



Nursing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date | time 10/3/2017 | 4:00PM in Room B1276

Meeting Called to Order by Bette Chilton, Dean of Health and Education at 4:05pm

In Attendance

Amber Davis—RN-BSN Coordinator, Northern Illinois University
Sharon Cox—Director of Nursing, Oak Crest
Alex Dolister—RN, SwedishAmerican
Brenda Hunt—Nursing Manager, Rosecrance
Michelle Schlieben—Nursing Student Representative, Kishwaukee College

Bette Chilton—Dean of Health and Education, Kishwaukee College
Karen Barron—Nursing Faculty, Kishwaukee College
Kay Singer—Nursing Faculty, Kishwaukee College
Donna Kayes—BNA Coordinator, Kishwaukee College
Pat Mitchell—Nursing Faculty, Kishwaukee College
June Callahan—Nursing Faculty, Kishwaukee College
Heather Heilman—Nursing Faculty, Kishwaukee College
Janis Ormond—Nursing Faculty, Kishwaukee College
Cindy Prendergast—Health Careers Retention Specialist, Kishwaukee College
Bill Nicklas—Executive Director, Kishwaukee College Foundation
Brianna Hooker—Administrative Assistant to Instruction, Kishwaukee College

Special Announcements—Bette Chilton

Bette describes the forward plan for advisory committee meetings. It is important that advisory committee meetings include collaboration with stakeholders to ensure that we are providing the best education and skills to our students to prepare them for the workforce. In order to do that, it is important to receive feedback on what the field demands and what the employers' hiring our graduates needs are. Bette gives a special thank you to all of our clinical sites and other sites that work with our students including Kishwaukee Hospital, SwedishAmerican, Rockford Memorial Hospital, Rosecrance, Oak Crest, and others for supporting us through the ACEN process.

Spring 2017 Minutes

Spring 2017 minutes were sent with the meeting invitation for review. Committee agrees to accept minutes as written.

ADN Program Updates—Kelly

Kelly reports that one of the department's annual goals is to complete the ACEN accreditation process. Kelly describes how the process works and announces that we completed our site visit last week. KC Nursing is happy to report that we were found in compliance in all standards with just one standard needing continued development. The program was recommended for Accreditation. Another annual goal is to investigate retention strategies.

Kelly reports that all students have passed med calculation test on either the first or second attempt.

Program Outcomes Update: Nursing Program Student Achievement Data is now on our website. Kelly reports that the program is hoping to improve the number of students graduating in 100% and 150% of the 5 semesters allotted for the program. We are currently doing research to determine how to best retain students. 100% of our graduate survey responders are employed within 6 months of graduating.

Current enrollment report: 1st semester—39 students, 2nd semester—28 students, 3rd semester—35 students, 4th semester—39 students.

Spring 2018 Admissions report: Kelly reports that we have 63 applicants; 11 are out of district, 1 is an LPN, and 4-5 applicants have failed other program (more than usual). We are seeing a decline in our number of applicants as last semester we had around 90 and the semester before, around 100. Amber reports that NIU is experiencing a decline in the number of applicants for the RN to BSN program although, the BSN applicant numbers are strong.

Bette seeks input from stakeholders regarding these trends.

Sharon sees many student having to financially put themselves through work which contributes to the high number of students working while in the program.

Alex reports that SwedishAmerican has only hired BSN nurses for quite some time.

Amber discusses ADN-BSN dual enrollment agreement between KC and NIU. It is currently in legal review at NIU. Kelly and Bette explain that students will be taking KC and NIU courses concurrently.

Feedback from the community is that people want to attend KC nursing but know that they need their BSN so this agreement will help address that need.

BNA Program Updates—Donna

Donna reports a structural change of classes. KC is now only offering 8 week courses, rather than 16 week courses. There are currently 5 students enrolled in the evening course and 11 students in the daytime course.

Since the Spring 2017 meeting, Donna reports that 54 students have taken the state exam and 50 have passed which yields a 93% pass rate. Bette congratulates Donna for her success in these pass rates. When Donna first came to KC, pass rates were in the 70% range so this is a great improvement.

Donna reports that a Train the Trainer course should be running this coming Saturday. As of right now, we only have two people registered with another person pending.

High Fidelity Simulation—Heather

Heather reports strong utilization of the high fidelity simulation lab. KC has a Paramedic Simulation Technician and an RN Simulation Technician which allows us to provide an Open Lab during the day for our Nursing and Paramedic students. We are currently investigating content to open the lab to our Radiography students as well.

Another benefit of the High Fidelity Simulation lab is the ability to offer clinical make ups.

Health Careers Retention Specialist

Bette reports that Cindy may not be able to make the meeting today as she is currently fully booked with students which shows just how valuable she is to the Nursing Program.

During the accreditation process, we had to look appeals/academic standards issues and the last time the program had an issue was right around the time Cindy came to KC. It is apparent by the lack of appeals/issues that students are greatly benefiting from the Health Careers Retention specialist's efforts.

Nurse Practice Act update—Bette

The Governor has signed the Nurse Practice Act in the state of Illinois which requires that all nursing programs must be accredited within five years so we are on the right track.

Retention of Students and RN's new strategies

Bette reports that a significant number of KC students go to school part time for various reasons and the Nursing program currently only has a full-time, five semester ADN program planner. Seeks thoughts from committee on development of a part-time Nursing Program planner.

Pat and June express support for creation of a part-time program planner as this would help students in their ability to work while going to school. Other schools utilize a part-time model.

Bette discusses an 8 weeks on/8 weeks off model—Amber thinks this model would still present difficulties in trying to manage a work schedule. However, as an employer of many nursing students, Sharon said she is willing to work with her students/employees because she doesn't want to lose them as employees.

Janis presents idea of 16 week courses but taking two courses at a time. This will expand the amount of time students have to learn the content. Michelle thinks the 16 week model may be beneficial to many students, especially from a work standpoint. Amber points out that NIU's program is a 16 week model and students still have a difficult time so she is not confident that it would make a considerable difference to the students. There are pros and cons to 8 week and 16 week models.

Workforce Violence/Safety for Nurses

Bette asks committee members how they are dealing with workforce violence/safety issues for nurses as this has been highlighted recently in the media. Specifically, is there anything we should be teaching our students in this regard?

Brenda (Rosecrance)—all new employees have an 8 hour training and a 4 hour refresher every 6 months. This training mostly involves de-escalation techniques.

Alex (SwedishAmerican)—annual hospital-wide module safety training.

Sharon (Oakcrest)—annual workplace violence training. Emphasis on recognizing behaviors and situations that lead to aggression in patients.

Bette explains that she touches on the topic during her course. Pat covers it heavily in her Mental Health nursing course.

Other facilities changes/workforce requests

Bette asks what employers are seeing in the workforce (especially entry-level issues) so we can determine how to best address those issues.

Brenda reports that she does not see many entry-level nurses at Rosecrance and would like students to know that they have options when they graduate; entry-level nurses don't have to start out in hospitals.

Sharon has noticed a trend in the past 3-4 years that entry-level nurses seem to be more willing to ask questions which is a good thing.

Alex and Sharon report high entry-level turnover. Alex recalls being advised to stay with an employer at least 2 years out of school and she is seeing many new graduates only staying 6-9 months before moving on.

Bette confirms that KC is still working on and interested in creating a clinical site at a long term care facility.

Recognition of current Nursing Alumni Advisory Committee members

Bette would like to thank our current Nursing Alumni representative, Alex Dolister (May 2014 graduate). We would like to recruit a new recent Nursing Alumni representative and Alex is willing to remain on the committee as a SwedishAmerican RN representative.

Kishwaukee Foundation report—Bill Nicklas

Bill announces application period of SP18 scholarship applications and would appreciate faculty to encourage students to review these scholarships as there is "more money in the pot" this upcoming semester.

Upcoming Events

- The Foundation Gala Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction—November 4th at 5:30pm at KC
- Nursing Alumni and Senior Nursing Student Networking Event—November 21st 1-3pm
- Kishwaukee College Fall Graduation—Saturday, December 16th
- ADN (Nursing Honors Society)—Wednesday, December 13th at 3:30pm in Jenkins Auditorium
- Nursing Pinning—Wednesday, December 13th at 5pm in Jenkins Auditorium

Next Meeting

March 6, 2018 at 4:00pm, Kishwaukee College
Meeting Adjourned at 5:15pm