

**NURSING EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES**

**Monday April 24 2017 \* 8:00-10:00 a.m.**

**Clark College at WSU-V, Room 124**

**Members Present:** Rebecca Kendrick, Committee Chair, Providence H&S; Cheryl Snodgrass, PeaceHealth; Allison Carlson, Legacy Salmon Creek; Dave Brantley, Manor Care; Ben Young, Manor Care; Lida Dekker, WSU-Vancouver;

**Members Absent:** Travis Elmore, Vice Chair, WSNA; Pat McClure, WSNA; Gail Helland-Weeks, PeaceHealth; Randy Dalton, Community Home Health & Hospice; Erin Schmidt, PeaceHealth SW Medical Center; Erin Robbins, Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center; JoAnn Vance, Providence H&S; Melody Routley, Kaiser

**Clark College:** Brenda Walstead, Interim Dean Business & Health Sciences; Linda Valenzuela, Interim Assoc. Dean Health Sciences; Angie Marks, Department Chair; Nursing Instructional staff – Lisa Aepfelbacher, Valerie Cline, Mary Ellen Pierce, Laura Blackhurst; Scott Clemans, Careers Services; Kelli Gizzi, ECD; Cathy Sherick, Assoc. Dir. for Instructional Programming & Innovation; Nichola Farron, Secretary Senior – Advisory Committees

Committee Chair Rebecca Kendrick called the meeting to order at 8.06am and introductions were made.

Lida announced that she is leaving WSU and Dr. Wendy Buenzli, who will be based in Spokane, will be taking on the role.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

*The minutes of October 24 2016 were presented: Dave made a motion to approve as written; this was seconded by Cheryl and passed by committee vote.*

Office of Instruction Announcements

Cathy Sherick made the following announcements:

Clark is completing the series of Business and Community Learning events on campus this spring. The quick and friendly ‘lunch and learn’ opportunities. FREE and open to the public, the workshops will be scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and held in the Gaiser Student Center, allowing people to attend on their lunch hour.

* Friday May 19th The Power of Completion

Join us here on campus Saturday June 3 10:00 a.m. registration opens for the FREE Healthy Penguin Walkabout. There are several stations set up across campus, with health activities and information about one quarter mile apart. A great way to get some exercise, some health information and have fun.

In keeping with the college campus theme, TRANSFORMATION work on the committee composition continues! We are seeking nontraditional members, those folks who are not typically associated with the field (like women in welding). Your assistance is appreciated, if you know of someone who might be interested in joining a committee, let us know.

We are also going to be making a big push to engage students and Clark Alumnae in the work of the committees. Students will be able to earn a small stipend and a letter of recommendation for their attendance and participation. Piloted this year, have not had students waiting in line – but we want to have them be a regular and vital presence on every committee in the future.

July 13, 2017 – Evening event to recognize our committees and the terrific volunteers that come to meetings two times a year to support students. Watch for additional details to arrive via email.

Clark College will hold graduation at the Sunlight Supply Amphitheater on Thursday June 22 at 7:00 p.m. It is a great way to celebrate the work of the committees. There is always a need for volunteers at the event, if you are interested please let us know.

Department Updates

Mary Ellen outlined how Clark is undergoing a PIP (Program Improvement Process) in every department for accreditation, and to ready for the implementation of Guided Pathways. There are dynamic dialogues happening with every program as they look at their readiness for utilizing the Pathways model. Program quality is being assessed, and preparation steps are being identified. Mary Ellen continued that Nursing has done very well, with the PIP committee surprised at the level of integration of active learning strategies and the collaborative efforts taking place.

Linda continued that the initiative for Guided Pathways has been gaining momentum; Nursing already has the essence of a Pathway, so it was pleasing to hear a validation of the structure. However, Linda noted that there is always room for improvement and the Department is open to hearing suggestions.

DTA/MRP (Direct Transfer Agreement/Major Related program)

This is a state wide direct transfer agreement for moving from Associates level to BSN that the Department has been working on over recent months, and which has been approved at several other Colleges. The Department is currently selecting for the fall class that will be the first cohort for this degree. There were a good number of applicants: 100 for the 32 slots available. However, this was a slightly lower applicant number than expected and may in part be due to the revised pre-requisites.

There is a plan for Faculty to fine tune curriculum over the summer: the NCQAC has recommended the Department undertake an outcomes assessment and data collection exercise related to the implementation of the DTA/MRP.

The HESI A2 pre-admission exam will be the focus for the incoming cohort; there will also be an implementation of the HESI Fundamentals exam.

Linda continued that the Department has been using the HESI exit exam for ten years, and will be undertaking a data comparison exercise to integrate those results into a comparison of student readiness at three different points of the program. Preliminary investigations have revealed that the Department scores higher than the national average in some categories, but there are definite areas for improvement. As such, more testing will be integrated into the program: Linda stressed that this was not to create barriers to student completion, but to provide a better evaluative picture of their progress. When the State Nursing Commission approved the DTA, they also recommended the institution of a HESI exam or assessment: this will serves an indication of a student’s level of preparedness rather than a grade-based exercise. Linda noted that, with the demands of the role and the complexity of patient care increasing, the Department is committed to readying students as best they can for employment.

There will be further discussion of these items at the fall meeting and a report to the committee of the progress being made.

SPEET (Student Practice Event Evaluation Tool)

Angie outlined the SPEET exercise used in North Carolina as a way of assessing students who have had clinical incidents or errors in the clinical setting. It is designed to help evaluate how to help students move beyond these events and look at incidents through an evaluative lens, rather than just focusing on the outcome. Using the SPEET system is a recognition of the chance for human error and avoids being overtly punitive.

Angie shared with the committee the matrix for ‘scoring’ an incident that looks at the spectrum of factors including behaviors, system issues etc.

The committee agreed that SPEET was a useful tool for the program. Angie continued that, with the introduction of the DTA there is a renewed focus on ethics and policy teaching, and that those classes would be a good fit for the introduction of SPEET. In addition, the State requires the program to report near-patient harm, or patient harm via an online form. The Department keeps a log of these so that near misses can be monitored.

Dave will also share his work policies around this area with the Department to provide an additional perspective.

Progress Report on Program Reduction

During the previous budget reduction, the cohort size was reduced from 48 to 32 at three entry points across the year: the current 4, 5 and 6 cohorts are at the previous 48-count as they cycle through the program. 48 students required six sections of clinical, whilst 32 students need four sections of clinical; as such, there is a reduced demand for instructors. Linda noted that the department have opted to be transparent about the situation with teaching staff, and as a result, several regular adjuncts have recognized this and have chosen to move on. The other concern is that the reduced amount of students may mean that the Department will not be able to maintain relationships with certain key clinical placement sites. In fact, the Department have now lost sites, even when there has been long-standing relationships.

However, the reduced class size is more manageable and allows Instructors to connect with students: but there will be a persisting challenge to administration to keep resources.

Linda continued that staffing would be analyzed: the Department has recognized that they need Instructors who are able to teach across multiple quarters and disciplines. The Department is exploring how to support faculty and cross-train.

Linda also spoke about the efforts to improve support for students. There has been an analysis of retention through investigating exit data for students who did not complete. There has also been the issuing of ‘Incomplete’ as a grade for the first time. As the program welcomes International students there is a need to recognize cultural diversity and different needs. The award of ‘Incomplete’ allows students and staff to work together to create a plan to aid completion, rather than fail a student.

Lida noted that, even at WSU-V, staff have noted that students are facing more difficulties than ever with their personal lives, and it is becoming more necessary to remind them that due dates are not arbitrary.

The committee discussed how these trends perhaps represent a shift in culture and circumstance for students, and are worrying for employers. While there is a need to recognize that students may have external circumstances that require support, there is also the importance of maintaining standards.

Staffing Updates

The Department is now mandated to have Master-prepared nurses for tenure track faculty as much as possible. Two tenure-faculty are required for fall to cover retirements etc.; but there is also the issue that staff at BSN level had not originally planned or wanted to do a Master’s degree.

The Unit is happy to welcome Brenda Walstead as the Dean of Business and Health Sciences following her tenure as interim-Dean. In addition, the position of Associate Dean of Health Sciences will be advertised.

Collaboration

Brenda spoke to how collaboration aids with completion. The BMED (medical office/assisting) program will be moving into the Unit and will offer another opportunity for the healthcare programs to collaborate and offer ‘real-world’ scenarios to students.

In addition, the June 3 Healthy Penguin Walkabout will be an inter-professional day allowing the students to work together.

BSN Exploration

Linda spoke about how the program has been losing connections with clinical sites because of their preference for BSN students. As such, there have been some preliminary discussions with WSU to discuss the possibility of constructing a BSN program that would feed into their Master’s program.

It was stressed that the Department wants to continue the partnership with WSU, and that these early conversations are just exploration. There is a lot of competition for Clark from Oregon as a border-College: but the data supports the need for BSN programs. As the shortage of RNs becomes critical across the community, Linda stressed the need for creative thinking and collaboration. As such, there will be an investigation into the feasibility of the degree.

Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 9.34am.

Prepared by Nichola Farron