

## MINUTES

### UTAH EDUCATION COMMITTEE BOARD OF NURSING

June 17, 2010

Room 474 – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – 9:00 a.m.  
Heber Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

**CONVENED:** 9:07 a.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 11:40 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

**Committee Members Excused:**

Pam Rice

**Guests:**

Jan Jones-Schenk, WGU

Audrey Keepers WGU/Mountain West Medical Ctr

Carolyn Lewis, WGU

Nate Creer, WGU

Mallika Filtz

#### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

##### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

**May 13, 2010 minutes:**

#### **DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Approved with corrections.

##### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Review NCLEX Pass rates for Ameritech and  
Stevens Henager College:

Reviewed.

Western Governor's University,  
Jan Jones-Schenk and Carolyn Lewis:

Ms. Jones-Schenk reported the MAP program at WGU currently has 74 students, 63 students are in California. She reported the state of Texas expanded the approval for an innovations pilot program and added two additional cities. The program will continue to grow as more students are recruited in Dallas and Houston Texas. Ms. Poe questioned whether or not Texas had a limit on the number of

students Western Governor's University could accept. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated in the original Texas proposal, WGU indicated they would like to have 80 students in 2010 and 140 students in 2011.

Ms. Jones-Schenk stated WGU has the support of Workforce Services in Utah because of the need in the rural community for nursing services. Ms. Marshall questioned whether or not there is any data on outcomes for online programs versus the traditional approach programs. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated there is a lot of data regarding this issue. Ms. Poe indicated WSU was originally formed to address the teacher shortage and they have six years experience offering online courses. Ms. Poe stated the outcomes should be similar for a nursing program.

Ms. Brown stated she is concerned because some rural areas do not have access to a good lab. She stated she is also concerned with adequate access to the internet. Ms. Brown questioned if there is a requirement or minimum requirements for a student to be enrolled in the program? Ms. Jones-Schenk stated since it is an online program it is expected that a student has a computer and the internet. If a student does not have this access, he/she will not be accepted into the nursing program. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated the first course the student takes is titled "Education without Boundaries". This course exposes the students to everything that will be needed to manage an online program. Ms. Brown questioned how WGU deals with cultural diversity. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated 75% of their students fall into one or more of the underserved population category which are minority, rural, 1<sup>st</sup> generation college student, and social economical. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated WGU has the resources to help these individuals be successful in the program.

Dr. Williams stated her concern is the quality of education the baccalaureate prepared nurse will receive if clinicals are only obtained from a small rural hospital with limited exposure to other settings. She stated she is concerned there will not be adequate preparation. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated there are times when a student in a large hospital receives less

diversity than a student in a smaller facility. Dr. Williams stated it is not only a diversity of clinical experience, but the BSN also includes clinical judgment, critical thinking, priority setting and role modeling. Her concern is whether or not the student can obtain that type of diversity in a small clinical setting. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated the courses are provided concurrently with the clinicals which enhances clinical reasoning. She indicated critical thinking is what WGU is seeking to develop in the student via the curriculum and WGU worked very hard to make the development of didactic knowledge fit into cognitive knowledge before moving the student into the lab and into the clinical arena. Ms. Jones-Schenk indicated the program was recently realigned to ensure the didactic learning precedes the lab experiences and the student builds on the didactic knowledge. The mentor is the person pulling together those critical elements of the didactic knowledge, lab skills acquisition and an application of didactic knowledge into the clinical experience. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated the coach must have a BSN degree and must be willing to go through training on how to be an effective coach.

Ms. Poe questioned how many students they envision accepting into the program. Ms. Poe stated she thought there would be 10 students; however, last month during the WGU presentation a request to start with 34 students was made and increasing to 68 students per year thereafter. Ms. Poe stated that number is concerning given the number of new graduates without jobs. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated WGU can admit students during any month. They could admit a cohort of ten students in August and ten students in January. The idea is to spread out the number of students over the calendar year which helps the financial model, helps the clinical settings and helps the student. Ms. Poe stated she would be comfortable with starting ten students one month, and ten students another month. Ms. Brown stated she also likes the rolling admission. Ms. Jones Schenk stated their goal is to begin a cohort of ten and when other facilities become available, they would like to increase the numbers.

Ms. Poe stated the request for approval would fall under the proposed rule for innovations in nursing education programs. The issue before the Committee is whether or not to approve WGU to offer a pilot innovative education nursing program when the proposed Rule becomes effective. Ms. Marshall made a Motion to approve WGU as a pilot program under the innovations in nursing education rule, admitting no more than 3 cohorts per year with 10 students per cohort. The Motion was seconded. Discussion: Dr. Lewis stated she feels 10 students per cohort is limiting. Ms. Jones Schenk suggested the wording not include “a pilot” program, but an innovation program with a two year limit. After the discussion the original motion was withdrawn.

Ms. Marshall made a Motion to grant provisional approval status to the WGU nursing education program to provide an innovative nursing education program under Section R156-31b-607 of the proposed Rules; the provisional approval status shall be for not less than two years, but no more than three years, with the program admitting no more than 3 cohorts per year with 10 students per cohort. Dr. Williams seconded the Motion. Ms. Forster-Burke opposed. Ms. Brown, Dr. Williams and Ms. Brown in favor. Motion passed.

Ms. Jones-Schenk stated their intent is to accept qualified students that have already completed their prerequisites and would like to begin the program by fall. Committee members indicated they will need to submit monthly progress/status reports to the Board.

Ms. Jones-Schenk questioned if they have a 92% pass rate in two years, would they still be limited to 30 students per year. Committee members stated yes, they would be limited until they have received full approval.

Education Committee members discussed the site visit to WGU. Ms. Brown stated she would like to receive feed-back from the sites and students. Ms. Jones-Schenk indicated Committee members could meet with students during their simulation opportunities and could also meet with the faculty members at that time. Ms. Brown stated she would like to visit with the

clinical coaches to see how it is going from their perspective. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated they could provide a meeting using online cameras, conference calls, or have the coaches come in to meet with Committee members.

Report on site visit to Eagle Gate College:

The following is a list of concerns which will need to be addressed prior to a second site visit:

- Lack of student space at the Layton campus. The couch in the hall way is not acceptable as a student lounge area.
- There is a one way mirror into the lab skills room. The room needs to be secured and closed off. A curtain across the hall is not acceptable.
- Submit the job description, educational background and experience of the administrator.
- Submit faculty vita of the new hires.
- Submit a current up-to-date organizational chart.
- Submit a structured plan of growth. How many faculty members will be added and when will they be added. There was no faculty space and no plans for growth when additional faculty is added.
- Faculty development. Those faculty members teaching didactic courses appeared to have a clinical teaching experience only and the Rule requires a percentage of faculty to have an educational background.
- Committee members would like to know the minimum number of students needed and when they will be admitted.
- How does the program address the ESL student? What is available in student services from the school and from the nursing program?
- Supplies were not in place.

Committee members were also concerned with the reception Committee members received at the initial site visit. Individuals at the school were not aware that the school offered a nursing education program, or where to send the visitors to meet with the program director.

Ms. Brown made a Motion to table the approval until the additional information has been submitted, the lab is up and running, supplies are received, faculty members have been hired and another site visit has

been conducted. Dr. Williams seconded the Motion. All Committee members in favor.

Review clarification from Utah Valley University:

Clarification reviewed. Ms. Poe will send a letter thanking them for the clarification. However, they still need to determine whether or not they will be offering a generic BSN program.

Marlene Luna,  
University of Southern Nevada, written report:

Report reviewed. Committee members expressed concern with the high number of unsuccessful students. Ms. Marshall stated remediation is built into the block for a certain period of time. If the student fails the remediation plan, fails to progress or fails the block, the student is out of the program.

Rebekah Lynch,  
Everest College, written report:

Report reviewed. Ms. Lynch requested they be allowed to admit 20 students quarterly instead of 40 students twice a year. Ms. Marshall made a Motion to allow them to admit 20 students on a quarterly basis. Dr. Williams seconded the Motion. All Committee members in favor. Ms. Brown questioned if the first class is still scheduled to graduate December 2010.

Stevens Henager College,  
Rebecca Ford, written report:

Ms. Ford reported three students have failed out of the cohort of ten students recently admitted. There are currently 54 students in the program. Committee members would like to know the number of students starting the program, the number completing the cohort, and where the student is at in the program. Committee members also indicated they need a vita for any new faculty members. Committee members suggested Ms. Ford be invited to meet with the Committee at the next meeting to hear the discussion so that she understands what issues the Committee is looking at.

Julie Aiken,  
Ameritech College written report:

Report review. Committee members would like Ms. Aiken to address how many students began the program. It appears there were 40, but the statistics submitted in the report include 38 or 35 and they did not report their numbers had dropped.

Kathleen Potter,  
Fortis College:

Report reviewed. Committee members would like to know the faculty status, the number of faculty hired and when will the cohort start.

Committee thanked Ms. Forster-Burke for the wonderful job she has done on the Board:

Board members expressed appreciation for Ms. Forster-Burke's dedication to the profession. She will be missed.

Nomination of new chair:

Dr. Williams nominated Ms. Brown and Ms. Marshall as co-chairs. 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.*

September 9, 2010  
Date Approved

(ss) Peggy Brown/for  
Diane Forster-Burke, Chair, Education Committee, Board of  
Nursing

September 9, 2010  
Date Approved

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