

NURSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Chairperson: Dr. Vivian Lilly

Meeting Date: 11/27/01

Meeting Time: 11:30 – 1:15

Meeting Place: Collin County Community College District

Courtyard Center for Professional and Economic Development

Recorder: Dr. Vivian Lilly

Previous Meeting: 11/28/00

Members Present:

Sheryl Kappus, Ph.D. (ex-officio)

Nancy Quelland, RN, MS

Susan Sheriff, Ph.D., RN

Sherry Zorinsky, RN, BSN

Shelley Tobey, RN, MS, AOCN

Diane Dillard, RN, MS

Cathy McLaughlin, RN, OCN

Bonnie Peterson, RN, MSN

Michael Evans, RN, MS

Nancy Kelley, RN

Theresa Harkin, RN

Debbie Cason, RN

Mark Weekley, RN

Vivian Lilly, Ph.D., MBA, RN

Agenda Item	Action, Discussion, Information
I. Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Vivian Lilly welcomed everyone who, in turn, introduced themselves to the group.
II. Functions of an Advisory Committee	Functions of an advisory committee were discussed. Participation was encouraged.
III. Progress Report of the Nursing Program	A. Dr. Lilly discussed that one of the nursing program's primary achievement indicators is student retention and remediation. Methods being used to increase student retention include: one-on-one advising, more computer testing with Learning Systems 2000, identifying mentors for foreign students, and individualized counseling by LPCs for students with personal problems.
A. Achievement Indicators	Another primary achievement indicator is to increase enrollment in the nursing program to 50 – 60 students. Currently, 46 students are enrolled in the program. It is the goal of the program to bring in 60 students in the Fall 2002 semester.
B. NCLEX-RN Results in May 2001 Graduates	B. The May 2001 graduating class had 35 students. Of those 35 graduates, 34 passed

<p>C. Current Enrollments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freshman – 47 2. Sophomores – 33 <p>D. Incorporation of New Workforce Education Course Manual (WECM)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oncology unit 2. Pain management 3. Mass Casualty 4. Management of client care course 5. Transition course (ethics, issues, & role preparedness) 6. Frontloading of skills 7. Community service/Service learning 8. Graded clinical experiences 	<p>the licensure exam. This gives the program a 97.2% pass rate. A copy of pass rates over the last 10 years for the program was given to those in attendance.</p> <p>C. Current enrollments for the program include: freshman = 46, sophomores = 33. Two students will be returning to the second semester first year in the Spring, making freshman enrollment at 48 if all pass.</p> <p>D. We will be implementing the last 3 new courses of the WECM curriculum this spring in the last semester of the program. This has been an ongoing process over the last 2 to 3 years. Revision of the curriculum gave the faculty an opportunity to add some new units to the program of study. These include: 1) an oncology unit over basic concepts in the first semester of the program; 2) a unit on pain management in the summer session; 3) a unit on mass casualty in the last semester which will include scenarios similar to how nurses need to respond to situations such as the World Trade Center terrorist attack; 4) a new management course taught for the first time this semester in the second year of the program. Guest speakers and various projects have been assigned in this course; 5) a new transition course to be taught for the first time in the Spring of the last semester. Topics will be timely issues on trends and ethics, including role preparedness; 6) frontloading of skills such that all major skills are completed in a Nursing Skills I course the first semester and a Nursing Skills II course the second semester. The only skill not completed is tracheostomy care and suctioning which will continue in the first semester of the second year; 7) community service/service learning projects as part of the management course in which students had the option of doing so many hours of community service</p>
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	<p>vs. taking tests in the management course; and 8) graded clinical experiences which have been a challenge. All clinical courses are now graded experiences. A faculty subcommittee is now revising the current clinical tool to be one that is less cumbersome and more user-friendly to use.</p>
E. Substance Abuse Policy	<p>E. The faculty has developed a policy on substance abuse and how to handle situations, particularly in the clinical setting, should a student demonstrate behaviors that reflect unsafe behavior. These policies, which also include a policy for “for cause” drug testing have been sent forth to the college attorney for review. Clinicians in the hospital setting may be called upon to be a witness to unsafe student behavior.</p>
F. Nursing Student Uniforms	<p>F. Nursing student uniforms are now being revisited by faculty. CCCCDD had had the same uniform for 10 years prior to changing to the current style of white scrub pants, blouse, and a navy vest. However, feedback has surfaced from the students that the pants are thin and the neck of the blouse is uncomfortable. In addition, the students are getting mixed up as the high school students who wear navy and white. Difficulties also occurred this year with orders being received late or incorrectly. Several of our clinical affiliates such as Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas and Presbyterian Hospital of Plano, and Medical Center of Plano require students to wear white. Students have provided strengths and weaknesses of the current uniform for our consideration.</p>
G. Internal/External Review Task Force at CCCCDD	<p>G. Internal/External Review Task Force at CCCCDD has now been established for the nursing program. We are in a 5-year cycle, and our turn has come around again. Volunteers or community representatives are necessary for the external review</p>

	<p>committee next spring. Volunteers to participate include Nancy Kelly, Sherry Zorinski, Shelley Tobey, and Debbie Cason. Further information on dates of meetings will follow in the Spring from Cathy Donald-Whitney, Professor of Biology, who has agreed to chair the external task force.</p>
<p>IV. Issues Impacting Nursing Education</p> <p>A. Criminal Background Checks and Drug Screening</p>	<p>A. Information was sought from agency representatives as to how often drug screening is done for hospital employees and whether criminal background checks are done routinely. The CCCCD nursing program is currently doing criminal background checks on admission to the program. It was a recommendation by the nursing advisory committee to do drug screens annually. The program has currently been covering the costs of this testing but with an increase in the amount of the drug screens, it will no longer be a covered expense. The student will have to bear the cost of the drug testing. Background checks will continue to be assessed on-line through Group One Services.</p>
<p>B. New Legislation</p> <p>1. National legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEED Act • Nurse Reinvestment Act <p>2. State legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dramatic growth fund • Tobacco Settlement Fund Income 	<p>B. New legislation at the state and national levels has been enacted to address the nursing shortage. The Nursing Education and Employment Development (NEED) Act seeks to establish a nurse corps and develop retention and recruitment strategies to address the nursing shortage. The act would also create a scholarship program for individuals who want to enter the nursing profession in exchange for service in an urban or rural area that is experiencing a nursing shortage. The Nurse Reinvestment Act would fund grants for community-based partnerships for outreach to recruit and retain nurses in the community. The Texas legislature introduced the dramatic growth fund to increase RN graduates by providing funding needed to increase</p>

	<p>enrollments in RN programs; it is based on an increase in contact hours. The Tobacco Settlement Fund Income was introduced to increase RN graduates by encouraging innovation in recruitment and retention of students and faculty and supporting teaching overloads.</p> <p>CCCCD should receive approximately \$73,000 from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board because of the increase in contact hours that was greater than 10%.</p>
C. Nursing Faculty Shortage	<p>C. The nursing faculty shortage continues to be a bearer to increasing the number of nursing graduates. The nursing advisory committee was encouraged to focus nurses who are burning out in the clinical setting and are masters-prepared to consider education as an option. It is anticipated that the CCCCCD nursing program will lose 2 faculty members, one from personal issues and burnout and the other to relocation on the West coast. We hope to be given additional faculty positions for the next academic year. Advertisements will go out in February.</p>
D. Student Enrollments <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decreasing (?), less-qualified applicant pool 2. International student admissions 	<p>D. Student enrollments statewide and nationally are indicating a decreasing (?), less qualified applicant pool. The program has been plagued by students' personal problems and less than satisfactory desire to get through nursing school without reading and studying. In addition, there has been an increase in the number of international students seeking admission to the program who present with difficulty related to the language and culture of Western medicine. In speaking with the advisor for international students at CCCCCD, Rebecca Crowell, it was recommended that we work with Shelley Lane in established a communications course for international students that would assist them with language barriers.</p>

<p>V. Sharing by Representatives at Clinical Agencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. What's New B. Employment Outlook C. Workforce Needs D. Graduate Qualifications E. Organizational Changes 	<p>Identifying mentors in the clinical setting who could be paired with the nursing student of a similar culture could also be done to bridge the gap.</p> <p>V. Bonnie Peterson spoke to the Nursing Excellence Council that Barbara Devitt, Nursing Professor at CCCCD, has helped to establish at Medical Center of Plano. It is a committee of staff nurses and faculty who share issues going on on the units with ideas on how to resolve.</p> <p>To help bridge some of the negativity that is occurring by staff nurses who resent having nursing students on their units, it was suggested that more positive interaction between students and clinicians take place with a discussion of what staff nurses/clinicians can do to assist the students as they enter nursing school. Negative comments are disheartening to the students who come eagerly to enter the nursing profession.</p> <p>Additional clinical sites to consider were school nursing at the junior high school levels as suggested by Debbie Cason. Also, Nancy Kelley has offered to be a mentor for students doing community service in an occupational health setting such as Halliburton in Addison, TX.</p> <p>Ideas about new programs and partnerships were also discussed. Ideas for expanding the nursing program included a weekend program, an LVN/paramedic bridge program, and evening/night clinicals. Dr. Kappus would like to see the formation of a Center for the Study of Allied Health with additional programs such as radiological technology and surgical technology. Clinical agencies should consider providing the clinical space and resources for such programs since these can be costly.</p>
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<p>VI. Adjournment</p>	<p>Michael Evans also asked us to consider a Nurse Refresher course that could meet the needs of those RNs returning to the active workforce but need refreshment of content and skills. Other representatives from our clinical affiliates also agreed.</p> <p>Positive feedback was received concerning the recent advertisement at movie theatres concerning recruitment for the college. A picture with 4 nursing students with a caption about nursing and the other allied health programs has been seen by several of the committee members who spoke positively of its impact.</p> <p>Graduates should not have difficulty in the job market. The nursing shortage is still very acute. Many bonuses and sign-on incentives are being offered to attract nurses and new graduates to various clinical facilities.</p> <p>The nursing program will be hosting a continuing education seminar on June 7, 2001, at the Spring Creek Campus on Infections. The presenters will be with the American Lung Association and the University of Texas at Tyler. We will offer 7 – 8 CEUs. Included will be a 2-hour presentation on Hepatitis C, a new requirement by the Board of Nurse Examiners for CE credit. Our clinical affiliates will be invited to attend at a nominal cost.</p> <p>VI. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm with plans to meet again in the late Spring next year.</p>
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