

November 2014

Dear STTI Members,

The Board of Directors convened in Indianapolis on 2-4 October 2014 and via teleconference on 23 October. It is with a sense of accomplishment that we provide a summary of decisions and actions.

Leadership Connection

The 2014 Leadership Connection held 24-27 September in Indianapolis was well attended and received. There were 380 attendees from 12 countries. Feedback about the conference was very positive. Career counseling available during the event was popular, and STTI staff will expand these types of opportunities at future conferences.

Global Health Nurse Executive Leadership Institute

The Global Health Nurse Executive Leadership Institute will be held in Washington, D.C., in August 2015. STTI staff are currently identifying members to serve on an interdisciplinary advisory group. Content categories have been identified and are currently being reviewed by experts in the field. Acceptance for attendance will involve a competitive application process.

Awards

Because of the outstanding leadership and vision of President Klopper, the Board voted to rename the Global Health Award the *Hester C. Klopper Global Health Award*. In addition, an Emerging Nurse Researcher Award was approved by the Board, and the Research and Scholarship Council is creating award criteria.

Leadership Succession Committee (LSC)

There was agreement that there is value to having a past president on the ballot for the LSC. Because of the term length for some LSC members, this opportunity only exists for every other past president. The Board voted to recommend to the LSC that past presidents only be placed on the ballot for a two-year term. This change will allow all past presidents to appear on the LSC ballot.

Chapter Charter and Revocation Process

The Board discussed a proposed change to current practices for chapter charter approval and revocation. The proposed change will allow petitioning honor societies to move through these processes more expediently. The proposal is based on the fact that the House of Delegates agrees with recommendations of the Charter Review Task Force and Board of Directors 100% of the time. In order to respond to an identified need to expedite processing time, the Board agreed to have a bylaws proposal to eliminate the House of Delegates vote on chapter charters and revocations.

Membership

The overall membership goal for FY2014 was achieved by 95%, and the goal of active membership outside of North America was exceeded by 1%. The need to improve

recruitment and retention rates is being addressed through initiatives such as disseminating the newly implemented SPARK kit, revising the induction system, and enhancing the induction ceremony script. Chapter development continues to remain strong. Staff have identified trends in interest from schools less than 5 years old and schools that have online nursing programs.

STTI Website

The Board reviewed the website revision process and timeline. The anticipated launch date of the revised website is May 2015.

Strategic Plan 2014-2020

Dashboard metrics for FY2014 were reviewed and discussed. Next steps include enhancing alignment of strategic planning activities with STTI's operational plans and budgeting process.

Audit and Budgeting

The Board of Directors received the auditor's report and discussed various aspects of the report at its October 2014 teleconference. The auditor commended STTI's management and auditing department for their exceptional preparation for the audit and accounting practices. The Board accepted the audit report as presented.

STTI's reserves were reviewed at the October on-site meeting, and the Board approved the following: Of the funds put into reserves each FY, 10% will be put into STTI's operations fund to be used at the discretion of the CEO the following FY for new projects or programs.

Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing

The Board of Directors received a report from the president and CEO on the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing (GAPFON). The Foundation Board and a Foundation task group presented possible future funding sources to sustain the work of the panel. The next GAPFON meeting will be in Puerto Rico (December 2014), followed by planned regional meetings in the Middle East (April 2015), the Pacific Rim (June 2015), Latin America/the Caribbean (July 2015), Africa (July 2016), Europe (2016), North America (2016), and South Africa (July 2016). Ultimately, global recommendations will be identified along with region-specific recommendations. Regional recommendations will be aligned with organizations that have a mission-critical match to create measurable action plans to address needs. STTI keeps members informed of the GAPFON's progress via the [GAPFON website](#).

United Nations

On 28 August 2014, STTI presented a workshop during the International DPI/NGO conference at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, with 105 registered participants. The workshop was titled "Beating the Drum for Maternal-Child Health in Africa: Strengthening the Health of Mothers and Children through Quality Improvement in Nursing and Midwifery." Currently, plans are underway to sponsor and participate in the Commission on the Status of Women event in March 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Hester C. Klopfer in black ink.

Hester C. Klopfer
President, Honor Society of Nursing,
Sigma Theta Tau International

Handwritten signature of Laurie Nagelsmith in black ink.

Laurie Nagelsmith
Secretary, Honor Society of Nursing,
Sigma Theta Tau International