

MINUTES

UTAH EDUCATION COMMITTEE BOARD OF NURSING February 2, 2012

Room 464 – 4th Floor –8:15 a.m.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 8:25 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 12:36 p.m.

Bureau Manager:
Secretary:

Debra Hobbins
Shirlene Kimball

Conducting:

Peggy Brown, Co-Chair

Committee Members Present:

Peggy Brown
Gigi Marshall
Debra Mills
Sheryl Steadman

Guests:

Deanna Herring, Legislature Auditor
Faye Uppman, Broadview University
Delos Jones, Broadview University
Julie Aiken, Ameritech College
Karla Huntsman, Ameritech College
T.J. Carter, MATC
Holli Sonerby, Stevens-Henager College
Becky Richards, Stevens-Henager College
Vicky Dewsnup, Stevens-Henager College
Melanie Nelson, USU Eastern Utah
Donna Cartwright, USU Eastern Utah
Malinda Daniel, Broadview University
Mark Staats, Broadview University

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

January 5, 2011 Minutes:

NEW BUSINESS:

Report on visit to Fortis College:

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The January 5, 2011 minutes were tabled.

The Division and NLNAC received a complaint from a student attending Fortis College. NLNAC scheduled a visit to the program; however, Fortis College requested the visit be postponed. Committee members determined a visit to Fortis College would be

necessary. During the visit, Committee members met independently with students. Students reported no problems and were very supportive of the program. Committee members determined that there was no evidence to support the original complaint from the student. However, in speaking with students, there was a report that an LPN at one clinical site was acting a mentor to the RN students. Ms. Christiaens reported the program no longer uses that facility for clinicals.

Committee members indicated that during the visit they found the simulation lab unorganized. The mannequin was not working properly and staff members spent a great deal of time fixing the problem. Lab times had been scheduled and no instructors were available. Committee members reported that some courses use 25% in the simlab. Committee members requested a review of attendance records to determine how many hours' students spend in the simlab and how many hours are spent in clinicals. Dr. Christiaens reported all skills are completed in clinicals, but she did not have an attendance log that separated the hours.

Committee members questioned Dr. Christiaens whether or not the program was withdrawing candidacy status or just the NLNAC site visit. Dr. Christiaens stated their candidacy status will be honored, the program is only requesting that the site visit be postponed.

Committee members also indicated Dr. Christiaens seemed to be a little unsure of what was going on in the program. She did not know the rotations in simulation. Some courses listed had the same hours, but different contact hours. Committee members also indicated they spent time looking for a class that was not offered due to a clerical error in the course number. Committee members stated they feel Dr. Christiaens would benefit from a mentor. The mentor could be from one of Fortis' other nursing programs.

Committee members indicated the program is addressing the student issues and no further action is required at this time.

Review 4th Quarter NCLEX reports:

Provo College is the only program with a pass rate below the national average.

Mountainland Applied Technology College,
T.J. Carter, Program Director:

Ms. Carter reported that the program's innovation pilot was initially proposed to use preceptors for maternity; however, preceptors are now being used for the whole program. Ms. Brown stated this approach is not new for RN programs, but it is for the LPN programs and that is why the program was approved as an innovative program. MATC was approved for the innovative pilot program to use these preceptors for maternity. Ms. Brown indicated that part of the reason the rule did not allow for preceptors in the LPN program was that most preceptors are RNs and they may not be aware of the role differences. Ms. Mills questioned how the program determines if a preceptor is qualified and how will the preceptor demonstrate competency? Ms. Carter stated that the Nurse Practice Act rule, section R156-31b-603(3)f(i) lists the requirements for a preceptor for the RN and they are following those standards. Committee members requested Ms. Carter submit documentation to demonstrate compliance with the requirements.

Ameritech College,
Remediation Plan
Julie Aiken, Program Director
Karla Huntsman:

Ms. Aiken stated fourth quarter NCLEX pass rates for the last cohort was 85%. Ms. Aiken stated the rules read that the pass rate is by graduation cohort. She indicated that quarterly reports are for all students taking the exam during that quarter. The Board is not evaluating the criteria by graduation cycle. Ms. Aiken stated that they have only had one cohort below the national average in the last two years. Ms. Aiken also stated she would like to receive the scores for repeat test takers.

Ms. Marshall stated a process needs to be implemented to make sure the Committee receives accurate information and make sure the program is evaluated by the correct criteria. Ms. Aiken stated the program director is tracking the data and could provide the information to the Division. Ms. Uppman, Broadview University, stated that the Minnesota Board provides all the information online. Ms. Brown stated that the University of Utah discussed with the Division the possibility of downloading information into the Divisions computer system,

however, there was a system issue and the Division needs better data collection. The Division was reluctant to put funding into the project. Ms. Marshall stated that the Division needs to look at what it would take to obtain the correct information.

Ameritech College remediation plan was accepted.

Committee members reviewed the curriculum revisions presented by Ameritech College. Ms. Aiken stated that the current program is five semesters and they would like to expand the program to six semesters (15 weeks in a semester).

Ms. Aiken indicate the curriculum revision is necessary to address decreasing NCLEX-RN pass rates; the need to better articulate general education courses with the Utah System of Higher Education and to support the program goal of preparing students for baccalaureate study; and the desire of the faculty to ensure alignment of the curriculum with national standards. Ms. Aiken reported feedback from students and faculty regarding the pace of the program was also considered when making the decision to make curricular changes.

Ms. Aiken stated credit hours will increase from 72 credit hours to 75 credit hours. The general education courses are taught on campus. They have an articulation agreement with Western Governors University and the University of Phoenix. The clinical hours decrease from 566 hours to 517 hours with 16 additional simulation hours. Ms. Aiken stated they have approximately 100 applicants and will accept 50 students.

Ms. Marshall made a Motion to accept the curriculum revision. Ms. Mills seconded the Motion. All Committee members voted in favor of the Motion.

Provo College,
Remediation Plan:

Committee members reviewed the Remediation Plan submitted by Provo College. Provo College has had a high turnover in faculty and nursing administrators. **Committee members accepted the remediation plan**; however, requested that the systemic evaluation plan be submitted including the program evaluation plan, community evaluation plan and faculty

Stevens-Henager College
Remediation Plan
Becky Richards, Program Nursing Dean
Vicky Dewsnup, President
Holli Sonerby:

evaluation. Committee members also requested data on the last cohort and the graduation rates.

Ms. Richards submitted the remediation plan along with a systemic evaluation plan. Ms. Richards stated that the ATI will be required in the first week of the final course and again the last week of the final course. A 90% pass rate will be required. Ms. Richards stated the program wanted the students to take the ATI during the first week so that if they fail, the student would be eligible for a tutor at the college's expense. The tutor must approve the student to take the ATI a second time. Ms. Richards reported the program would like to see the pass rates between 92-94%. If the student fails the ATI a second time, then the student fails the course. Ms. Marshall questioned how the program determined a passing score would be between 92-94%? Ms. Richards stated that with this score range, there is a 94% probability the student will pass the NCLEX examination. It will also catch the failing students sooner and remediation can be started earlier. Ms. Brown stated that the ATI was developed to be used as an evaluation tool, but the student should not be failed because of the ATI score. Ms. Dewsnup stated that students often rush the program. They need to slow down and study and the school feels this is the best way to determine whether or not they are really ready. Ms. Marshall stated she understands the effort to help the student pass the NCLEX, but they have built in the predictor exam for the grade. It was intended to be used as a predictor exam.

Ms. Richards indicated the curriculum review began in November 2011. They have hired an outside consultant to assist in curricular development and faculty members are involved in the curriculum. Ms. Richards indicated they have very committed instructors and have faculty meetings every Monday. Ms. Richards indicated they are looking closely at courses, not completely revamping them, but reviewing one class at a time. Ms. Richards reported the program found pharmacology and the NLCEX to be the weak areas of the program. She reported they are also considering extending lab four additional hours for each student. Ms Richards indicated the school will be adding an observation room and will

have a clinical lab coordinator who is BSN prepared and will oversee the lab operation. They are also considering adding a lab technician.

Ms. Richards stated they feel good about the remediation plan and their NCLEX numbers are up. Ms. Brown questioned if they have looked at their selection process. Ms. Richards stated they are happy with their admission standards. Ms. Richards reported the June graduating class will be the first graduating class with the changes that have been made. Ms. Richards stated the November cohort had 13 students and 11 passed. That January cohort had 19 students.

Ms. Richards stated the request for expansion to two other campuses has been placed on hold for now. The expansion was designed to have the same program on all three campuses. Faculty would be hired for each campus and Ms. Richards would oversee all three campuses. All campuses would begin the program at the same time. Committee members questioned whether or not these campuses would be considered satellite campuses? Ms. Richards stated all campuses have the same accrediting body and would fall under the umbrella of the Ogden campus.

Stevens-Henager College remediation plan was accepted.

Utah State University College of Eastern Utah,
Donna Cartwright, Program Director
Melody Nelson

Ms. Cartwright stated that the program was expanded in 2006. Prior to that date the RN program was offered one year, the PN program offered the next year. In 2006 the program began offering both programs every year. The Uintah Basin Campus was added in during this process. With the changes, all campuses failed to meet expectations and NCLEX pass rates dropped. Mr. Johnson met with the Committee December 2010 with a remediation plan. Ms. Cartwright reported those changes were implemented. The biggest change was the incorporation of the ATI examination. She also reported the program will require a B minus for general education and nursing courses beginning August 2012. This will be the last year the student can have a C in general education courses and a B minus in nursing courses. Ms. Cartwright stated she took over the program April 2011 and she wanted to make

sure faculty members understand the conceptual framework, uses current terminology, revised specific outcomes and revised the course descriptions. Ms. Cartwright also stated that there may have been some students who were passed by a faculty member that maybe should not have been passed. Beginning fall 2011 they started looking at course outcomes, not only program outcomes, teaching at the level they should be, added evidence based practice, and have been working very closely with the Uintah Basin program. Ms. Cartwright reported the changes should be reflected in the 2012 NCLEX pass rates. Learning outcomes and evaluation tools have been updated. She also reported they are preparing for the NLNAC site visit for both the RN and PN programs. They are also focusing on curricular changes. Ms. Brown questioned if they have adequate resources available for the special needs for the diverse student population. Ms. Cartwright stated she feels they have the appropriate resources.

Utah State University – College of Eastern Utah remediation plan was accepted.

Broadview University,
Faye Uppman,
Delos Jones
Mark Staats

Ms. Uppman stated Mr. Jones has worked very hard with the students to improve pass rates on the NCLEX examination. She stated she would like to thank Mr. Jones for his hard work.

Ms. Uppman reported the cohort size is declining because they are not admitting and not teaching as many students. They are concentrating on current students, offering tutoring and offer open lab times. Ms. Uppman stated they feel they have turned a corner and feel the program is getting better. Mr. Jones stated he is teaching critical thinking and tracking student progress. The student takes the ATI at the beginning of the block and again at the end of the block. Each individual student has a remediation plan, has a three day focus review with ATI, works with a mentor several weeks before graduation so that if there are any issues, those issues can be addressed. Mr. Jones stated the program is preparing the student for a role, not just an exam.

Mr. Jones also indicated they will be looking at BSN programs for the student and will have a plan in place

if the student wants to move in that direction. Ms. Uppman reported there were 16 graduates in December and several from that group will test next week. They have 13 students graduating in March and 16 students will graduate in June. There are currently 75 students remaining in the program. Ms. Uppman reported they would like to change their admission cycle to admit a cohort in June and December. Dr. Hobbins requested they submit a plan in March with a timeline.

Ms. Uppman questioned why the Committee approved the curricular changes for Ameritech, but did not vote on the changes for Broadview's curricular changes. Committee members indicated that there were differences in the changes. Broadview was an internal change and Ameritech was like a new program.

Dixie State College,
Remediation Plan:

Dixie State College submitted their remediation plan. Dr. Grady indicated there was a curriculum switch and they have also changed GPA requirements.
Dixie State College remediation plan was accepted.

Review Written Reports from Provisionally
approved Programs:

Eagle Gate College: Report reviewed. There will be an NLNAC exit interview February 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Committee members will contact Dr. Hobbins regarding availability.

Everest College: Report accepted.

Fortis College: Reported accepted.

Nightingale School of Nursing: Report accepted. The only question is the number of students who graduated this quarter.

Western Governors University: Report accepted

Review Annual Reports:

Ameritech College – accepted
Bridgerland Applied Technology College – accepted
Brigham Young University – accepted
Davis Applied Technology College – accepted
Dixie State College – accepted
Eagle Gate College – accepted
Everest College – accepted
Everest College – accepted
Mountainland Applied Technology College – accepted

Nightingale College – accepted
Ogden Weber Applied Technology College – accepted
Provo College – accepted
Roseman University – accepted
Salt Lake Community College – accepted
Snow College – accepted
Southern Utah University – accepted
Stevens-Henager College – accepted
Uintah Basin Applied Technology College – accepted
University of Utah college of Nursing – accepted
Utah State Univ. College of Eastern Utah – accepted
Utah Valley University – accepted
Weber state University – accepted
Westminster College - accepted

Dr. Hobbins discussion:

Dr. Hobbins questioned whether or not Committee members would like to change the Rule regarding the 5% below the national average on the NCLEX examination. Ms. Marshall stated she would like to keep a standard in rule. Dr. Steadman stated there are so many variables and the Committee should be looking at the whole program, not just the number. Dr. Steadman indicated there needs to be set standards, such as values, ethics, pass rates, but she indicated she is not sure what those standards would look like. The Committee is basing a judgment on the school just because the school may not have high pass rates.

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 5, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) Peggy Brown
Peggy Brown, Co-Chair, Education Committee, Board of
Nursing

April 5, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) Debra Hobbins
Debra Hobbins, Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational
& Professional Licensing