

MINUTES

UTAH EDUCATION COMMITTEE BOARD OF NURSING

July 18, 2008

Room 474 – 4th Floor – 7:30 a.m.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 7:47 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 9:47 a.m.

Bureau Manager:

Laura Poe

Secretary:

Shirlene Kimball

Division Director:

F. David Stanley

Conducting:

Diane Forster-Burke

Board Members Present:

Peggy Brown

Mary Williams

Diane Forster-Burke

Board Members Excused:

Pam Rice

Guests:

Carmel White, Education Affiliates – Fortis College

Carolyn Lewis, Utah Career College

Andrea Olson, Utah Career College

Traci Hardell, Stevens-Henager

Katherine Dimmock, Ameritech College

Linda Peterson, Ameritech College

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

NEW BUSINESS:

Review NCLEX pass rates:

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The NCLEX results were reviewed. Ms. Poe reported that Utah's pass rate has dropped again. Out of the 55 jurisdictions, Utah is number 46.

Ms. Poe reported the provisionally approved programs continue to be a problem. Ameritech College will be placed on probation on a Memorandum of Understanding. Utah Career College is already on a Memorandum of Understanding and their pass rate was low this last quarter, however only five students tested.

Utah Valley University appears to be struggling and it is reported that Gary Measom will be leaving as director. Southern Utah University continues to have low pass rates and Donna Lister will be invited to meet with the Committee next month.

Carolyn Lewis,
Utah Career College:

Dr. Lewis reported that 33 students in Cohort 4 graduated the end of June. Students in Cohort 4 are the last students educated under the old curriculum. Cohort 5 will graduate in April and will have been educated under the new curriculum and the next NCLEX quarterly report will be critical. Dr. Lewis stated the program only accepted 13 students for the latest cohort and several students withdrew when they found out the program was on probation. Dr. Lewis provided a copy of the NLNAC candidacy status and indicated NLNAC will conduct a site visit February 2009. Dr. Lewis stated they are looking for a new lab coordinator; they have five full time faculty members; and five adjunct faculty (one full time and four part time). Dr. Lewis stated they will have two additional adjunct faculty members teaching in the fall. Committee members reminded her to submit the vitae of the new faculty members.

Debra Edmunds,
Mountainland ATC:

Ms. Edmunds was not able to meet with the Committee.

Katherine Dimmock,
Linda Petersen
Ameritech College:

Committee members discussed the NCLEX pass rates with Dr. Dimmock. Dr. Dimmock stated she understands why the program will be placed on probation under a Memorandum of Understanding.

Dr. Dimmock stated the program is offering help to those students who have not passed the NCLEX exam; however, there are a number of students who have not taken advantage of the offer. Ms. Petersen indicated the program graduated 75 students and only 43 have taken the exam. They are not sure why the students are not sitting for the examination. Dr. Dimmock stated it will be the next quarter before they see the results from those students who were accepted after the admission criteria was increased and changes implemented in the program.

Ms. Peterson stated she would review the records, go back student by student, list out when each student

entered the program and what cohort they were in; whether or not the individual passed the exam and look at when the changes were implemented. If the graduates still can not pass the exam after the implementation of the changes, the program will need to determine what other changes need to be made or the Committee may withdraw approval.

Dr. Dimmock submitted the new curricular objectives. The Committee will review the objectives at the August meeting.

Dr. Dimmock stated she still needs to have the faculty review the NLNAC candidacy application. This review will take place July 23, 2008 and they hope to have the application mailed out by the end of the month. She indicated NLNAC has assigned them a mentor.

Traci Hardell
Stevens-Henager College:

Ms. Hardell provided the Committee with an update regarding Stevens-Henager College. She reported they have been assigned a mentor by NLNAC and they are working on the candidacy status application. She stated she hopes to have the candidacy application submitted within the next two months and have the self study completed within the next five months. Ms. Poe indicated the program must have been granted candidacy status, not just have submitted the application.

Ms. Hardell reported the first graduating class was March/April. The next class will graduate in mid September. They will have a graduating class every other month after September. Ms. Hardell questioned the proposed rules change regarding the prerequisites and whether or not programs which had already been approved (including those with provisional approval) would be grandfathered and would not need to meet this new standard. Committee members indicated all programs must meet the new requirements. Ms. Poe indicated the issue was the ability to transfer credits and if the program has an affiliation agreement with a school that is regionally accredited, they would meet the criteria outlined in the rule. Ms. Hardell indicated another issue of concern is the academic unit/semester as being 14/15 weeks.

Ms. Hardell indicated they currently have 62 students in the nursing program and 50 students taking general ed. She questioned whether or not they could increase the number of students? Committee members indicated she needs to submit documentation of candidacy status before this would be addressed. She would also need to provide documentation that they have sufficient facility and clinical sites. Ms. Hardell requested to be excused next month, but will provide a written update and request.

Carmel White, Education Affiliates
Fortis College,
Letter of Intent and Feasibility Study to begin
an ADN program:

Ms. White met with the Committee to explain the Educational Affiliates, Fortis College nursing program. Ms. White stated they have six nursing programs in six states and the program is accredited by ACCSCT. Students who complete the first level would have the option to take the NCLEX-PN exam prior to moving to the second level. The second level will also accommodate licensed practical nurses to complete the RN program. There would be three cohorts of 20 students. They would admit 3 times (2 cohorts of generic students and 1 cohort of LPNs).

Dr. Williams questioned whether or not there is a set curriculum for all nursing programs? Ms. White stated there is not, even though several schools offer the same curriculum, each individual program can develop their own curriculum. She stated her role is as curriculum consultant. Ms. Forster-Burke indicated this program would fall under the new rules and questioned where the prerequisite courses would be taken. Ms. White indicated this will need to be addressed. Ms. Forster-Burke expressed concern with the availability of clinical sites. Ms. White stated they have started a focus group looking at new ways to obtain clinicals and are structuring curriculum to make use of facilities.

Ms. White stated they would like to begin the program in May, June or July of 2009. Once approval is given, they would look for a nursing director and a clinical coordinator.

Committee members will review the information provided and discuss the request at the August

meeting.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

August 14, 2008
Date Approved

(ss) Diane Forster-Burke
Diane Forster-Burke, Chair, Education Committee Board of
Nursing

August 14, 2008
Date Approved

(ss) Laura Poe
Laura Poe, Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing