



Janet Napolitano
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES February 16, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Malloch, Chair, PhD, RN, MBA
Sherrie Beardsley RN, MBA/HCM
Joyceen S. Boyle PhD, RN
Sally Doshier, EdD, RN, CNE
Terry Duffy, RN, MN, CDE
Kathleen Ellis, RN, MSN
Mary Killeen PhD, RN
Ela-Joy Lehrman PhD, RN
Marty Mayhew RN, MSN
Rita Norlin, MSN, CPHQ, RN
Linda Riesdorph RN, MS, DON
Cheryl Roat RN, MSN
M. Kitty Rogers, MS, RN
Margaret Souders, MS, RNC, CNS
Brian Stewart, MSN, BSN, BFA, RN
Sandra Truelove, BS, MA, MBA
Jane Werth, MS, RN
Marilyn Whinton, RN, MSN

BOARD STAFF ATTENDING:

Judy Bontrager, Associate Director, Operations
Pam Raman, Education Consultant
Joey Ridenour, Executive Director AZBN
Pam Randolph, Associate Director, Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jo A. Podjaski, MSN, OCN, RN

GUESTS PRESENT

Sharon Akers-Caves, Pima Medical Institute
Carli Austin, GCU Student
Omar Beltran, GCU Student
Nichole Benardo, GCU Student
Jason Bezuchalski, GCU Student
Claire Collins, GCU Student
Emily Dominguez, GCU Student
Amy Fellars, GCU Student
Elisabeth Fostino, GCU Student
Pam Fuller, University of Phoenix
Julie Hendershott, GCU Student
Pat Johnson, Board Member
Laurene Kordell, GCU Student
Jennifer Lakosil, Cochise College (telephonically)
Noel Landas, GCU Student
Becky Lorimor, University of Phoenix
Christopher Lubke, Pima Medical Institute
Linda Maschner, Maricopa Skill Center
Sarah Moore, GCU Student
Elaine Pullaro, GCU Student
Glenda Reemts, University of Mary (telephonically)

1. CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

The Education Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Kathy Malloch at 9:33 a.m. Committee members introduced themselves to members of the audience. Pamela Randolph informed the Committee that she accepted the position of Associate Director of Education and Evidence Based Regulation, and introduced Pam Raman, who will serve as the new Education Consultant. The Associate Director of Education and Evidence Based Regulation will look at workforce trends; evidence to support statutes and rules; and will work with national and statewide groups.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 27, 2006

Doshier moved and Roat seconded to approve the October 27, 2006 minutes with correction. Motion carried unanimously.

3. INFORMATION/POLICY

A. Notice of Program Completion

Randolph stated that in response to a request that completion forms for graduating students be a list rather than individual notifications, notification drafts were included in the Committee packet for review. Graduation date, program completion number, date of birth, and social security number, must appear on the document. The sample forms, if approved, will replace the existing form found in the application packets, and be filed by Board licensing staff with each application.

Board staff provided clarity on how the document would be used. Ridenour stated that the ultimate goal is to create a more efficient system, one that would eventually become electronic. Members asked that the impact of a new approach on nursing programs and Board staff be considered. Advantages and disadvantages were discussed.

Committee agreed to keep the current process until Board staff has had the opportunity to test the completion forms with the next graduating classes of Advanced Practice licensees. Committee will be informed as to the efficacy of the new process and when a process for electronic submission is ready to be implemented. The matter will be placed on a future agenda with a proposal to create electronic methodology.

A formal vote was not taken.

B. Advisory Opinion – Infusion Therapy by LPNs

Scope of Practice Committee Representatives Present: Pat Johnson, Co-Chair Scope of Practice Committee and Judy Bontrager, AZBN Associate Director of Operations

Randolph stated that as the Education Committee is comprised of educators, the Scope of Practice Committee members requested that the Infusion Therapy by LPNs advisory opinion be reviewed by the Education Advisory Committee. Randolph noted that the changes may affect nursing program curriculum. The major change to the advisory opinion was relative to central lines.

Bontrager reviewed the proposed changes to the advisory opinion which include instilling of de-clotting agents for the purpose of de-clotting the IV catheters; accessing implanted ports and central venous catheters, including the picc lines for medication administration; and performing blood withdrawal from IV catheters except dialysis catheters. Other states' advisory opinions were considered when revising the Infusion Therapy by LPNs advisory opinion.

Committee members requested further information and clarity on proposed revisions. Suggestions were offered in order to prevent ambiguity and potential scope of practice violations. Johnson and Bontrager will incorporate suggestions made by the Education Advisory Committee and present a new draft to the Scope of Practice Committee at their March 6, 2007 meeting. Providing there is consensus on the newly incorporated changes, the advisory opinion will be presented to the Board at the May 16-18, 2007 Board meeting.

4. Applications for Program Change

A. Cochise College

Cochise College Representative Present: Ms. Jennifer Lakosil (telephonically)

Ms. Lakosil informed the Committee that students, clinical faculty, and medical providers in the community agreed that Cochise College nursing students need to increase clinical hours. At present Cochise has a total of 624 clinical hours, which is not on par with other Arizona nursing programs which average 700 – 1000 clinical hours. Cochise would like to increase clinical hours from 624 clinical hours to 714. Med/Surg rotations will be increased to 8 hours. Preceptorship hours will also be increased.

Committee members requested additional information on evaluating the results of the increase, measuring increase in competence, and the potential impact on faculty. Members also asked for clarity with regard to the rationale for an increase in clinical hours.

Lakosil stated that Cochise will survey students, preceptors and faculty to evaluate the change. Lakosil noted that while most feedback on new graduates tend to be positive there have been some concerns that students did not have sufficient clinical instruction. Students may be better prepared for NCLEX. Lakosil noted a decline in pass rates over the last five years.

Motion: Recommend Board approve the proposed increase in clinical hours for Cochise College.

Moved: Ms. Linda Riesdorph

Seconded: Ms. Cheryl Roat

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Pima Medical Institute

Education Committee Member M. Kitty Rogers recused herself from this portion of the agenda.

Pima Medical Institute Representatives Present: Dr. Sharon Caves, Mr. Christopher Lubke

Caves addressed the committee stating that they are requesting to decrease credit and clock hours based on NLN standards and work within the clinical constraints in the area. Faculty and students input support the decision. At this time there is a 100% pass rate on NCLEX-PN. Based on faculty, student, advisory committees and employer responses, a decrease in credit hours is appropriate.

Randolph stated that the program is responding to student needs and national accrediting agency requirements. The application meets rule requirements.

Caves provided Committee members with additional information regarding factors/evidence influencing rationale for program change; prerequisites; introduction to nursing; and course integration.

Motion: Recommend Board approve change in credit hours at Pima Medical Institute

Move: Ms. Marty Mayhew

Seconded: Dr. Joyceen Boyle

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried.

5. APPLICATION FOR REFRESHER PROGRAM APPROVAL

A. North Dakota Nurses Association PN Refresher

There were no North Dakota Nurses Association representatives present.

Randolph addressed the Committee stating that CNE Net applied for approval of their refresher programs and did not receive approval for lack of content in physiologic care. CNE Net returned to the Committee for approval at which time they remedied the deficiency for the RN refresher course with the use of case studies, but did not have the content incorporated in the PN refresher course. The Committee recommended Board approval for the RN refresher and requested CNE Net return with an application for the PN refresher course when the case studies were developed. Randolph stated that case studies have been developed and appear to be educationally sound for the LPN level.

Motion: Recommend Board approve the LPN refresher course provided by CNE Net.

Moved: Dr. Sally Doshier

Seconded: Ms. Linda Riesdorph

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried.

B. John C. Lincoln RN Refresher

Education Committee Member Terry Duffy recused herself from this portion of the agenda.

John C. Lincoln Representative Present: Ms. Terry Duffy

Randolph addressed the Committee stating that John C. Lincoln submitted an application for courtesy review. The application meets rule requirements.

Duffy informed the Committee that since the application was submitted an educational group met and decided to increase the number of clinical hours by two weeks so that the orientation program will be six weeks long. The decision was based upon feedback from refresher course students. The program will conduct half of the didactic portion of the course within the first three weeks, at which time didactic hours will decrease and clinical hours will be added. Fifty-nine students have completed the course, and there is a retention rate of approximately 55%.

Motion: Recommend Board approval for a period of four years.

Moved: Dr. Mary Killeen

Seconded: Ms. Margaret Souders

Discussion: None.

Vote: Motion Carried.

6. APPROVAL FOR CLINICAL IN AZ

A. University of Mary

University of Mary Representatives Present: Dr. Glenda Reemts (telephonically)

Randolph addressed the Committee stating that the Board is in receipt of additional documents from the program including copies of signed clinical contracts. There is a one-to-six ratio for preceptorship, with weekly activities with the preceptor which is in compliance with the advisory opinion. The program does not have policies in place for faculty and preceptors which is a rule requirement.

Committee members discussed clinical placement requests and clinical capacity in southern Arizona. Members requested that the University of Mary submit an annual progress report to the Education Advisory Committee as well as the Board.

Motion: Recommend that the Board approve the program for clinical placement in Arizona with a report due annually on or before January 31st of each year describing the number of students placed, the clinical facilities used and results of the evaluation of the experience. Additionally the program is to provide a report in six months on progress toward meeting provisions of R4-19-203-C6, faculty and preceptors are physically and mentally able to provide safe patient care.

Moved: Dr. Mary Killeen

Seconded: Ms. Rita Norlin

Discussion: None.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

7. NCLEX

A. NCLEX – 4th Quarter Reports

Randolph addressed the Committee stating that 4th quarter reports indicate that there were several programs that did very well, and there are programs that fell below the 75% requirement for NCLEX pass rate. International Institute of the Americas – Ethel Bauer School of Nursing has retained Dr. Sue Roe as a consultant to assist them in understanding why their pass rate is low. Annye Nichols of International Institute of the Americas has expressed concern and is prepared to provide a report to the Board outlining their plan of corrective action should it be ordered.

Northland Pioneer College (NPC) is below 75% for the year. NPC has had significant challenges over the past few years. The low pass rate was discussed at the last site visit in the Fall of 2006. Northland Pioneer is implementing strategies for corrective action.

Committee members discussed letters being sent to programs with low pass rates. Similar letters have been sent in the past by the Board at the direction of the Committee. Members inquired as to whether or not there is something further that the Board and/or Committee could do to assist programs to increase pass rates. Randolph stated that recommendations have been made and resources have been routinely shared with all programs. Entrance exams and standardized testing

have been recommended as predictors for success on the NCLEX. Rules require issuance of a Notice of Deficiency when pass rates are below 75% for two years in a row.

Motion: Request that the Board send a letter asking for programs that had below 75% for calendar year 2006 to present a plan to the Board for improving their NCLEX pass rate.

Moved: Dr. Ela-Joy Lehrman

Seconded: Dr. Joyceen Boyle

Discussion: None.

Vote: Motion carried.

B. NCLEX PN Test Plan

Randolph addressed the Committee stating that Members received a confidential copy of the PN test plan in preparation for the December 8, 2006 meeting which was subsequently canceled. All copies must be returned to the Board as the material is confidential. Randolph noted that the inclusion of parenteral therapies and IV medications was the most significant revision to the current plan. Data showed that 43.4% of the settings were new graduates work allowed PNs to administer IV medications. NCSBN considered the data and included this subject area on the test plan because it is part of practice. There are implications for programs. Programs have taught IV medications for LPN students either within the programs, as a transition, or as post LPN training. If the material is going to be included on NCLEX it will need to be taught in the program and considered a minimum competency. Randolph stated that job analysis and the test plan are to reflect practice and not curriculum. Committee members were asked to provide feedback on the test plan which will be reported to NCSBN.

Committee members wondered if the advisory opinion is consistent with the proposed PN test plan. Randolph maintained that if the Scope of Practice Committee incorporates the suggestions made by the Education Advisory Committee the advisory opinion will be on par with the proposed PN test plan. Members felt that if something is in practice and is not within scope it should not be included on the test, however, if it is in practice and it is within scope then it should therefore be included. Members agreed that infusion therapy should be included in theory which would allow for the ability to pass the exam, however, clinical experiences may be difficult to obtain.

Feedback will go to the Exam Committee of NCSBN and changes made if necessary. The Plan will then be voted on by member board representatives at Delegate Assembly in August. The new PN exam may be implemented in April of 2008.

Motion: Send feedback to NCSBN that the Arizona State Board of Nursing Education Advisory Committee has no objection with the proposed PN Test Plan.

Moved: Mr. Brian Stewart

Seconded: Dr. Ela-Joy Lehrman

Discussion: None.

Vote: Motion carried.

C. Reporting of NCLEX Results

Committee Members Jane Werth and Margaret Souders were not present for this portion of the agenda.

Committee requested this item be placed on the agenda. Randolph stated that Maricopa Community College District Nursing Programs became one program in 1998/1999. This decision was approved by the Board. NLNAC found the program compliant with rules during the 2001/2002 site visit. A meeting was held with the directors at which time they requested that for logistical purposes each site would retain separate NCLEX codes so that they could sort scores by program. There are currently nine sites with additional sub-sites. The MCCDNP director initially requested that results should be reported as one program. However, during a site visit conducted by Sharon Tanner, Executive Director of NLNAC, Tanner opined that MCCDNP is not acting as one program, and that critical decisions would need to be made in order for MCCDNP to function as one program. Subsequently, the MCCDNP has decided to consider separating programs and has requested that NCLEX results be reported separately.

NCLEX results will be reported separately, by site, beginning with the 2006 results.

This matter was for information only. No formal vote was taken.

D. University of Phoenix NCLEX Pass Rate

Education Advisory Committee member Dr. Ela-Joy Lehrman recused herself from this portion of the agenda. Committee members Jane Werth and Margaret Souders, and were not present for this agenda item.

University of Phoenix Representative Present: Pam Fuller, Dr. Ela-Joy Lehrman, Becky Lorimer

Randolph addressed the Committee stating that the University of Phoenix has had challenges in the LPN to BSN program with NCLEX pass rates. The last self-study revealed low pass rates. A plan of action was developed at the time of the self-study. However there are two years of NCLEX data that indicate the University of Phoenix pass rate has remained under 75%. Rules require issuance of a Notice of Deficiency. Representatives were notified that this item would be on the agenda and requested to come before the Committee to present a plan of correction.

Fuller addressed the Committee stating that documents with background information, a summary of changes that will be reflected in graduates in 2009, and a plan of correction were submitted for review. A committee has been established to ensure graduates are safe to practice. To ensure the success of University of Phoenix graduates the following have been established: Elsevier HESI standardized exam; concluded synthesis course which will concentrate on the student self assessment. Due to a hiatus of the program results won't be seen until 2009.

Randolph noted that the longest amount of time for a Notice of Deficiency is 18 months, however there have been instances where the Board has extended the period of the Notice of Deficiency if the program has shown a good faith effort.

Committee members requested further information on the plan of correction, offered suggestions regarding faculty roles, admission criteria, reading comprehension factor, test taking, and study skills.

Motion: Recommend the Board issue a Notice of Deficiency as outlined by R4-19-206.

Moved: Dr. Sally Doshier

Seconded: Ms. Sandy Truelove

Discussion: None.

Vote: Motion carried.

8. BOARD and MEMBER UPDATES

Randolph reported that the CNA Educators Retreat was successful. There were 142 participants. Evaluations indicated 4.52 on a scale of 5 for achieving the overall goal. Eighty-three out of 138 approved sites in Arizona were represented.

A town hall meeting will be held on March 19th regarding Clinical Placement and Capacity issues in Maricopa County. Partners in the Maricopa group and clinical agencies have been invited to dialogue about clinical placement issues.

Malloch reported on National Council's recent conference/meeting. The Philippine test site issue, the breach of security regarding the test, and having a Philippine test site was on the agenda for discussion. The National Council Board was challenged in determining that they had in fact remedied the breach so that they were deemed safe to have a test site. Representatives from the Philippine government were present and reported that test takers are now going to Hong Kong. The Philippines is exporting 14,000 nurses per year. Government representatives pledged to correct problems. Licenses of those persons involved in the breach were revoked permanently, and criminal proceedings are in process. The Philippine NCLEX pass rate is at 49%. Government representative are trying increase the pass rate to 75%.

Ridenour stated that nurses that took exam in June are being denied Visas. The Arizona State Board of Nursing is considering options to deal with the issue.

9. DEBRIEFING ON TODAY'S MEETING

Committee members shared their impressions of the meeting and the material on the agendas. Members appreciated the Chair's continued efforts to redirect members during discussions. The discussion on the NCLEX test plan was noted as a high point during the meeting. Members suggested that the speaker table be moved back to allow for the speakers to have eye contact with the entire Committee. Board staff will be asked to comply with any requests for electronic transfers of information from Committee members. Members also discussed creating a template that would assist them in reviewing NCLEX data, and sharing information with programs with low test scores. Randolph reminded the Committee of the 2002 meeting document that addressed academic rigor, admissions, and support for students. The document was updated 2 years ago. Members agreed on the importance of reviewing NCLEX data, NCSBN reports as a source of data, and evidence. Lastly, Ridenour suggested arranging a time that representatives from John C. Lincoln could meet with other reentry program representatives to dialogue on those issues that influence the JCL reentry program success rate. The hospital association should be invited to participate in collecting data and research. Randolph shared that an investigative report will be going to the Board regarding a recent complaint involving a reentry program. That information will be shared with the Committee at a future meeting.

10. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no call to the public.

11. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS/DATES

Future Meeting Dates: Friday, April 20, 2007
Thursday, May 31, 2007

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Killeen moved and Lehrman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED/APPROVED BY:



_____ Signature

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