MINUTES

UTAH
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
BOARD OF NURSING

September 11, 2008

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

CONVENED: 7:37 a.m.  
ADJOURNED: 10:15 a.m.

Secretary: Shirlene Kimball
Division Director: F. David Stanley (8:05 am.)
Conducting: Diane Forster-Burke

Guests: Carolyn Lewis, UCC
Charisse Cole, UCC
Traci Hardell, Stevens-Henager
Katherine Dimmock, Ameritech College
Linda Petersen, Ameritech College

Board Members Present: Peggy Brown
Diane Forster-Burke
Mary Williams
Pam Rice

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:  
August 14, 2008 Minutes: Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:  
Review NCLEX pass rates for Provisionally approved programs for the period of July 1, 2008 to September 9, 2008: Reviewed. Utah Career College pass rate has improved. Ameritech RN pass rate remains low.

Review Idaho State University’s request that their nursing students be exempt from licensure so students can complete a 90 hour clinical rotation at Primary Children’s Hospital as an elective clinical experience: Dr. Nancy Renn, assistant director for undergraduate studies, submitted a request for Idaho State University to use Primary Children’s Medical Center for clinical experience for their students. Idaho State University’s nursing program is approved by the Idaho Board of Nursing, is nationally accredited and affiliated with an institution of higher education. Clinical faculty members are employed by the nursing education program and are licensed in good standing in Idaho,
which is a compact state. Dr. Renn indicates the program has an affiliation agreement with IHC and Primary Children’s Hospital. Dr. Williams made a Motion the program meets the criteria outline in R156-31b-608(2) and students from Idaho State University be allowed to complete the clinical experience in Utah as requested. Ms. Brown seconded the Motion. All Board members in favor.

Carolyn Lewis,
Utah Career College:

Dr. Lewis reported things continue to go well. She indicated the NLNAC self study will be completed September 16, 2008 and she will have the final draft submitted to site visitors by December 17, 2008. Dr. Lewis stated the NLNAC site visit will be scheduled for February 3, 2009. Dr. Lewis stated she is expecting the annual site visit from the Board in January in preparation for the accreditation site visit. Dr. Lewis questioned whether or not the Board would conduct the site visit the first week of January. Committee members indicated January 12, 2009 appears to be a good day and will let her know after checking with Ms. Poe.

Committee members reviewed the past rate for this period and noted the pass rates have improved.

After Dr. Lewis left the meeting, Dr. Williams expressed concern that there may have been a misunderstanding and Dr. Lewis may expect the Board to do a mock review prior to the NLNAC site visit. Ms. Rice stated she will call Dr. Lewis and clarify for her the Board will not conduct a mock review. If Dr. Lewis would like to have a mock review, she may have to pay for some one to come to the program.

Debra Edmunds,
Mountainland ATC:

Ms. Edmunds provided a written report which was accepted. The Division will check to see if any faculty member resumes are needed and will let Ms. Edmunds know.

Dr. Katherine Dimmock,
Linda Petersen -
Ameritech College:

The RN pass rate for the last quarter was 64.52%. There were 31 students who took the RN NCLEX exam and 49 students who took the PN exam. She indicated 22 RN and 13 PN students still need to take the examination. Dr. Dimmock stated the next graduating class is October 3, 2008. Dr. Dimmock stated the program continues to make changes. She
indicated admission criteria have been increased and the program will require writing and math samples to determine deficits. Dr. Dimmock indicated they will be more selective and will implement a process if the student doesn’t meet the criteria, they will not be accepted into the program. Committee members reported the Division is working on the Memorandum of Understanding which will place the program on probationary status.

Dr. Dimmock requested clarification for the time frame regarding the low NCLEX pass rates. The rules state if the low NCLEX pass rate occurs three times either after three consecutive graduation cycles or over a two year period of time, the program shall cease accepting new students. If the program is unable to raise the pass rate to the required level after four consecutive graduation cycles or over a two year period of time, the program shall cease operation at the end of the current academic timeframe such as at the end of the current semester or quarter. Dr. Dimmock questioned whether or not the Board will be looking at the October 2008 graduation or the February 3, 2009 graduation? Committee members indicated they will have this clarification at the next meeting.

Dr. Dimmock stated ABHES accreditation visitors will be at the school October 1, 2008 for a meeting with the new auditors. The program can not seek NLNAC accreditation until ABHES has finished their process.

Traci Hardell, Stevens-Henager College:

Ms. Hardell indicated there will be 19 students graduating the 1st of October and 10 students the 1st of November. There are 62 students in the program with 80 doing their prerequisites. There are two new clinical faculty members and Ms. Hardell indicated she would fax the faculty resumes to the Board. She indicated a rough draft of the narrative section for the NLNAC self study has been send to the NLNAC mentor for review. Ms. Hardell reported student feedback has been positive and students are pleased with the clinical placements. Ms. Hardell indicated the program is in the process of expanding to a 60 week program to meet the requirement in rule and will increase both pediatrics and OB nursing from one to
two modules. Ms. Hardell questioned the time frame for obtaining the general education classes through a regionally accredited program. Committee members indicated an articulation agreement needs to be in place within six months.

Jan Jones Schenk, Marianne Ramirez, Western Governors University:

Ms. Jones-Schenk and Dr. Ramirez presented an overview and background information on Western Governors University. Western Governors University is regionally accredited through Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Dr. Ramirez indicated the program will submit their self study report to CCNE in October 2008, with a visit in November 2008. Ms. Jones-Schenk indicated the program is a competency-based, mentor-guided online learning program. She indicated the program would be a pre-licensure BSN. Dr. Ramirez explained the vision, philosophy and nursing mission. She indicated the emphasis is on technology and informatics with informatics integrated throughout all courses. Dr. Ramirez provided the Committee with a brief overview of nursing program outcomes, the conceptual framework and nursing clinical model. She stated the faculty mentor provides the link between clinical sites and the program. The clinical instructor (adjunct faculty) is responsible for completing and communicating the evaluation of student competencies in collaboration with the clinical coach. The clinical coach (preceptor) works one-on-one with students in the clinical care setting. The faculty mentor does not reside in Utah, but would be licensed in Utah or another compact state. The clinical placement coordinator would be in Salt Lake. The clinical instructor supervises the clinical coaches. The maximum number of students a clinical instructor would oversee would be ten students. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated the clinical coach must apply to be a clinical coach and are matched with one student and stay with one student throughout the course. The clinical instructor on-site would have dedicated hours and would be relieved from other job responsibilities while providing one-on-one for the student. Ms. Brown expressed concern for the staff nurse who has to care for patients and take students. She stated she is concerned with the additional pressure placed on the staff nurse. Ms. Forster-Burke stated she has
concerns that facilities are signing contracts with new programs, but those letters are signed by administrators who do not know what is happening at the lower level. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated she has not spoken with HCA in Utah regarding clinical placements because she wanted to meet with the Board of Nursing first. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated they are looking at the feasibility and expressed concern that the Board may not accept letters regarding clinical placements. Ms. Forster-Burke indicated the Board has accepted the letters from the facilities.

Ms. Jones-Schenk questioned the rule which allows for no more than 25% simulation. She questioned whether or not the Board would consider allowing for a higher percentage in simulation. Ms. Jones-Schenk indicated there is no evidence based data that shows the maximum amount of clinical hours in simulation should be 25%. She indicated she would like to see the students receive more hands on training before going to the clinical area. Ms. Forster-Burke stated there is a need to safeguard those students where they would not have well designed simulation and the Board needs to error on side of caution. Not all programs will have the ability to provide good simulation.

Ms. Forster-Burke thanked Ms. Jones-Schenk and Dr. Ramirez for the presentation and indicated they will be invited back for further discussion. Committee members expressed concern the program is a preceptor model. Ms. Forster-Burke indicated the Board has stated they would not accept a preceptor. Ms. Jones-Schenk stated the model has been piloted in Texas and California.

Use of an external evaluator to review and education program: Committee members indicated they would recommend Helen Zsohar or Marianne Craven as external evaluators for education programs.

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.
Minutes
Education Committee Board of Nursing
September 11, 2008

October 9, 2008
Date Approved
(ss) Laura Poe
Laura Poe, Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing