

**MINUTES**

**UTAH  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
BOARD OF NURSING**

**October 9, 2008**

**Room 210 – 2nd Floor – 7:30 a.m.  
Heber Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

**CONVENED:** 7:46 a.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 8:59 a.m.

**Bureau Manager:**

Laura Poe

**Secretary:**

Shirlene Kimball

**Conducting:**

Diane Forster-Burke

**Guests:**

Dr. Katherine Dimmock, Ameritech College  
Linda Petersen, Ameritech College

**Committee Members Present:**

Peggy Brown  
Diane Forster-Burke  
Mary Williams

**Committee Members Excused:**

Pam Rice

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

**DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

August 14, 2008 Minutes:

The August 14, 2008 minutes will be reviewed by the Total Board.

September 11, 2008 Minutes:

The September 11, 2008 minutes will be reviewed by the Total Board.

NCLEX Pass Rates for Provisional Programs:

Reviewed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Written Report submitted by  
Carolyn Lewis,  
Utah Career College:

Report reviewed.

Written Report submitted by  
Debra Edmunds,  
Mountainland ATC:

Report reviewed.

Dr. Katherine Dimmock,

Dr. Dimmock indicated the last Community PNs

Linda Petersen -  
Ameritech College:

accepted into the RN program will be graduating in June 2009. Dr. Dimmock stated the program is currently using an enhanced version of the old curriculum (original curriculum tightened up based on content mapping and content analysis). She stated the class graduating in October will be the last class using the old curriculum. Those graduating in February 2009 will be the last class under the enhanced curriculum. Students just accepted into the program are under the new curriculum and these students should graduate February 2011. Dr. Dimmock reported the program's normal attrition rate is 4-5 students per group. Dr. Dimmock indicated graduation dates are February 2009; June 2009; October 2009; February 2010, June 2010 and February 2011.

Dr. Dimmock questioned the Board regarding the policy for the number of courses a student can fail before failing out of the program. Committee members indicated the rules don't address this issue and it would be an institutional policy. However, Committee members stated that after two failures the student should not be allowed to come back to the program. The failures do not have to be in the same course. Dr. Dimmock also questioned if an LPN does fail out, would they be allowed to reenter the program? Committee members indicated it would be the institutional policy whether or not to have the student wait at least a year to reapply, or never take them back.

Ms. Forster-Burke indicated the new rules require an individual pass the examination within three years or 4 attempts. If there are 27 students who have never taken the examination, those students need to be contacted by the program and informed if they don't take the examination within that time period or attempts, they will need to complete another program.

Discussion regarding pass rates: Dr. Dimmock questioned when the Board will begin counting the low pass rates as outlined in rule. Committee members indicated the Board will look at first time test takers starting with the graduating class in October. The quarterly results reviewed would be for

the quarter beginning October 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2008. Committee members indicated the pass rates from last month was 38.88%, Dr. Dimmock stated they have implemented the ATI with an exit exam score of 95%. Ms. Poe questioned whether or not the twelve who failed the NCLEX examination this month took an exit exam? Dr. Dimmock stated no, they were under the old admission criteria. Committee members questioned if the program is holding to the new admission criteria? Dr. Dimmock stated the new admissions criteria was implemented one year ago and the PN's who are graduating now are under the new admission criteria. No RNs have graduated under the new admission criteria.

Dr. Dimmock discussed strategies to improve graduate performance on the RN-NCLEX examination. Dr. Williams stated the graduate performance is extremely critical and students need to do well on the examination. The Rules went into effect in August 2008, so the first graduating class pass rates we will count in the time frame is the October 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008 quarterly results. Ms. Poe indicated we will look at the December 31, 2008 and March 2009 quarterly reports. We will have a good idea how the program is doing by June 2009. Ms. Petersen stated they have made huge changes to the program. The program is no longer giving extra credit and they have implemented ATI testing. Dr. Dimmock questioned what will happen if the pass rates do not improve by June 2009? Ms. Poe indicated if the rates have not improved by June 2009, June would be the last class admitted and they would have to stop taking new students. If the pass rates remain low for the fourth time, the program would have to close. If by May the changes haven't made any difference, it will be an institutional call to continue to accept students. Students should understand if the pass rates don't increase, they will have to find a new program. It would be in the best interest to the students for the program to provide a notice that if the pass rates do not increase, there is a chance they will not be able to complete the program. Ms. Poe questioned ABHES status. Dr. Dimmock indicated financial report documents were sent to ABHES and

ABHES will be conducting a site visit October 21, 2008. She indicated the audit report will be forwarded to the Board. Ms. Poe indicated that if something happens to the parent institution's accreditation, the program would have to stop the nursing program. Ms. Poe indicated she has received concerns from students indicating Dr. Dimmock is not available to speak with them. Dr. Dimmock stated she currently spends 3 weeks a month in Florida helping her daughter, but the program was aware that she needed the time to help her daughter. Ms. Poe indicated it is okay for a limited time, however, she needs to be available to supervise faculty. Dr. Dimmock indicated she has appointed two coordinators on campus and they check in with her on a regular basis. She stated she is available by phone and email.

Traci Hardell,  
Stevens-Henager College:

Report reviewed. Ms. Brown stated she would like to see the faculty contract for those faculty members who do not have a master's degree and when they plan on completing the masters program. Committee members also questioned the number of graduates. Committee members will ask her next month if they have changed their curriculum to the quarter system, how it affects graduation cycles and why no new graduates have tested.

Westminster College:

Ms. Forster-Burke indicated Westminster College just received CCNE Accreditation for another 10 years.

*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.*

December 11, 2008  
Date Approved

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

December 11, 2008  
Date Approved

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