

Pi
lotaHonor Society of Nursing
Sigma Theta Tau International

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President's Message

AliceYuen LOKE

Dear Colleagues,

Yes, it is me again! Four years (two terms) have passed since my presidency from 2002-4, and I am returning to serve for a second time as President of the Pi Lota Chapter. The Chapter would certainly welcome new blood, and it would have been preferable to have new leaders who are willing to serve the Chapter.

There are plenty of potential leaders who could serve the Chapter in the capacity of President. However, searching for new leaders willing to give their time to serve the Chapter is not without difficulty. It is perhaps our next challenge to help these future leaders to see that engaging in Chapter activity (or in other professional bodies of this kind) is a good opportunity for them to get involved in this global network of outstanding nurses and to contribute to the nursing profession as a whole.

The scholarship of the nursing profession has grown tremendously in the last two decades in Hong Kong, from the launch of the first bachelor degree nursing program in 1990 to conversion programs (RNs returning for degree-level education), advanced practice nursing programs at master's degree level, and lately the master's entry program. The new master's entry program further allows university graduates from disciplines other than nursing to enter the nursing profession. The expansion of education programs and the quality of students increase the demand for quality nurse educators. There is certainly a noticeable demand for the development and mentoring of nurse clinicians and nurse academics to better serve our society.

The development of advanced practice nurses, academics and leaders requires effort and time. Strategies should be developed to nurture future leaders. Mentoring arrangements seem to be a suitable approach to providing young and upcoming nurses with the leadership skills and expertise required for clinical and/or research excellence and leadership competencies.

The Chapter is therefore setting its sights on revitalizing the mentoring project that we have strived to maintain in the past few years. The intention is to facilitate and foster the development of a mentoring relationship between novices and experts, potential leaders and achievers. The chapter has twice organized mentoring activities (boat cruises for mentor-SHIP) for our members, but had to cancel them due to inadequate enrolment.

The pace of life in Hong Kong is hectic, and it is no surprise that nurses are so busy. However, I urge our members to take some time out and seize these valuable opportunities to rise to the challenges ahead! For the members in our Chapter as community leaders, I call upon you to take the time to contribute to the nursing profession by nurturing our young, in whose hands lies the future of the nursing profession.

The future is OURS if we are ready to start planning for it and to pass on our experience to the upcoming leaders! I hope you recognize your role in this mentoring project and will consider this as a way to contribute to the nursing profession and our surrounding community.

Best regards,

AliceYuen LOKE
President

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The 9th Induction Ceremony of the Pi Iota Chapter of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) was hosted on 22 May 2008 at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The ceremony was started with a speech delivered by Dr. Jean Watson, Distinguished Professor of Nursing, Murchinson-Scoville Endowed Chair in Caring Science, University of Colorado Denver, USA. Her topic was "Caring science and state of the art/science in nursing". The speech was inspiring and insightful to all those present during the ceremony.

This year, a total of 10 community leaders, 5 graduates, and 26 undergraduate students were inducted into the chapter as official members. The number far exceeded the previous record. Five scholarships were presented to students and community leader to recognize their outstanding scholarly performances. Lastly, there was also a presentation of appreciation certificates to the speakers who had kindly participated in the chapter's community programs during the past year. The ceremony ended with a series of photo-taking activities together with the warm congratulations of relatives and friends.



Dr. Jean Watson received a souvenir from Dr. E. Angela Chan (our former President)



Speakers and their advisors who had been involved in the chapter's community programs received appreciation certificates from the President

Pi Iota Scholarship Awards

Linda LEE

To promote and recognize scholarly activities, the PIC offers annual Scholarship Awards. This year, a total of 15 applications were received, all of which were of outstanding quality. To review the applications, seven reviewers were invited from among the members of the PIC from the University of Hong Kong (Prof. William Li, Prof. Felix Yuen), The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Prof. Chien Wai Tong, Prof. Sheila Twinn), and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Dr. Enid Kwong, Dr. Regina Lee, Dr. Esther Mok). The reviewing process identified five awardees. Four awards are given to students in Doctor of Nursing, Master of Nursing, and Bachelor of Nursing programs, to recognize scholarly activities. Another is offered to a community leader to appreciate his/her contribution to community service. Each of the awardees was presented with a cash coupon of HK\$1,000 during the Induction Ceremony. The five awardees were:

- Awardee:** Ms. NGAI Fei Wan Vivian
Category: Doctor of Nursing Program
University: The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Awardee:** Ms. CHEUNG Shuk Ping
Category: Master of Nursing Program
University: The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Awardee:** Ms. WONG Yick Nam
Category: Bachelor of Nursing Program (Part-time)
University: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Awardee:** Mr. LIUK Kar Yiu
Category: Bachelor of Nursing Program (Full-time)
University: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Awardee:** Ms. TANG Fung Ki
Category: Community leader
Institution: Wong Tai Sin Hospital



The President and the awardees

We had an opportunity to meet with Dr. Patricia E. Thompson, Chief Executive Officer of Sigma Theta Tau during her short stay in Hong Kong. The Vice-President and President-elect of the Pi Iota Chapter welcomed Dr. Thompson to The Hong Kong Polytechnic University on 4 July, 2008. In our sharing section, we discuss Vision 2020 and President Carol Huston's Call to Action, Leading Globally. International nursing knowledge continues to be identified as one of the main themes serving the knowledge needs of the global nursing community. We were encouraged by the inclusion of community leaders in Hong Kong, mainland China and Macau as our members. We had a fruitful discussion in our meeting. Dr. Thompson expressed her deep appreciation for our chapter's support for the Society's headquarters and our continued contribution to the profession as a whole. She agreed with our constructive plans for the future development of the nursing profession in Hong Kong.



Ms. Esther Wong (left) and Dr. Emmy Wong (right) presented a Pi Iota Chapter carrying bag to Dr. Thompson

Professional seminar: "When a patient is found missing..."**Bernadette NG**

To provide an impetus for quality clinical management, on 26 November 2007, the Pi Lota Chapter invited an honorable guest, Ms. Tam Kwan Mi, Nursing Officer from the Medical and Geriatric Department of the Kwong Wah Hospital, to give a two-hour interactive seminar on "When a patient is found missing...". Ms. Tam described to us the assessment and nursing management of patients with dementia, and how to deal with the situation in a ward when a patient is found missing.

The seminar had 100 participants who included nurses from different hospitals, nursing students, and academic staff. A number of our students were delighted to be offered the opportunity to acquire such an in-depth understanding of how to deal with wandering behavior in dementia and such an inspiring insight into use of the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) to screen for dementia. Following Ms. Tam's clear and concise explanations, we shall all be more confident in identifying patients at risk, in order to prevent them from going missing. In addition, Ms. Tam's introduction of the electronic alarm system and the steps to take in handling missing patients also amazed us. We found the talk extremely practical and useful on a variety of levels, particularly since we would never have gleaned such details from the textbooks.

Ms. Tam's talk certainly broadened our perspective on the topic. The participants actively shared their experiences with each other, and the seminar was undoubtedly an excellent update with many helpful tips and information. We all look forward to seeing Ms. Tam again in the near future.

Community Project**Helen CHAN**

From July to November 2007, PIC successfully launched a community project (心悅計劃) with the Hong Kong Women's Development Association and the Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women's Association. The program involved a series of training workshops given to residents in Tin Shui Wai on topics related to caring for families and neighbours. The program was successfully completed and a closing ceremony was conducted on 8 December 2007.



Dr. E. Angela Chan (our former President) delivered a speech at the closing ceremony

News

Applying for a Research Grant

STTI has several research grants for which applications are currently being accepted. For a list of and the criteria for the grants, visit http://www.nursingsociety.org/Research/SmallGrants/Pages/grants_small.aspx.

2009 International Research Congress Abstract Deadline

The next STTI International research congress will take place from 12-17 July in Cancun, Mexico. Abstracts are due by 10 December 2008. An earlier message to members may have indicated a January 2009 deadline. The correct abstract submission deadline is 10 December.

2009 STTI Biennial Convention Abstract Deadline

Abstracts are due 28 January 2009 for presentation at the 2009 STTI Biennial Convention. The convention is scheduled for 31 October – 4 November 2009 in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

Nominations to Serve as Part of the STTI Leadership

Nominations are being accepted to serve in a variety of elected STTI positions. More information about each of the positions and the nomination form to nominate yourself or another nursing colleague can be found at http://www.nursingsociety.org/aboutus/Pages/call_nominations.aspx. Nominations are due by 1 February 2009.

Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library

All nurses are encouraged to enter their research into the Virginia Henderson International Library. The library currently contains more than 30,000 abstracts of nursing research. Entering your information and searching the library for other research initiatives is free. More information can be found at <http://www.nursinglibrary.org/portal/main.aspx>.

Celebrating International Nurses Day

Helen CHAN

Pi Lota members attended the International Nurses Day Banquet on 8 May 2008. At the banquet, there were nursing representatives from various healthcare organizations, universities, and professional associations. Members were delighted to have a chance to meet together and celebrate this great event!



Pi Lota members celebrated International Nurses Day at a dinner banquet

EDITORS' MESSAGE

Linda LEE and
Helen CHAN

Greetings from the Promotion & Publication Committee!

The theme for this issue is "Caring". The speech delivered by Dr. Jean Watson during the Induction Ceremony echoes the theme perfectly. As we know, Dr. Watson is a distinguished scholar in the area of caring science. She has more than 30 years' experience in developing and implementing the science, theories and philosophies of caring and healing used by nurses internationally. In this issue, there is report on the Scholarship Awards and all the awarded studies actually have a focus on caring for a particular patient group. There is also sharing on a professional seminar that addressed caring for patients with dementia and a community project that focused on caring for clients living in the community. We also have a report on the Induction Ceremony and a message from Dr. Patricia E. Thompson, Chief Executive Officer of Sigma Theta Tau. The sharing is impressive and we hope you enjoy reading this issue.