

MINUTES

**UTAH
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
BOARD OF NURSING**

March 11, 2010

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

CONVENED: 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 10:01 a.m.

Bureau Manager:

Laura Poe

Secretary:

Shirlene Kimball

Conducting:

Diane Forster-Burke

Committee Members Present:

Diane Forster-Burke

Peggy Brown

Mary Williams

Gigi Marshall

Pam Rice

Guests:

Rieneke Holman, Student University of Utah

Kimberlee Weaver Lewis, Student U of U

Rebekeh Lynch, Everest College

Marlene Luna, University of Southern Nevada

Lee Duke, Eagle Gate College

Marlene Bacon, Utah Valley University

Cole Allinson, Student Provo College

Emily James, Student Provo College

Tim Sorenson, Student Provo College

Mandy DeJournett, Student Provo College

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

February 11, 2010 Education Committee minutes:

NEW BUSINESS:

Utah Valley University,

Marlene Bacon, Nursing Director:

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A Motion was made to approve the minutes with grammatical corrections. All Committee members voted in favor of the Motion.

Ms. Bacon was invited to meet with the Committee to clarify the type of program offered at Utah Valley University and to discuss concerns regarding the low NCLEX pass rates.

Ms. Bacon indicated she has been the nursing director at Utah Valley University for 2 ½ years. Ms. Bacon stated it was her understanding that the generic BSN program had been approved and both programs received NLNAC accredited in 2008. Ms. Poe stated the program did not communicate the change to the Board and the program has not received Board approval for the generic BSN program. According to Rule, all programs leading to licensure require approval by the Board. Since both programs at UVU lead to licensure, both programs require Board approval. Committee members expressed surprise that the NLNAC would grant accreditation without approval from the Board.

Ms. Poe stated at this point the Board may consider waiving the feasibility study, site visit and fees and concentrate on reviewing and approving the curriculum. Ms. Bacon was requested to submit the curricular plan, course descriptions, evaluation tools, and faulty information for review.

Committee members also expressed concern that the NCLEX pass rates have dropped. Ms. Bacon stated there are three specific areas of concern for the program. She reported students from Mountainland Applied Technology have a lower pass rate on the RN examination and this is the last semester UVU will accept students from Mountainland. Ms. Bacon indicated another high risk group came from the Heber City Campus. She reported this group was not well prepared and those students had to travel for clinical placements. Ms. Bacon stated the Heber City campus program has been discontinued and there will be no more graduates from that program. Ms. Bacon stated the third problem area came from those students who were allowed to retake prerequisites to improve their GPA. Some of these students took the prerequisites up to eight times. Students were also being administered the TEAS exam over and over and the highest score in each section was pulled and put together for the overall score. She stated this practice has been stopped and the student can only retake a prerequisite once. She reported the average GPA has dropped, but feels the students will be better prepared and the program hopes to see an improvement in the

NCLEX results. Ms. Bacon stated they have implemented the full package of remediation and are not waiting until the student is ready to take the NCLEX to find a problem. Ms. Bacon stated the first group to take the NCLEX since the changes were implemented will sit for the examination Spring 2011. Ms. Brown questioned whether or not the school looks at finding different occupations for those students who fail out of the nursing program. Ms. Bacon stated high risk students can be transitioned to another profession. Committee members questioned the attrition rate for UVU. Ms. Bacon stated there may be a 10% attrition rate.

Ms. Poe indicated the Committee will be looking at the two year period of time regarding NCLEX pass rates. UVU admits 60 students twice a year and graduates in the fall and in the spring. Ms. Poe stated there will be no action until 2011 or 2012; however, Committee members will watch the program closely and if the NCLEX pass rates continue to drop, monthly written reports might be required.

Ms. Bacon stated she will be leaving as dean and will move to full time teaching faculty. The program is advertising for a chair and the position closes March 23, 2010.

Lee Duke,
Eagle Gate College:

Dr. Duke met with the Committee to discuss Eagle Gate College and NLNAC accreditation. Dr. Duke reported she had just been informed by NLNAC that Eagle Gate College needed to go through a separate NLNAC accreditation process. This is opposite of what a previous NLNAC representative indicated. It was thought that because Eagle Gate College was owned by the same company and would be using the same curriculum as Provo College, a separate accreditation would not be necessary.

Dr. Duke stated the program will only admit once a year in August and will admit 20 students at each site. Dr. Duke stated she is the program director for the Layton and Salt Lake site.

Ms. Poe stated Eagle Gate College will need to submit the educational program application, the fee and

supporting documentation which includes a description of the curriculum, clinical sites and faculty. This information will be reviewed at the April meeting and a site visit will be conducted when the facilities are finished.

Marlene Luna,
University of Southern Nevada:

Dr. Marlene Luna introduced herself to Committee members. Dr. Luna indicated Connie Carpenter has resigned her position as director of nursing at the South Jordan campus effective February 19, 2010. Dr. Luna will be the new nursing program dean for the South Jordan campus and she indicated she has been working for the University of Southern Nevada since 2007. Dr. Luna submitted a copy of her resume and stated she is familiar with the policies and procedures of the program.

Dr. Luna indicated the program continues to recruit for full-time faculty. She reported they have submitted an application for NLNAC Candidacy status.

The report from the University of Southern Nevada was reviewed and accepted.

Rebekah Lynch,
Everest College:

Dr. Lynch indicated Everest College received ACICS final accreditation approval. Dr. Lynch indicated Everest College started advertising the nursing program on March 1, 2010 and hopes to start the first group of 20 students in general education courses on April 12, 2010. She stated if they do not have enough students to begin a class in April they will begin July 1, 2010. Dr. Lynch provided a copy of the admission criteria for review. Dr. Lynch stated the students are admitted to the nursing program even if they have a received a "c" in a prerequisite course. Committee members cautioned that if a student receives a "c" in the prerequisites and the program accepts a GPA less than 3.0, this may be a predictor that the student will have a difficult time passing the NCLEX examination. Ms. Forster-Burke stated the GPA recommendation would be a 3.0. Dr. Lynch stated they will leave it at 2.8. Dr. Lynch stated they are submitting curricular changes to ACICS; however, it less than a 25% change. Committee members indicated she would need to submit a copy of the letter to the Board.

Debra Edmunds,
Mountainland ATC written report:

The report was reviewed and accepted. Committee members discussed item number four that indicates Mountainland is waiting for a final decision from Utah Valley University regarding the PN to BSN program. Ms. Bacon, UVU, had stated earlier in the meeting that UVU was no longer accepting Mountainland students into the program. Committee members wondered if Mountainland had a transition course from PN to RN. Ms. Rice indicated she does not think they have a transition course; however, the students accepted from MATC do well in Weber's program.

Traci Hardell,
Stevens Henager College written report:

Ms. Hardell indicated in the report that she is resigning from Stevens Henager College at the end of March 2010. She reported the new interim dean will be Rebecca Ford. Committee members requested Ms. Ford meet with the Committee next month. Board members would also like to see the job description of clinical lab coordinator. The written report was reviewed and accepted.

Ms. Poe discussed Stevens Henager and NCLEX pass rates. Ms. Poe stated the Committee has reviewed two years of NCLEX pass rates, has sent a letter of warning, and accepted their plan of remediation. Ms. Poe indicated the Division is not at the point of saying they cannot accept more students. There is concern that nursing programs may hold back transcripts and not allow a student to graduate because of the fear that the student may not pass the NCLEX examination. It would be unacceptable to have a large number of students in this position.

Review NCLEX Pass rates for Ameritech and Stevens Henager College:

NCLEX pass rates for the provisionally approved programs were reviewed.

Julie Aiken,
Ameritech College written report:

Committee members reviewed the report. There will be an NLNAC site visit October 2010. Ms. Aiken reported all graduates for the September 2009 cohort have taken the NCLEX examination. She reported this is the first cohort to graduate under the revised curriculum and a large number of students opted out of the program as LPNs. She reported they have approximately 13 students from the February 2009 and May 2009 cohorts in remediation in order to meet the requirements for graduation. Committee members still need to see the attrition rate and to determine whether

or not the program is holding back transcripts. If they are holding up the transcripts, those students should not be included in the attrition rate. Ms. Brown stated the numbers do not add up and it goes back to a graduating cohort. The Committee needs the number of students that begin a cohort, the number of students that finish the cohort and the number of students that obtain the degree. Committee members want to know how many students entered into the last nursing course. If the student is not graduating, how many are in that group? The Committee needs to look at the students who are waiting to be counted.

Ms. Poe stated she understands why the school would hold a transcript; however, it artificially changes the intent of graduate dates and artificially inflates numbers. Ms. Marshal questioned how they are meeting the nursing program objectives if they are holding these students in limbo. Committee members questioned how these students got to the last semester and now cannot pass an exit exam. It appears that they passed the schools standards, but cannot pass at the national level.

Kathleen Potter,
Fortis College:

Ms. Potter reported Fortis College admitted 17 students and general education courses began March 1, 2010. She indicated nursing courses will begin August 16, 2010. There will be four cohorts accepted yearly. Ms. Potter stated they have eighteen clinical contracts and the students will be begin clinicals October 4, 2010. The report was reviewed and accepted.

Discussion regarding Annual Reports:

Committee members discussed merging the current annual report and the nursing education programs in Utah survey into an Excel spreadsheet. The annual report would cover the period from January 1 to December, with a due date of December 31. The program will need to provide a copy of the NLNAC or CCNE annual report. Provisionally approved programs that do not have national accreditation will have to submit a separate report.

Questions on the annual report will include:

- how many students are in the program.
- provide information on new faculty members only.

- the faculty profile sheet will have a column added for credential progress if enrolled in program.
- ask whether or not faculty is full time or part time and require a vita for each new faculty member.
- add a section to the report the number of students that the program has on a hold status. This would include the number of students the program has waiting to pass the comprehensive exit exam before issuing a transcript. The program will need to provide the remediation plan.
- differentiate between the Capstone experience and identify precepted and non precepted courses.
- add other accepted accreditations such as COA
- ask for months when admissions occur.
- ask if there is a policy regarding the exit exam. List the type of test and the score required.
- ask how many students are being supervised at a clinical site and clarify whether or not faculty members are using two sites and the number of clinical courses at any one time.

There will be a report for the nationally accredited programs and a report for the provisionally approved programs. The Annual report will be modified and placed on the Divisions web site. At this time, the Division will request a copy of the NLNAC or CCNE reports, let the program know the annual report form will be available on the web site once approved and the report will be due in December.

Rule Draft:

Ms. Poe indicated she tried to find a definition for simulation, however, could not find one. Several guests made suggestions on where to look for the definition.

Review of the proposed Rules: Page 4 - Examination requirements. Ms. Poe stated she has been surprised at the number of people who have taken the examination a number of times and have not been to pass the examination within 3 years or after four attempts. The language in this section was changed from sooner to later. This would allow the individual the greatest opportunity to pass the exam. She reported NCSBN is proposing to remove the two year requirement and allow unlimited testing. Committee members stated this would be moving backwards.

Committee members agree with the change to “later”.

The next change is in section R156-31b-602. Categories of Nursing Education Programs Approval Status. Added into (2)(b) “or with an approved innovative approach”.

In section R156-31b-603. Nursing Education Program Standards. Add “unless otherwise approved by the division in collaboration with the board” to number (e)(ii) which reads no more than 25% of the clinical hours can be obtained in a nursing skills laboratory, or by clinical simulation or virtual clinical excursions. Add the wording “unless otherwise approved by the division in collaboration with the board” to (e)(iv) which reads nursing faculty, must be on-site with students during all fundamental, medical-surgical and acute care clinical experiences. Add the wording “unless otherwise approved by the division in collaboration with the board” to section (f)(i) which reads: clinical preceptors may be used to enhance faculty-direct clinical learning experience . . .

Add to section R156-31b-602. Innovative Approaches in Nursing Education Program. Ms. Poe stated the language is from the NCSBN Model Rule and sets up a process for a program to apply to be an innovation approach to nursing. Ms. Rice and Dr. Williams expressed concern that this wording would open the door to programs not approved. Ms. Poe stated the wording would allow those programs with provisional approval to request they be approved for innovation approach to nursing, but would not allow those programs without full approval or provisional approval.

Dr. Williams made a Motion to adopt the changes to the Rules. The Motion was seconded by Ms. Brown. All Committee members in favor.

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.

April 8, 2010
Date Approved

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

Page 9 of 9
Minutes
Education Committee Board of Nursing
March 11, 2010

April 8, 2010
Date Approved

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