

Oklahoma City Community College
Nursing Program
Nursing Advisory Committee
Health Professions Building, Room 215
March 25, 2009

MINUTES
Spring 2009

Chairperson: Karen Tomajan, R.N., M.S.

Faculty Liaison: Linda Cowan, R.N., M.S.

Members Present: Sue Lawson, Pam Spanbauer, John Holter, Sandi Schmidt, Lisa Rother.

Administration/Faculty: Felix Aquino, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Greg Gardner, Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs, Jo Ann Cobble, Dean of Health Professions Division, Rosemary Klepper, Program Director, Sarah Brown, Linda Cowan, Gina Edwards, Jackie Frock, Jen Halpin, Carol Heitkamper, Monica Holland, Mary Holter, Karen Jordan, Judy Martin, Valerie McCartney, Robin McMurry, Deborah Myers, Assistant Program Director, Cindy Neely, Beverly Schaeffer, Karla Schenk, Terri Walker, Stephanie Wallace and Kay Wetmore, Cindy Williams, Kelia Crabbe, Fran Masters, Paula Kerner, Cheryl Villanuevo.

Students Present:

Jana Beihl, NPI and Mae Tannehill, NPI.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Karen Tomajan called the meeting to order at 3:40pm.

II. Welcome and Introductions: Karen Tomajan, M.S., R.N., B.C., CNAA, Chairperson

Karen welcomed all present and thanked them for attending. Each person introduced themselves to the group.

III. Approval of Minutes, Fall 2009

Karen asked the members to approve the minutes from the Fall 2009 meeting. The members approved unanimously.

IV. College Updates:

A. Growth and Development of OCCC, Felix Aquino, PhD., Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Aquino reported that the College enrollment is up 6% with Health Professions enrollments up 15%. He stated that people want a more secure job environment in today's economy. Health Professions currently are in demand. He said the College is facing some budgeting challenges, though there are no plans to raise

tuition to compensate. He said Oklahoma is in better shape than many other states. Dr. Aquino also informed the members of the recent dedication of the new Visual and Performing Arts Center on campus.

B. Health Professions Update: Jo Ann Cobble, EdD., NREMT-P, R.N., Dean of Health Professions Division

Jo Ann Cobble reported that the Health Professions Division had 1700 students enrolled for Fall 2008. Two of the Nursing classrooms have been remodeled into additional lab space. The move into the new Health Professions building is complete and fully occupied. There have been a few glitches with the new building however we are very pleased with the facility.

V. Program Updates:

A. Faculty Updates: Deborah Myers, M.S., R.N., Assistant Program Director

Debbie Myers reported that there has been faculty growth along with student enrollment growth. There are now twenty three full-time faculty and thirty three adjunct faculty members. Three new full-time faculty members have been hired for this academic year. They are Jen Halpin, an OCCC graduate, assigned to NP II, Sarah Brown, a UCO graduate assigned to BADNAP and Peg Holleyman, currently in the Masters program at OUHSC assigned to NP III.

B. Program Growth and Progress: Rosemary Klepper, M.S., R.N., Program Director

Rosemary Klepper presented the members with a PowerPoint presentation that showed the number of students admitted and graduated from the Nursing Program entry points. The Traditional program projects 120-125 graduates for this academic year. The Career Ladder pathway program expects to graduate 50-55 students this academic year. The BADNAP program graduated 29 students in this academic year and the collaborative CBSN program will have 23 students moving on to OUHSC for their senior year. The figures presented an increased number of both applicants and students graduating the program.

VI. Committee Member Input: Karen Tomajan

Karen Tomajan asked the members to discuss the topic of changing patient population, in specific the aging population that is now being served in the health fields. Pam Spanbauer commented that the patients they are now seeing are older and more informed than previously. They are more active in care planning. They are also reallocating service to accommodate end of life care. She also stated that there has been an increase in transplant services. Karen commented that it may be necessary to make curriculum considerations for teaching nursing students how to deal with end of life issues.

A. Current safety practices

The members entered into a discussion of how hospitals are approaching safety practices. Lisa Rother commented that they are beginning to bring patients and families into the decision making process for the patient's plan of care. Linda Cowen commented that this new approach will require nurses to begin to let go of some of the control they are accustomed to.

B. Nursing vacancies & employment trends

Karen Tomajan asked for input from the community partners concerning what hiring and employment issues they are currently seeing. Pam Spanbauer at Mercy Hospital reported that they are experiencing some vacancies with the positions limited. Some programs have been cut. Employees are not leaving as they have in the past. The market is tight and cyclical. The new nursing student graduate will not have as many choices as in the past. They will need to remain willing and flexible to gain employment. Lisa Rother at Integris reported similar circumstances. There has been a reduction in vacancies and lower turnover. They anticipate reducing scholarships. She also stated that the faculty will need to encourage flexibility to their upcoming graduates in finding employment. John Holter at Cedar Ridge commented that they are a new facility with a few vacancies. They are looking forward to growth. They have seen increasing requests for 12 hour shifts. Sue Lawson at the Children's Center reported some vacancies. Kelia Crabbe from Norman Regional Hospital reported that there are limited positions available at their facility.

C. Hospital-supported NCLEX board review courses & other offerings – current trends

Pam Spanbauer reported that Mercy Hospital is currently paying for these reviews and require the persons interested to attend on their own time. Lisa Rother reported that Integris Hospitals pay for board reviews as well. In the past they compensated the employees were able to attend reviews on paid time. That option has been eliminated.

D. Clinical rotation slot availability – any expected changes

Pam Spanbauer, Lisa Rother and Sue Lawson all reported no changes are anticipated in clinical slots. Some criteria are being re-examined. John Holter stated that some growth is anticipated with the growth of his facility.

VII. Next Meeting Date and Time

Linda Cowan asked the members if Wednesdays were an agreeable day of the week for the Advisory meetings. The members agreed. Linda will send letters out naming the exact date of the Fall 2009 meeting of the Nursing Advisory Committee.

VIII. Adjournment

Karen Tomajan adjourned the meeting at 5:07pm.

