Title: SPECIAL SESSION: GAPFON and Sigma Chapters: How Members and Chapters Can Contribute

Keywords: Chapters, GAPFON and nurses and midwives

Summary: In this presentation, President Beth Baldwin Tigges will present an overview of the GAPFON (Global Advisory Council on the Future of Nursing and Midwifery) initiative and how Sigma chapters can contribute to achievement of the strategies recommended by nurses and midwives from around the world during our GAPFON regional meetings.

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References: None.

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Professional Experience: Based on a variety of positions with Gannett Healthcare Group and the American Red Cross, as well as CE presentations/speaking engagements, areas of expertise would include: leadership, strategic management, communications, motivational support, conflict resolution, organizational structure/design, marketing and external relationships, disaster nursing/bioterrorism, career counseling, staff retention.

Author Summary: Cynthia Vlasich is the Director of Global Initiatives at the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International and has served as an international nurse leader in a variety of roles throughout her nursing career. Such roles include serving both as Vice President of Professional Services and Advertising at Gannett Healthcare Group and as Chief Nurse and division director at the American Red Cross.

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**Author Summary:** Beth Baldwin Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP, BC, is President of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) (2017-2019). Over the past 30 years, she has served in numerous STTI international and chapter positions.