

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING  
17373 PERKINS ROAD  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70810

MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2008  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

- Call to Order:** The meeting of the Education Committee of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing was called to order by Dr. Nora Steele at 9:07 a.m. on April 22, 2008, at the Louisiana State Board of Nursing located at 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Presiding:** Nora Steele, DNS, RN C, PNP, Chairperson
- Roll Call:** Nora Steele, DNS, RN C, PNP  
Gail Poirrier, DNS, RN  
Carllene MacMillan, MN, RN  
Bonnie Johnson, MSN, RN
- Staff:** Barbara L. Morvant, RN, MN  
Executive Director
- Elaine Vallette, DrPH, RN  
Director of Education/Licensure
- Crystal Patterson  
Licensing Analyst, Education Department
- Guests:** Patricia Egers, MS, RN (Delgado Community College)  
Ellienne Tate, EdD, RN (North Oaks)  
Shirley Cashio, MSN, RN (Northwestern State University)  
Carol Tingle, MSN, RN (Baton Rouge General Medical Center)  
Gwen Beter (Delgado Community College)  
Melanie Green, PhD, RNC (OLOL College)  
Dr. Pamela Simmons (Northwestern State University)
- Review and Approval of Previous Minutes:**
- Motion:** by Ms. Johnson that the Louisiana State Board of Nursing accept the minutes of January 22, 2008 with corrections.
- Seconded by Dr. Poirrier
- New Business:**
- Annual Reports- Graduate Degree Programs in Nursing:** Discussion ensued regarding the report of the national certification

exam pass rates.

**Motion:**

by Dr. Poirrier that the Board of Nursing through Barbara Morvant begin dialogue with the National Council State Boards of Nursing to ensure that schools of nursing that offer a masters program receive the pass rate of all their candidates and that those results also be sent at the same time to the Board of Nursing for credentialing/licensing status.

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; MacMillan-yes; Johnson-yes. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued.

**Motion:**

(Dr. Poirrier- recused)

by Ms. MacMillan to accept the *ANNUAL REPORT* from the graduate program preparing candidates for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse licensure and continue full approval status for the Intercollegiate Consortium for a Master of Science in Nursing (ICMSN).

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: MacMillan-yes; Johnson-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion:**

by Dr. Poirrier to accept the *ANNUAL REPORT* from the following graduate programs preparing candidates for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse licensure and continue full approval status for Grambling State University, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Loyola University, Northwestern State University, and Southern University and to accept the *ANNUAL REPORT* from Our Lady of the Lake College graduate program and continue initial approval.

Seconded by Ms. MacMillan

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; MacMillan-yes; Johnson-yes. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued at length.

**Motion:** by Ms. Johnson to place all the schools' educational opportunities on the website available for public perusal.

Seconded by Ms. MacMillan

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; MacMillan-yes; Johnson-yes. Motion carried.

**Site Visit Report-Our  
Lady of the Lake  
College Associate  
Degree in Nursing  
Program:**

Staff commented on the visit.

**Motion:** by Ms. MacMillan to accept the site visit report and recommend continuing full approval of the Associate degree in Nursing at Our Lady of the Lake College with the following recommendation: continue work on improving the technology support for the School of Nursing.

Seconded by Dr. Poirrier

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

Discussion ensued.

**Amended Motion:** by Ms. MacMillan to accept the site visit report and recommend continuing full approval of the Associate degree in Nursing at Our Lady of the Lake College with the following recommendation: technology support for the School of Nursing should be sufficient to meet the educational needs of the students in a timely manner.

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Amendment carried.

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Site Visit Report-Baton  
Rouge Community  
College:**

Staff commented on visit.

Their first class was admitted in August of 2007.

**Motion:** by Ms. Johnson to accept the site visit report and recommend continuing initial approval of the Associate Degree in Nursing program at the Baton Rouge Community College.

Seconded by Ms. MacMillan

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Site Visit Report-  
Intercollegiate  
Consortium for a  
Master of Science in  
Nursing (ICMSN):**

(Dr. Poirrier-recused)

Staff commented on visit.

**Motion:** by Ms. MacMillan to accept the site visit report and recommend continuing full approval of the Intercollegiate Consortium for a Master of Science in Nursing (ICMSN) with the following commendation:

Commend the deans and program coordinators on exemplary administrative communication.

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Performance of  
Louisiana Schools on  
NCLEX-RN Program:**

Staff commented on the state’s pass rate which is currently 87.34 percent which places Louisiana at number 13 in the pass rate rank. Louisiana was ranked number 26 for the previous year.

**Motion:** by Ms. Johnson to accept the report on the performance of Louisiana schools on NCLEX-RN exam.

Seconded by Ms. MacMillan

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Nursing Shortage:**

Dr. Poirrier who chaired the task force, gave a report on the February 13, 2008 meeting. In attendance were individuals from across the state from different programs and members of committees. The committee explored the availability of on-line acceptable general

education courses for nursing programs in Louisiana.

Discussion ensued at length.

**Motion:** by Dr. Poirrier to accept the minutes from the February 13, 2008 task force meeting on Improving Matriculation in Nursing Education: General Education through Distance Learning for Nursing.

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Motion:** by Ms. Johnson to discuss with Dr. Tremblay the findings from the task force and to find out more about the CALL initiative and to request his input regarding regulatory implications.

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Motion:** by Ms. MacMillan for additional information be added to the LSBN website regarding nursing education requirements and articulation options.

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

(10:47 a.m.-break)

(10:58 a.m.-reconvened)

**Proposal for a Master of Nursing-Nursing Education Track-LSUHSC:**

by Dr. Poirrier to accept the proposal from LSUHSC School of Nursing for a Master of Nursing-Nursing Education Track.

Seconded by Ms. MacMillan

Voice vote: Poirrier-yes; Johnson –yes; MacMillan-yes; Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Reports from Schools  
on Conditional  
Approval:**

**Grambling State  
University-NCLEX-RN  
Results:**

Report only; no action required

**Northwestern State  
University, ADN  
Program:**

Report given.

**Motion:**

by Dr. Poirrier to accept the report on Faculty Attrition, Faculty Workload, and FT/PT Ratios from Northwestern State University, ADN program and continue conditional approval based on less than 80% NCLEX pass rate only.

Seconded by Ms. MacMillan

Voice vote: Dr. Poirrier –yes; Ms. MacMillan –yes. Motion carried.

**Implementation of  
Criminal Background  
Checks for Students:**

Discussion ensued regarding improvements.

No action required.

**Update on Revision of  
the LSBN School  
ANNUAL REPORT  
Form:**

Discussion regarding calendar year as opposed to academic year use.

**Motion:**

by Ms. Macmillan to accept the revised draft of the *Annual Report for Undergraduate Nursing Education Programs* for use as a pilot for the 2007-2008 report year.

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: Dr. Poirrier –yes; Ms. Johnson –yes; Ms. MacMillan –yes. Motion carried.

**Motion:**

by Ms. Macmillan that the sub-committee who did the revisions on the *Annual Report for Undergraduate Nursing Education Programs* be reconvened to reevaluate and make recommendations on this report form for the graduate programs, with appropriate resources for a task force.

Seconded by Dr. Poirrier

Voice vote: Dr. Poirrier –yes; Ms. Johnson –yes; Ms. MacMillan – yes. Motion carried.

**Request to Consider  
the ADN to MSN (MSN  
Bridge Programs)  
From the University of  
Phoenix as Equivalent  
to Having the BSN:**

**Motion:**

by Ms. Macmillan to recommend recognition of graduates of the MSN Bridge Programs at the University of Phoenix as having preparation equivalent to a baccalaureate and a master's in nursing (LAC 46:XLVII.3515.B.4) for those individuals seeking faculty positions in Louisiana nursing programs.

Seconded by Ms. Johnson

Voice vote: Dr. Poirrier –yes; Ms. Johnson –yes; Ms. MacMillan – yes. Motion carried.

**Policy on Conditional  
Approval for Programs  
in Nursing:**

Discussion ensued.

A report will be compiled for the next committee meeting.

No action required.

**Request to Conduct  
Clinical Testing  
Experiences at Baton  
Rouge General Medical**

**Center by Excelsior  
College:**

Discussion ensued at length comparing Louisiana requirements for clinicals and graduates with those of Excelsior's.

**Motion:**

by Dr. Poirrier to approve the request by Excelsior College to conduct

clinical testing experiences at Baton Rouge General Medical Center for candidates in Louisiana who meet direct licensure requirements in the state.

Voice vote: Dr. Poirrier –yes; Ms. Johnson –yes; Ms. MacMillan – abstained. Motion carried.

**FYI:**

Louisiana State University at Alexandria Department of Nursing has received Board of Regents approval for the initiation of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program. The Board of Regents stipulated that the program shall be delayed until evidence of the hiring of an additional doctorally prepared full-time faculty member.

Our Lady of the Lake College School of Undergraduate Nursing and the School of Graduate Nursing have been combined into one School of Nursing under the leadership of Dean Melanie Green.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette will begin a new online RN to MSN option in the Spring 2009 semester. This is a pilot program funded through the National Student Nurses Foundation’s Promise of Nursing for Louisiana Nursing Schools Grants Program and will initially only enroll RNs pursuing the nurse educator option in the MSN track.

Board member, Dr. Gail Poirrier will receive the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners State Award for Excellence during the Academy’s 23<sup>rd</sup> National Conference in Washington, DC this summer.

Notification was received of the resignation of Dr. Alex Johnson as Chancellor of Delgado Community College effective March 14, 2008. Ms. Deborah Lea, Interim Chancellor of Learning and Student Development was selected as Interim Chancellor.

**Adjournment:**

12:01 p.m.



**Respectfully submitted by:**

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**Elaine C. Vallette, DrPH, RN**  
**Director of Education/Licensure**

**Approved: June 11, 2008**