NURSING ASSISTANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 4, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Kelly Bruckner, CNA
Carol Chamberlain, RN
Regina Cottrell, RN
Emelia Lewis, RN
Robenna Pearson, RN
Noel Smith, RN
Connie Thompson, RN
Christine Walker, RN

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Sharon Molleo, LPN, Chair
Diana Ayle, RN
Carol Banks, RN
Jan Dougherty, RN
John Durbin, Alzheimer’s Assoc.
Shirley Kraft, RN
Sherry Lee, RN
Karen Muich, RN
Cathy Spader, RN
LeAnn Swinehart, RN
Patricia Torrington, RN
Anthony Wernicke, CNA
Peggy Wolf, RN

BOARD STAFF ATTENDING:
Pam Randolph RN, MSN, Ed. Consultant
Rose Wilcox RN, BSN, M.Ed, Ed Consultant
Joey Ridenour, RN, MN, Executive Director

GUESTS PRESENT
Doris Donithon, Thomson-Prometric (TP)
Via Conference Call:
Jan Jones-Schenk, Director, TP
Virginia Mickle, Operations Mgr, TP
Eleanor Defnet, RN, BSN
Leigh Ann Tovar, student

I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes
   A. Welcome and introductions
   B. December 3, 2004 minutes approval

      Chamberlain moved and Cottrell seconded to approve the December 3, 2004
      minutes as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

II. New Business
A. Report from the Board (oral report)

Randolph reported that there has not been much action on the board level in terms of that would impact the Nurse Assistant Committee. A new request for proposal (RFP) contract for testing will be drafted because the current testing contract will expire.

B. Update from Experior/Thomson/Prometric regarding CNA testing

Jan Jones-Schenk provided an update on recent testing that occurred in Flagstaff. The vendor tested approximately 45 candidates (weekend of 2/26/05). Coconino Community College is not open on the weekend. A security guard had to be hired to open the school and remain on site for the duration of the testing.

Jones-Schenck reported that they have received minimal response to an advertisement for Nurse Aide Evaluators (NAE) in both Tempe and Flagstaff. Qualifications for an NAE include:

1. They must be a registered nurse in good standing in Arizona;
2. They must have a minimum of one year experience in a nursing home or chronic care;
3. They would not be allowed to test students that they train if they are CNA educators;
4. They would need to participate in required training.

Virginia Mickle provided information relative to increased scheduling and test dates. An increase in staff has allowed the vendor to add some test dates. Crystal Deloatch has been working on the schedule. Mickle referred to the 2005 Testing Events Calendar, noting that items in bold indicated confirmed dates. Five new nurses and 2 proctors have been added to the staff. In the Thatcher area 2 RNs and 1 proctor have been added. In the Yuma/Bullhead City area 1 RN and 1 proctor have been added. In the Winslow/Showlow/Flagstaff area 2 RNs have been added. Mickle also noted that there is testing 5 days a week in Tempe now.

Regina Cottrell asked about the implementation of new pass/fail grading criteria presented at the last meeting. Jones-Schenk identified it as a scoring sheet for the clinical skills, and stated that it would probably not be implemented. Mickle stated that this is done in another state, and based on the preliminary clinical results the candidates are allowed to go on and take the written test. Official scores are mailed directly to the applicant within 5 days.

Randolph queried the committee about processing the NA exam similar to the way it is done for the nursing exam (NCLEX) in that the candidate will call for the appointment rather than Experior assigning the appointment has been included in the proposal. The committee was receptive to this change.

Jones-Schenk also noted that they have just begun the process for implementing internet based testing in New Mexico and Nevada. The internet option provides for same day final report. The option is not more expensive. The knowledge portion of
the test would be taken on the computer with the use of the mouse. Students are not required to have keyboard skills. The computer randomly selects the manual skills form for every student and then the nurse enters the checklist points into the computer and the computer actually scores the manual skills portion. Both of them provide same day results.

C. C.N.A. Retreat

Randolph commented on the report from the CNA Retreat stating that it was very successful this year. The individual evaluations of the individual speakers were provided to the speakers only. The overall evaluations were very good.

Randolph opened the floor for suggestions for next year’s CNA educators’ retreat. Cottrell suggested roundtable discussions. The suggested was unanimously agreed upon and topics were discussed. The following twelve topics were accepted:

- Measurable Learning Objectives
- High Schools Programs
- Prospective CNA Programs
- Continuing Education for Nurse Assistants
- Resident Rights
- Teaching Methods
- Skills Testing in the Classroom
- Critical Thinking for CNAs
- Therapeutic Communication
- Death and Dying
- Criminal Background
- Clinical Coordinator Responsibilities

Connie Thompson was elected to moderate the High Schools Programs roundtable. Noel Smith was elected to moderate the Continuing Education for Nurse Assistants roundtable. Regina Cottrell volunteered for the Critical Thinking for CNAs roundtable. Carol Chamberlain volunteered to lead the Coordinator Responsibilities roundtable. Pamela Randolph or Rose Wilcox will moderate the Prospective CNA Programs and the Measurable Learning Objectives roundtables.

The agreed upon date for the event is January 13, 2006 --tentatively scheduled as follows:

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Roundtable discussions/pre-conference dialogue
- ½ hour intervals/participants may switch
- 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Wrap up of roundtable discussions
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- Dr. Sorrentino
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Testing
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Lunch
III. Old Business

A. Article 8

Article 8 was reviewed on a page-by-page basis for additions, deletions and/or corrections. Committee’s comments were noted.

After a discussion regarding the preparation, skill level and safety of an LPN to provide clinical instruction in a nurse assistant training program the Committee, by consensus agreed that an LPN should not provide clinical instruction.

After a discussion regarding the number of hours of employment required for renewal or for completion for Certified Nurse Assistants, the Committee, by consensus, agreed that a practice requirement of 160 hours within a two year period of time would be sufficient for a CNA to maintain minimal, competent, safe skills.

B. Report from Curriculum Sub-Committee (oral report)

Wilcox stated that the curriculum has not been finalized.

C. Progress on Medication Technician Pilot Study (Ridenour/Randolph)

Randolph reported that the pilot study underway to determine if it is safe to allow a CNA with training to administer medications to long term care facilities’ stable residents is in need of funding. Three (3) researchers may be interested in bidding on it. The cost to fund the study for six (6) facilities will be approximately $90K. The Funding sub-committee raised $60K. Sponsorship has been received in the form of two $30K grants.

Protocols are being revised. The curriculum sub-committee is compiling an instructor’s manual and is receiving assistance from Betty Earp at Mesa Community College.

Randolph will be conducting a 2-day “train the trainer” session for would be/potential instructors. Randolph will also be doing delegation training at the facilities that have the CNA medication technicians.

There will be a charge for the testing and training.

Lastly, once the curriculum is completed, a competency test will be developed.
IV. Planning

A. Future agenda items

Upcoming CNA Retreat
Experior Report
Medication Technician Curriculum

B. Debriefing on today’s meeting

C. Future meeting dates-2005 Calendar

Next meeting June 17, 2005 10:00 a.m.

Randolph noted that there may be fewer meetings held. If there are only updates and no burning issues there may be no reason to convene on June 7, 2005. Randolph anticipates that future NA Committee meetings may be held semi-annually.

V. Adjournment

A. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED/APPROVED BY:

Pamela K. Randolph