:swhitaker@kumc.edu)  
(Applying for C.E.U.'s)

**The purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International are:**

1. Recognize superior achievement.
2. Recognize the development of leadership qualities.
3. Foster high professional standards.
4. Encourage creative work.
5. Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession.



# Sigma Theta Tau International Membership Intent Form

\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter\*

## COMMUNITY NURSE LEADER

CRITERIA: Nurses must hold a minimum of any baccalaureate degree or the equivalent and have demonstrated marked achievement in education, practice, research, administration or publication.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(last) (first) (middle initial)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Former Education (list highest degree first and attach a copy of documentation for the highest degree received):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please check areas of achievement in nursing:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Education                      \_\_\_\_\_ Administration

\_\_\_\_\_ Practice                         \_\_\_\_\_ Publication

\_\_\_\_\_ Research                         \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please indicate) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your most recent (last five years) contributions to nursing in areas checked above:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach to this form two membership endorsement forms. These two endorsements can be from nursing faculty or other nurses in leadership roles. One form must be from an active Sigma Theta Tau member.

*\*If you do not have a connection with a Sigma Theta Tau International established chapter, please indicate connections you have with any U.S. universities. Also, if you are unsure which chapter to join, please return this form to Sigma Theta Tau International headquarters, Membership Services Coordinator, 550 West North St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.*

**The purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International are:**

1. Recognize superior achievement.
2. Recognize the development of leadership qualities.
3. Foster high professional standards.
4. Encourage creative work.
5. Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession.



# Sigma Theta Tau International

## Endorsement for Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

### UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

Definition: An endorsement is a letter or statement supporting an individual for membership\* in the chapter. Two endorsements per individual are necessary in order for an application to be considered by the Chapter Eligibility Committee. One letter or statement of support is required to be from a nursing faculty member. At least one of the two endorsements is to be from an active member of Sigma Theta Tau International.

This endorsement enables the candidate to be considered for membership. The Eligibility Committee of the chapter invites your letter or statement of endorsement supporting the following individual for membership:

\_\_\_\_\_ Is applying for membership in the

\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

On the basis of this student's achievement and my knowledge of the purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International, I heartily endorse this individual for membership in the chapter.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (if desired):

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\*UNDERGRADUATE CRITERIA: Each undergraduate candidate for membership is required to meet the criteria for the undergraduate category of membership. Undergraduate students are required to have completed 1/2 of the nursing curriculum, have at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 grading scale, rank in the upper 35% of the graduating class, and meet the expectation of academic integrity.

\*GRADUATE CRITERIA: Each graduate (master's or doctoral) candidate for membership is required to meet the criteria for the graduate category of membership. Master's and doctoral students are required to have completed 1/4 of the program of study. Students in master's programs are required to achieve a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 grading scale or its equivalent. Students in doctoral programs are required to achieve a 3.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent.

## Do you know Cindy Teel?



**Name:**

Cindy Teel, PhD, RN

**Occupation:**

Associate Professor, Assistant Dean, Academic Affairs, KU School of Nursing

**Involvement in SST:**

When I was a student at the University of Arizona, I was inducted into the Beta Mu Chapter of STT. After moving to Kansas in 1993, I became a member of Delta Chapter. Since that time, I've chaired the Research and Awards Committee (1996-97), and served as Vice President (1997-99), President-elect (1999-2000), and President (2000-02). I've also reviewed abstracts for STTI research conferences and have been a member of the STTI Resolutions Committee.

**How has STT impacted your professional development?**

STT has directly affected my professional development in research, in that I've received support for my research through several STT funding mechanisms. STT also has affected my professional development by providing multiple opportunities to become involved, through various activities of the organization. The mission of STTI is to provide leadership and scholarship in practice, education, and research for the purpose of enhancing health. Achieving this mission is accomplished only through the collective commitment of many individuals and Chapters. I am proud to be a part of STT and, as a member, to contribute to achievement of its mission.

**What career and/or practice accomplishments have been most meaningful for you?**

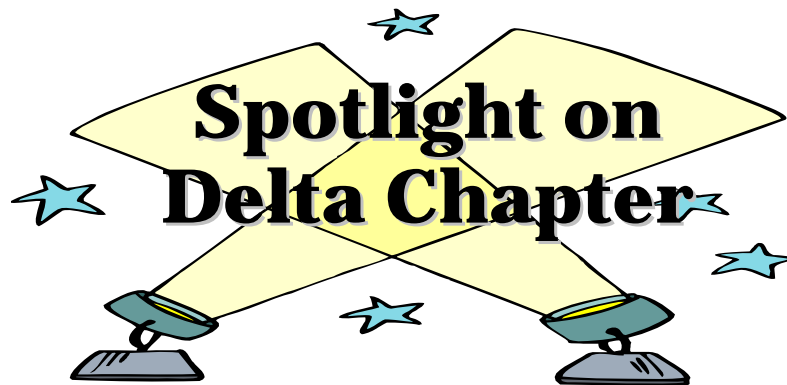
My grandmother received her diploma in nursing in 1911. From an early age, I knew that I, too, wanted to be a nurse. Completing my BSN was the first meaningful accomplishment on that journey. What I didn't realize at that time was that the world of nursing included so many other opportunities. I have continued to enjoy each one. Most recently, I was very honored to receive one of the W. T. Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence from KU.

**How can you make a difference in the practice of nursing?**

I try to make a difference in nursing practice through teaching and research. I work with students at all program levels in the School of Nursing. In each situation, there are different opportunities to make a difference, from teaching about how to identify and use evidence as a basis for decisions in practice, to teaching about how to generate and disseminate new knowledge that can be helpful in achieving excellence in practice.

**Current Endeavors?**

I'm currently working on a study funded by the American Heart Association. The aim of the research is to test the effectiveness of a theory-based, health-promoting intervention (Self-Care TALK) in relieving distress and promoting health among older spouse caregivers of stroke survivors. The study will continue for 2 years. I'm also currently in my second year as Vice-President of MNRS. This has been a wonderful opportunity to meet and work with nurse researchers and clinicians from across the region.



## PUBLICATIONS

Breedlove, G. & Busenhart, C. (2005). Screening and detection of ovarian cancer. Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health, 50(1), 51-54.

Popkess-Vawter, S., Yoder, E., & Gajewski, B. (2005). The role of spirituality in holistic weight management. Clinical Nursing Research, 14(2), 158-174.

Scheibmeir, H., Christensen, K., Whitaker, S. H., et al. (2005). A review of free radicals and antioxidants for critical care nurses. Intensive and Critical Care Nursing, 21, 24-28.

Smith, C. E, Koehler, J. Moore, J., et al. (2005). Testing videotape education for heart failure. Clinical Nursing Research, 14 (7), 191-204.

Smith, C. E., Roberts, S., Schaag, H., et al. (2005). A model for evaluating systemic change. Journal of Nurse Anesthesia, 35 (2), 67-72.

Tarnow, K. & Buter, H. K. (2005). Teaching the art of professional nursing in the learning laboratory. Annual Review of Nursing Education, 3, 375-392.

Tarnow, K. & King, N. (2004). Tradition: Intradermal injections bevel up vs. bevel down. Applied Nursing Research, 17 (4), 275-283.

Wambach, K., Campbell, S.H., Gill, S. L., Dogson, J. E., Abiona, T. C., & Heinig, M.J. (2005). Clinical lactation practice: 20 years of evidence. Journal of Human Lactation, 21 (3), 245-258.

Williams, K.N., Ilten, T.B., & Bower, H. (2005). Meeting Communication Needs. Journal of Psychosocial Nursing, 43 (7), 38-45.

## PRESENTATIONS

Bonnel, W., Neuberger, G., & Ilten, T.B., "Community College and University Partnerships: Approaches for Engaging Clinical Faculty and Promoting Career Ladders" NLN Education Summit 2005, Baltimore, MD.

Bonnel, W., Ludwig, C., & Smith, J., "On-line Course Feedback: What Does It Mean?" NLN Education Summit 2005, Baltimore, MD.

Connors, H., Warren, J., Fletcher, K., McNamara, T., "An Innovative Academic Solution to Health Care Information Technology Workforce Issues" NLN Education Summit 2005, Baltimore, MD.

## **SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS**

We at Delta Chapter are proud of our distinguished membership and are delighted to hear about members' achievements, appointments, and awards. We are pleased to carry announcements of such items in the Delta Chapter Newsletter. Please use this form to notify us of your accomplishments. Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you are enclosing a publication notice, please include appropriate citation information. The deadline for submission of reports of activities, honors, presentations, or publications for the next newsletter (Spring/Summer) is January 15, 2005.

Mail to: Teresa Ilten, Delta Chapter Newsletter Editor, Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd., Box 52, Overland Park, KS 66210-1299. ([tilten@jccc.edu](mailto:tilten@jccc.edu))

Moving? Go to SSTI website [www.nursingsociety.org/chapters/change\\_of\\_address.html](http://www.nursingsociety.org/chapters/change_of_address.html) and change it on-line.

**SIGMA THETA TAU, INC**  
**INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OF NURSING**  
**Delta Chapter**  
The University of Kansas School of Nursing  
Mail Stop 4043  
3901 Rainbow Blvd.  
Kansas City, KS 66160

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66202  
Permit #434