

A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF SIGMA THETA TAU
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OF NURSING
1922-1979

BY

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Sigma Theta Tau
National Honor Society of Nursing:
A Historical Overview
1922-1979
Rebecca Thomas Markel, Ed.D.
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Sigma Theta Tau was founded in 1922 by six students at the Indiana University Training School for Nurses, Indianapolis, Indiana. The name was chosen using the initials of the Greek words, STORGA, THAROS, TIMA, meaning Love, Courage, and Honor. Sigma Theta Tau was organized to encourage and recognize superior scholarship and leadership achievement at the undergraduate and graduate levels in nursing.

The problem of this study was to write a historical overview of Sigma Theta Tau and to develop guidelines for use by chapter historians in writing histories and maintaining archives. The primary concern of this study was the growth and evolution of Sigma Theta Tau. It is, therefore, a history rather than a critique, a record rather than an evaluation. The study dealt with the period from the beginning of the society in 1922 to 1979.

A study of the minutes, reports, and archival materials of Sigma Theta Tau and interviews of the founders, national officers, and others yielded a historical understanding of the society's activities and made possible an appreciation of the past

contributions as well as the major trends in the development of Sigma Theta Tau.

Four general conclusions were developed: (1) Sigma Theta Tau is a viable society; (2) the growth and development of the honor society is predicted through the year 2000; (3) the membership is composed of scholarly nurses fulfilling national leadership roles; and (4) Sigma Theta Tau is committed to improving the health of the public.

Approved and accepted by

Chairperson

Director of
Thesis

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive letter 'J' with a long, sweeping tail that extends upwards and to the right.

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R.E.T.M.

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

Sigma Theta Tau, National Honor Society of Nursing, is the only such nursing society in the United States. It is professional and social and its purposes and functions may be compared to other honor societies such as Alpha Omega Alpha in medicine, and Pi Lambda Theta and Phi Delta Kappa in education. Since its organization in 1922, more than 50,000 women and men have been inducted into membership. Membership in Sigma Theta Tau is an honor conferred on students in baccalaureate and graduate programs who have demonstrated excellence in their nursing programs.

The role of Sigma Theta Tau has grown professionally and socially since its organization in 1922. The society is dedicated to the task of promoting high professional standards. Membership is available by invitation through active chapters. Members assume acceptance of the purposes of the society and responsibility to participate in achieving the goals consistent with the profession and scholastic character of Sigma Theta Tau (Information folder, 1977.) It concerns itself with fostering creative work and emphasizing the importance of scientific research in all areas of nursing. The organization attempts to stimulate professional interest and growth in its members through local, regional, and national programs. The purpose of Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. is essentially the same today as when it was founded in 1922 in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the Indiana University Training School for Nurses. A number of changes were made so that the statement of purpose agrees more fully with professional trends and program expansion of the society. (See Appendix A,B,C,D,E).

In 1922, six women students at Indiana University Training School for Nurses conceived the idea of establishing an honor society in nursing. They believed the development of such an organization would become an important step in advancing the status of nursing as a profession. In 1922, only a few students were eligible for membership in honor or social fraternities. Consequently, the six interested students stated the need for such a society to be twofold; namely, (1) recognize scholarship and (2) provide a social forum. They sought to develop a society which would reward distinguished effort and would also through fellowship, increase professional spirit in the field of nursing.

Early in 1922 these six nursing students presented their ideas and plans to Ethel P. Clarke, Director of Nurses, Indiana University Training School for Nurses. Clarke was aware of the need for an honor society in nursing and was favorably pleased by the mature thinking and sincere professional concern of the students. The guidance of Dorothy Ford Buschmann, an alumna of their school, was sought in the writing of the Constitution. The Constitution was written and the legal problems accompanying the establishment of a new society were resolved.

The name Sigma Theta Tau, Inc., the initials of the Greek words Storga, Tharos, Tima meaning "Love," "Courage," and "Honor" were selected. The society was chartered in the state of Indiana on October 4, 1922. The date, October 5, has been officially designated as the anniversary date for recognition of founding of Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. The six former students, Mary Tolle, Edith Moore, Marie Hippensteel, Dorothy Garrigus, Elizabeth Russell, and Elizabeth McWilliams, were the founders. In

recognition of her invaluable assistance in solving the problems arising in its founding, Clarke became known as the "Mother" of the honor society and Buschmann was affectionately regarded as the "Big Sister."

The ritual was written by Tolle (Wright), who with other members of the Alpha Chapter (Indiana University Training School for Nurses) and Buschmann, planned the symbols and selected the colors and flowers. The founders believed that the common interests and goals of students in university schools of nursing would eventually lead to the founding of a national society; however, the idea grew slowly. Its newness to the nursing profession caused considerable skepticism. The schools of the time were largely traditional and the military philosophy of discipline did not subscribe to the fostering of organizations originated by students.

The organization expanded and charters were granted to schools which met the criteria. In 1979, chapters existed on 95 colleges and universities with nationally accredited programs which grant baccalaureate or higher degrees in nursing. In universities with chapters, Sigma Theta Tau is an educational force, promoting scholarship in nursing and making tangible contributions to the school and the profession through its help in the preparation of nurse leaders.

Statement of the Problem

The problem of this study was to write an overview of the history of Sigma Theta Tau, National Honor Society of Nursing, and to contribute to the development and guidelines for use by chapter historians in writing histories and maintaining archives (See Appendix F, G, H). The primary concern of this study was focused upon the growth and evolution of Sigma Theta Tau. It is, therefore, a history and a record rather than a critique; dealing with the period from the beginning of the society in 1922 to 1979.

Significance

It was in 1922 that six students in the Indiana University Training School for Nurses conceived the idea of an honor society in nursing and carried it through until, in October, a charter and Articles of Association were granted by the state of Indiana (Widmer, 1972, p. 786). While those words sound reasonable today, the point of view which they reflect was rare indeed in 1922. That six students of that day should have evolved the idea of an honor society in nursing was truly remarkable.

Nursing has done amazingly well, considering the paucity of prepared researchers and the small amounts of monies allocated for research. However, it is absolutely necessary that the profession of nursing continue to deal with its scattered research efforts of the past (de Tornay, 1977, p. 405). The research priorities enunciated in 1976 by the American Nurses' Association Commission on Nursing Research must be implemented. The commission's priorities for research in nursing fall into two areas: questions related to the practice of nursing and questions related to the profession of nursing (de Tornay, 1977, p. 405). Two of the six studies pertaining to the profession of nursing were identified as (1) those in the history and philosophy of nursing, and (2) studies of the organization of the nursing profession. This study will be concerned with the history of a nursing honor society, or organization and will thus address one of the above mentioned priorities. This study is significant to the investigator in that she is a member of Alpha Chapter and was serving in the national office of second vice president, Sigma Theta Tau. No systematic collection of records exists at the time of inception of this study.

Methodology

A study of the minutes, reports, and archival materials of Sigma Theta Tau and interviews of the founders, national officers, and others yielded an historical understanding of the society's activities and made possible an appreciation of the past contributions as well as the major trends in the development of Sigma Theta Tau. In order to implement the proposed study, four steps were taken. They were as follows: (1) formulated the problem, (2) gathered the records and data, (3) evaluated the data, and (4) interpreted and reported the findings. In accomplishing these four steps, the following procedural steps were implemented: (1) obtained approval from the National Council of Sigma Theta Tau to conduct the study, (2) obtained approval from the national executive officer to have access to the files and records, (3) obtained approval from the archivist of Alpha Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, to study available materials, (4) obtained approval to review historical documents of Indiana University, (5) interviewed the five living founders of Sigma Theta Tau, (6) interviewed current national officers of Sigma Theta Tau, (7) interviewed selected past national officers of Sigma Theta Tau, (8) made visits to selected chapters as being representative of developmental periods, and (9) reported on findings.

Three distinct phases of growth related to the development of Sigma Theta Tau were articulated. Phase I was seen as dedication to the purpose with emphasis on sentiment. Procedures and regulations characterized Phase II. Emphasis on program development and analysis and evaluation of the meaning of an honor society were identified in Phase III. The following section has been abstracted from two documents in the Sigma

Theta Tau Archive file IF. These documents are (1) SIGMA THETA TAU, INC. "General Information" 1961², and (2) Sigma Theta Tau National Honorary Society of Nursing Information Handbook, 1956.

Historical research is an attempt to establish facts and arrive at conclusions concerning past events. The historical researcher must systematically and objectively locate, evaluate, and interpret evidence available for understanding the past (Ary, Jacobs, and Razavieh, 1969, p. 283). From this evidence it can be shown what may be contributed by past experience to a greater understanding of present situations and what might happen in the future.

Nurses are becoming more interested in their history, perhaps because of such factors as youth of the nursing profession, the growing popularity of historical research, and the recent emphasis on feminist studies (Safier, 1977, p. vi).

Definition of Terms

Grand Council - Elected officials providing leadership for the honor society during the twenties (1920's) and thirties (1930's).

Honorary Member - Honorary membership can only occur on the national level. It is bestowed on persons who are not eligible under Membership Criteria stated in Bylaws. Honorary members, who may or may not be professional nurses, have made contributions to the profession of nursing.

House of Delegates - Body of national officers, national committee chairs, and chapter delegates meeting every two years (biennially) in convention.

National Council - Elected officers providing leadership for the honor society during the forties (1940's) through the seventies (1970's).

Symbols - The emblem of Sigma Theta Tau, Inc. is in the form of a gold key denoting scholarship. The key may be gold with black enamel or it may be jeweled with amethyst stars and a circle of pearls. The flower of the society is the orchid and the official colors are orchid (sic) and fuschia (sic). The coat-of-arms which is a symbol of the ideas of a group, is placed on many official documents. The seal of the society, placed on official documents, is the Lamp of Knowledge and Wisdom, surrounded by a circle containing the name and the date of the founding.

Limitations and Delimitations

1. The documents reviewed were those available in the library at the national headquarters. A limited number of archival materials is cataloged.
2. The population interviewed was limited to living founders and officers, past and present, and selected members who agreed to participate.
3. The first national headquarters was opened in October, 1973; prior to this time no central files existed.

Related Research and Literature

A minimum number of related research studies was found. However, an exhaustive search was conducted to present relevant materials in the following three areas of association: (1) honor societies, (2) nursing education as a part of higher education, and (3) literature relating to the growth and development of Sigma Theta Tau.

Honor Societies

The Council of the Association of College Honor Societies in 1976 published a Booklet of Information which provides a general report on

the development of honor societies. The idea which underlies the honor societies in American colleges and universities is three fold. They exist primarily to recognize the attainment of scholarship of a superior quality. Secondly, a few societies recognize the development of leadership qualities, character, and good campus citizenship in addition to a strong secondary scholarship record. Thirdly, they encourage the production of superior scholarship and leadership.

To accomplish these objectives, it is clear that an honor society must define and maintain a truly high standard of eligibility for membership and achieve sufficient status that membership becomes something to be valued highly. The second point is greatly advanced if the significance of membership is appreciated over a wide area. Thus, the society with a number of chapters at accredited institutions is stronger than one which is purely local, and the society which is known and admired outside the college as well as on the campus may be regarded as having achieved maturity and success (Booklet of Information, 1977, p. 9).

The honor society has followed the expansion and specialization of higher education in America. When Phi Beta Kappa was organized in 1776, there was no thought given to its proper "field", since all colleges then in existence were for the training of men for "the service of the church and the state." With the expansion of education into new fields, a choice had to be made, and Phi Beta Kappa elected at the end of the first half century of its existence to operate in the field of the liberal arts and sciences. Although this was not finally voted until 1898, the trend was evident some years earlier, and the 1880's saw the

establishment of Tau Beta Pi in the field of engineering and Sigma Xi in scientific research (Booklet of Information, 1976, p. 10).

In the early years of the twentieth century, other honor societies came into being. One of these, Phi Kappa Phi, was started by the presidents of three state universities, with the thought that these institutions should have their own honor society: Later, its field was wisely extended to include any institution of university scope, accepting into membership superior students of all schools or colleges of which they were a part. More recently, another scholarship honor society covering all academic fields, Alpha Chi, was organized. With these exceptions, and with the exception of those which had their origins in black or Catholic colleges and universities, scholarship honor societies have followed the earlier tradition of selecting a specific field of coverage. Thus, for example, Delta Mu Delta elects in the field of business administration, Pi Kappa Lambda in music, Rho Chi in pharmacy, and Tau Beta Pi in engineering (Booklet of Information, 1976, p. 11).

Three interesting and important variations have developed since 1900. One of these recognizes the values of extracurricular activities and the development of general campus citizenship. A prime requisite for election is meritorious attainments in all-around leadership in college life. In this field, Omicron Delta Kappa and Mortar Board have achieved excellent reputations. It is to be noted that both have a strong secondary requirement of scholarship.

A second variation is represented by the numerous societies which draw their membership from the various departments of study, recognizing

chiefly good work in the field of the student's major interest or special field of study. These societies are generally known as departmental or specialized honor societies and are represented by such societies as Sigma Pi Sigma in physics, Alpha Epsilon Delta in premedicine, Delta Sigma Rho and Tau Kappa Alpha in forensics, Phi Alpha Theta in history, Eta Kappa Nu in electrical engineering, Pi Tau Sigma in mechanical engineering, Tau Sigma Delta in architecture and allied arts, Phi Sigma Alpha in political science, Phi Sigma in the biological sciences, Phi Sigma Iota in romance languages, Alpha Pi Mu in industrial engineering, Pi Gamma Mu in social science, Chi Epsilon in civil engineering, Kappa Tau Alpha in journalism, Phi Sigma Tau in philosophy, Sigma Theta Tau in nursing, and National Collegiate Players in drama.

The third variation recognizes scholastic achievement during the freshman year and encourages its members toward higher goals. This field of freshman scholarship honor societies is represented by Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta (Booklet of Information, 1976, pp. 9-10).

Nursing education is a part of higher education. The history of nursing may be traced back to ancient civilization. Simple nursing is known to have existed during this period, but no records exist of any type of nursing education. Nursing was considered a natural and ordinary event.

Nursing is known to have existed from ancient times through the Middle Ages. However, references to nursing education are usually omitted from historical literature because nursing was not held in high regard.

Nursing during the early Christian period was administrative care to the sick or injured. However, as the Church grew in strength, superstition took the place of nursing care. Illness and death were considered to have been sent by the devil. Nursing continued to deteriorate through the Dark Ages. Nursing seemed to have reached its lowest level during the sixteenth century. During the eighteenth century, modern medicine and nursing care began to develop (Flanagan, 1976).

However, according to Barritt (1973), nursing was considered to be a religious calling or a debased occupation until 1860. In 1860, Florence Nightingale opened a training school at Fort Thomas Hospital near London. Education of nurses was the school's primary function. The influence of the school led to the spread of modern nursing education throughout the civilized world.

Goodnow (1968) wrote that the first attempt to train nurses on the North American continent was made by the Ursuline Sisters of Quebec, Canada, who taught Indian women to care for their sick, beginning around 1640. Nursing education in the United States began on a very limited basis during the latter half of the nineteenth century and was based upon the philosophy and principles of the Nightingale Training School for Nurses. The New England Hospital for Women and Children included a nursing school in its charter in 1863. Collegiate schools of nursing had their beginnings in the United States. The University of Iowa opened a school of nursing in 1897, and Teachers College, Columbia University, in 1898, opened a program for nursing administrators. The University of Texas at about this same time accepted responsibility for the John Sealey Hospital School for Nurses, and, in 1909, a basic program at the

University of Minnesota began. By action of trustees and administrative officers of Indiana University, the basic school of nursing there opened in 1914. Nurses were concerned about the quality of nursing education at this time and believed that the educational system should be examined. Registration and sponsored studies were the result. The first state to secure a registration law for nurses was North Carolina in 1903. New Jersey, New York, and Virginia followed in the same year. By 1920, all except Nevada had a registration law (Johnson, 1975).

Over the past century formal education for nurses in the United States has moved from hospital based, service oriented education to university based, and scholastically oriented education for a population of women, generally. Implicit in this progress is the responsibility for nursing to create and maintain equal academic status and respectability with other professions within the system of higher education (Andreoli, 1977, pp. 53-54).

Sigma Theta Tau. This review of the literature indicated a paucity of research regarding Sigma Theta Tau. Akers (1973) wrote the first known historical account of the honor society. Writing of the early rituals and the initial ceremony, she related the philosophy of the founders. According to Widmer (1973, pp. 14-15), the early growth of the organization was minimal because academic excellence was not emphasized in most schools of nursing. The society developed slowly; in 1946 there were only six chapters. During the 1950's, nursing achieved respectability as an academic discipline and the idea of an honor society in nursing was accepted (Widmer, 1973, p. 14). Ten chapters were chartered during this decade.

In 1959, Sigma Theta Tau became a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. A meaningful reflection on membership in the Society was prepared for the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the founding of Sigma Theta Tau by Hepler (1973, pp. 15-17). Writing about the conception and current relevance of the organization, Wright (1973, pp. 6-7) developed a personal account, citing specific items of expansion. Stating that purposes of an organization do provide the necessary sense of direction, Karlson (1974, p. 12) motivated members to seek a high level of interdisciplinary function in honor fraternities. Continuing, Karlson requested individual members to assume responsibility for the achievement of the goals of the organization on both the local and national levels.

CHAPTER II

The Beginning Years
1922-1939

Early in the history of Sigma Theta Tau, dedication to purpose was identified with emphasis on sentiment as the focus. In the early records, one senses a tone of a high degree of feeling. For initiation the room was darkened, the officers wore Grecian robes. By special handshake and grip, the members formed a chain and each one was given a cross as a tangible sign of courage and mercy. The symbolism included an actual cup from which each member drank in turn. They had a secret call and several songs and chants. For codes of morals they read the Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 15, verses 5-17 and recited the Florence Nightingale Pledge. The beginning years were met with soundness of purpose and dedicated leadership (Archives Library 1C).

The first honorary member, Dr. Dorothy Rood, was inducted in 1939.

Goals

Four goals were identified: (1) to create a closer union between the university schools of nursing throughout the United States, (2) to establish a closer bond between students of schools of nursing and their respective universities, (3) to bring about a more cooperative fellowship between the students in the various university schools of nursing, and (4) to set higher moral, intellectual and social ideals and to strive for the maintenance of these ideals (Archives Library ID).

Chapters Chartered

During the years from 1922-1939, six chapters of Sigma Theta Tau were chartered. The first chapter to be chartered was Alpha, Indiana

University Training School for Nurses, in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 4, 1922. Alpha Chapter was founded in 1922 by six young women, students of the then Indiana University Training School for Nurses, now known as the Indiana University School of Nursing, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The group was granted a charter on October 4, 1922, in the state of Indiana (Appendix charter).

During the early years until the establishment of the Grand Council in 1929 many of the Alpha Chapter officers served as officers for the National Chapter. The first national president was from Alpha Chapter, which had members who served on both elected and appointed national offices over the years providing leadership in the development of the honor society. (See Appendix I). Ethel P. Clarke, Director of the Indiana University Training School for Nurses, at the time of the honor society founding, was known as the "Mother" to Alpha Chapter and the society-at-large. Her expertise, counsel, and guidance were significant to Sigma Theta Tau. Clarke contributed to the writing of the scant, early history of the organization (Archives Library 1D). Inasmuch as the founders placed emphasis upon scholarship and improvement of self, Alpha Chapter has been involved for a number of years in granting of scholarships and promotion of scholarly programming. Currently, there are over 1,000 active members in Alpha Chapter. Outstanding leaders from Alpha Chapter not only include the founders and Clarke but Nell Watts, National Executive Officer since January 1, 1974.

The society gained momentum and in 1924 Beta Chapter was installed at Washington University School of Nursing in St. Louis, Missouri. Four

years later in 1929, the first National Convention was held at the Indiana University Training School for Nurses in Indianapolis. Two years later in March, 1931, the second biennial convention was held at the Washington University School of Nursing, St. Louis, Missouri. Chapter growth continued as charters were awarded to Gamma Chapter, University of Iowa in 1929; Delta at University of Kansas in 1931, and Epsilon located at The Ohio State University in 1932. The last chapter chartered in these beginning years, Zeta, occurred in 1934 in Minneapolis at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing (Archives Library 1D). All of the original six chapters developed in the Mid-West.

Leadership

The first general offices were elected at the initial convention at the Indiana University School for Nurses in 1929. The second biennial convention was held at Washington University School of Nurses in 1931. In February of 1933 the chapters recommended the postponement of the convention for one year because of the unstable conditions of the country. The Grand Council approved the petition and the third national biennial convention was held at Iowa University School of Nursing in 1934. The fourth biennial convention was held in 1936 at Kansas University; the fifth biennial convention was held in 1938 at The Ohio State University School of Nursing. The Grand Council called a special Grand Chapter meeting at Indiana University Training School for Nurses in 1939 in order to put into effect the revised constitution.

The first Grand Officers or national officers were elected in 1929 at the first National Convention in Indianapolis. (See Appendix J). Elected to the office of President was Dorothy Ford Buschman, Alpha

Chapter. Louise Schwaniger, Alpha Chapter, was chosen Vice-President, while elected to fulfill the duties of the Secretary was Lois Weightman of Beta Chapter. The office of Treasurer was filled by Minerva Cooper of Beta Chapter, while Jean Nunamaker of Alpha Chapter became the first Editor-Historian of the national honor society. Florence Parisa, Delta Chapter was President from 1934-1938. In 1938, Ruth Kuehn, Epsilon Chapter, was elected to the Presidency.

Governance

A Grand Council consisted of five members who were elected by the Grand Chapter at its regular yearly meeting of the House of Delegates. The elected council members' term of service was for a period of four years. This elected council was the directing unit during the biennium between meetings of the fraternity-at-large. This system of governance passed through two stages. Alpha Chapter held legislative power for the first seven years. Thereafter, officers were elected by the Grand Chapter at the biennial convention. Alpha Chapter retained the office of Grand Archivist by constitutional bylaw until 1938 when it became like the other offices of the Grand Council.

During the 1920's, campus chapters and alumnae chapters were developed. In 1934, the alumnae chapters were eliminated and Associate membership was opened to faculty. Faculty members who sought membership in Sigma Theta Tau were to have shown high scholastic abilities in teaching and administration. Associate members were not eligible to vote or hold office but could be appointed to committees.

Honorary membership, conferred by the Grand Council following the recommendation of either an active or alumnae chapter, was possible. (See Appendix K).

The honorary membership was granted to women who had gained national recognition and prominence in nursing. These members could not vote or hold office but could be appointed by the Grand Council to serve on special committees (Archives Library 1b).

Issues

The early biennial conventions were forums for dialogue regarding high scholastic standards of the honor society and how to extend the development of the society at institutions of higher education offering baccalaureate and higher degrees in nursing.

Much discussion was given to the induction fee of \$2.00 (established in 1922) and following debate in three conventions, the delegates in 1939 increased the induction fee to \$15.00. This newly approved fee included the key of the society (Archives Library 1G).

In 1934, Epsilon Chapter prepared a film and showed this at the biennial convention. This film, "Operating Procedures", was presented as a significant teaching method of the future (and may be the oldest nursing film available).

In 1939, Epsilon Chapter held the first induction of a graduate registered nurse student working toward a baccalaureate degree with a nursing major. In the same year, 1939, the first induction of a registered nurse student working toward a Ph.D. degree was held (Archives Library 1D).

One of the purposes of Sigma Theta Tau as stated in the constitution is to "Foster high professional standards and encourage creative work in nursing." Since 1932 there had been a growing conviction that the honor society should have some national project which would contribute to this

ideal. As the result of a study made by Florence Parisa, Delta Chapter, (Grand Treasurer 1931-34, Grand President 1934-38) a research fund for problems in scientific nursing was established on April 14, 1934. The purposes were: (1) to foster development of the scientific attitude in relation to nursing problems; (2) to give financial aid in the execution of research in this field, and (3) to help awaken nurses to the fact that there is a field for research in nursing.

The first award of the fund of \$600 was made in 1936 to Alice L. Crist, a graduate of The Ohio State University School of Nursing. Not only was this Sigma Theta Tau's first national project, but it was also the first money available for research in Nursing in the United States (Archives Library 6A).

CHAPTER III

The Developing Years
1940-1959

This period of development for Sigma Theta Tau was characterized by a concern for procedures and regulations. Elaborate instructions were developed and gathering together of general information about the honor society was done. Forms and reports were initiated for national and chapter use. There was a spurt of growth in Sigma Theta Tau and it was thought that every collegiate school of nursing would have a chapter.

During the years from 1934 to 1940, two projects were funded. Research monies continued to be awarded. Table 1 depicts the numbers of wards and the amounts of money awarded each year from the Research Fund.

Table 1

Awards by Year, Amount, and Number

YEAR	AMOUNT	NUMBER	YEAR	AMOUNT	NUMBER	YEAR	AMOUNT	NUMBER
1936	\$ 600	1	1963	\$ 6,000	2	1973	\$12,680	9
1938	500	1	1964	5,000	1	1974	14,346	7
1945	500	1	1966	16,345	8	1975	8,713	6
1951	2,400	1	1967	9,303	8	1976	12,431	7
1952	2,000	1	1968	7,810	8	1977	5,976	5
1954	1,500	1	1969	9,028	7	1978	11,500	5
1955	700	1	1970	12,950	12	1979	11,823	5
1958	800	1	1971	9,338	9	TOTAL	162,443	107

It will be noted from information presented in Table 1 that the largest amount of money was awarded in 1966 and the largest number of

projects funded occurred in 1970. Individual awards have ranged from \$500 to \$6,000. The average award over the years has been \$1,518 (Westwick, 1979).

Goals

Seven goals and practices were identified: (1) recruit members working toward a degree, (2) abolish secret pledge service and elaborate secret ritual, (3) find suitable applicants for graduate research funds, (4) promote a spirit of fellowship among members, (5) develop an abiding interest in the advancement of nursing, (6) require student members to be in the upper one third of class with an average grade of B, and (7) locate on campus where there is a chapter faculty would be eligible for membership as associate member (Archives Library 1D).

Chapters Chartered

During this period a total of 11 chapters were chartered; one in the '40's and ten in the '50's. Eta Chapter located at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was founded in 1946. Those chapters chartered in the fifties decade were: Theta (1953), Boston University School of Nursing, Boston, Massachusetts; Iota (1953), Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Nashville, Tennessee; Kappa (1953), The Catholic University of American School of Nursing, Washington, D.C.; Lambda (1953), Wayne State University College of Nursing, Detroit, Michigan; MU (1958), University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut; Nu (1958), University of Alabama School of Nursing, Birmingham, Alabama; Xi (1958), University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Omicron (1959), University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore, Maryland; and Rho (1959), University of Michigan School of Nursing, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Nationwide attention was beginning to focus upon the development and potential chartering of chapters. A recognition by university officials, leaders of professional organizations and higher education administrators in general began to focus on this scholarship honor society and its membership.

Leadership

Two leaders to emerge during this time period were Katherine Densford, Minnesota, President in 1943 and Myrtle Aydelotte (Iowa), President in 1955. (See Appendix I: A complete list of national officers.) The seventh through the fifteenth biennial conventions were held in major cities and at universities where chapters existed (see Appendix J: National Conventions). Discussions by the national officers included the idea of a headquarters. Because of the then "term of rapid growth", it was thought that a central headquarters location could best serve the leadership, membership and potential chapters from interested nursing schools. The value of chapter visits from national officers was an agenda item at most meetings. Communication between chapters was encouraged by the national leadership and the first such meeting permitting inter-chapter communication was between Alpha Chapter at Indiana University and Epsilon Chapter at The Ohio State University School of Nursing at Indiana University in Indianapolis in early 1941. Seminars and conferences were held at many chapter locations with known leaders sharing their expertise. The concept of honor took on a "new look" - which was one of becoming inclusive and not exclusive.

Governance

Since the Grand Council had eliminated Alumnae Chapters in 1934, it was necessary to spend much time in the working sessions of the biennial conventions changing the bylaws. In fact, one member noted that the only business of convention and the House of Delegates was to "rewrite the bylaws". Limited information was available for this time period regarding this topic. It should be noted that the effective leadership of the national officers limited the problem or concerned areas. The appointment of sound committees with knowledgeable members effectively and efficiently carried out their work (National Archives 2.1).

Various changes were made in the Constitution in an effort to bring it up-to-date, clarify terminology, and simplify procedures.

Issues

Eligibility was an issue that consumed considerable discussion and debate at committee meetings. A goal to receive into membership the upper one third of a class had been established and now the criteria to determine this group had to be identified. Questions related to the completion or graduation of selected students had to be examined as there was mid-year and mid-semester completion dates. To what class year did these students belong? Many entered together as freshman but finished at various intervals. Did the entry or exit time determine status?

Another issue was site visitation of developing honor societies by the National Officers. The purpose was to give support and point out areas of strength and weaknesses in the development phase; however,

some officers feared the potential chapters would view the visit as non-supportive, more like a critique, and this fear might thwart the growth of the honor society (National Archives 2.1B).

Overall the nursing profession was gaining recognition as a partner within the health care system and had been applauded for its role during World War II and the Korean Conflict. The interest expressed in Sigma Theta Tau was high. University Schools of Nursing were seeking chapter status as a criterion for credibility.

CHAPTER IV

The Growth Years
1960-1979

This period of growth for Sigma Theta Tau was significant and presented a central theme of "organizations" (Archives Library 1D). The philosophy put forth was that organizations existed to fulfill and express on a corporate level the aspirations and ideals which individuals cannot achieve by themselves. A good organization exists for its members and possesses an integrity which is related to its purposes. A former national president remarked that organizations develop and exercise information and communication systems to inform and be informed about membership and organization initiatives designed to achieve the organization's goals and purposes (Archives Library 2.1E).

Responsiveness to goal achievement is a sign of a most modern and advanced organization. The officers believed that Sigma Theta Tau with a sound organizational structure, had the ability to set and pursue priorities. The clarification of goals and commitment of energy, talent and resources to establish the priorities of the organization signals coordination and seriousness of intent of the organization and its members. In addition the council also noted that respect for the members and trust in their ability to meet with rigor the goals of the organization, namely Sigma Theta Tau, is a quality of organizational life that is sometimes overlooked in the daily management (Archives Library 2.19). The presence of this respect and trust in an organization signifies maturity and self-respect of the organization. So it was with Sigma Theta Tau.

Goals

Seven goals were identified: (1) join with college administration to establish desirable educational standards, (2) expand chapters (an assessment revealed 23 states with no chapters), (3) improve the public image of nursing, (4) establish a financial structure to employ an executive and open a national headquarters, (5) support the expansion of nursing knowledge through scientific research studies, (6) enhance the image of nursing, and (7) advance the development of nursing leaders (Archives Library 1D).

Chapters Chartered

A total of 26 chapters were awarded chapter status in the sixty decade. Those chartered were: Tau, Georgetown University School of Nursing, Washington, D.C. (1960); Upsilon, New York University Division of Nursing, New York, New York (1961); Phi, South Dakota State University College of Nursing, Brookings, South Dakota (1961); Chi, College of St. Catherine Department of Nursing, St. Paul, Minnesota (1962); Psi, University of Washington School of Nursing, Seattle, Washington (1962). Also chartered in 1962 were Omega, DePauw University School of Nursing, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Alpha Alpha, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The year 1963 brought three new chapters: Alpha Beta, Loyola University School of Nursing, Chicago, Illinois; Alpha Gamma, San Jose State University Department of Nursing, San Jose, California and Alpha Delta, University of Texas School of Nursing, Galveston, Texas. Joining the national organization in 1964 were the following five chapters: Alpha Epsilon, Emory University School of Nursing, Atlanta, Georgia; Alpha Zeta,

Columbia University School of Nursing, New York, New York; Alpha Eta, University of California School of Nursing, San Francisco, California; Alpha Theta, University of Florida College of Nursing, Gainesville, Florida and Alpha Iota, University of Missouri School of Nursing, Columbia, Missouri. Nine chapters received their charters in 1966, namely: Alpha Kappa, University of Colorado School of Nursing in Denver, Colorado (Charter was later amended); Alpha Lambda, University of Illinois College of Nursing, Chicago, Illinois; Alpha Mu, Case Western Reserve University Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Cleveland, Ohio; Alpha Nu, Villanova University College of Nursing, Villanova, Pennsylvania; Alpha Xi, University of South Carolina College of Nursing, Columbia, South Carolina; Alpha Omicron, Saint Xavier College School of Nursing, Chicago, Illinois; Alpha Pi, University of Wyoming College of Nursing, Laramie, Wyoming; Alpha Rho, West Virginia School of Nursing, Morgantown, West Virginia, and Alpha Sigma, Seattle University School of Nursing, Seattle, Washington. The last two chapters granted in the 60's were in 1968 to Alpha Tau, Rutgers-The State University College of Nursing, Newark, New Jersey, and Alpha Upsilon, Cornell University, New York Hospital School of Nursing, New York, New York. Alumnae Chapter status was awarded to Cornell in 1979 when the School of Nursing closed.

Granting chapter status by charter reached a new high in the 1970's. A total of 53 chapters received their charters. Chartered in 1970 were: Alpha Phi, Hunter College of CUNY, Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, New York, New York; Alpha Chi, Boston College School of Nursing, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts; Alpha Psi, Michigan State University College of Nursing, East Lansing, Michigan; Alpha Omega, Adelphi University School of Nursing, Garden City, New York; Beta Alpha, Texas Christian

University Harris College of Nursing, Fort Worth, Texas; Beta Beta, Texas Woman's University College of Nursing, Dallas, Texas; Beta Gamma University of San Francisco College of Nursing, San Francisco, California; Beta Delta, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center College of Nursing, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Beta Delta Charter was amended in 1982 to include Oklahoma Baptist University, Department of Nursing, Shawnee, Oklahoma and Central State University, Department of Nursing, Edmond, Oklahoma.

Those honor societies receiving charters in 1972 were: Beta Epsilon, Duke University School of Nursing, Durham, North Carolina; Beta Zeta, University of Massachusetts Division of Nursing, Amherst, Massachusetts; Beta Eta, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing, Madison, Wisconsin; Beta Theta, University of Tennessee College of Nursing, Memphis, Tennessee; Beta Iota, University of Cincinnati College of Nursing and Health, Cincinnati, Ohio; Beta Kappa, University of Virginia School of Nursing, Charlottesville, Virginia.

The year 1974 saw the following schools chartered: Beta Lambda, Avila College Department of Nursing, Kansas City, Missouri; Beta Mu, University of Arizona College of Nursing, Tucson, Arizona; Beta Nu, East Carolina University School of Nursing, Greenville, North Carolina; Beta Xi, University of Delaware College of Nursing, Newark, Delaware; Beta Omicron, Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing, Augusta, Georgia; Beta Pi, Florida State University School of Nursing, Tallahassee, Florida; Beta Rho, Ball State University Department of Nursing, Muncie, Indiana; Beta Sigma, Pennsylvania State University

Department of Nursing, University Park, Pennsylvania; Beta Tau, University of Miami School of Nursing, Miami, Florida.

In 1976, the national organization welcomed the following chapters: Beta Upsilon, Arizona State University College of Nursing, Tempe, Arizona; Beta Phi, University of Alabama in Huntsville School of Nursing, Huntsville, Alabama; Beta Chi, Northwestern State University College of Nursing, Shreveport, Louisiana; Beta Psi, University of Oregon Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing, Portland, Oregon; Beta Omega, Northern Illinois University School of Nursing, DeKalb, Illinois; Gamma Alpha, Loma Linda University School of Nursing, Loma Linda, California; Gamma Beta, Howard University College of Nursing, Washington, D.C.; Gamma Gamma, San Diego State University School of Nursing, San Diego, California; Gamma Delta, State University of New York at Plattsburgh Department of Nursing, Plattsburgh, New York; Gamma Epsilon, Northeastern University College of Nursing, Boston, Massachusetts; Gamma Zeta, University of North Carolina at Greensboro School of Nursing, Greensboro, North Carolina. The Honor Society had 76 chapters in 1976.

Eighteen charters were granted in 1978: Gamma Eta, Samford University Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, Birmingham, Alabama; Gamma Theta, Niagara University College of Nursing, Niagara University, New York; Gamma Iota, University of North Carolina at Charlotte College of Nursing, Charlotte, North Carolina; Gamma Kappa, State University of New York at Buffalo School of Nursing, Buffalo, New York; Gamma Lambda, University of Southern Mississippi School of Nursing, Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Gamma Mu, Clemson University College of Nursing, Clemson, South Carolina; Gamma Nu, Seton Hall University College of Nursing, South Orange,

New Jersey; Gamma Xi, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Nursing, Little Rock, Arkansas; Gamma Omicron, Medical University of South Carolina College of Nursing, Charleston, South Carolina; Gamma Pi, University of Nebraska College of Nursing, Omaha, Nebraska; Gamma Rho, University of Utah College of Nursing, Salt Lake City, Utah; Gamma Sigma, University of New Mexico College of Nursing, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Gamma Tau, University of California Los Angeles School of Nursing, Los Angeles, California; Gamma Upsilon, Pittsburg State University Department of Nursing, Pittsburg, Kansas; Gamma Phi, Rush University College of Nursing, Chicago, Illinois; Gamma Chi, University of Tennessee-Knoxville College of Nursing, Knoxville, Tennessee; Gamma Psi, University of Hawaii School of Nursing, Honolulu, Hawaii; Gamma Omega, Virginia Commonwealth University Medical College of Virginia, School of Nursing, Richmond, Virginia; and one charter was granted in 1979, Delta Alpha, University of Texas Health sciences Center School of Nursing, San Antonio, Texas (Archives Library 2.1B).

Leadership

Sigma Theta Tau was fortunate to have persons occupy the offices of the national council who possessed expertise in organizational management. (See Appendix I). Personal commitment to the development of professional nursing was exhibited by Presidents Treasure, McClure, Crenshaw, Hepler, and Donley. Both the lay and professional communities image of the honor society was enhanced as a direct result of the strong and articulate leadership.

Governance

Prior to 1967, all the work of the national organization was done by elected officers without staff support. In 1967, Carolyn Widmer, former national second vice-president and retired dean from the University of Connecticut, was retained as the first executive secretary. This was a part-time position which she performed from her home in Storrs, Connecticut until the National headquarters was opened in 1974.

During the growth years changes in governance were made. In 1965, Associate membership was discontinued; all members became regular members. Probably the most significant development in this period was in January, 1974, when the National headquarters was opened in the Indiana University School of Nursing building in Indianapolis, Indiana. An executive secretary (Nell Watts) was employed half-time. Watts' full-time employment became effective October 24, 1974, and at that time her title was changed to executive officer.

In 1973, at the biennial convention in Indianapolis, the agenda consisted of business matters; however, in 1975 in Houston the agenda shifted to program issues (National Archives 2.23).

In 1974, the National Membership list was computerized to facilitate the distribution of Image and to provide members mailing labels for chapters' use in mailings to their members and in collecting chapter and National renewal fees (National Archives 4.B.1).

In 1975, the House of Delegates voted to transfer collection of National and chapter renewal fees to the National office. The National collection was to become effective in June 1976 for the 1976-77

Membership year. The House also voted that chapters could no longer offer a chapter "life" membership option to members inducted after June 30, 1976. Prior to this date one third of chapters have all Life members and one third provide this option. Discontinuing Life Membership allowed chapters to collect annual renewal fees from all members inducted after this date and provided the support increased development of newsletters and programs.

In 1977, developing honor societies were invited to the biennial convention in Washington, D.C. This attendance by the developing honor societies led to an increased interest and motivation in chapter development (National Archives 2.24).

In 1976-77, the first National collection of renewal fees provided for 100% increase in renewing members. This provided additional program and publication support for chapters and National.

Following debate and dialogue a national service fee was approved at the 1973 convention and initiated in 1974. Following chapter and Honor Society request for bylaws changed to allow for an "at-large" chapter concept, the council and membership responded positively and in 1979 the first chapter-at-large was chartered (Archives Library 2.1C).

The organization was governed by five National Officers elected for four-year terms. The president, 1st vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and archivist were the offices from 1931 to 1963. At that date, the archivist office was dropped and a second vice-president office added. These five offices composed the Governing Council until the 1979 House of Delegates, when two new offices, the third vice-president and president-elect were added and the term of office was reduced from four years to two years. (See Appendix I).

Issues

The National organization's source of income and support was New Member induction fees through 1973. The members wanted to receive Image following its initiation in 1967.

In 1971, the National Council appointed a financial task force to determine how to support the publication of Image and of the anticipated costs of opening a headquarters office. The 1973 House of Delegates passed the first National member renewal fee (\$2) to provide for member receipt of Image and to support research and educational programs (National Archives 2.22).

In the early and middle sixties, the issue of a professional journal for Sigma Theta Tau was an agenda item. Eagerly, the membership awaited the first publication of Image in 1967. Success of this scholarly journal led to discussions for support and the need for additional communication through a newsletter. Reflections was born in March of 1975. Both publications are sent to all new members and to those who pay current renewal fees and are thereby enjoying active status. These two informative and networking publications have been an overwhelming success (Archives Library 4A & 4B).

The issue of visibility on a national level of the Honor Society was debated. In 1975, Sigma Theta Tau commissioned the preparation of a booth and exhibited during the National League for Nursing's Biennial Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Sigma Theta Tau has continued to exhibit annually at the American Nurses' Association and National League for Nurses' conventions and to provide on site consultation for schools interested in chapter development and for member contact (Archives Library 2.1C5).

CHAPTER V

Summary, Findings, and ConclusionsSummary

The problem under study in this investigation was to write a historical overview of Sigma Theta Tau, National Honor Society of Nursing from 1922-1979, and to assist in the development of guidelines for use by chapter historians in writing histories and maintaining archives.

A review and study of minutes, reports, and archival materials of Sigma Theta Tau plus interviews of the founders, national officers, and persons' contributions to the society's growth was conducted.

The study was conducted by implementation of the following four steps: (1) formulated problem, (2) gathered records and data, (3) evaluated data, and (4) interpreted and reported findings.

Approval was granted by the National Council to access the National Archives located in the National headquarters office in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Three distinct phases of growth of the honor society were identified. The phases namely were: Phase I, Dedication and purposes; Phase II, Procedures and regulations, and Phase III, Program development and evolution of the meaning of an honor society, were developed into periods of time for adequate review.

The years from 1922-1939 were titled the Beginning Years. Historical documents were reviewed and reported under the themes of goals, chapters chartered, leadership, governance, and issues. The developing years, 1940-1959, and the growth years, 1960-1979, were the years of tremendous growth.

Other noted important happenings in the society's growth were

- (1) The employment of Nell Watts as part-time executive secretary from January to October, 1974 and full-time Executive Officer from October, 1974 to October, 1979 allowed changes that contributed to the growth of the Honor Society. The addition of 39 Chapters and approved addition of 33 Honor Societies as potential Chapters to the 56 Chapters installed prior to 1973 occurred at the time the organization celebrated its 50th anniversary. This six-year, 146% growth of 72 chapters was influenced by the opening of National Headquarters and employment of staff to provide service to the members, chapters, developing honor societies, Governing Council and national committees;
- (2) The annual participation in the exhibits at the American Nurses' Association and the National League for Nursing and providing consultation to representatives to the accredited schools who are eligible to develop chapters;
- (3) The computerization of the membership list and procedures for continual updating the National collection of renewal fees which provides mechanism for ongoing contact with members;
- (4) The invitation of regular newsletter communication with the membership; and
- (5) The contributions of the second vice-presidents to provide honor society consultation and the 1975 publication of "Guidelines for Establishment of Local Chapters."

The growth and development of Sigma Theta Tau from 1922-1979 is noteworthy. Scholarship was the underlying theme of development. Scholarship was identified as the basis for practice and teaching. The founders of Sigma Theta Tau hoped for the day when nursing would be truly a science. Sigma Theta Tau developed because a small group of nurses

committed to scholarship, planned to leaven, enlighten, and focus the direction of nursing (Donley, 1979). (See Appendix L).

Findings

Four general findings were noted: (1) Sigma Theta Tau is a viable society; (2) the growth and development of the honor society is predicted through the year 2000; (3) the membership is composed of scholarly nurses fulfilling national leadership roles; and (4) Sigma Theta Tau is committed to improving the health of the public.

Conclusions

It was a premise of the investigator that it was not possible to prepare adequately for the future without a thorough knowledge and understanding of the past. That premise has been part of the motivation for writing a historical overview of the honor society.

During each time span, the concerns, questions, and discussions of issues were reviewed and cited. In interpreting the findings and resulting conclusions, the data in the annual reports and biennial reports were examined to learn trends within the honor society. This material constituted the basis for a historical overview of the growth of the honor society. In a study which culminates in the writing of a historical overview, conclusions cannot be arrived at as they can in a statistical study which provides specific factual data. This emphasis of this study was a review and critique of historical data. Conclusions, therefore, were based on recurring discussions and documentation in official reports and minutes of the honor society.

The findings of this investigation support the following conclusions.

1. Record growth in number of new chapters (National Archives 1.C2).
2. Increased member contribution to research fund (National Archives 6.C).
3. Record number of chapter visits, consultation, and regional meetings (National Archives 2.1A3).
4. Increased number of members renewed active membership status (National Archives 2.1D).
5. Chapters supported increasing number of scholarly programs (National Archives 2.1D).
6. Record attendance at Biennial Conventions (1979 - Seattle 685; 1977-Washington, D.C. 450) (National Archives 1.C8)
7. Increased National Assets (National Archives 1.C5).

Sigma Theta Tau will continue to mature. Growth is predicted to occur by 25 to 30 new chapters each biennium and by 10,000 new members each year for the next two decades. The honor society has founded and secured the fraternal style of operations to enhance the development of programs worldwide, not only for members, but for the entire nursing community and the public-at-large.

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Appendix

Appendix A

Sigma Theta Tau

FOUNDERS

October 5, 1922, Indiana University Training School for Nurses

Mary Tolle Wright
wrote the original ritual and was the leader

Elizabeth Russell Belford

Edith Moore Copeland

Elizabeth McWilliams Miller

Marie Hippensteel Lingeman

Dorothy Garrigus Adams (Died 1969)

Ethel P. Clarke was named "Mother of Sigma Theta Tau"

Dorothy Ford Buschmann was named "Big Sister." She and her husband wrote the original constitution. She became the first National President (Born 1895; Died 1953).

Appendix B

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
 OF
 SIGMA THETA TAU ~~FRATERNITY~~ ~~SOCIETY~~

We, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves together under an Act of the State of Indiana, entitled "An Act for the Incorporation of Societies and Clubs not for Pecuniary Profit" approved March 6, 1939.

Now, with a view to such incorporation, we hereby agree to adopt the following Articles of Incorporation, to wit:

ARTICLE I.

The name of this corporation shall be "SIGMA THETA TAU FRATERNITY."

ARTICLE II.

The object for which this corporation is formed is as follows: To create a closer union between the University School of Nursing throughout the United States, to establish a closer bond between students of Schools of Nursing and their respective Universities, bring about a more co-operative fellowship between the students in the various University Schools of Nursing, set higher moral, intellectual and social ideals, and to strive untiringly for the maintenance of those ideals.

ARTICLE III.

The number of Directors shall be three.

ARTICLE IV.

The following named persons shall act as Directors for the first year:

~~Indianapolis Ind. (McCracken)~~
~~Indianapolis Ind. (Long Hospital)~~
~~Indianapolis Ind. (Long Hospital)~~

2.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunto set our hands this
day of October 1922.

Omni

STATE OF INDIANA }
COUNTY OF MARION } SS.

Before the undersigned Notary Public in and for said County
and State this 4th day of October 1922, Edith M. Morse
Elizabeth Russell, Mary V. Tolson, Francis J. [unclear],
Stanley A. Jurgens

acknowledged the execution of the foregoing Articles of Association.

WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal.

My commission expires Dec. 2, 1923.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

OCT 21 1955

— a —

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

of

Secretary of State of Indiana

~~SIGMA THETA TAU, NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY OF NURSING, INC.~~

The undersigned, being three or more natural persons of lawful age, at least a majority of whom are citizens of the United States, do hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation, representing beforehand to the Secretary of State of the State of Indiana and all persons whom it may concern, that a membership list or lists of the above named corporation for which certificate of incorporation is hereby applied for, have heretofore been opened in accordance with law and that at least three (3) persons have signed such membership list.

Be it further remembered that the following Articles of Incorporation and all matters heretofore done or hereafter to be done are in accordance with "An Act concerning domestic and foreign corporations not for profit, providing for fees, providing penalties for the violation thereof, and repealing certain laws," approved March 7, 1935, and all acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

1. The name of this corporation shall be SIGMA THETA TAU, NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY
OF NURSING, INC.

(Name must include the word "Corporation" or "Incorporated" or one of the abbreviations thereof.)

2. The purpose or purposes for which it is formed are as follows:

The purposes of this society shall be to:

Foster high professional standards.

Encourage creative work.

Promote the maximum development of the individual and thus increase one's capacity to serve the profession, and through it, society.

Promote the spirit of fellowship among members of the profession of nursing.

Develop an abiding interest in the advancement of nursing.

Promote continuous participation as responsible members of the profession.

- b -

3. The period during which it is to continue as a corporation is...perpetual.....years.

4. The post office address of its principal office is..... Street,

.....Indianapolis.....(City).....Marion.....(County).....Indiana.....(State)

5. The name of its resident agent is...Miss Bernice Hartz.....

6. The post office address of its resident agent is...1232 West Michigan..... Street,

.....Indianapolis.....(City).....Marion.....(County).....Indiana.....(State)

7. If the memberships are to be divided into classes the designations of the different classes, and a statement of the relative rights, preferences, limitations and restrictions of each class, together with a statement as to the voting rights of any such class:

Regular and associate members have no restricted privileges.

Honorary members have voting privileges withheld.

Regular and associate members

Regular members are Basic and graduate nursing students in the degree program of accredited schools, shall be in upper one-third of class with an average grade of B or 2.0. Privileges - rights to attend meetings, vote, and hold office and participate in activities and discussions.

Associate members, full time facilities members on the teaching or administrative staff on a campus where a chapter exists. Privileges same as regular members.

Honorary members

Persons who have gained national recognition for original research or administrators in nursing. Privileges - have all rights and privileges of regular members except to vote and hold office.

- c -

8. The number of directors of this corporation shall be five (This must be an exact number and cannot be stated in the alternative.)

9. The names and addresses of the first board of directors are as follows:

Miss Thelma Dodds	120 W. Summit Ave.	St. Paul,		Minn.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Ellenor Williams	143 N. Craig St.	Pittsburgh,		Penna.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Myrtle Kitchell	University of Iowa	Iowa City,		Iowa
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Lois Austin	6125 Ellsworth St.	Philadelphia,		Penna.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Edna Haugk	1232 W. Michigan St.	Indianapolis,		Indiana
Name	Street	City	County	State
.....
Name	Street	City	County	State
.....
Name	Street	City	County	State
.....
Name	Street	City	County	State

10. The names and post office addresses of the incorporators are as follows:

Mrs. Georgia Belle Nyland	3544 Carrollton Ave.	Indianapolis	(Marion)	Ind.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Mrs. Helen Straith-Miller	734 N. Graham St.	Indianapolis	"	Ind.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Alice Jones	1232 W. Michigan	Indianapolis	"	Ind.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Mary Heckard	5269 Cornelius	Indianapolis	"	Ind.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Mrs. Alice Sigmond	3245 N. Pennsylvania	Indianapolis	"	Ind.
Name	Street	City	County	State
Miss Crystal Halstead	1232 W. Michigan St.	Indianapolis	"	Ind.
Name	Street	City	County	State

11. A statement of the property and an estimate of the value thereof, to be taken over by this corporation at or upon its incorporation:

Cash on hand and in bank--\$572.99

12. Any other provisions, consistent with the laws of this state, for the regulation and conduct of the affairs of this corporation, and creating, defining, limiting or regulating the powers of this corporation, of the directors or of the members or any class or classes of members:

A minimum of three of the incorporators designated in Article 10 on page — c — should sign above.

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF Marion } ss:

Before me, _____, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared _____

(SEAL)

and severally acknowledged the execution of the foregoing articles of incorporation.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal this 14

day of March, 1955

Notary Public.

My commission expires June 5 - 58

(Articles of incorporation must be prepared in triplicate on the form prescribed by the Secretary of State, by the incorporators and signed and acknowledged by at least three of them before a Notary Public, and shall be presented in triplicate to the Secretary of State at his office accompanied by the fees prescribed by law.)

STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

CRAWFORD F. PARKER, Secretary of State

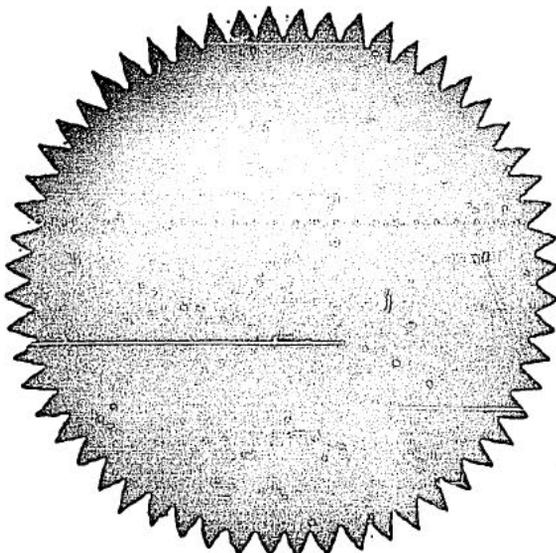
TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

WHEREAS, Articles of Incorporation, duly signed and acknowledged, showing no Capital Stock, having been filed in the office of the Secretary of State on the 21st. day of October, 1955, for the organization of the

SIGMA THETA TAU, NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY OF NURSING, INC., under and in accordance with the provisions of "AN ACT" concerning domestic and foreign corporations not for profit, providing for fees, providing penalties for the violation thereof, and repealing certain laws." Approved March 7, 1935, as published at Page 557, Acts of 1935.

NOW THEREFORE, I, the Secretary of the State of Indiana, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, do hereby certify that the said organization is a body politic and corporate, authorized and empowered by the laws of the State of Indiana to proceed to carry out the objects of its organization.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the State of Indiana, at the City of Indianapolis, this 21st. day of October, 1955.



CRAWFORD F. PARKER

Secretary of State.

By

Deputy.



ED. JACKSON

Secretary of State

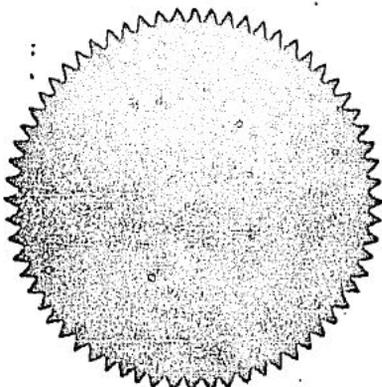
Qualifications of these Officers Shall Come Greeting:

Whereas, Articles of Association, duly signed and acknowledged, showing no Capital Stock having been filed in the office of the Secretary of State on the 5th day of October, 1922, for the organization of the

SIGMA THETA TAU FRATERNITY

under and in accordance with the provisions of an Act entitled "AN ACT FOR THE INCORPORATION OF SOCIETIES NOT FOR PECUNIARY PROFIT" etc. approved March 6th, 1882, and published on page 11 of the Acts of the General Assembly for that year and acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto.

Now therefore, I ED. JACKSON, Secretary of State of the State of Indiana, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, do hereby certify that the said FRATERNITY is a body politic and corporate, authorized and empowered by the laws of the State of Indiana to proceed to carry out the objects of its organization.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the State of Indiana, at the City of Indianapolis this 5th day of October, 1922.

Secretary of State

Deputy

By

1

Appendix F

GUIDELINES FOR CHAPTER ARCHIVES

I. Purpose

The mission of Sigma Theta Tau Archives is to collect, preserve, index, and make available historical records and material on the development of Sigma Theta Tau.

Note: Archives contain paper, primary source material (not copyrighted), pictures, and artifacts. (Museum contains other materials).

II. Evaluation of Records

A. Duration - Begins with preliminary examination and continues until item is indexed and placed in repository or is rejected.

B. Rejection - Materials may be rejected if study shows they do not possess value either as a part of a collection or as an isolated item.

1. Records that contain information duplicated in another form, such as carbons of letters, speeches, programs, and agenda.
2. Subsidiary documents - the essential data from which is included in summary records.
3. Housekeeping - records-interoffice memos and other type records that are important in daily operations but do not possess intrinsic value and have little or no importance in historical perspective.
4. Fragmentary account books, unsupported by other papers (the repository may have samples of the same type record for the same period).
5. Letters and other materials that are not important because of author, content or relationship with other portions of the collection.

C. Appraisal

1. Old records should be judged by different standards than new records.
2. Corporate records should be judged in relation to:
 - a. Evidence they contain of the organization and functioning of the body that produced them.
 - b. Information they contain on persons, things, and phenomena.
3. Values analysis
 - a. Evidential values - determined on the basis of an analysis of the administrative structure of the body that produced the records and the functions, activities, and transactions that resulted in the production of records.
 - b. Informational values - determined on basis of an analysis of the documentation available in published or in unpublished sources in matters to which records pertain.

III. Retention of Records

A. General

1. Preserve records pertaining to the direction of the organization, those pertaining to policy, procedure, and the like. For intermediate units, preserve records that pertain to the administration and not those of direction.
 - a. All records which are required to be kept by U.S. or state laws should be preserved.
 - b. All records which protect the legal rights of the organization, its employees or members should be preserved.
2. Transfer to the archives
The records should stay in the working files of the national office, officer or committees as long as the records are active. (As long as they are referred to frequently.) Usual transfer is biennially.

B. Official Records

1. Constitution and bylaws in original and revised forms including preliminary drafts of the original and its revisions and a copy of the charters.
2. Minutes of all meetings with complete set of records attached.
3. Correspondence, except routine matters which do not give important information.
4. Publicity and news releases.
5. Oral and written histories.

C. Financial Records

1. Ledgers and books of final entry.
2. Journals from which ledger entries are made provided they give information not readily available in final entry.
3. Correspondence which gives information not available in the books of entry.
4. Records of bequests, annuities, endowments, etc.
5. Auditors' reports.

D. Records of Officers

1. Correspondence, except routine.
2. Papers, reports, and records of the presidents, vice presidents, archivists and any other officers.
3. Any memorabilia which has a historical value.

E. Records of Committees

1. Minutes and reports
2. Correspondence, except routine.
3. Personnel records from any officer or committee.
 - a. May have personal folders under the name of the person.
 - b. Would be well to authorize the merging of personal folders upon transfer to archives.

- F. Publications - Official publications, photographs, pamphlets, brochures, etc.

IV. Disposal of Materials

A. Discard the following:

1. Routine notices concerning meetings, etc.
2. Routine correspondence, i.e., covering letters, accompanying statements, payments, and receipts.
3. Financial - after 6 years discard the following, providing entries were made and audits were done: (Samples may be kept at stated intervals) Cancelled checks, check stubs, statements, invoices, and receipts.

Heritage Committee
(National Archives 2.1C11)

Appendix GGUIDELINES FOR WRITING AN HONOR SOCIETY
AND CHAPTER HISTORY

I. Genesis of Honor Society

- A. Describe the germination of the idea and need for an honor society in nursing in an academic environment.
- B. Who was/were the person/s responsible for nurturing and encouraging the emergence of the project? Include anecdotes and illustrations where possible.
- C. How was it brought to fruition?
- D. What was the official academic framework into which this honor society fits? (i.e., department, division, school).
- E. What and how was the name selected for this society?
- F. What academic recognition was accorded this new honor society? (inclusions in College or University bulletin? etc.)
- G. Discuss the requirements for admission and the candidate selection process.
- H. What notable people or occasions are remembered pertaining to this initial society?

II. Quest for Inclusion as Member Chapters of Sigma Theta Tau

- A. Who and/or what was the motivating force behind the search for alliance with the national honor society in nursing? (Provide anecdotal and illustrative background if possible.)
- B. What administrative, community and other support was provided in the process of petitioning for a charter?
- C. Describe the site visit including the national Sigma Theta Tau representative, academic administration representative/s, as well as activities and publicity surrounding visit. (Include photographs and publicity.)
- D. Reaction of chapter representative when applications received a favorable vote at biennial convention.

III. Installation of Chapter

- A. Who participated in the preparations for the installation ceremonies?

- B. Discuss the selection process for those who were to be inducted as members.
 - C. Describe the setting for the activities surrounding the auspicious ceremonies of chartering, induction of members, and installation of officers. (Include pictures of event, programs, and publicity clippings.)
 - D. What academic and community representatives attended? What was their role?
 - E. Who was the national representative who participated as the installing officer? (Describe the position held by this individual as well as any background details.)
 - F. Who received the Charter and where can it be viewed?
 - G. List the charter members indicating students by class, faculty, and community nursing representative?
 - H. Identify the newly installed officers and include anecdotal and pictorial descriptions of them.
- IV. Evidence of Continuance of Leadership in Newly Formed Chapter
- A. Discuss the new chapter's relationship with its Mentor chapter. Refer to the Mentor Guidelines for illustrations.
 - B. Provide narration for ongoing recording of major activities and events of the chapter in relation to role played in achieving goals and purposes of Sigma Theta Tau. Inclusion of financial statement will be helpful in demonstrating the chapter's values.
 - C. Provide narration on significant and/or potential nursing leaders with your chapter.
 - D. Identify major trends/issues experienced.
- V. Format
- A. Include sub-headings or divisions.
 - B. Include glossy photograph of current and historical events of your chapter and/or school.
 - C. May have several older members involved in early development write their view of history.
 - D. Consider videotape and slides.

VI. Following Initial History, Biennial Updating Should Be Done

- A. The biennial history could be a part of the annual report published in chapter newsletter and added to notebook of chapter histories.
- B. Historical reports should be accurate descriptive narratives, supplemented by primary sources such as printed materials and photographs, rather than dry didactic outlines. The reports should be able to bring forth the facts and rekindle memories in the years to come.

Heritage Committee
(National Archives 2.1C11)

Appendix HGUIDELINES FOR CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM OF
CHAPTER ARCHIVES

1. Official Records
 - A. Articles of incorporation
 - B. Constitution and symbols
 - C. Rituals and symbols
 - D. History
 - E. Safety deposit box
2. Executive Council
 - A. Composition
 - B. Communication
 - C. Minutes
3. Chapter
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Communication
 - C. Handbook
 - D. Reports
 - 1) Annual
 - 2) Biennial
 - E. Programs
 - 1) Year
 - 2) Induction
 - F. Budget
4. Officers
 - A. Roster
 - B. President
 - C. President Elect
 - D. First Vice President
 - E. Second Vice President
 - F. Corresponding Secretary
 - G. Recording Secretary
 - H. Treasurer
 - I. Archivist
 - J. Faculty Counselors
5. Committees
 - A. Roster
 - B. Bylaws
 - C. Program - education development
 - D. Eligibility
 - E. Nominating
 - F. Finance
5. G. Membership
 - H. Scholarship
 - 1) Memorial fund
 - I. Archives-Heritage
 - J. Research
 - K. Ad hoc
 - L. Task Forces
6. Financial Records
 - A. Ledgers
 - B. Journals
 - C. Auditor's Reports
 - D. Tax Statements
7. Publications
 - A. Monograph
 - B. Newsletters
 - C. Public relations and information
 - D. Editors
8. Research
 - A. Grants
 - 1) Application
 - 2) Awarded
 - 3) Received
 - B. Reports
9. Education Programs
 - A. Research Sessions
 - B. Seminars
 - C. Conferences
10. Scrapbooks, Clippings, Photographs
 - A. Scrapbooks
 - B. Clippings
 - C. Photographs
11. Membership
 - A. Regular
 - B. Life
 - C. Honorary National
 - D. Inductees

12. Awards, Honors

- A. Awards
 - 1) Applications
 - 2) Received
 - 3) Given
- B. Honors
 - 1) Received
 - 2) Given

13. Media

- A. Videotapes
- B. Films
- C. Filmstrips
- D. Exhibits

ADDITIONAL REOURCES

The following organizations offer information concerning short courses which prepare individuals for archival work.

The Society of
American Archivists
330 S. Wells St.
Chicago, IL 60606

Organization of
American Historians
112 N. Bryan
Bloomington, IN 47401

American Historical Association
400 A Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Heritage Committee
(National Archives 2.1C11)

Appendix I

Sigma Theta Tau

NATIONAL OFFICERS

DATE	PRESIDENT	PRESIDENT ELECT	FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	THIRD VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	ARCHIVIST
1929 to 1931	Dorothy F. Buschmann	-----	Louise S. Thompson	-----	-----	Lois Weightman	Minerva Cooper	Jean Nunamaker
1931 to 1934	Dorothy F. Buschmann	-----	Dorothy R. Williams	-----	-----	Lola Lindsey	Florence Parisa	Jean H. Stacy
1934 to 1935	Florence Parisa	-----	Ione Sundstrom	-----	-----	Ursula Brunner	Frances George	Jean H. Stacy
1935 to 1939	Florence Parisa	-----	Lola Lindsey	-----	-----	Lucille Spalding	Ruth P. Kuehn	Jean H. Stacy
1939 to 1941	Ruth P. Kuehn	-----	Henrietta Froelke	-----	-----	Fern Coy	Blanche McGurk	Dorothy Hutchinson
1941 to 1945	Katherine Densford	-----	Henrietta Froelke	-----	-----	Fern Coy	Blanche McGurk	Ruth Harrington
1945 to 1947	Katherine Densford	-----	Elda Hartung	-----	-----	Mildred D. James	Blanche McGurk	Ruth Harrington
1947 to 1948	Frances George	-----	Elda Hartung	-----	-----	Mildred D. James	Blanche McGurk	Ruth Harrington
1948 to 1951	Frances George	-----	Rozella Schlotfeldt	-----	-----	Elizabeth Sachs	Blanche McGurk	Ruth Harrington
1951 to 1953	Thelma Dodd	-----	Alice G. Malone	-----	-----	Elizabeth Sachs	Myrtle Kitchell	Edna Haug

Sigma Theta Tau

NATIONAL OFFICERS CONT'D.

DATE	PRESIDENT	PRESIDENT ELECT	FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	THIRD VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	ARCHIVIST
1953 to 1954	Thelma Dodd	-----	Elinore Williams	-----	-----	Rena Boyle	Myrtle Kitchell	Edna Haugk
1954 to 1955	Thelma Dodd	-----	Elinore Williams	-----	-----	Lois Austin	Myrtle Kitchell	Edna Haugk
1955 to 1957	Myrtle K. Aydelotte	-----	Elinore Williams	-----	-----	Lois Austin	Edna Treasure	Catherine McCleary
1957 to 1959	Lois Austin	-----	Catherine McClure	-----	-----	Mary L. Donaldson	Edna Treasure	Catherine McCleary
1959 to 1961	Edna Treasure	-----	Catherine McClure	-----	-----	Mary L. Donaldson	Frances Dunning	Imogene Cahill
1961 to 1963	Edna Treasure	-----	Catherine McClure	-----	-----	Mary L. Donaldson	Frances Dunning	Imogene Cahill
1963 to 1965	Catherine McClure	-----	Virginia Crenshaw (May-Oct., 1963)	-----	-----	Mary L. Donaldson	Frances Dunning	-----
1965 to 1967	Catherine McClure (May-Oct., 1965)	-----	Dorothy Mereness	Virginia Crenshaw (May-Oct., 1965) Carolyn Widmer	-----	Jean Kelly	Frances Dunning	-----
1967 to 1969	Virginia Crenshaw	-----	Dorothy Mereness	Carolyn Widmer *Note-Became Executive Director 1968-1969	-----	Jean Kelly	Frances Dunning	-----
1969 to 1971	Virginia Crenshaw	-----	Julie Hereford	Lois Meier	-----	Jean Kelly	Margaret Dolan	-----

Sigma Theta Tau

NATIONAL OFFICERS CONT'D.

DATE	PRESIDENT	PRESIDENT ELECT	FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	THIRD VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	ARCHIVIST
1971 to 1973	Ruth Hepler	-----	Sr. Rosemary Donley	Lois Meir	-----	Jean Kelly	Virginia George	-----
1973 to 1975	Ruth Hepler	-----	Sr. Rosemary Donley	Lily Larson	-----	Kitty Smith	Virginia George	-----
	Sr. Rosemary Donley (1975)		Jean McKinley (1975)					
1975 to 1977	Sr. Rosemary Donley	-----	Jean McKinley	Lily Larson	-----	Kitty Smith	Maureen Niland	-----
1977 to 1979	Sr. Rosemary Donley	-----	Jean McKinley	Rebecca Markel	-----	Kitty Smith	Maureen Niland	-----
1979 to 1981	Sr. Rosemary Donley	Carol Lindeman	Carmen Westwick	Rebecca Markel	Helen M. Ference	Kitty Smith	Virginia Sellers	-----

Appendix J

Sigma Theta Tau

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>City</u>
1929	1st	Indianapolis
1931	2nd	St. Louis
1934	3rd	Iowa City
1936	4th	Kansas City
1938	5th	Columbus
1939	6th	Indianapolis
1941	7th	Minneapolis
1943	8th	Iowa City
1945	9th	Chicago
1951	10th	Boston
1953	11th	Pittsburgh
1954	12th	Indianapolis
1955	13th	Iowa City
1957	14th	Columbus
1959	15th	Minneapolis
1961	16th	Boston
1963	17th	Nashville
1965	18th	Washington, D.C.
1967	19th	Detroit
1969	20th	San Francisco
1971	21th	Atlanta
1973	22nd	Indianapolis
1975	23rd	Houston
1977	24th	Washington, D.C.
1979	25th	Seattle

Honorary Members and Year Inducted

Dr. Dorothy Rood--1939
Adda Eldredge--1940
Nellie X. Hawkinson--1941
H. Phoebe Gordon--1945
Dr. Ruth V. Johnston--1948
Pearl McIver--1954
Ruth Sleeper--1954
Dr. Ruth Freeman--1959
Dr. Leo Simmons--1963
Dr. Elizabeth Soule--1963
Dr. Lulu Hassenplug--1967
Jessie Scott--1969
Dr. Pauline Gratz--1975
Rosalie Abrams--1981
Marilyn Goldwater--1981
Dr. Ida V. Moffett--1981
Dr. Donna Vredevoe--1981
Dr. Gene E. Lynn--1983
Barbara Jacobsen--1983
Dr. Geraldine V. Padilla--1983
Dr. Mary Ann Swain--1983
Dr. Jerome P. Lysaught--1983
Dr. Philip A. Kalisch--1983
Elizabeth Muse Tornquist--1983
Dr. Fred Davis--1983
Mary L. Pekarski--1983

Vita

Rebecca Ellen Thomas Markel was born in Shelby County, Indiana, on February 1, 1934. She attended Fairland School in Fairland, Indiana, for both grade and high school education. She was graduated from Christ Hospital School of Nursing, Cincinnati, Ohio in 1956. In 1959, she was awarded the B.S. degree in General Nursing from the Division of Nursing Education, School of Education, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. During the 1960's, she held leadership positions in nursing service and nursing education in Texas, West Virginia, and Florida. Graduate work was begun at Indiana University School of Nursing, Indianapolis, Indiana, and the M.S.N. degree was earned in 1972. She is published and holds membership in Pi Lambda Theta, Phi Delta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and is a former national second vice president of Sigma Theta Tau. She has been a member of the faculty at Indiana University School of Nursing for 18 years and is currently an Associate Professor, Graduate Program, Department of Pediatrics, Family, and Women's Health Nursing.