

Northland Pioneer College
Nursing Programs
Advisory Board Minutes
September 8, 2006
1:30 – 3:30

Video I at all campuses (Winslow, Holbrook, ShowLow, Snowflake) and centers
(Whiteriver, Springerville-Eager, Heber, St. Johns, Hopi, Kayenta)

Present: Dan Roper, Deb McGinty, Theresa Artz-Howard

Review of April 20, 2006 minutes with Dan Roper

Standing Business:

Purpose/Mission of Advisory Committee was reviewed

NCLEX Results 66%

The NPC Nursing Program has determined that there were several problem areas contributing to the students' poor performance on the NCLEX exam:

- 1) Curriculum content for each course was not clearly defined
- 2) Testing throughout the program did not always address critical thinking using application and analysis questions
- 3) Students who had a history of poor academic performance were not identified early in the program as at-risk students
- 4) There was no remediation plan in place throughout the student's program of study.

As a result of these findings, faculty will:

- 1) Develop Course Content Outlines and Lecture Outlines so students are provided with complete content
- 2) Faculty will attend test construction courses to help them develop higher-level questions for their courses. Deborah and Dianne S first to respond
- 3) Diagnostic computer testing programs, including course-specific exams, mid-curricular, and exit examinations will be reviewed and purchased.
- 4) Content-specific NCLEX review questions will be incorporated into existing structure learning assistance plans and workshops:

Morton, A. M. (2006). Improving NCLEX scores with structured learning assistance. *Nurse Educator*, 31(4), 163-165.

Current Enrollment

2nd year 28 WMC

9 LCC

1st year 28 WMC

16 LCC

Total 81

Curricular Updates

Planning for revisions to align curriculum with NLNAC requirements.

Simulation Laboratory

New models available from several grants. Faculty trained to utilize models.

Graduate Survey

Mostly in the adequate preparation area and more than adequate for all areas of evaluation except sparse IV therapy, knowledge of pharmacology.

Employer Survey

Plenty of information from NRMC, return from RTA Winslow Campus of Care, and WMMC. No information from LCMC or FMC although Richard Henn indicated he distributed the surveys.

Adequate preparation except in areas: we need to make improvements in basic nursing procedural skills, i.e., foleys and IVs. RTA demonstrated the highest expectation. Significant pharmacology deficits which are also evident in initial look at NCLEX failures. Will acquire data from all graduates on the NCLEX Program Reports.

Results of State Board visit were presented. No violations of regulations were identified. The following items required attention:

1. The program needs to develop a more rigorous evaluation plan for adjunct clinical faculty
2. Policies for faculty regarding fitness for duty are missing. If the policy exists for students, a similar policy should be implemented for faculty.
3. Syllabi are missing course outlines and detailed class objectives are not covered in learning activities. There needs to be more consistency between campuses and faculty.
4. The NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate for the 2006 graduating class was below the minimum 75%. Twenty-one candidates have taken the exam with 14 passing and 7 failing. We need to consult the 2005 report for improvement available from the Board of Nursing and devised a plan for remediation.

Spring Semester Offerings: Changing curriculum of laboratory to include course outlines. Considering offering an advanced pharmacology offering for LPN as well as for 2nd year students. Some curricular co-requisite requirements would reduce the length of time students could make it through the program, i.e., CHM 130 WITH A & P as opposed to preceding A & P.

Clinical Site Discussions

FMC rotation cancelled for lower than expected student enrollment. Several students declined to reenter the program: One accepted LPN position with traveling nursing registry, another unable to plan for the year in terms of resources and a third moved away from the area. Formulating agreement with VA for 2nd year rotation.

Miscellaneous:

Perhaps offering an advanced pharmacology course in the spring would increase student understanding. Changing admission standards to raise the bar might improve the caliber of students.

Next Meeting:

January 2007