Global Health Advocacy: Building a foundation for transformative impact at the United Nations and beyond

Presented by:
Pennie Sessler Branden, Valerie Clary-Muronda, Janice Hawkins, Dania Itani Mousa, and Aric Shimek
Sigma Theta Tau International is an accredited provider of continuing nursing professional development by the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation.

This activity is eligible for 1.0 contact hour.

To receive CPD contact hours learners must complete the evaluation form and be in attendance.

Conflict of Interest: Authors attest that no relevant financial relationship exists between themselves and any commercial supporting entity which would represent a conflict of interest or commercialize the presentation content.
Your Participation

To open and close your control panel click the orange arrow

Submit questions and comments via the Questions panel.

**Note:** Today’s presentation is being recorded and will be available on the Sigma Repository in 48 hours.
Sigma United Nations Youth Representative and Liaisons
Key Messages

• Nurses already have many of the skills needed for successful advocacy. The time is now to apply these to the larger conversations affecting the health of our patients.

• The UN and the SDGs are a pathway for nurses to follow when looking to advocate in a way that can affect change both locally and globally.

• Sigma is a leader in this area and the Global team is here to engage with you and help bring the SDGs to life in your community.
What does the United Nations do?

Maintain international peace and security
Protect human rights
Deliver humanitarian aid
Promote sustainable development
Uphold international law
Why does Sigma participate at the UN?

**Represent YOU**
We fulfill the mission of Sigma by representing the voice of Sigma’s nurse leaders

**Provide Expertise**
We provide health expertise and knowledge through global inter-professional conversations

**Promote Advocacy**
We promote advocacy as a skill for translating local efforts into global results

**Advocate for Health**
We advocate for the role of nurses and our perspective in all policies

**Inform our members**
We help nurses better understand the SDGs and the relevant work of the UN
What does Sigma do at the United Nations?
Nurses as Advocates

Nurses and Midwives:
• provide healthcare to most vulnerable populations
• recognize the widening gap of social inequities and impact on health outcomes
• have frontline knowledge of health inequities
• are first responders to health crises
• remain well-positioned to lead efforts to improve global health outcomes
Skills for Advocacy

• Knowledge of relevant issues
• A well-prepared plan
• Familiarity with stakeholder interests
• Good communication skills
• Organized process to attend advocacy sessions
• Identification of co-advocates
• Materials to lobby and support campaign
• Strategy to establish consensus AND deal with divergent views
Advocacy Examples

- Start or join on campus advocacy groups
- Identify local health issues where advocacy is warranted
- Engage faculty leaders
- Work with other advocacy groups (churches, community organizations)
- Work with leading advocacy NGOs
- Write to members of Congress
- Plan and attend meetings with stakeholders
HEALTH IN THE SDG ERA

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES
SDG 10: Reducing Inequalities

- Promote a Diverse Workforce
- Reduce Gender/Racial Wealth Gap
- Reduce Institutional and Interpersonal Bias

Action Items
- Diverse and Inclusive Hiring Practices
- Holistic Admissions
- Implicit Bias Training
- Promote the Nursing Profession
- Combat Incivility
SDG 13: Climate Change

- Hospital waste ≈ 5 million tons annually
- Hospital linen: 10 million pounds annually
- Transportation ≈ 28% of US Energy Consumption

Action Items
- Linen Efficiency
- Supply Waste Reduction
- Hospital Compost Programs
- Remote Work Opportunities Post Covid
Hospital Waste

- Linen Par Levels, Bed Change Policies, Staff Education
  - usage by 1.32 lbs per patient day
  - 6 month savings > $83,000
- Supply waste
  - Mission donation 87,000#
  - Savings > $32,000
- Waste Sorting
  - Red bag waste 20%
Remote Work Opportunities and the SDGs

- Reduces travel/traffic congestion
- Decreases road fatalities
- Saves 53 minutes per day
  - More sleep, more exercise
- Saves office energy costs
- Promotes Gender Equality
  - Allows better work and life integration
  - Values productivity over time in office
Remote Work Opportunities

- Digital Divide
- Socioeconomic Divide
- Women and Minorities are more likely to work in low wage and frontline jobs
- Disproportionate domestic chores and caregiver role
- Domestic Violence
- Isolation
Enhancing the Message

Nurses Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: The United Nations and Sigma

AJN, AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING
April 2021
Creating Healthy Work Environments

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by Supporting Healthy Work Environments during the COVID Pandemic

Global Impact

Workplaces can change the world

By Valerie Clary-Muronda and Janice E. Hawkins

Healthy work environments aren’t just necessary for nurses’ well-being—they are fundamental to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, too.
2021 World Health Day
Civil Society Briefing

Building a Fairer, Healthier World: A Future with Health Equity for All

14 April 2021
9:30 -11:00 a.m. EDT

Register: bit.ly/healthbriefing21

Co-organized by: American Medical Women's Association (AMWA), Sigma Theta Tau Honor International Honor Society of Nursing & Centre for Public Health

@UNDGCCSO @UNDGC_CS0 #OnlyTogether #UNwithCivilSociety
Global Nursing Advocate Academy

**What:** Designed and taught by former Sigma UN Liaisons, this academy is a new and exciting opportunity to learn, to hone and to operationalize your advocacy skills and work.

**Where:** Online classes

**When:** To begin May, 2022 (Exact dates TBD) for a 6-12 class series
You, the United Nations, and the Sustainable Development Goals:

*How Sigma nurses can influence global healthcare*

Presented by:
Dania Al-Itani, Pennie Sessler Branden, Valerie Clary-Muronda,
Dawn Fitzgerald, Janice Hawkins, and Aric Shimek
Sigma Resources

- Visit the global team at our booth and engage with us
- SDG monthly toolkit
- SDG flyer and other handouts
- Making global connections during convention
- Global Nursing Advocate Virtual Academy (Coming May of 2022!)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIGMA</th>
<th>UNITED NATIONS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L E A R N</td>
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<td>• Biennial Convention</td>
<td>• Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)</td>
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<td>• International Nursing Research Conference</td>
<td>• SDG Academy</td>
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<td>• Sigma webinars</td>
<td>• UN Summer Academy</td>
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<td>• SigmaCast podcast</td>
<td>• UN SDG: Learn Initiative</td>
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<td>• Sigma Advocacy online program</td>
<td>• UN New York HQ visit and tour</td>
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<td>• UN listservs and newsletters</td>
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<td>• UN Web TV and live broadcasts</td>
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<td>UNITED NATIONS</td>
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| • Leadership Academies including:  
  * Nurse Educator Development Academy  
  * New & Experienced Academic Leadership Academies  
  * Nurse Leadership Academy for Practice  
  * Emerging Educational Administrator Institute  
• Nursing Now Challenge (2022)  
• Center for Excellence in Nursing Education | • UN Young Leaders Training Program  
• UN Immersion Program  
• UN Diplomacy 4.0 Training Program  
• Executive Diploma in Diplomatic Practice |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>UNITED NATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Global Regional Councils</td>
<td>• Volunteer with the UN</td>
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<td>• Intern with the UN</td>
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<td>• The Circle</td>
<td>• Teach an SDG course</td>
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<td>• Interact with Social Media</td>
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**ENGAGE**
United Nations Key Events

United Nations International Day of Education
January 24th

World Day of Social Justice
February 20
United Nations Key Events

International Women’s Day
8 March

CSW 66
The Commission on the Status of Women
4 to 25 March 2022
United Nations Key Events

# Contact Information

Invite us to attend or speak at your next regional conference or chapter meeting

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Dania Itani Mousa</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:UNDania@sigmanursing.org">UNDania@sigmanursing.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennie Sessler Branden</td>
<td>Woodbridge, CT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:UNPennie@sigmanursing.org">UNPennie@sigmanursing.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Clary-Muronda</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:UNValerie@sigmanursing.org">UNValerie@sigmanursing.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janice Hawkins</td>
<td>Chesapeake, VA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:UNJanice@sigmanursing.org">UNJanice@sigmanursing.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aric Shimek</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td><a href="mailto:UNAric@sigmanursing.org">UNAric@sigmanursing.org</a></td>
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Questions? Comments?
References


Global Health Advocacy and the Nurse Leader: Building a foundation for transformative impact at the UN and beyond. (Under review). *American Journal of Nursing.*


References


Thank you for attending!

- We will send you an email in approximately 1 week that will include a link to the webinar recording and the process for completing the evaluation to obtain your CPD certificate.
- Questions? Email us at: education@sigmanursing.org
- Sign up for future webinars or view previously recorded webinars at: https://www.sigmanursing.org/learn-grow/education/omega-webinars
Find Your Forward: Resources for Advocacy and Strength

Sigma has developed microlearning videos, handouts, and podcast episodes on a variety of relevant topics to help you Find Your Forward in today’s challenging times.

SigmaNursing.org/Forward
BECOME A SIGMA NURSE.

Sigma makes nurse leaders the best they can be.

Sigma is the international honor society of nurses. Together, our dedicated members change lives and advance healthcare.

Learn how you can be a Sigma member at Join.SigmaNursing.org.
SAVE THE DATE!

CREATING HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENTS

Washington, DC, USA | 24-26 March 2022
Nominate someone today!

International Nurse Researcher Awards

Honoring established and emerging nurse researchers. Nominations close 11 December 2021.

Visit SigmaNursing.org/NurseResearcherAwards to learn more.
Sigma members save lives (and money) every day.

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- Free access to advisors and mentors for career support
- Invaluable conversations in our online member community, The Circle
- Free subscriptions to Sigma’s journals ranked in the top 10
- Free job board for finding your next nursing job
- Discounts on event registration

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Want to dive deeper into today’s topic? Check out these resources and more at SigmaMarketplace.org!

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