

MINUTES

UTAH EDUCATION COMMITTEE BOARD OF NURSING

December 10, 2009

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

CONVENED: 7:35 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 8:59 a.m.

Bureau Manager:

Noel Taxin

Secretary:

Shirlene Kimball

Conducting:

Diane Forster-Burke

Committee Members Present:

Diane Forster-Burke

Peggy Brown

Mary Williams

Gigi Marshall

Pam Rice

Guests:

Kimball Johnson, College of Eastern Utah

Lee Duke, Eagle Gate College

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

November 12, 2009 Education Committee minutes:

Committee members made a Motion to approve the minutes with corrections. All Committee members voted in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Kimball Johnson, Nursing Director
College of Eastern Utah:**

Ms. Forster-Burke conducted the interview. Mr. Johnson was invited to meet with the Committee to discuss the College of Eastern Utah's low NCLEX pass rates. Mr. Johnson stated he feels CEU has a good nursing program but indicated they have had some internal issues which they are correcting. He reported in 2006-2007 the program had a small applicant pool and a small number of graduates. He indicated modifications were made to the clinical component due to the time and travel involved getting students to the clinical sites. Mr. Johnson reported 2007-2008 was the first year the PN/ADN program

was offered at the San Juan campus. The number of students accepted into the program was increased and a new faculty member was added. The Uintah Basin program was also added during this time period. He reported that in 2008-2009 students that were not accepted at the Price campus were admitted to the San Juan campus.

Mr. Johnson reported the program implemented a mandatory pass rate of 90% on the RN predictor test and the program will not release transcripts until the student reaches 90% on the RN predictor. Ms. Brown stated it would be better if the program attaches the predictor exam to a course and not withhold the transcripts. Ms. Brown stated that if the predictor exam is within a course the program would be more likely to have support of the administration.

Mr. Johnson stated the program was not aware they were in trouble until he received the letter last month. Dr. Williams indicated the Board has been watching the pass rates for all programs and have noticed a decline for the past several years. Dr. Williams suggested a strong admission criteria should help increase the pass rates. Mr. Johnson stated they have been lax in the past, but are reviewing the selection criteria and ensuring the competency of selected students. He also indicated they are recommending students take an NCLEX review class two hours per week and have used "My Nursing Lab" for all unit chapters. He also indicated there is more cohesiveness between campuses. Committee members questioned what GPA they are requiring. Mr. Johnson stated they use a points system and do not require a certain GPA. Board members suggested using the GPA rather than points and not allowing the student to retake classes over and over to bring up their GPA.

Dr. Williams stated it sounds like they have implemented good strategies for the interim period, but they need to look at the whole curriculum, objectives and admission criteria. Mr. Johnson stated he knows this is a band-aide approach and will look carefully at the whole program. Ms. Forster-Burke stated if there is a forth year of low NCLEX pass rates it is possible they won't be allowed to admit more

Review NCLEX pass rates for
Provisionally approved programs:

Debra Edmunds, written report
Mountainland ATC:

Traci Hardell, written report
Stevens-Henager:

Ameritech College written report:

Provo College/Eagle Gate College,
Clarification regarding the expansion proposal
Lee Duke, Corporate Director of Nursing:

students. Mr. Johnson stated he understands.

Reviewed. Committee members requested the Division provide quarterly pass rates for the provisionally approved programs at the next meeting.

Reviewed. The report indicates 20 students have completed the PN program successfully and will graduate December 17, 2009. Twenty students have been admitted to begin the program in January 2010. Ms. Edmunds questioned whether or not a procedure has been established for clinical proposals (innovations in nursing as discussed last month) and indicated they would like to pursue the possibility of utilizing preceptors on the PN level. Ms. Edmunds also attached a copy of the NLNAC site visitors' report. Dr. Williams indicated that once NLNAC approval has been granted and the program receives full approval, the Committee would discuss their request regarding the innovations model.

Reviewed. Ms. Hardell indicated there are currently 95 students enrolled in the pre-nursing and nursing courses. She stated they have completed the revision of course objectives per NLNAC recommendations and are revising their clinical evaluation forms to show more student progression. She reported they are using ATI's TEAS test for pre-admission screening of applicants. She stated they are looking at program growth with a possible second nursing program site at the Orem campus. Committee members would like to see the quarterly pass rates in January before considering the request to expand to the Orem campus.

Report reviewed. Ameritech College has received candidacy status from NLNAC. The September 2009 graduating cohort is the first to graduate under the revised curriculum implemented in June of 2008. The NCLEX pass rate has increased and Committee members commend Ameritech for the dramatic turn around in pass rates.

Dr. Duke met with Committee members to clarify the request from Provo College/Eagle Gate College. She reported NLNAC has granted approved to expand Provo College to the Layton and Salt Lake campuses. Dr. Duke stated the programs will be identical and use

the Provo College model, the same admission criteria, the only difference is the campus location and letterhead used. She indicated Eagle Gate and Provo College is the same entity and the owners are very committed to the program. She indicated they are hiring two faculty members today and would like to start the pre-nursing courses January 11, 2010 and the nursing courses August 2010. She indicated they are still looking for clinical sites and will report to the Board as soon as they have the contracts.

Committee members indicated they appreciate the clarifications and need to keep the Board posted regarding clinical sites.

Review proposed Rule regarding Innovative Approaches in Nursing Education Programs:

Ms. Forster-Burke explained that the proposed Rules were a result of last month's discussion regarding innovative approaches in nursing education programs.

Committee members discussed subsection R156-31b-607(1)(a) which allows a pilot program to request a waiver to subsection R156-31b-603 (Nursing Program Standards) if the program has full or provisional approval and is accredited by an approved accrediting body. Committee members expressed some concern with allowing a program to request a waiver to a section of Rule that may change the standard which was put into place to protect the public and the student.

Ms. Marshall questioned 607(1)(c) which indicates that the program has no documented rule violations in the two years immediately preceding the waiver request. She questioned whether or not using an MBA prepared faculty member instead of a MSN faculty member would be a significant violation. The suggested wording to be added to (c): have no documented rule violations "at the discretion of the Board/Division".

Section R156-31b-607(2)(a) a question regarding whether or not the report required should be a total report. Committee members suggested adding "initial" report.

Committee members also indicated that a preceptor

can not be on probation. It would be the facility's responsibility to notify the nursing program if a preceptor is on probation.

Ms. Taxin suggested Committee members re-review the proposed Rule and discuss them next month.

Everest College site visit:

A site visit is scheduled for December 16, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Forster-Burke, Ms. Rice and Ms. Brown will be available for the site visit.

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.

January 14, 2010
Date Approved

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

January 14, 2010
Date Approved

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