

STTI 43rd Biennial Convention Highlights

- The Convention was attended by Liz Sturgeon, President, Lynette Smith, Vice-President, Dawn Garrett-Wright, Treasurer, Laurie Branstetter, Governance Committee member and Past President, and Kim Bourne, member.
- The 43rd biennial convention commenced on Saturday, November 7, 2015 with an opening plenary address by outgoing president Hester C. Klopper. Dr. Klopper presented “STTI as Edge Runner Through Serving Locally, Transforming Regionally, and Leading Globally” which were the initiatives she set when elected in 2013.
- The 2nd plenary session was held on Sunday, November 8, 2015. Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell presented “Claiming an Area of Knowledge as Nursing Science to Improve the Health of Marginalized Populations”.
- The third and final plenary session was held on Monday, November 9, 2015. The session entitled “In the Quest for Excellence: The Role of Nurse Leaders in the Post-MDG Era” was presented by Professor Sheila Tlou, Director RST for Eastern and Southern Africa, UNAIDS. She identified the global context in which nursing exists and discussed aspects of nursing leadership in the post-2015 era. In addition, she reflected on her personal pursuit of excellence and leadership and how she inspired leadership in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- In addition to the plenary sessions, chapter members attended the following concurrent sessions:
 - Engaging Interprofessional Teams
 - Measuring Student Educational Outcomes
 - Special Session – Getting Published in Nursing Journals: Strategies for Success
 - Enhancing Learning Through Online Education
 - Can Nurses Care for Themselves?
 - Utilizing Nurse Sensitive Indicators in the Clinical Arena
 - Clinical Education Strategies
 - The Use of Simulation in Nursing Education
 - Clinical Symposium Concept Mapping
 - Examples of Doctoral Education in Nursing
 - Nurses’ Perception and Education of Evidence-Based Practice
 - The Effect of Teaching Demands on Research Productivity and Work-Life Balance of Doctoral Program Nursing Faculty
 - Special Session – Developing Nursing Education Leaders through Intentional Behavior Change and Expanded Scope of Influence
 - Cultural Competency in Nursing Education
 - Promoting Health Through Evidence
 - Poster Sessions
- Our members presented the following:
 - Kim Bourne – Poster Presentation – Behind Closed Curtains on Eighteen Wheels: The Risk Factors and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence in Female Long-Haul Truck Drivers

- Laurie Branstetter and Lynette Smith – Oral Presentation – A Formative Program Evaluation of Electronic Clinical Tracking System Documentation to Meet National Core Competencies
 - Liz Sturgeon – Oral Presentation - Is Sitting Time Associated With Increased Health Risks in Nurses?
 - Dawn Garrett-Wright – Oral Presentation – Project Empower: An Interdisciplinary Project
- Laurie Branstetter accepted the Chapter Key Award for Kappa theta at the Chapter Awards Recognition Event. This is the first time that our chapter has received this award that honors chapters that excel in chapter-related activities.
- Liz Sturgeon and Lynette Smith served in the House of Delegates Session 1 on Monday afternoon and House of Delegates Session 2 on Tuesday. The following bylaws were amended:
 - Terminology Update - Article III. Membership. Section 2. Qualifications for Membership. Words were deleted to remove repetitive text and streamline the wording.
 - Terminology Update - Article IV. Chapters. Section 1. Definition of Chapter. The change from “school” to “institution of higher education” was made in order to be consistent with other areas of the STTI bylaws where the term is already used. This terminology is also more global in nature.
 - Terminology Update - Article IV. Chapters. Section 2. Organization of a Chapter. The Foundation was established in 1993 and this section has not been updated to represent the Foundation’s existence. When such funds are received from chapters, it is the Foundation that receives them.
 - Terminology Update - Article IV. Chapters. Section 5. Chapter Officers. The removal of the word “faculty” was made to make the International Bylaws congruent with the existing Chapter Bylaws.
 - Chapter Charters – Article VII. Board of Directors. Section 4. Functions. The House of Delegates will no longer review applications and vote on the establishment of new chapters. The Board of Directors will take over this function to streamline and speed up the process of establishing new chapters.
 - Chapter Charters – Article V. House of Delegates. Section 3: Powers. Approval of new chapters deleted.
 - Chapter Charters – Article IV. Chapters. Section 9. Probation, Revocation, Dissolution. Section 10. Removal from Probation and Reinstatement of a Chapter. Due to the sensitive nature of these issues, it was recommended that review, consideration, and vote remain with the International Governance Committee and the STTI Board of Directors and not be a duty of the House of Delegates.
 - Chapter Charters – Article V. House of Delegates. Section 3. Powers. Refers to previous item.
 - Chapter Models – Article IV. Chapters. Section 2. Organization of a Chapter. Approved the combined academic-practice at-large model as an innovative chapter model that accelerates STTI’s ability to meet its vision and mission.
- Our Incoming President, Dr. Cathy Catrambone, gave the Presidential Call to Action for 2015-2017. The initiative is entitled “Influence to Advance Global Health & Nursing”. STTI represents nurses which are the single largest group of healthcare professionals in the world. It is

estimated that there are 19.3 million nurses and midwives globally. As a cohesive group, we can influence global health and nursing through:

- Advocacy
 - Develop advocacy expertise
 - Engage in advocacy
 - Foster advocacy partnerships
- Policy
 - Engage in policy initiatives
 - Lead policy change
- Philanthropy
 - Contribute time and talent
 - Generate charitable donations
- Lifelong learning
 - Develop personally and professionally
 - Use STTI resources

Respectfully submitted by Liz Sturgeon, President of Kappa theta on January 5, 2016