

Editorial

Welcome to this inaugural version of *The Journal of Undergraduate Nursing Writing*. This journal is a compilation of original articles written by senior nursing students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Kansas School of Nursing.

The idea for this journal began as a discussion among faculty at the School of Nursing. Over the last few years we have been increasingly impressed with the high quality of writing of the senior students. Various arenas were investigated where students could publish their writing but we found few sources designed to showcase their efforts.

This finding helped us decide to publish our own journal through Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. We quickly ruled out a traditional printed journal because the financial resources outpaced our meager budget. You can imagine our delight when we learned we could do this journal in an on-line format and still retain the qualities we wanted to represent.

With the format established, a call for papers was sent to the seniors explaining the idea and the requirements for contributing their articles. Initially we expected to receive a few inquiries and maybe ten articles. We originally thought we would be fortunate if five of them were of publishable quality. Instead we received twenty different articles. After a peer review, ten were reviewed that met the standard set for publication.

These articles originated as assignments given in two senior level classes. The original call for papers did not limit their entries to any particular classes but all papers received came from the Populations or Legal/Ethical Foundations of Professional Nursing courses. Thus the content represented here deals with legal, ethical, or population issues.

Writing about these issues was not easy. These authors all showed an ability to describe these issues in their own manner while using sophisticated resources. Examples of topical choices include sham surgeries and their appropriateness, the practice of female circumcision, the principle of double effect, the effect on a health care provider of caring for a homosexual client, stem cell research, and cardiovascular disease in woman over 50.

This endeavor would not have been possible without the support of several dedicated individuals and organizations. The Dykes Library staff at the University of Kansas Medical Center campus were wonderful, particularly Beth Banks and her staff for their vision, direction, & technical ability without which this project would never have happened. Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta International provided the financial support along with the positive encouragement of Chapter President Sharon Kumm and the Chapter Executive Board. Without this the prizes each author received for the selection of their article would not have been possible. Lastly we commend the faculty and staff at the University Of Kansas School Of Nursing for their patience and responsiveness as we sorted through all the issues necessary to make this happen. We would have been lost without their willingness to listen and share their own personal experiences.

We hope you enjoy this first volume and await your feedback. Let's know what you think.

Editor:

David Martin, RN, MN
Clinical Assistant Professor

Associate Editors:

M. Kathleen Brewer PhD, APRN,BC
Associate Professor

Lynne Connelly, PhD, RN
Assistant Professor