



Janet Napolitano
Governor

Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Arizona State Board of Nursing

EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES December 9, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Malloch, Co-Chair, PhD, RN, MBA
Sherrie Beardsley RN, MBA/HCM
Judi Crume, PhD, RN
Sally Doshier, EdD, RN, CNE
Terry Duffy, RN, MN, CDE
Rita Jury, MSN, CPHQ, RN
Mary Killeen, PhD, RN
Kathie J. Kulikowski, MSN, CNE, RN-BC
Jennifer Lakosil, RN, MSN, PNP
Ela-Joy Lehrman PhD, RN
Carol Mangold, RN MSN
Marty Mayhew RN, MSN
Debra McGinty, PhD, RN
Linda Riesdorff RN, MS, DON
Cheryl Roat EdD, MSN
M. Kitty Rogers, MS, RN
Brian Stewart, MSN, BSN, BFA, RN
Jane Werth, MS, RN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Constance Woulard, Co-Chair, RN, MSN
Sharon Akers-Caves, RN, BC, MS, MSN

GUESTS PRESENT

Susan Ciardullo, ITT Technical Institute
Elaine Dryer, Student
Cecilia Fleming, EVIT
Cathy Haydn, EVIT
Peggy Keen, ITT Technical Institute
Fred Lockhart, AZ Private School Association
Gene McWorter, ITT Technical Institute
Nadia Sperry, ITT Technical Institute

BOARD STAFF ATTENDING:

Pamela Randolph, Associate Director, Education
Karen Gilliland, Board Staff

1. CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS

The Education Advisory Committee's newly seated members were oriented to committee policies and procedures. The official meeting was called to order by Kathy Malloch at 9:30 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Malloch welcomed new and returning members.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 24, 2008

Roat moved and Mangold seconded to approve the October 24, 2008 minutes with correction. Motion carried unanimously.

4. INFORMATION/POLICY

A. Proposed Article 2

Committee members continued the review of proposed changes to Article 2. Members offered comments and suggestions which Randolph will incorporate in the next draft.

B. Facility Availability Data

Randolph stated that she is waiting for responses from two Maricopa program sites and IIA. Randolph anticipates sharing data with the Committee at the next meeting.

Werth addressed the committee detailing the process used to design the clinical coordinator survey. Committee members offered suggestions for survey. Members agreed that anonymity should remain an option for responders, however, noted the importance of knowing the source. The sub-committee anticipates distributing the survey to clinical coordinators at each facility after the first of the year. Preliminary results may be available at the February meeting.

Motion: Accept the survey with revisions.

Moved: Ms. Linda Riesdorph

Seconded: Dr. Mary Killeen

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

C. Progress on Conversion to Electronic Packet for Ed Committee

Beardsley stated that the electronic packet was easy to use; however notes were taken on paper when programs were presenting as Beardsley was concerned that representatives may not understand that the packet is in electronic format. Malloch stated that the public will be informed at the beginning of each meeting.

Most members were unable to receive the packet because of the size of the file. Members will be sent a flash drive which should be returned at each meeting to be reloaded with the new packet and resent to members.

Malloch stated that the Board has looked at new software that integrates updated information. Once it is in use it will be made available to the committee. Members requested an in-service on use of PDF features. Members indicated individually the format in which they wish to receive the packet for the next meeting.

The policy for submission of materials to the Education Committee will be revised once a final decision has been made regarding the number of copies needed for committee members.

D. Update on Grant Application for Measuring competency Using Simulation

Randolph addressed the committee stating that the grant application had been submitted. There were excellent resources and cooperation. Randolph anticipates notification to occur

in February or March. Malloch suggested sending a thank you note to all parties working on grant project from the Education Advisory Committee.

Malloch informed the committee that the National Council continued competency committee met and is developing an assessment tool that will be piloted in some states. Malloch stated that innovative items known to be problematic for students have been looked at. Seven categories of new items are being developed. Malloch will invite Ann Wendt to a committee meeting to provide an overview.

E. Update on Remediating Deficiencies

i. Cochise College

Education Committee member Ms. Jennifer Lakosil recused herself from this portion of the agenda.

Randolph addressed the committee stating that after review of information provided by Cochise College it has been determined that all outstanding issues have been resolved.

Motion: Accept documentation received as resolution of all outstanding deficiencies.

Moved: Dr. Sally Doshier

Seconded: Dr. Ela-Joy Lehrman

Discussion: Members requested clarity and information regarding signature approval for math med courses, and whether students meet pre-requisites to micro within the proposed hours.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

ii. Arizona Western College

Randolph addressed the committee stating that Arizona Western College provided documentation that showed deficiencies have been corrected.

Motion: Accept documentation and response as correction of the deficiencies

Moved: Dr. Cheryl Roat

Seconded: Ms. M. Kitty Rogers

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

5. APPLICATIONS FOR PROPOSAL APPROVAL

A. ITT Technical Institute

ITT Technical Institute Representatives Present: Nadia Sperry, Program Chair of the Nursing Department at the Phoenix ITT Campus; Susan Ciardullo, Dean, ITT Technical Institute in Phoenix; Gene McWorter, Director of the Campus; Fred Lockhart, Executive

Director Arizona Private School Association; Peggy Keene, Curriculum Manager from Indianapolis Headquarters

Randolph provided background stating that there were several areas of the application that did not provide sufficient information to make a decision. ITT Tech was issued a Comprehensive Request for Information, the mechanism used for applications to allow more time to get required materials to the Board. Failure to respond to the request would result in withdrawal of the application. The items asked for were: an updated survey of existing programs within a 50 mile radius; updated clinical resources, including contracts already signed; clarification on the authority of the director of the program; more information establishing the need for this particular program; and information from the accrediting body that the current structure as a branch campus operating autonomously is consistent with the accrediting body's requirements and standards.

Updated Surveys

Randolph stated that ITT did provide updated surveys, however, did not get responses from every program. Programs were also surveyed as to what their grading standards were. One of the concerns of committee was that ITT's standard for passing in the nursing courses was 70%, lower than Arizona based approved programs which range between 75-80%. ITT does require students obtain a minimum of 75% for exams and quizzes as referenced in the proposal application. Malloch stated that in addition to maintaining appropriate averages, outcomes are more important in terms of exit competency.

Randolph stated that this item was responded to appropriately and surveys were provided.

Updated Clinical Resources Including Contracts Already Signed

Members discussed the challenges for faculty and students in the use of exclusively alternate clinical sites; meeting course objectives for 2nd, 3rd and 4th semester med/surg in alternate facilities other than acute care; and obtaining faculty for alternate sites, weekends/evenings. Members shared concerns regarding the anticipated 180 students in clinical rotation at any given time and the fact that according to clinical coordinators facilities contracted with ITT are full or close to saturation. Members requested clarity and information regarding the type of learning experiences students would receive in alternative placements or clinical sites where there is typically no RN model in those settings; the issues surrounding RNs on site at skilled nursing facilities; the difficulty in obtaining qualified clinical instructors, and the expense of stipends for weekends, evenings.

Malloch noted that the committee has struggled with approving programs over the past 3 years, and is sensitive to issues in terms of student placement, restraint of trade and managing the market place. Having a signed agreement with an agency is part of the State of Arizona's regulation; however, it does not insure student placement. The committee must work on validating what has happened when facilities have committed to taking students and then don't, as it puts new students, programs, and patients at risk. Malloch offered that the committee continues to try to focus on doing the right thing and obtaining information, to insure the soundness of a program's infrastructure. Malloch further stated that there has been a serious problem with getting students placed and not many successful innovative solutions. The Education Advisory Committee will work with ITT to provide the best infrastructure that Arizona citizens deserve.

ITT representatives offered that the program is establishing partnerships with affiliated organizations for clinical faculty, will be conducting a national faculty recruitment effort in hopes to bring qualified faculty to Arizona; will use internal flow tool for clinical faculty with an emphasis on specialty areas of nursing. ITT will supplement clinical placement efforts with the use of simulation labs in clinical rotations.

Sperry cited a recent newspaper report regarding nursing programs reducing numbers and suggested that the reduction may alleviate some of the clinical placement concerns and presents an opportunity to provide an information session for students on waiting lists and offer enrollment in viable colleges rather than losing them to other occupational programs. Randolph noted that there would be no effect as other programs are continuing to expand. Rogers raised the question of the availability of qualified students despite the reduction of numbers in other programs.

Clarification on Authority of the Director of the Program

Randolph stated that this item was addressed adequately; however, there was no change to the job description, and the evaluation piece remains weak. Malloch requested the language of the job description be modified. Randolph recommended program representatives refer to Nurse Practice Act rules.

More Information Establishing the Need for this Program

Randolph addressed the committee stating that the assumption was that students on waiting lists would attend private schools; however data shows that is not the case despite the shortage and need. It appears that there will be significant openings in private programs. There are several new programs that have received provisional approval that have not admitted yet, and two programs that have recently received proposal approval. Malloch stated that the need is a challenge to program as well as committee.

Mangold offered that because of the economy the census in the hospitals have dropped. Two of the largest hospitals in the Tucson area are not hiring nurses. Mangold has been advised that there will be fewer new grad openings. Facilities with partnerships will have to place their students.

Information from the Accrediting Body That the Current Structure As a Branch Campus Operating Autonomously is Consistent with the Accrediting Body's Requirements and Standards

The proposal as it was presented at the last committee meeting indicated that this particular site operated autonomously from the accredited parent institution as a satellite site; however, what was requested in the Comprehensive Request was documentation from the accrediting body that this was acceptable. When the documentation submitted was reviewed, it appeared as if it was a survey report. There was no specific answer to the question as to whether it is acceptable to operate as an autonomous site. One of the questions on the survey report asks about the supervision of the branch campus by the parent institution. The reply was that there was frequent communication. The question itself implies that there is some type of supervision expected by the parent institution with the branch campus.

Note: Malloch requested a five minute recess at 10:27 a.m. The committee was reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

Malloch addressed the committee reiterating that the committee decision is based on Arizona statute and rule, and requested that Randolph clarify what is needed from a regulatory perspective. Randolph stated that based on the responses and the discussion, the following areas of the comprehensive request still need additional information:

Establishing Need for Program While a need for nursing education was established, a connection has not been made to those students waiting for a public, regionally and nationally accredited nursing program to those students attending ITT. Randolph suggested ITT poll similar programs to determine if there is a need or waiting list for those programs

or establish what is unique about this type of program that would attract people away from a public regionally and nationally accredited programs which is where the demand is seen.

Current Structure Operating Autonomously Consistent with Accrediting Body Requirements/Standards There is a need for more specific information from accrediting body that the current structure of branch campus operating autonomously is consistent with the requirements and standards. The information provided does not specifically address that operating autonomously, without a supervisory relationship is consistent with accrediting body requirements.

Authority of the Director of the Program The committee also requested that the job description on the authority of the director of the program to be consistent with rule. Randolph referred to R4-19-203.

The 120 day time frame for response to the Comprehensive Request has not been exhausted. The 120 days would be timeframe ends on February 28, 2009. Additional time may be requested in the form of a written request.

Motion: Accept recommendations as stated by Ms. Randolph.

Moved: Ms. Jane Werth

Seconded: Mr. Brian Stewart

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

The minute entry will be provided to ITT Technical Institute representatives. ITT may submit an addendum rather than resubmitting the entire proposal application and accompanying documents.

6. APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL APPROVAL

There were no provisional applications submitted.

7. APPLICATION FOR FULL APPROVAL RENEWAL

There were no applications for full approval submitted.

8. APPLICATIONS FOR PROGRAM CHANGE

A. Cochise College

Education Committee member Ms. Jennifer Lakosil recused herself from this portion of the agenda.

Lakosil addressed the committee stating that Cochise College received the NLNAC approval letter on December 8, 2008. Lakosil stated that prior to the proposed program change the program was presented as a 2 year program. Less than 10% of students were completing the program in 2 years which has been addressed.

Committee members requested information and clarity regarding the decision process for including med-math versus a college algebra course; math requirements within the program; and curriculum.

Motion: Recommend approval of the request for decreasing the length of the program.

Moved: Ms. Marty Mayhew

Seconded: Dr. Sally Doshier

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

9. APPLICATIONS FOR REFRESHER PROGRAM APPROVAL

There were no refresher program applications

10. NCLEX

A. Response of Programs with Lowered NCLEX Pass Rates

Coconino Community College

Members inquired as to whether or not Coconino Community College analyzed student data which would provide another perspective. Members were not clear on what resources Coconino had access to. Malloch requested Randolph thank Mr. Johnson for the feedback provided, and ask if there is any additional information on item analysis of student responses which would be helpful for the committee. Program may subscribe to national council for NCLEX Reports.

Mohave Community College (Follow-up)

Randolph stated that the item was taken to the Board for review and consideration. The Board voted to require to Mohave Community College to file update reports on the issues brought forth in their letter.

Eastern Arizona College

Randolph state that Eastern Arizona College did wonderful job in analyzing their scores.

Maricopa Skill Center

Randolph stated that Maricopa Skill Center believed cheating played a role. Maricopa Skill Center noted several action items for the program. Members inquired as to whether students should sign an integrity pledge since cheating appears to be an issue.

EVIT

East Valley Institute of Technology Practical Nursing Program Representative Present: Cecilia Fleming, Director of Practical Nursing; Dr. Cathy Haydn, Campus Director

Randolph stated EVIT provided high level of analysis. Members felt they were successful in highlighting important criteria.

Fleming addressed the committee stating that EVIT is hoping for a better pass rate this year. EVIT instituted a testing and remediation program five months early. Testing is in place.

One of the low areas defined in the plan is Maternity and Peds. There was no testing done on that portion of the curriculum. EVIT is ensuring remediation. EVIT is also in trial with ATI this year with a full-year plan. Results will be reviewed to determine if HESI should be considered. Next year the NET will be standardized. EVIT would like to articulate with the community college system.

Baptist Health System

Randolph stated that the response submitted was inadequate. The program will probably close this year. Baptist Health System submitted a document stating that they are no longer admitting new students.

Malloch noted that with the current trend with NCLEX scores it is of grave concern for the committee. Members noted that several responses showed that HESI scores appear to be as predictor. Cochise College is using a mandatory remediation which statistics show with remediation NCLEX scores improve.

B. NCSBN Regional Workshop for Faculty Members

Crume addressed the Committee regarding having National Council come out to conduct program on NCLEX; due to economic downturn national Council informed Crume that there was not staff available to come out during Spring.

Randolph suggested setting the date for the Statewide Educators meeting and asking National Council to come at that time.

11. BOARD AND MEMBER UPDATES

Randolph reported the Board ordered Mohave Community College to file reports regarding NCLEX; Pima Community College CTD recommendation was accepted for program approval; Coconino Community College did not comply with their Notice of Deficiency resulting in a Letter of Concern for being 2 months late with their report. The Board received a report on the Statewide Educators Meeting and information regarding NCLEX regional workshop, the new FNP director at Grand Canyon, and Baptist School of Health transition to associate degree status. A complaints against Eastern Arizona College nursing assistant training program was dismissed as problems were remedied; ACCHS self directed care rules were approved.

Randolph summarized Nurse Practice Act Steering Committee ongoing discussions regarding access to personal medical records and defining CRNA in the Nurse Practice Act.

Increases in fees to the statutory limits will be taking effect. Randolph will update the Beginning Nursing PowerPoint presentation to reflect the new fees.

Board nominated new officers, and Kathy Malloch will be the new president for next year.

12. DEBRIEFING ON TODAY'S MEETING

Members discussed new programs showing a need for the program and the additional data from private schools stating that there has been no increase in enrollment, new programs competing for the same student pool. Members appreciated the support of other members; stated that it was a good meeting, enjoyed going over rules. Members discussed the affect of the economy on graduates and student enrollment.

13. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no audience members present.

14. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS/DATES

Education Advisory Committee next is scheduled for:

Friday, February 6, 2009

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Randolph adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:

 _____ Signature

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