

# Nevada State Board of **NURSING**

## **MINUTES EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING August 20, 2015**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing Education Advisory Committee was called to order by Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN, Education Consultant, at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Nursing, 4220 S. Maryland Pkwy, Ste. 300, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 and via videoconference with the Board of Nursing, 5011 Meadowood Mall Way, Ste. 300, Reno, Nevada, 89502.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Roseann Colosimo, PhD, MSN, RN, Board Education Consultant, Chair	
Susan Adamek, MSN, RN	Andrea Highfill, BSN, RN
Mary Chalfant, MS, BSN, RN	Judith Hightower, PhD, M.Ed, RN
Sherrilyn Coffman, PhD, RN	Mary Ann Lambert, MSN, RN
John Coldsmith, MSN, RN, CRNI	Madelon Lawson, BSN, RN, CAPA
Judith Cordia, PhD, MSN, RN	Cheryl Perna, MSN, RN
Jody Covert, MSN, RN	Maureen Scott-Feagle, MSN/Ed, RN, CNOR
Dina Faucher, PhD, RN	

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Rick Carruthers, LPN Board Member Liaison	
Amber Donnelly, PhD, RN, CNE	Wendy Merchant, MSN, RN
Lilly Gonzales, MSN, MA, RN	Patsy Ruchala, DNSc, RN
Heather Lockert, RN	

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Fred Olmstead, General Counsel	
Jeannette Calderon, Management Assistant	
Deborah Ain, MSN, RN	Brian Oxhorn, PhD, MSN, RN
Rebecca Benfield, PhD, RN, CNM	Imelda Revuelto, MSED
Katherine Cylke, DNP, RN	Neal Rosenburg, PhD, COI, RN
Ronald Gonzalez, MSN, MHA, RN	Julie Siemers, DNP, RN
Jene Hurlbut, PhD, MSN, MS, RN, CNE	Russell Smithson
Julia Millard, MSN, RN	Ruth Waibel, PhD, MA, RN

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by R. Colosimo at 9:00 a.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- R. Colosimo introduced the new nursing program administrators for Nevada's nursing programs including:
  - Dr. Brian Oxhorn, the Interim Dean at Roseman University;
  - Dr. Rebecca Benfield, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and
  - Julia Millard, the Director of Nursing at Kaplan College.

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – The minutes of the April 16, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

**B. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Review and discussion regarding NAC 632.640-632.680 draft revisions reviewed by legal and LCB: R. Colosimo informed the committee that the revised regulations are being reviewed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB). Once the language is approved by LCB the regulations will be reviewed at public workshops, must be approved by the Interim Legislative Commission on Regulations and will then be codified by the Secretary of State.

### C. NEW BUSINESS

1. NCSBN and NSBN updates - Fred Olmstead, General Counsel
  - a. Legislative Update: F. Olmstead referred the committee to an article in the September issue of the NSBN News Magazine providing a detailed legislative update. He also encouraged all APRNs to complete a suicide prevention continuing education course.
  - b. NCSBN Update: National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has revised the Nurse Licensure Compact to include the Uniform Licensure Requirements previously adopted by the NCSBN and now requires nurses to complete a criminal background check for licensure. NSBN will seek approval to become part of the Nurse Licensure Compact during the 2017 Legislative session. David Benton has been hired as the new Chief Executive Officer for NCSBN, effective October 1, 2015. Board members and Board staff are currently attending NCSBN's Delegate Assembly. D. Scott will be accepting the Distinguished Achievement Award on behalf of Dr. Tish Smyer for her significant contribution to the nursing community.
  - c. NSBN Update: The committee was informed that Debra Scott, NSBN's Executive Director will retire in January 15, 2016.
2. Review and discussion regarding NCLEX first time pass rates year-to-date for CY 2015: R. Colosimo reviewed the year-to-date NCLEX first time pass rates for CY 2015. All fully approved programs are above 90%. R. Colosimo added that the NCLEX Workshop held in February of 2015 was a benefit to all Nevada's nursing programs.
3. Review, discussion and action regarding College of Southern Nevada practical nursing program curriculum revision: LPN program Director R. Gonzalez and Director of Nursing D. Ain from CSN presented the proposed curriculum revisions. The Department of Education (DOE) and Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) recommended decreasing the amount of credits in practical nursing programs to 40 credits, the national standard. The current program is 44-50 credits with a 6 credit difference for students with an active CNA certificate or for those that have completed the CNA course. The proposed curriculum is a concept based curriculum that will integrate math and medical terminology. If approved, the new curriculum will be implemented in the summer of 2017. Students will complete the Introduction to Human Body theory and lab as well as English 101 during the summer semester, start nursing courses in the fall and continue into the spring semester for a total of 34 credits within two semesters. Students will be required to be certified as a CNA by the second semester. Another change to the current program includes splitting pharmacology into two courses. M. Lambert addressed some concerns in the proposed course descriptions. The committee supported the proposed curriculum revisions.
4. Review, discussion and action regarding Chamberlain College of Nursing proposal for two additional tracks: Senior Director of Accreditation and Professional Regulation Ruth Waibel and Las Vegas Campus Dean J. Hightower presented the proposed Hispanic concentration plan and the military to BSN degree option to the committee. J. Hightower explained that the Hispanic concentration plan does not change the nursing courses. The changes will include replacing Public Speaking, Culture & Society, History and Humanities courses with Cross-Culture Communication, Hispanic American Culture & Society, Contemporary Hispanic American History and Latin American Humanities courses. In addition, the nursing courses with clinicals will focus on Hispanic patients. J. Hightower confirmed that the admission criteria, including English proficiency requirements, will remain the same. The proposed curriculum requires students to complete a pre

and post Spanish proficiency exam but this exam does not determine a student's progress in program. There will also be resources available for students struggling with Spanish fluency including self-paced Medical Spanish Modules online and tutors. Students that complete the Medical Spanish Modules will have to option to take the National Certification of Bilingual Healthcare Providers certification exam. She added that if a student does not complete the modules or the certification process they will still be able to progress in program. J. Hightower continued by introducing the military to BSN education option. Students interested in this option must meet all admission criteria for the BSN program as well as, be an active or veteran member from the United States military with a classified healthcare specialist rating and two years of experience within the past three years. In addition, all biology, chemistry, math and psychology courses must be completed. A crosswalk of military training transcripts will be reviewed to determine the credits to be given. The committee discussed issues regarding which healthcare specialist rating and/or training will be accepted aside from those listed in the overview and how the program will work with active duty students. R. Waibel explained they will have to follow the re-entry program or leave of absence policies depending on length of time they will be away from the program. The committee was in support of the overall concept for both educational options.

5. Review, discussion and action regarding Roseman University proposal of admission requirements for a veteran's track: Interim Dean B. Oxhorn, Project Director and faculty member J. Hurlbut, and Student Services Coordinator I. Revuelto presented the proposed veteran's track. In April 2015, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) contacted Roseman to inform them funds were available and Roseman was subsequently issued a grant for the HRSA Veteran's BSN program. Students interested in the HRSA Veteran's BSN program must be a military retiree and meet all other admission criteria including general education requirements. These students will be given credit for their prior military experience for Block 2-4 which are: Health Assessment, Fundamentals didactic, Fundamentals clinical and Nursing Pharmacology. Students will also be given competence assessments on the blueprint of each of those courses. In addition, Transition to Nursing will be reviewed to include a transition as a military to civilian healthcare provider. M. Chalfant agreed that the transition course was very important. One student will be admitted in February, two students will be admitted in July and three students will be admitted in September. There is a partnership with the VA to provide training for the faculty. Lead faculty have military experience and will start this September. The HRSA grant was approved for 3 years. The committee was in support of proposed veteran's track.
6. Review, discussion and action regarding Touro University proposed change in pre-requisite requirements and curriculum revisions: BSN Undergraduate Coordinator J. Siemers presented the proposed curriculum revisions. Currently, the NCLEX first time pass rate is at 100%; however, they are looking to make improvements. The proposed revisions were based on feedback from the faculty, alumni and current students. Revisions include replacing the Human Growth & Development course with a Development Across the Lifespan course and replacing Chemistry with Pathophysiology. The committee agreed that the nursing faculty member teaching the Pathophysiology course must have a chemistry background. Additional changes include splitting Pharmacology into two courses and increasing Fundamental skills from 4 to 7 credits to include didactic. The Information & Healthcare Technologies course will now be integrated into program. Clinical hours will be decreased in Mental Health and Community Health, Maternal Health and Child & Family Health. C. Perna expressed her concerns with the decrease in clinical hours in Mental Health and Community Health.
7. Review and discussion regarding exploring different options for nursing education evaluations and English proficiency examinations for international nursing graduates: R. Colosimo informed the committee that NCSBN has published a *Resource Manual on Licensure of Foreign-educated Nurses*.

During the July 2015 Board meeting she was directed to research evaluation service providers that will help determine whether or not a foreign transcripts show concurrent theory and clinicals.

- a. International Education Research Foundations, Inc. (IERF): R. Colosimo presented the material for IERF. She explained that she spoke to a representative at IEFR and they are able to determine concurrency issues. IERF offers its services to 13 other states. M. Lambert asked if the processing time and cost is similar to our current provider and R. Colosimo confirmed that it is very close. The committee recommended the Board approve IERF as a secondary provider for the evaluation of foreign educated nurses.
8. Review and discussion regarding antimicrobial stewardship: R. Colosimo shared the *Guidance for the Knowledge and Skills Required for Antimicrobial Stewardship Leaders* article found in the Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology journal (December 2014, Vol. 35, No 12). R. Colosimo informed the committee that she meet with Marissa Brown from the Nevada Hospital Association regarding the need of a statewide Antimicrobial Stewardship. She continued by explaining that Nevada has more than 30,000 nurses that could help start a movement. While attending a Nevada Organization of Nurse Leaders meeting she learned that Centennial Hills Hospital received the Consumer Reports' highest rating for avoiding infections. J. Coldsmith, Chief Nursing Officer at Centennial Hills, spoke of the work that is being done at Centennial Hills and the other Valley Health System facilities to maintain infection control by re-educating all healthcare personnel on early interventions. S. Adamek added what was being done at the Dignity Health System hospitals with hand hygiene and involving the pharmacy department. M. Chalfant reiterated the importance of early intervention by understanding the initial assessment. R. Scott explained that UMC posted information regarding the difference between a bacterial and a viral infection, as well as information on antibiotics and the risk of antibiotics or antimicrobial resistance. M. Lawson and C. Perna shared their experiences with the success of senior nursing student projects or preceptorships regarding improving infection control at the facilities. The committee will share other resources including YouTube videos to help reduce infection statewide.

**D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** There were no recommendations for the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- D. Faucher informed the committee that the Oncology Nursing Society is offering a free 1-year membership to nursing students.
- M. Scott-Feagle informed the committee OR Today Live! will be having a surgical conference from August 29, 2015 to September 1, 2015, at the Red Rock Casino in Las Vegas.
- M. Scott-Feagle asked committee members if nursing students can access electronic records. Several members shared their experiences in clinical facilities. R. Colosimo informed the committee that Nevada Alliance for Nursing Excellence (NANE) has created a sub-committee to also discuss this issue.
- J. Coldsmith informed the committee that the Nevada Organization of Nurse Leaders (NONL) will be holding its annual conference in Reno on November 4, 2015. This year's theme is "Change the True Constant".
- S. Adamek informed nursing program administrators that St. Rose is seeking student volunteers to help during the flu shot season.
- Dean N. Rosenberg gave an update on Nevada State College's expansion.
- R. Colosimo announced that the next Education Advisory Committee meeting will be held on October 15, 2015.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.