Congratulations to our chapter for receiving the January 2009 Community Service Star Spotlight Award from STTI, Honor Society of Nursing. This award was received because of our successful medical supply drive we conducted for our global health outreach project, October 2008, for the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa. The letter stated:

“Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing would like to thank Omicron Tau Chapter for its contribution to the well-being of people worldwide. As a Community Service Star spotlighted chapter, Omicron Tau proves that nursing transcends cultural and physical boundaries. The dedication of time, money, and all resources are much appreciated. Thank you for sharing the experience with nurses worldwide.”

Rhoda Owens MSN, RN, President

The article can be found on the STTI web site at: http://www.nursingsociety.org/Chapters/Pages/OmicronTauSpotlight.aspx

Thanks for your effort!
Nominations needed for 2009 Omicron Tau Chapter Awards:

Nominations are now being accepted for the Omicron Tau Chapter awards to be awarded on April 30, 2009 at the induction ceremony.

Our Chapter’s ORCHID AWARD recognizes a chapter member who has promoted the development of the chapter’s functions and activities through promoting the image of nursing, active involvement in chapter activities, outstanding leadership and participation in chapter functions, inspirational role model for volunteerism and leadership, and an active member of the Omicron Tau Chapter.

Our Chapter’s NURSES WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLINICAL PRACTICE LESS THAN 10 YEARS recognizes a nurse employed in any area of nursing practice for less than 10 years demonstrating exemplary work for the health of individuals, families, or groups. This individual must be an active member of the Omicron Tau Chapter.

Our Chapter’s NURSES WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLINICAL PRACTICE MORE THAN 10 YEARS recognizes a nurse who has been in clinical practice for more than 10 years in leadership or an advanced practice role demonstrating exemplary work for the health of individuals, families, or groups. This individual must be an active member of the Omicron Tau Chapter.

Please submit nominations to:
Marita Hoffart PhD, RN
Dept. of Nursing, Minot State University
500 University Avenue West
Minot, ND 58707
E-mail: marita.hoffart@minotstateu.edu
Phone Number: 858-3253

Omicron Tau Chapter and MSU Nursing Students conduct a successful medical supply drive for the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa (FHSSA)

Our chapter’s global health outreach project held in October 2008 was a success! A total of 31 boxes containing over 500 pounds of medical supplies were collected in this community wide medical supply drive. The supplies are being shipped free of charge with the assistance of Direct Relief International to Seke Rural Hospice and Island Hospice in Zimbabwe. Because of the success of this project, the Omicron Tau Chapter has become a “Friend of FHSSA”. As a “Friend of FHSSA”, we will be given additional opportunities to continue partnering and collaborating with FHSSA to endorse the global effort to bring comfort and quality end-of-life care to those living with HIV/AIDS and other terminal illnesses in Sub-Saharan Africa. FHSSA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support organizations in their development and provision of hospice and palliative care initiatives in Sub-Saharan Africa. FHSSA’s vision is for all people who are affected by HIV/AIDS to have access to and receive quality palliative and end-of-life care. This project assisted our chapter to meet part of strategic planning by completing a global health outreach project while collaborating with MSU student nurses. A big thanks to all of you who donated supplies and assisted with publicizing this project!

Rhoda Owens MSN, RN
Omicron Tau Chapter President

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
Helen Keller
Omicron Tau Chapter has Begun Planning Global Health Service Project to Africa:

Planning is in the early stages for a global health service project for 2010 with the Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa (FHSSA). The project would involve visiting and working at hospices associated with FHSSA. Participants would include MSU Dept. of Nursing faculty, active members of the Omicron Tau Chapter and possibly MSU nursing students. This type of project supports the honor society’s mission of “….to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to make a difference in health worldwide”. The project also supports Vision 2020. In our contacts with several members of other chapters, we have learned that many other chapters are involved in these types of global health services projects that at times involve nursing students. More information will be communicated to our members within the next few weeks. If anyone is interested in participating in this type of project, please call Rhoda Owens (720-1588 or 839-8536) or Laurie Dimler (858-4452) to assist with planning.

“A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the quality of his actions and the integrity of his intent. In the end, leaders are much like eagles...they don't flock, you find them one at a time. “

~Successories

Are you looking for a way to meet other members and become more involved in the activities of Omicron Tau? Why not consider running for an open position on our Board of Directors. All positions are two year terms (2009 – 2011). Nominations are now being accepted for the following officers to serve on the Omicron Tau Chapter’s Board of Directors:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Board Member
- Governance Committee
- Leadership Succession Committee (2 positions)
- Delegates (2 positions)

Elections will be held at the March 3, 2009 annual meeting.

If interested or any questions, please contact Jane Olson, Chair of the Leadership Succession Committee, at 838-6428 or e-mail her at janeeliz53@msn.com
Our Vision
The vision of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world’s people.

Our Mission
The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to make a difference in health worldwide.

Sigma Theta Tau has over 450,000 nurses in 90 countries working to improve health worldwide. Omicron Tau Chapter, chartered in 1998, is located within the Department of Nursing at Minot State University.
Omicron Tau Chapter
Scholarship and Research Program

Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), Omicron Tau Chapter Scholarship and Research program exists to enable nurses to advance their knowledge in the areas chosen by the individual nurse, including but not limited to nursing research and current issues in nursing. The purpose of this program is to facilitate scholarship and research opportunities for our chapter members through a grant application process.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2009 Scholarship and Research Program Awards. The amount of an award will be determined by the amount of funds requested, the number of requests and the availability of monies in the chapter scholarship/research program fund. The maximum amount to be awarded per applicant is $500.00. The grant recipients will be announced at the annual Spring Induction Ceremony to be held on April 30, 2009 at the MSU Student Union.

Criteria for Awarding Scholarship and Research Program Awards:

1. Applicant Criteria:
   - Active STTI member who is in good standing with Omicron Tau.
   - Registered nurse with a minimum of a Baccalaureate degree in nursing. Nursing student enrolled in a higher degree program in nursing.

2. Application:
   - Submit an application (see attached from) and a written statement of personal and professional goals in nursing.
   - Signed formal agreement (see attached form) for money usage and public report of findings.

Attachments:

- If a student:  
  Transcript of undergraduate records and graduate work completed.  
  Letters of recommendation from two faculty members and one professional associate

- Omicron Tau Chapter members:  
  Vitae or portfolio of nursing practice experience (publications, professional organization involvement, presentations, leadership and practice experience.)

3. Applicant must be a current Sigma Theta Tau International member and belong to Omicron Tau Chapter.

4. Competitive basis for fund allocation:
   - Quality of written goals
   - Contribution or potential contribution to nursing knowledge and public benefit
   - Proposal budget

Applications are due February 28, 2009 to the Scholarship and Research Committee and are to be mailed to the committee’s chair. Please contact regarding any questions with the application process.

Linda Pettersen PhD, RN
Assistant Professor of Nursing
Minot State University
Department of Nursing
500 University Avenue West
Minot, ND 58707
Phone: 701-838-3252
Date:  _____________________________________
Title:  ______________________________________________________________________
Principal Leader signature: ______________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
                          City   State/Province   ZIP/Postal Code
Office Phone: __________________________ Home Phone: ___________________________
Email Address:  ________________________________________________________________
Sigma Theta Tau Member:  ____  Yes  ____ No  Year Inducted:  ________________
Omicron Tau Chapter Member:  ____  Yes  ____ No
Co-leader signature(s): __________________________________________________________
                                                                                     
Addresses: Name: __________________________________________________________
                       Address: ________________________________________________________
                       Phone: __________________________________________________________
                       Email Address: ________________________________________________
               Name: __________________________________________________________
               Address: ________________________________________________________
               Phone: __________________________________________________________
               Email Address: ________________________________________________
       Name: __________________________________________________________
       Address: ________________________________________________________
       Phone: __________________________________________________________
       Email Address: ________________________________________________
   Have you applied for or are you now receiving support for this study?  :  ê Yes  ë No
If yes, list agency: __________________________ Amount requested/received: ______________
If other support is received, please notify Omicron Tau Chapter's Scholarship and Research Committee Chair.

Complete if a student:
Degree sought: __________________________  Expected Date: __________________________
Specify the amount of the program completed to date: __________________________
University: __________________________     Major: __________________________
Final report date: __________________________
Omicron Tau Chapter  
Sigma Theta Tau International  
Scholarship and Research Grant  
Application Form – Page 2

Total amount of budget requested in US dollars: $________________

Monies approved will be awarded as follows: one half awarded up front with the remainder awarded upon completion of the project.

Please check the materials accompanying this application:

- Grant Agreement
- Grant Proposal
- Other _____________________________________________

Signature: _____________________________________ Date: ______________________

This section below is to be completed by the Chapter.

A. Approval date: ____________________________

B. Award granted: $__________________________

Chapter Scholarship and Research Committee Chair Signature: ______________________

Chapter Treasurer Signature: _____________________________________________

C. Progress Reports:

Date: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

Study completed (date): _______________________

Monies used: _______________________________

Monies returned: __________________________

Final report date: __________________________
Omicron Tau Chapter  
Sigma Theta Tau International  
Scholarship and Research Grant  
Agreement Form

If my proposal is approved for funding, I agree to:
- Accept responsibility for the professional conduct of this study.
- Expend the funds as described in the proposal, and return unused funds to the treasurer of the Omicron Tau chapter.
- Submit a progress report (semi-annually) until the study is complete.
- Send a written final copy of the report to the Scholarship and Research Committee.
- Acknowledge the grant support of Omicron Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International in the publication or presentation of the findings.
- Publish or present the findings of the report in a program sponsored by Omicron Tau Chapter, if invited to do so.

Title of Study: ________________________________________________________________

Date signed: _____________________ Expected date of final report: ____________________

Principal Leader signature: ______________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________

City   State/Province   ZIP/Postal Code

Office Phone: __________________________ Home Phone: ___________________________

Email Address:  ________________________________________________________________

Co-leader signature(s): __________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Addresses: Name: __________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________________________________________________

Email Address: __________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________________________________________________

Email Address: __________________________________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________________________________________________

Email Address: __________________________________________________________