

AMARILLO COLLEGE

NURSING DIVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: April 9, 2008

TIME & PLACE: 3:00 p.m., West Campus Building A, Room 108

ATTENDANCE: Members Present: Carol Hergert – NWTHS, Dept. Dir. M/S/O; Lilia Escajeda – AC Regent; Patrice McLain – WTAMU, RN Degree Completion Coordinator; Bonnie McMillan – Geriatric Care Manager; Committee Chair; Becky Hunter – NWTHS, Chief Nursing Officer; Charlyn Snow – NWTHS, HR Director; Erin Palacio – NWTHS, Employment/Employee Relations; Belinda Gibson – BSA, VP, Patient Services; Carroll Forrester – AC Regent; Linda Utter – VA Chief, Nursing Services; Lisa Herndon – BSA, Director, Marketing, Recruiting, and BSA Foundation.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Sheryl Mueller – AC, Nursing Division Chair; LaVon Barrett – AC, Vocational Nursing Program Coordinator; Richard Pullen – AC, Professor and Assistant Director of the A.D.N. program; Pilar Suarez – AC, Director, CCHCE; Kim Crowley – AC, Associate Dir., CCHCE; Jennifer Ashcraft – AC, Nursing the Numbers Grant Manager, Denise Hirsch – AC, NRC Director; Teresa Smoot – AC, Vocational Nursing Instructor; Paula Garrison – AC, Administrative Assistant, Nursing Division.

MINUTES:

Agenda Attached

TOPIC	DISCUSSION (RATIONALE)	ACTION/ RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Welcome &amp; Introductions Bonnie McMillan</p> <p>Jennifer Ashcraft, Nursing the Numbers Grant</p> <p>Accomplishments of Graduates</p> <p>Thank You</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms. McMillan welcomed everyone and asked everyone to introduce themselves.</li> <li>▪ Jennifer Ashcraft presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the MSN Scholars graduating in May 2008 and in August 2008. 15 MSN Scholars will be graduating from WTAMU and 4 from ASU.</li> <li>▪ 18 of the original 19 MSN Scholars began classes in January 2006. Alternate Bridget Mawson started in May 2006. The GPA average for these Scholars was 3.94. 13 earned a 4.0 GPA in graduate course work and 9 earned a 4.0 in all graduate course work.</li> <li>▪ Jennifer expressed gratitude to the following for the success of the Nursing the Numbers Grant: Community Partners and Friends for continued support and encouragement for the Nursing the Numbers Grant; Educational Training Providers for academic support, guidance, and quality education provided for the Scholars; and Employers for willingness to accommodate the Scholars' school schedules during their time in the grant program.</li> </ul>	<p>Charlyn Snow, NWTHS, asked how many of these Scholars will be hired. Sheryl Mueller replied that Amarillo College has opened six new positions with hopes of hiring some of the Scholars.</p> <p>Charlyn Snow asked if the wages for faculty were competitive enough with practice to attract applicants. AC Regent, Lilia Escajeda, stated that AC is not state funded and that 66% of AC's budget goes to faculty salaries. She expressed her desire for faculty salaries to be competitive and will investigate what the Board of Regents could do in regards to this issue.</p>

<p>Vocational Nursing Report: LaVon Barrett</p>	<p>Ms. Barrett announced that several of the Vocational Nursing Program faculty members are working toward completion of a master's degree in nursing. Karla Dixon has one year to completion and Teresa Smoot will graduate this summer. Sarah Williamson and Tamara Rhodes have also been working on a few MSN courses.</p>	<p>Regent Lilia Escajeda asked about talking to younger students concerning committing offenses that would later cause problems with future goals, like nursing. The committee members agreed that this would be a good idea and suggested that this should be addressed with high school counselors and others that have access to pre-college age students.</p>
<p>Faculty</p>		
<p>VN enrollment</p>	<p>VN Level I – 36 currently enrolled          VN Level II – 40 with 39 potential graduates          Invitations for pinning will be sent out soon with the date and time.</p>	
<p>Curriculum Change</p>	<p>The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has put together a 12-member committee along with an external consultant to consider adopting a model curriculum for VN Programs in the state.</p>	
<p>BON Pass Rate</p>	<p>The December 2008 pass rate for the Vocational Nursing Program is 100%. The May 2008 pass rate was 95.83%. This also includes the one student that was finally cleared by the Texas BON to take the NCLEX-PN Exam after three years. The success of the December graduates is attributable to faculty encouraging the students to review before taking the NCLEX.</p>	
<p>VN Advising</p>	<p>So far during the spring 2008 semester, 54 students have been advised for application for the 2008 fall semester. 22 more students are expected to be advised at the next VN Advising Session. Advising Sessions will be held during the summer and the deadline for applications will be July 31<sup>st</sup>.</p>	
<p>Fall Enrollment</p>	<p>Ms. Barrett says they are seeing an improvement on the Vocational Nursing Math Test scores, partly due to allowing the students to use calculators during the test. Expected enrollment is 50 - 60 new Level I students for fall 2008 semester.</p>	
<p>Associate Degree Nursing Report: Sheryl Mueller May 2008 Graduates</p>	<p>It is anticipated that 70-75 students will graduate from the ADN Program in May 2008. The ADN Pinning Ceremony will be held May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Central Church of Christ. There will also be a 3-day NCLEX Live Review for ADN graduates on May 14 – 16 in the West Campus Lecture Hall.</p>	
<p>Associate Degree Program Stats</p>	<p>There were 661 declared-ADN majors during the fall 2007 semester and 629 declared-ADN majors during this spring 2008 semester. During the fall 2007 semester, on 10/15/07, there was 412 students enrolled in at least one nursing course. This spring semester on 1/29/08, there was 419 students enrolled in at least one nursing course. There were 128 ADN graduates for 2006 – 2007. There were 58 graduates in December 2007 and 70 -75 are anticipated to graduate in May 2008.</p>	
<p>Building Program</p>	<p>The program workbook has been completed and includes the new Nursing and Dental Building, remodel of Building B, renovation of Allied Health Building, and remodel of Building D. The next step is design development. Construction is scheduled to begin in December 2008 and is anticipated to be completed in December 2009.</p>	

Fall 08 Admissions	<p>The application period for fall 2008 admissions is March 13 – April 30, 2008. There are six scheduled advising sessions for generic students and four scheduled advising sessions for Transition students. The plan is to admit 100 generic students into the Introduction semester and 30 students into the Transition semester.</p>	
Faculty Stats	<p>During the 2007-08 academic year, the ADN Program employed 18 full-time faculty, one part-time faculty (on BON waiver), and 14 clinical teaching assistants. For the 2008-09 academic year, it is anticipated that 26 full-time faculty will be employed. This increase in full-time faculty will enable the program to decrease the number of clinical teaching assistants utilized.</p>	
Summer 08 Courses	<p>Summer nursing courses will begin on May 19, 2008. Courses offered will be: Level II Health Assessment; all Level III courses--Mental Health, Concepts of Clinical Decision Making, and Care of Children and Families--and one Level IV course, Community Health Nursing. During the second summer session, Basic Dysrhythmia, which is a optional classes for most Level III and Level IV students, will be offered.</p>	
Texas Board of Nursing Update	<p>The Texas Board of Nursing (BON) is considering requiring all nursing graduates to pass a Nursing Jurisprudence Exam prior to licensure. The BON will be conducting one-day workshops on June 20<sup>th</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup> to develop this exam. Deans, Directors, and Coordinators were recently asked to complete a survey on the BON website, which consisted of three questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When should the exam be offered?</li> <li>Would your program be able and willing to conduct and monitor the students while they take the online exam?</li> <li>Are there other suggestions and comments you would like to make?</li> </ul>	
Program Analysis and Planning	<p>The December 2007 graduation numbers and NCLEX-RN Exam pass rate were down considerably from previous semesters. Ms. Mueller and the ADN faculty have been working on analyzing this situation and formulating strategies to rectify the situation. The first faculty session was on March 4<sup>th</sup>. From this session, contributing factors were identified and placed in the following categories: Students, Policies, Faculty, Curriculum, Testing and Evaluation, Evaluation Methods for Class and Clinical, and Total Program Evaluation. Improvement strategies were also discussed. The second faculty session is scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup>. During this second session, the faculty will consider the following: Specific Plan for Implementation of Improvement Strategies, Responsible Individuals or Groups, and Target Date for Implementation or Completion.</p>	
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	<p>The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has assembled a new Advisory Committee on Nursing called ACORN. This is a 13-member panel that represents a balance of geographical locations and ADN, BSN, and industry interests. This 13-member committee is charged with nursing education concerns, i.e. standards for student</p>	

