

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING  
3510 N. CAUSEWAY BLVD. - SUITE 501  
METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70002**

**LSBN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2003**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Debbie Ford, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:10 A.M. Ms. Ford welcomed all members present. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and inform the group of the organization they represented.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Deborah Ford, MSN, RN, CNA, Chairperson  
Dr. Donnie Booth, RN, Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education  
Avis Gray, MSN, RN, Office of Public Health/DHH  
Christine Langer, MS, CRNA, Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
Dr. Anthony Monta, Louisiana State Board of Regents  
Theresa Nash, MN, RN, NOPS/Medical & Health Services Department  
Michaelle Wolfe-Scelfo, RPh, Louisiana Pharmacists Association  
Dr. Kathleen Wren, LSUHSC-Nurse Anesthetist Program  
Cathryn Wright, RN, NP, Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners

**STAFF PRESENT**

Cynthia Morris, MSN, RN, Assistant Executive Director  
Ellienne Tate, EdD, RN, Credentialing Director  
Charlann Kable, Licensure Analyst

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 14, 2003 meetings were reviewed. Motion made by Cathryn Wright, seconded, to accept the minutes of the April 14, 2003 Advisory Council meeting as corrected. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

Debbie Ford requested Cynthia Morris give an update of the Board's activities. Ms. Morris reported that the Board is continuing to make improvements to its web site, recently adding a Scope of Practice Decision Tree for RN and APRN's and Delegation Decision Trees for licensed and unlicensed nursing personnel. The Nurse Practice Act, the Rules, all approved minutes and upcoming agendas are posted on the web site. Additionally the Practice Committee has been preparing the Nurse Practice opinions to be added to the web site within the next three to six months. A proviso will be included advising users that the opinions offered by the board are based on specifics of a circumstance so they cannot be generalized. They are only offered as a guideline as to what types of opinions have been rendered by the Board.

The Board is getting ready for renewal season and the renewal applications should be mailed out the first week in October. The Board anticipates that next year the Board would be able to do some renewals on-line.

Ms. Morris also updated the Council on the Board's participation through National Council on the Committee for Ongoing Regulatory Excellence project. The Board has now submitted

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON (continued)**

data from 2002 and the surveying of five stakeholder groups is now in process. This will be an ongoing project where the Board will submit data every 2 years and National Council will survey a group of stakeholders. The group surveyed will consist of approximately 800 registered nurses, 100 employers, 50 Associations and related organizations and a sample of nurses who had complaints against them and the people making those complaints. The Board anticipates that this will be helpful in improving our processes.

Dr. Tate reported that the Annual Report form for schools of nursing would be on the Board's web site in about a week. This is also the year that the \$50.00 fee is required with submission of the Annual Report.

Ms. Morris reported that Board staff are continually trying to improve the automated telephone system.

**ORGANIZATIONS AND REPORTS**

**LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS-CATHRYN WRIGHT**

Ms. Wright reported that APRN's appreciate how quickly the Board has been processing the applications for prescriptive authority.

She also reported that an APRN informed her that after being approved for controlled substances schedule II – V by the Board, her DEA card came back with only schedule III – V. She contacted DEA and was told that the letter from the applicant was not sufficient and that the Board would have to contact DEA directly for her to be allowed schedule II - V. Ms. Morris said the Board staff will contact DEA and get additional information on this matter.

**LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF REGENTS – DR. ANTHONY MONTA**

Dr. Anthony Monta is the new liaison between the Board of Regents and the Board of Nursing

Dr. Monta had two things to report. At the end of August, the Board conditionally approved the Associate of Science in Nursing Program at Delta Community College in Monroe. The approval is conditional on their acquiring SACS accreditation, hiring appropriate faculty, and pursuing NLNAC accreditation in a timely manner. There will be no implementation date for the program until the conditions are met.

There is a proposal to revise the MSN Consortium. The Board is now in the process of hiring external consultants to review that proposal. The tentative date for the onsite review is October 15 - 18 in Baton Rouge. Southern University has asked to withdraw from the Consortium.

**NOPS/MEDICAL & HEALTH SERVICES – THERESA NASH**

Ms. Nash reported that more and more children are coming to school with serious illnesses so they will be doing more clinical training for school nurses. The trend in health care is to have these children in school and this is becoming a challenge. Nationwide there has not been a tremendous improvement in the numbers of school nurses. School nurses should no longer be viewed as a support service but a partner with the teachers and administrators. Orleans Parish is fortunate to have more school nurses than other areas of the state but more are still needed.

The school-based health clinics are working well in the area of bringing treatment on-site but could do more in the area of illness prevention training.

**LOUISIANA PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION - MICHAELLE WOLFE-SCELFO**

In July the Louisiana Pharmacist Association installed new officers. Peggy Van, from Monroe, is the new president. So far everything is holding steady. Last year at this time, Medicaid implemented the prior authorization for various classifications of drugs. There was some concern at the time but overall the process has been fairly smooth and patients are not waiting for their drugs.

The last week of October is National Pharmacy Week and there may be some radio spots or public service announcements in the community.

**OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH/DHH – AVIS GRAY**

The Office of Public Health is working on the database of emergency response nurses. It is especially important now during the peak of hurricane season to have an adequate number of nurses available to assist in emergencies. Many more individuals going to hurricane shelters are sick and in many cases their caregivers are also sick so there is a much greater need for nurses than ever before. Ms. Gray thanked the Board of Nursing for the articles in the Examiner regarding hurricane preparedness and the information on the database and for nurses who wish to participate to contact the Office of Public Health. Ms. Gray also asked the Board of Nursing if they could possibly add something to the renewals or a mailing to get information on RNs who would like to be included in the emergency response nurses database. The Pharmacy Board was able to include something on their renewal form. Ms. Morris said the Board would check into the possibility of doing something similar.

**LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS – CHRISTINE LANGER**

Ms. Christine Langer, Assistant Director of the LSUHSC, Nurse Anesthetist Program, is the new LANA representative to the Advisory Council. The Louisiana Association of Nurse Anesthetists had their annual fall meeting in Shreveport and the new president is Georgia Klingman, CRNA.

**LSUHSC-NURSE ANESTHETIST PROGRAM – DR. KATHERINE WREN**

LSUHSC, Nurse Anesthetist Program was awarded a 10-year accreditation from the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthetist Educational Programs. This is a very rare award and the program is very proud. They have just admitted the third class of applicants. There were 40 students accepted out of the 160 applicants.

Dr. Wren thanked Dr. Tate for working with them involving the problem with out of state programs taking up all the hospital clinical facilities, namely, Texas Wesleyan. The issue is scheduled to go before the Board of Nursing at their Wednesday meeting. LSUHSC has also contacted the Board of Regents on this issue. Texas Wesleyan is currently in 13 to 14 hospitals in Louisiana using their resources. LSUHSC was refused clinical facilities at Our Lady of the Lake because students of Texas Wesleyan, a private out of state institution, were using the facility. It is important that the Board of Regents also realize that LSUHSC monitors electronic and distance education to make sure that students maintain contact with their faculty and come back on campus to help assure a quality education. Texas Wesleyan students are only on campus the first 3 months of training and the remaining 25 months are totally distance education and the students never have to return to campus. Texas Wesleyan is also a private institution and can pay the hospitals for use of their clinical facilities, which LSUHSC cannot do.

**LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATORS OF NURSING EDUCATION–  
DONNIE BOOTH**

The Louisiana Council of Administrators of Nursing Education has been very busy working on the Health Works Commission and the Nursing Supply and Demand Commission. They have also worked with the Board of Nursing on reviewing current Rules and Regulations regarding Education. A task force has been appointed, headed by Gail Poirrier, RN, to establish a master plan for nursing education. They will look into future trends and supply and demand data.

Enrollments and applications to nursing program are up, but there is still a problem with the lack of nursing faculty and clinical sites. The nursing faculty issue is a priority and it is important that any new nursing programs or expanded programs be carefully planned and coordinated. Dr. Booth thanked the Board of Regents for the stipend funding they provided for students going into graduate nursing education programs. Thirty stipends were funded to help get students into those programs full-time and they should see the results of that in the next two years. Dr. Booth expressed that in order to get more nursing faculty it will be important to address faculty salaries.

**ADDITIONAL REPORTS**

Ms. Ford asked Katherine Wren to give an update of the Pain Management Task Force. Ms. Wren advised the Council that the task force has met several times to look into the different practice related issues dealing with pain management and the drugs involved.

A question was asked regarding the proposed bill to allow for Anesthesia Assistants to practice in Louisiana. Dr. Wren reported that the governor vetoed that bill and he then set up a Commission to look at this issue. The Commission met a few times but has not met within the last year. There was discussion as to the quality of education of the Anesthesia Assistants and the safety of their practicing in the state.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There is a new institute for regulatory excellence that is being proposed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). They are accepting only 20 people nationally and the Board is looking into putting someone from our Board through the Fellowship Program.

Members and staff of the Board of Nursing also attended the NCSBN Annual Meeting in Alexandria, VA the first week of August.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

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Deborah Ford

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Date