Scholarship recipients, as new members, are:
- either new to nursing or embarking on a new role within the profession
- in positions to influence tremendous change within nursing
- Mentored within chapter and professional nursing roles and skills are transferable to professional nursing practice

- Communication
- Organization
- Professionalism
- Cultivate ethical responsibility
- Engage in service with others
- Utilize evidence based practice

- Enact change within the chapter and with those who they interact with as registered nurses
- Advocate in a variety of nursing specialties and healthcare settings
- Emphasize the value of a global contribution to nursing
- Lead in various circumstances throughout nursing careers

- Supports chapter responsibilities as a Sigma Chapter per the International and Chapter Bylaws (Sigma, 2018b)
- Responsibilities of officers, committees, and task forces as outlined in the Chapter Bylaws (Sigma Chapter, 2018)

- Individualized, trusting relationships are developed. Engages a transformational leadership approach where nurses are enabled and empowered in their chapter roles, and they continue to grow as nursing leaders throughout their careers (Hood, 2018).

- Actions → Personal Character Development → Habits → → Leadership Habits → Impact Nursing Practice Effectiveness (Hood, 2018, p. 469)

- Chapter serves as a transformational leader at the levels of the chapter and nursing profession to function as a:
  - “…role model, influencer, and enabler to promote change” (Kearney-Nunney, 2016, p. 169).

Experiences

**The exposure of new nurses to Sigma could change their professional careers, and the lives of others. Sigma demonstrates the highest levels of scholarship and advancement in nursing practice; it shows new RNs that scholarship continues beyond nursing school and is fully applicable at the bedside. It is wonderful that Chi Eta has been able to sponsor some new members.”**

Karen D. Wiegman, PhD, RN
Dean, School of Nursing, MNU, Olathe, KS
Treasurer, Chi Eta

**“I’m glad I went for the scholarship; it put me with the right people to see what the future may hold for me as an RN. The responsibility was NOT too much for a first-year RN and I had plenty of help. I highly recommend any pursuit of leadership or committee roles to individuals looking to turn small steps into thinking BIG. — No regrets here.”**

Lawrence Settles, BSN, RN
Staff Nurse, Truman Medical Center, Kansas City, MO
Governance Committee Chair, Chi Eta

**“Being a member of Chi Eta was a great experience in working with the community and creating a fellowship with my nursing peers. I gained support in school and my professional career as well as life long friends to support me throughout my nursing career. I would encourage all nurses to join and become a stronger voice together.”**

Anita Walkingstick, BSN, RN
Staff Nurse, Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ

References


Implications

- **Program Aim:** To support member skill development related to "scholarship, leadership, and service" (Sigma, 2018a, para. 1)
- Within the chapter and nursing profession:
  - Leadership promoted
  - Lifelong learning embraced
- Application of this program to Sigma’s global society of nursing:
  - Develop similar programs
  - Focus on new and renewing members
  - Engage members as mentors
  - Expand scholarship opportunities
  - Collaborate regionally, nationally, internationally
  - Transform leadership relationships
  - Stimulate influential leadership in the nursing profession to impact global healthcare

Contact Information

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