

Spring 2024 Nursing Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: Friday, April 5, 2024

Meeting Time: 9:00am

External Participants: 13

Stephanie Condon – District School Nurse – DeKalb School District

Christine Carter – Educator – Rochelle Community Hospital

Mary Margaret Evans – Program Coordinator – Northern Illinois University

Kim Lawson – Crusader Health

Holly Kuhn – RN Coordinator of Family Planning Program, DeKalb County Health Department

Jasmine Del Toro-Vietinghoff - Professional Development Coordinator at NW Medicine

Brenda Hunt - NM Kishwaukee Behavioral Health

Victoria Guthrie – Director Patient Care Services – NM Kishwaukee

Cathy India – Nurse Educator, Kindred Hospital

Brent Gross – Kish NUR student representative

Tasha Kimble – Kish NUR student representative

Matt Holuj – Kish NUR student representative

Perla Gonzales – Kish NUR student representative

Internal Participants: 13

Barbara Leach – Vice President of Instruction

Jessica Berek – Dean of Instruction

Angela Delmont - Director of Nursing

Shannon Satti - Instructor, Nursing

Sherry Haley - Instructor, Nursing

Gynelle Wig- Instructor, Nursing

Lynette Meurer- Instructor, Nursing

Cynthia Pendergast - Instructor, Nursing

Kelly Soost – Instructor, Nursing

Cheryl Angel - Instructor, Nursing

Amanda Ortiz – Simulation, Lab Coordinator

Tara Tobias – Lab Coordinator/Retention Specialist

Cindy Karasewski – Administrative Specialist I

- I. College Updates – Dr. Jessica Berek, Dean of Health Sciences
 - A. College costs to students for next academic year
 - i. Course fees and tuition: College has proposed a variety of changes to reduce student costs, specifically regarding fees and variable tuition. The removal of course fees and the reduction of tuition from 2 times to 1.5 times will be very helpful for Nursing students - over \$1000 in savings for an average first semester student.

B. Other financial supports for Nursing students

- i. In addition to cost cutting measures, scholarships and PATH Grant are available to Nursing students to support attendance.

II. Program Updates - Angela Delmont, Director of Nursing

A. Outcomes and Current Enrollment

- NCLEX pass rate for 2023 for Kish is 87%. (State = 85%, National = 89%)
 1. This is an increase from 2022 which was 83%.
 2. Our Expected Level of Achievement (ELA) for our nursing program accrediting body is 90%. We are currently at a 90% pass rate after all our December 2023 graduates tested.
- Program completion rate for 2023 cohort is 60%.
 1. Program completion is students who successfully finish the program in 100% of the time; complete in 4 semesters. An increase from 55.3% in 2022.
 2. Our ELA for accreditation is 60% and the last academic year it was achieved was 2020.
- Current student enrollment in the nursing program for Spring 2024 is 109 (1st semester 31, 2nd semester 26, 3rd semester 28, 4th semester 24).

B. Anticipated Fall 2024 enrollment

- i. Received 52 applications for 40 seats. This is the first time since 2020 that the program has had alternates. There has also been an increase in program inquiries and attendance at nursing information meetings.

C. Future Planning – LPN option for students between 1st and 2nd year

- i. We are in the beginning stages of researching adding an LPN option to our current program. Kish offered an LPN option until 2016 and was eliminated due to low interest.
- ii. This will not be a standalone program; it will likely be an option for those who would like to achieve the LPN credential on the path to achieving their RN.

III. Group Discussion – Dr. Jessica Berek, Dean of Health Sciences

A. Recap of last meeting

- i. Essential Employability Skills part of the Spring 2023 meeting. Groups prioritized skills for their new employees and faculty helped use the information in their classrooms.

B. College efforts on employability skills

- i. In August 2023, Nursing faculty and Jessica Berek presented information about essential employability skills to all Kishwaukee College Faculty. The larger group completed the same activity and

then we discussed ways to help them be more relatable to students to help them see a connection between these skills and the workforce.

C. Generational activity

- i. Activity completed discussing possible stereotypes of older and younger people. There was not a true consensus on any item, which helped highlight individual perceptions.

D. Student Panel

- i. A thoughtful discussion from current students in the Nursing program.
- ii. Students shared their experiences and what they are thinking about as they prepare for their future careers.
- iii. Feedback and advice shared by committee members to students.

IV. Partner Updates – all

A. Employment outlook

- i. Condon (DeKalb Schools) - looking for substitute health assistants.
- ii. Kuhn (DeKalb County Health Department) - looking for STD nurses/counselors.

- B. Kish is hosting a Health Career Fair on Tuesday, April 23rd 10:30-12:30pm; contact Angie if you would like more information.