**MINUTES

Nursing Department/ Advisory Meeting

Date | time 3/5/2019 4:00 PM | Meeting called to order by Sharon Cox at 4pm. Room B-1276

# In Attendance

*Members Present:*

Sharon Cox— Director of Nursing: Oak Crest

Amber Davis— RN-BS Coordinator: NIU

Carrie Baldwin— Director of Nursing: Bethany Rehab & Health Care Center

Julia Norem—Chief Nursing Officer, Rochelle Community Hospital

Kristi Cullor — MSN Graduate Student

Brenda Hunt — Nurse Manager, Rosecrance

Nicole Gooding —Clinical Director, Professional Development

*KC Members Present*

Bette Chilton—Executive Dean of Career Technologies

Mindy Finch—Dean/Director of Nursing

Pat Mitchell—Nursing Faculty

June Callahan—Nursing Faculty

Kelly Soost— Nursing Faculty

Kathy Schnier—Nursing Faculty

Donna Kayes— BNA Coordinator

Heather Heilman— Nursing Faculty, Simulation Coordinator

Shannon Fore— Level 2 Nursing Student

Amanda Ortiz — RN Simulation Technician

Sarah Brown— H/E Student Worker, Recorder

# Welcome and Introductions

Mindy and Sharon thank everyone who was able to attend the meeting. All committee members go around and introduce themselves.

# Review of October 2nd, 2018 Minutes

Everyone reviews the minutes from the Fall Advisory Committee meeting. No opposition or concern with them.

# AD Nursing Program Updates

Accreditation Status —HLC Visit:

The visit will be scheduled for late April. They come every 5-7 years. Mindy states the Associate Dean of Accreditation came and talked with her prior to this meeting to give updates. She explains that they submitted their portfolio over the summer. So far, they don’t have any concerns with what was sent. One of the things mentioned in the past that was needed to be worked on is how we use our data to make changes to the college. This is in regards to the entire college, not just nursing specific. The faculty and staff are currently being prepared for the site visit. Unfortunately, one of the days they will be coming is on a Monday when most of the Nursing students will be gone due to being at clinicals.

Outcome Data:

As far as outcome data, the pass rates for nursing came out for 2018. For Kish first-time test takers, we were at 90% pass rate. The state and national average this past year increased from 86-87%. She explains that as a department, they are looking at these pass rates because the past four years our program has dropped 2% each year. They are looking in depth at the information to help the pass rates and the program overall. In April, the test plan will change for NCLEX. There is a little concern because last time the test plan changed, there was a nationwide drop in pass rates, but they will be preparing their faculty/students moving forward.

RN-BS Program:

Mindy explains that Kish has a dual enrollment program with NIU. The students have the opportunity to take NIU courses online while they are at Kish. Currently there are 11 students dually enrolled in the program. They took 5 in the fall, and 7 in the spring, but one student withdrew from the first cohort. While it does have its challenges, she has heard good things from the students on it. She states the most difficult thing has been finding a balance between the two workloads.

Amber explains that they are currently changing their entire RN-BS curriculum. The courses will be moving from 16 weeks to 8 weeks. The benefit to the dual enrolled students is that they will only need to take one NIU course at one time instead of taking the two 16 week courses at the same time. The content will be the same, but it might make that balance a little easier. She also had students reach out to her looking for a different type of enrollment such as taking classes at a later start date than when starting Kish. So instead of getting your bachelors one semester after graduating Kish, there would be two other options such as 2 or 3 semesters after. There are also six more schools interested in doing a dual-enrollment program with NIU like Kish is. Amber also states that they are looking for a Chair if any one might be interested in that leadership position.

Current Enrollment and admissions:

Mindy states she just admitted a full cohort for NUR117 in the fall 2019 semester. Currently, Kathy has 33 students, Pat as 10 students, Janis has 19 students, Heather has 17 students, June has 19, and Kelly has 39. 137 Students are currently in the program. The admissions for the fall 2019 semester are going well. There were 76 applications, one of them a returning student. She called 34 and offered them admissions. She is saving a few spots for any NUR 117 students who might need to retake the course. Mindy also explains that they are starting a new part time evening/weekend nursing program. It is anticipated to be for January 2020. They are going to be hiring somebody who will develop what the program will look like and eventually teach the program. It will be aimed at students who are working full-time. The goal is to develop this over the summer and do the admissions for it in September along with the regular admissions.

Retention strategies/update:

Cindy Prendergast, the Health Retention Specialist, will be leaving her position as she is moving. She will be staying through Spring break to help orient the new person with their new role. As far as retention, in the month of January she saw 28 students (one radiology student). In February, she saw 27 students (one radiology student). She met with all 40 fundamental students and did learning assessments with each of them individually to help identify any problems the students might come across in the program. She had the 1st year to 2nd year transition meeting with the students as well. She also had open labs for her students where there were 120 total visits. She did 160 individual check offs, as well as had 111 students for NUR 168 in open lab. Kathy noted that Cindy will be greatly missed by all of the faculty members. Mindy also says that we got a grant which will be used to go towards a retention specialist helping out each individual student plan out their future after nursing school in regards to going to get their bachelor’s degree. Mindy announces that Amanda Ortiz will be filling in the role of retention for Cindy. She will be pulling back from lab and doing the retention for this role.

Grant Updates:

The other grant that was given is a CTE leadership grant that will help fund the development of the part-time evening program. Heather explains the third grant is a fellowship from the Illinois board of higher education that is going to be used to expand our simulation library. It will be beneficial for missed clinical days since the teachers would have many different scenarios to choose from. Heather will be getting a needs assessment from each of the faculty before they start writing the scenarios over the summer.

# BNA Program Updates

CNA Pass Rates:

Since October, the pass rates have gone slightly down, but is still at a 95% for 2018.

Enrollment:

Unfortunately, enrollment is still down about 50% where it has been previously. She does say that her clinical experience at Bethany Hospital has been going very well though.

Summer/Fall Schedules:

Donna hopes that in the summer, she will have around 22-24 students. She has already had some students contact her about doing so. She also explains that they haven’t been offering evening classes in the fall. There hasn’t been a huge interest expressed by the students at her information meetings for evening classes. There is still an extremely high demand for CNAs in the work force.

Bette and others congratulate Donna on her pass rates. The BNA program prior to Donna working there had very low pass rates, but have since gone up tremendously thanks to her.

# High Fidelity Simulation

In simulation, we have two simulation technicians currently. We are currently searching for a new technician because one of them is leaving at the end of this semester. Heather does say that all of the simulations were still able to happen despite all of the weather related school cancellations. The qualifications for the position are as follows: preferred bachelor’s degree and some education and/or experience working in a health-related field. The position would be called a Health Care Careers Simulation Technician. Kathy suggests sending the position to Kishwaukee Hospital’s HR department. Mindy explains the person must be licensed as either a paramedic or a registered nurse. There is a discussion to add either a licensed radiologist to that list as well. Amber suggests the person could just be a licensed health care professional, that way the position is a little broader. Amber stated she might know someone who may be interested in the position. Mindy states the position would part-time be around 15-20 hours a week.

# Agency, Student, and Alumni Updates/Discussion

Sharon: She explains they started doing 12 hour shifts at Oak Crest and that so far they have been going very well. She did have two people doing the shifts that didn’t like them, so they instead are doing 8 hour shifts and it seems to work for them. Her staffing has been good. They are also still looking at their EMR.

Carrie: She explains they have also started doing 12 hour shifts at Bethany. Some have been good and some have been not so good. They are in a lot of need for CNAs. They are also changing to new partners, and will be educating their staff on their new partnerships. She also states that Donna’s CNAs have been doing really great so far at clinicals.

Nicole: She discusses how she does hire ADNs at Valley West and Kish, but the students are expected to enroll into a BSN program within 90 days of hiring. They have also begun the process of applying for Magnet. Mindy states that Northwestern has also given Kish a grant so that 10 students can do a paid internship over the summer. The students would go through different rotations under faculty watch 2 days a week for a month. The applications are currently being taken now. Bette asks Nicole when a new grad gets tuition reimbursement if that employee owes x amount of years working at the company. Nicole explains there are two tiers, the service commitment tier which the tuition reimbursement is higher, and the no service commitment which the reimbursement is slightly lower.

Julia: At Rochelle they are currently searching for a new CEO as the previous one moved out of state. There is a lot of construction going on there. All of the inpatient and med surge rooms are being refreshed. Unfortunately, last week the basement flooded, but they are currently getting it all cleaned up. She states they are considering having their nurse managers being required to have their BSN. A majority do, but they want to require it across all of them. Kelly expresses that Julia’s staff have been amazing with her student’s clinicals and thanks her. They are also looking at Telehealth for when new CEO starts.

Brenda: Rosecrance also switched shifts from doing 8 hour to 10 hour shifts, and her faculty seem to like it. Her biggest trouble is not being able to fill some of the part time positions. They are using nursing agencies for it, but it has presented challenges. With primary mental health diagnosis, they are working on figuring out how to get clients admitted faster. It has been difficult getting information from any other hospitals the patient may have been at. It could take as many as 10 days to get someone admitted so they want to speed up the process. They do have a shortage of psychiatric health care providers.

Shannon: Even with all of the snow days that had happened at the beginning of the semester, the students have been doing well. She states the faculty have been very helpful in regards to making sure the students are getting all caught up. She does bring up that her transition from first year to second year was pretty difficult.

# Upcoming Events

* Political Action Day: April 2, 2019 Springfield
* Alumni Luncheon for 4th Semester Nursing Students/Faculty: April 30th, 2019
* Nursing Pinning: Wednesday May 15, 2019 430 pm in Jenkins Auditorium
* Kishwaukee College Graduation: May 18, 2019 9am in the Gym
* Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 1, 2019, 4-5:30pm

# **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, October 1st, 2019. 4:00pm-5:00pm, room TBA

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 PM