

Nursing Department

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 26, 2023

Time: 3:30pm – 4:30pm

External Participants: 10

Aimee Dougherty – Clinical Manager, Northern Illinois Hospice

Kaylee Abbott – 3rd Semester evening/weekend Nursing Student

Lea Elder - Program Manager, NW Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital

Diane Broadley – Director of Patient Care Services, NW Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital

Nicole Becker – Clinical Coordinator, Crusader Community Health

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

Victoria Guthrie – Patient Care Services, NM Kishwaukee Hospital

Catherine India – Nurse Educator, Kindred Hospital

Jasmine Vietinghoff - Professional Development Coordinator at NM Medicine

Brenda Hunt - NM Kishwaukee Behavioral Health

Internal Participants: 11

Jessica Berek – Dean of Instruction

Angel Delmont - Director of Nursing

Shannon Satti - Instructor, Nursing

Sherry Haley - Instructor, Nursing

Gynelle Wig- Instructor, Nursing

Amanda Ortiz – Simulation, Lab Coordinator

Abigail Gould – Advisor, Health Sciences

Lynette Meurer- Instructor, Nursing

Cynthia Pendergast - Instructor, Nursing

Kay Singer - Instructor, Nursing

Cindy Karasewski – Administrative Specialist I

I. College Updates

a. Overall enrollment

- College enrollment is up 9.4%, Health Sciences Division enrollment is up 10.7%, Nursing department enrollment is up over 12%

b. College Priorities

- The college has put a priority on textbook affordability and student affordability in general. We are encouraging faculty input and participation, supporting use and development of free materials (OER) and grant support. Grants, such as the PATH grant, are used to help offset costs of qualifying healthcare programs. The College's fee structure also is being evaluated to help make sure students are receiving an affordable education and can understand their costs.

c. Health Sciences Open House

- Held on Tuesday, October 24, 5pm-7pm. There was a steady and solid attendance throughout the night. Plenty of nursing students were on hand displaying their skills and knowledge.
- d. Campus Conversations – the impact of AI
 - Just like all industries, higher education is navigating the impact of AI. Faculty are exploring how to incorporate it in their teaching, and how to help students understand benefits and limitations
 - College has hosted professional development with external speakers to consider new perspectives

II. Program Updates

- Pass Rates and Current Enrollment
 - NCLEX pass rates
 - For 2022: 83% Kish program; State 77% and National was 80%; For 2023 so far: 87% Kish program—College has offered the HURST NCLEX review the past 3 semesters. We feel that this has been a contributing factor in our increased NCLEX pass rate.
- Current student enrollment in the nursing program is 103. 1st semester 30, 2nd semester 26, 3rd semester 21 and 4th semester 26.
- Pinning Ceremonies
 - 2020 Reunion Pinning took place last week. Tara Keen and Ashley Foltz – current Kish employees and program grads - spearheaded this event. There were 11 alumni/2020 graduates that returned for the event.
 - Pinning for December class of 2023 will be held on 12/13/23 at 4:30pm
- e. Application process for Spring 2024 enrollment
 - Evening/weekend program cohort – 10 spots available and this is the 4th cohort that will begin the section that started in January of 2020. This is the first time there are two evening/weekend sections running at the same time. We will also be running a traditional day section. So far, we have offered provisional acceptances to 37 students.
 - We have streamlined our application process and now use a rubric to determine who qualifies for admittance to the program. This was the first time that we have used this process and it seemed to work well.
- f. Group discussion: Clinical site needs and requirements
 - Site needs – College needs additional weekend or evening community health sites - Kindred Hospital may be able to assist.
 - Clinical requirements – COVID-19 vaccination policies have been changing but we still require it for our students (We follow the strictest clinical site's policy).
 - Crusader Clinics no longer requires Covid vaccination

- If any site requirements change, please send an email with the updates.

III. Partner Updates – all

- g. Employment outlook – still Nursing positions open regionally, most available are night shifts. Sites have been working hard to reduce turnover internally.
 - Faculty member Kathy Schnier stated that students are getting phenomenal experience at Kish Hospital, very evident that they are fully staffed and it is making a difference.
 - Crusader Clinic will be opening a new facility in the Spring so more positions will be available.
- h. Internship opportunities
 - Summer 2024 internship and externship positions(paid) at NM will be posted mid-December through January.
 - Student representative Kaylee Abbott shared her experiences as part of the summer internship program. She stated it was one of the best experiences of her program and has made her more confident about her skills.

IV. Additional discussion

- Angie asked if having more nurses means they can take on more students at Kish, Vietinghoff (NM) responded it has not changed but they do look at it every semester.
- Haley (faculty) inquired if an evening shift could be possible at Kish; Vietinghoff will investigate possibilities.