

2008 Chapter Report  
Sigma Sigma Phi – Theta Chapter

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences  
College of Osteopathic Medicine

## **2008-2009 Officers**

President: Kristen Darden

Vice President: Seth Tutor

Secretary: Sarah Patrick

Treasurer: Sam McMurray

Faculty Advisor: Joan Stewart D.O., MPH

## **Introduction**

2008 has been another successful year for the Theta Chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi at Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. We continue to be very active in both school and community service projects and promoting Osteopathic Medicine. 22 new members from the class of 2011 joined the Theta Chapter this year. We have been impressed by the initiative these individuals have taken to exceed the community service requirements of the Theta Chapter. We would also like to recognize the 14 members of our chapter that graduated in the spring with the Class of 2008. We are excited about the service projects we have planned for this academic year and are looking forward to continuing the tradition of service to our school and community.

## **Member Selection**

Our membership eligibility is based purely on academic standing, although acceptance and continued membership is based solely on community service. Applications are sent out at the beginning of the spring and fall semester to OMS1s (just spring semester) and OMS2s who rank in the top 20% of their class. Acceptance is based on the applicants community service and willingness to continue this service throughout their medical school career. We require 6 community service hours a semester; however, most members greatly exceed this number.

## **Officer Meetings**

Officer meetings are held on an as needed basis to brainstorm and plan upcoming community service projects and Theta Chapter events.

## **Service Projects and Activities**

### **Initiation**

18 new members were initiated at a dinner with all SSP members in attendance. Madison Collins, past president of the Theta Chapter congratulated the new members on their accomplishments and spoke about the vision of SSP and our involvement in our community. Officers for the 2008-2009 academic year were also selected.

### **Health Fair Booths**

Members of the Theta chapter of Sigma Sigma Phi have committed to being present at several of the health fairs sponsored by our school and other organizations in the Tulsa community. Every spring we participate in a health fair sponsored by OSU-CHS at Eugene Fields Elementary School. 99% of the students at Eugene Fields qualify for the free lunch program. We were responsible for the height and weight station at this health fair, and many of our members participated in other health screening stations as well. Many of our members volunteer throughout the year at Eugene Fields Elementary School both in the classroom and in after school activities.

Another health fair in which our Chapter always participates is a rural health fair sponsored by our school's Student Osteopathic Medical Association. This fall we went to Cleveland, Oklahoma, population 3,000. Our chapter was responsible for blood glucose screenings and diabetes education.

### **Osteopathic Scrub Run**

OSU-CHS holds an annual 10km and 5km race and a fun run every spring. Money is raised to support Life Share, a group that promotes organ and

tissue donation. Our chapter always runs a water station at the half way point in the course. Many of our members also participate in the run.

### **Christmas Toy Drive**

Last Christmas we sponsored a toy drive collecting new toys from students, faculty and staff. These toys were given to the patients and siblings of patients in the pediatric unit of Oklahoma State University Medical Center.

### **Blood Drive**

Every year we sponsor a blood drive in the spring with the Oklahoma Blood Institute. Over 50 units of blood were collected.

### **New Student Welcome Presentation**

Members of our Chapter put together a presentation for the new OMS1s after their second day of school this year. We went through all of the resources for each of their classes and had our members rank each resource for usefulness. We also suggested some specific study strategies for each class that the majority of us found helpful. The goal of the presentation was to help reduce anxiety among the new 1<sup>st</sup> years and help them recognize productive ways to spend their time studying until they found a routine for medical school that worked for them. Our presentation was attended by almost the entire new class and they were very appreciative of some direction. They also were relieved to know that most of us had failed a test at some point in our first year of medical school.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Theta Chapter will be volunteering with the John 3:16 Day Center for the Homeless the week of Thanksgiving. Our members will be helping to sort, put together, and distribute Thanksgiving baskets. We will also be running a food drive for specific items that the center is frequently running low on.

## **Individual Volunteering**

Our members spend a lot of their free time volunteering with organizations in the community. We have members very involved with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Tulsa County. Many of us volunteer at various free clinics throughout Tulsa as well. Members tutor many different educational levels, including elementary, middle and high school, adult literacy programs and other medical students. Of course there are many others.

## **Current Membership**

Class of 2011, second year students	22
Class of 2010, third year students	18
Class of 2009, fourth year students	20
Total	60