

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
School of Nursing

ANNETTE LEFKOWITZ FUND
FOR NURSING RESEARCH

This fund has been established to honor Dr. Annette Lefkowitz, the first Director and Chair of Northern Illinois University School of Nursing founded in 1959. This endowment fund is being offered to facilitate nurses or nursing students in the completion of research projects, presentation at nursing research findings at conferences, and attendance at presentations of nursing research.

After 26 years of service, Dr. Lefkowitz retired in August, 1985. Under Dr. Lefkowitz, the School of Nursing received National League for Nursing accreditation in both the undergraduate and graduate programs. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the Beta Omega chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. Dr. Lefkowitz's example of achievement and leadership will serve at the cornerstone of building nursing knowledge through the endeavors of NIU student-based research activities.

Advancement of nursing knowledge is accomplished through a multiplicity of approaches and examination of discrete units of concern. This belief allows both the novice student and the more experienced researcher to make valuable contributions to the science of nursing. To encourage both the novice and more advanced student and to support discrete and expansive areas of nursing research, graduate and undergraduate grants will be available. At Dr. Lefkowitz's request, recognition of scholarship is determined by membership in Sigma Theta Tau.

It is with great pleasure that Northern Illinois University nursing students are invited to apply for this nursing research grant.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Grants are awarded one time each year in May. **APPLICATIONS AND PROPOSALS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL FIRST of each year Send to:**

Sigma Theta Tau International, Beta Omega Chapter
Research Committee
Northern Illinois University
School of Nursing
1240 Normal Road
DeKalb, IL 60115

General Information for The
Annette Lefkowitz Fund for Nursing Research Grants

I. Applicant Criteria

- A. Formal enrollment as an NIU School of Nursing student
- B. Current membership in Sigma Theta Tau OR meets criteria for membership in Sigma Theta Tau
- C. Submission of application materials for funding for:
 - 1. Research study OR
 - 2. Presentation of findings of research study OR
 - 3. Attendance at a nursing research conference

II. Application Materials

- A. The application is subjected to blind review; applicant's name should appear on the application form only.
- B. The Research Proposal must follow APA format; however, single spacing is allowed.
- C. Submit application form (attached)
- D. Submit 4 copies of description of proposed study (see I), presentation (see H), or attendance at a nursing research conference (see H)
- E. Submit letter of support from appropriate faculty member.
- F. Submit budget which describes as completely as possible the anticipated expenses associated with implementing the proposal.
- G. Submit Accounting Agreement Form (attached).
- H. If application is for funding of a presentation of research findings or for attendance at a nursing research conference, the description of proposed presentation or attendance should include:
 - 1. Title and Abstract: The first page must contain the title and succinct abstract of the proposed activity.
 - 2. Description of Proposed Project: This should include a detailed description of the activity to be completed, including the student's role in that activity.
 - 3. Rationale for Project: This should include the significance of the proposed project at the importance of the applicant participating in this activity.
 - 4. Implications for Professional Development: This should include the significance of the proposed activity to the applicant's professional development, including the manner in which this project will assist the applicant in reaching professional goals.

I. If application is for funding of a research study, the description of proposed study should include:

- 1. Approval of project by appropriate faculty research advisor.
- 2. Completed Human Subject Approval form.
- 3. Proposal which follows the following format and is limited to five single spaced pages:
 - a. Title and abstract: The first page must contain the title and a succinct (250 word) abstract of the proposed study.
 - b. Research question: Identify the research question or problem being studied. Theoretical and operational definitions of variables should be addressed unless generally understood. If a theoretical framework is adopted for the study it should also be addressed.
 - c. Rationale: Relate the research question to the relevant, supporting research literature. Discuss how previous research findings suggest the proposed study is significant.
 - d. Methodology: Briefly describe the approach and procedures that will be used to answer the identified research question. Describe the participants, materials, procedures, and protocol.
 - e. Data treatment: Describe how well the data will be treated and/or analyzed. Discuss how the data will address the research question.
 - f. Research implications: Discuss the implications for the use of the data as can be projected.
 - g. Bibliography: Provide bibliographic information for all sources cited using APA format. An appendix may be attached which includes samples of the instruments or tools to be implemented.

III. Criteria for Awarding of Grant

- A. Incomplete or late applications will not be eligible for consideration.
- B. Applications will be reviewed by the Beta Omega Research and Scholarship Committee.
- C. Criteria for evaluating research study proposals will be judged on the criteria identified in the guidelines using the following weighting:

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Clearly stated research question	25%
Rationale and significance of study	25%
Adequacy of method and procedure for addressing the research question	15%
Data treatment	10%
Implications for research findings	25%

- D. Criteria for evaluating other applications:

	<u>Weight</u>
Clear description of project	30%
Rationale for project	35%
Implications for professional development	35%

IV. Grant Allocation

- A. Assuming fundable applications are submitted, at least one grant will be given to a graduate student and at least one grant will be given to an undergraduate student.
- B. The amount of the grant will be determined by the proposed budget, the number of applications to be funded, and the available monies.
- C. In the event that no grant is awarded, the monies will be returned to the fund to continue accrual of interest for future use.

V. Application Deadline

- A. Submit completed materials to the Beta Omega Research Committee.
- B. Applications deadlines as set by the Beta Omega Research Committee.
- C. The recipient(s) of the grant(s) will be notified in writing by the Beta Omega Research Committee.
- D. Awards will be presented at the School of Nursing Professional Convocation.

*Annette Lefkowitz Fund for Nursing Research
Grant Application Form*

Application Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Sigma Theta Tau Chapter: _____

Information About Current Student Status

Degree currently sought _____

Expected date of graduation _____

Funding is being requested for the following: _____

Other funding sources for this study/project: _____

If this application is for funding for a research study, complete the following information:

Title of Proposal _____

Date to Initiate Study _____

Research Advisor _____

Coinvestigator information (if applicable)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Academic Qualifications: _____

Annette Lefkowitz Fund for Nursing Research Grant
Accounting Agreement

If my proposal is accepted for funding, I agree to:

1. Accept responsibility for the conduct of this study/project
2. Expend the funds as described in the application.
3. Return any unused funds to the Beta Omega treasurer.
4. Submit formative progress reports each semester until the is completed.
5. Submit a summative report when the study/project is completed.
6. Acknowledge the grant support in any presentation of study findings.

Signature: _____

Date: _____