

Sigma Theta Tau  
Pi Mu Chapter at Large Chapter Meeting  
November 15, 2007

**Attendance:** Jay Helfers, Linda Hulton, Kathy Floyd, Sandy Kreider, Judy Matthews, Claudia O'Neil, Donna Trimm, Rebecca Troyer, Arlene Wiens, Laura Yoder.

**Meeting called to order at 0635 PM by Judy Matthews.**

Minutes from September 13, 2007 were reviewed and accepted.

**Biennial Convention Report:**

Strategic Planning Emphasis: Linda Hulton and Judy Matthews went to the STTI biennial convention in Baltimore November 2-7 as delegates for the STTI business meeting. Linda will upload the STTI's 4 new goals plus place a PowerPoint presentation of this to our web site. STTI want nurses to look at the whole organization globally. Need at least 16 to 20% membership outside the borders of the US, whereas we have only 4% international membership. Ideas presented were: need to set up a regional office placed internationally, place for internet access for other countries, and publish more papers from other countries. Looking at the current membership involved in STTI, it is noted that members are older and student involvement is not as high. The question was raised "what do we need at the local area...working more with our students." Claudia said she had ideas, discussed later. Both Linda and Judy said the conference was the most organized of any conference they had been to with top leaders presenting at the keynote addresses and quality presentations at the concurrent sessions.

New officers for National Sigma Theta Tau

Judy announced that the Region 13 director is now Dianna Foley from Winchester replacing Gretchen Kelley. Other officers include: President-elect Karen Morin, Vice President Gwen Sherwood, Secretary Beverly Reigle, and Treasurer Richard Ricciardi. Other new officers for STTI at the national level can be reviewed on the STTI website. Portions of the STTI Bylaws were voted upon for change. Standards for induction have been changed for schools outside the US to allow for different types of grading scales. One bylaw change that did not pass was to eliminate "the top 35% of class can be invited for membership." There is an exception clause that remains for a school to be able to invite students with outstanding leadership skills to be included even if they are outside of the 35% range. Schools should not always have the GPA as the only focus because of diverse students who may be excellent students, but their GPA is not high enough because English is not their primary language.

Other changes in the bylaws included 1) a person may ask to be taken off the membership roster, 2) the local chapter needs to sponsor two events per year that represents STT goals and objectives was changed from must sponsor two educational events. Other changes can be found on the STTI website and will be reviewed by the governance committee to determine any required changes in the

pi-mu bylaws. Other changes not affecting Pi Mu directly may be reviewed on the STTI website.

Regional News: Region 13 is planning a big regional Educational Research for April 17, 18, 2008 in Charlotte, N.C. More information will be sent to our chapter as the plans are finalized.

Educational events: During the regional meeting, networking took place. Shenandoah is having Karen Moran as their speaker on their professional day, April 18 (the new president of STTI). We will ask her to speak for us the day before at our PI MU Professional Development Day. Shenandoah wants to talk with us and work together on this, so we can use the same speaker each year and share the cost.

April conference: Kathy Floyd stated she will be meeting on Nov. 30 to plan PI MU Professional Development Day with her committee. Discussion followed concerning the meals. Last year the "Founders' Day lunch" was eliminated and replaced with box lunches and speaker for all participants. It was suggested that the planning committee go back to a divided lunch time, to include a guest speaker for each—one for students and a sit down lunch at an extra cost for community leaders and faculty. Vouchers are given for student lunches, whereas the Founders' Day meal was paid for by participants. Money made from the Founders' Day luncheon is used to provide money for awards and scholarships. Students in attendance agreed that a session for them during the Founders' Day lunch would be a good idea and suggested that the sessions might include: NCLEX prep, ideas on what benefits to pick with a new job, money management with a new job, taxes, or something humorous.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Kreider reported on meeting Clayton Griffin, a financial advisor with Wachovia Securities, to decide how to invest money for the chapter. Linda made a motion to follow the financial advisors recommendations of keeping \$8,000 in checking, investing \$9,000 in Dominion Resources, investing in two CDs of 3-year and 5-year with \$5,000 in each. After discussion this was amended to 2 & 4-year CDs with 5,000 each. The motion carried.

The STTI cords are being given to new members at induction. Members who did not receive cords in the past have purchased cords from the Pi Mu supply. The governance committee is looking at scholarships funds for student membership in STTI and will report recommendations at the January meeting.

### **Involvement of Students:**

Student representation: Linda recommended that we combine our outstanding student award and the need for a student representative to serve on the board. Our outstanding student award is given on Professional Development Day. This is at the end of the students stay in this area. Linda Hulton moved that the student leadership award be given in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of induction, so the student can commit to working with Pi Mu in a leadership capacity. Judy Matthews seconded the motion.

Discussion included: The question should be asked of the student, "What is your vision in serving in this chapter?" The current class should be targeted, so they can apply now. Students will apply and the award will be given in the fall. This student can be the student representative to this chapter. Even though the student would be chosen in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of their senior year, the award would be presented at Professional Development Program. Arlene suggested we look at this award again and redefine some expectations. If this is a student leadership award, part of the expectations will be that the student will serve as a member on a working committee. The motion carried.

Linda will set up web surveyor to help students apply. Each school counselor will also be involved to get information to the current group of eligible students.

Associate member: Classification of membership was discussed. It is requested that Pi Mu re-examine the value of the "associate member" and define the purpose or consider eliminating the classification. Associates are members of the chapter, not of STTI.

The next Pi Mu Chapter Meeting will be January 10 at 6:30PM – 8PM, at EMU North Lawn East Dining Room.

07:55PM the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Donna Trimm, Secretary, Pi Mu at Large Chapter