

NURSING SUPPLY AND DEMAND COMMISSION
SUBCOMMITTEE TO REVIEW NURSE FACULTY
QUALIFICATIONS

OCTOBER 13, 2003

1:00 PM-3:00 PM

**Louisiana Hospital Association, 9521 Brookline Avenue
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Larry Tremblay, Chair.

II. Roll Call

Attendees:

Norann Planchock

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III. New Business

III.1 Discussion of Nurse Faculty Qualifications

Group reviewed faculty qualification requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, and the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Results are presented in the attached report.

IV. Recommendation to the Nursing Supply and Demand Commission

Share information with Health Works Commission

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE TO REVIEW NURSE FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS

Introduction

The Health Works Commission raised questions relative to faculty qualifications for nurse faculty and asked the Nursing Supply Demand Commission to address the issue of faculty qualifications, hence the subcommittee was established. The charge of the subcommittee was to review standards and criteria for faculty by the relevant accrediting or approval bodies. It is evident in reviewing the mission of the accrediting and approval bodies that they share the common purpose of assuring educational quality.

The committee reviewed the environment common to programs. Programs in nursing preparing graduates for registered nurse licensure are generally housed in an institution of higher learning, and since the national professional accrediting bodies require the parent institution of a program to hold regional accreditation, the criteria of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) were identified. The criteria of the nationally recognized professional accrediting organizations, the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), were then reviewed followed by the criteria of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN).

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS-COMMISSION ON COLLEGES (Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the Regional Accrediting Organization for Institutions of Post-Secondary Education in the Southern Region)

- Faculty qualifications to teach at the associate level require the master's degree in nursing or 18 graduate hours in the discipline plus a master's degree. *COC Criteria for Accreditation 4.8.2.1*
- Faculty qualifications to teach at the baccalaureate level require the master's degree or 18 graduate hours in the discipline plus a master's degree; also, 25% of the undergraduate courses in the discipline must be taught by faculty with the doctorate degree. *COC Criteria for Accreditation 4.8.8.2*
- In exceptional cases, outstanding professional experience and demonstrated contributions to the teaching discipline may be presented in lieu of formal academic preparation. *COC Criteria for Accreditation 4.8.2.1 and 4.8.2.2.*

NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING ACCREDITING COMMISSION (NLNAC)

(Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the two professional accrediting bodies for nursing education; accredit associate and baccalaureate and higher degree programs in nursing.)

- Parent institution must hold regional accreditation. *NLNAC Accreditation Manual, Policy #3, July 2003.*
- Nursing faculty is credentialed at a minimum of a master's in nursing degree; rational for other than the minimum required graduate credential must be justified. *NLNAC Accreditation Manual, Criteria for Baccalaureate and Criteria for Associate Degree Programs, II.5.a.b. for each level program.*

COMMISSION ON COLLEGIATE NURSING EDUCATION (CCNE)

(Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the two professional accrediting bodies for nursing education at the baccalaureate and graduate programs)

- Requires that the parent institution be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education *CCNE Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs*.
- Requires that faculty members be experientially qualified and that their roles in teaching, scholarship, service, and practice be identified *CCNE Standards for Accreditation, Standard II*.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING (LSBN)

(Louisiana Revised Statutes 37:911 et seq., 1999; intent is to protect the public by regulating nursing education and practice and ensuring that those who practice are licensed)

- Requires appropriate accreditation by the parent institution (regional accreditation)
- Requires that nurse faculty hold bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing and requires that requests for academic equivalency be approved on an individual basis
- Has rules in place for exceptions to the academic qualifications, i.e. baccalaureate in nursing and 5 years of experience may have a one-year exception and those pursuing the master's degree in nursing may be granted a two-year exception. No more than 20% of the faculty may be exceptions to the academic qualifications
- Preceptors for clinical experiences are permitted under the direction of qualified faculty and for the last two semesters of a baccalaureate program and the last semester of an associate degree program. *LAC 46:XLVII.Chapter 35 Nursing Education Programs*

REQUIREMENTS OF SIMILAR REGULATORY BOARDS IN NEIGHBORING STATES

TEXAS

- Sufficient faculty with graduate preparation

ALABAMA

- Graduate degree in nursing or other health related field

ARKANSAS

- Faculty must demonstrate competency in teaching, curriculum development and nursing; baccalaureate with preparation in teaching; course coordinators must hold masters in nursing

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ACCREDITATION/APPROVAL BODY	FACULTY REQUIREMENTS	EXCEPTIONS
SACS-Commission on Colleges	Masters degree in discipline or 18 graduate hours plus a masters degree	Exceptional cases of outstanding experience and demonstrated contributions to the teaching discipline individually justified
NLNAC	Minimum of masters degree in nursing	
CCNE	Faculty be qualified and role in teaching, scholarship, service and practice be identified	Rationale for exception must be justified
LSBN	Minimum of bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing	Justify preparation as consistent with program level and institutional requirements Exceptions permitted for limited time in accordance with prescribed guidelines; no more than 20% of faculty may be exceptions

FACULTY EXCEPTIONS APPROVED BY THE LSBN

YEAR	*NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	NUMBER OF FACULTY EXCEPTIONS
2002	5	16
2001	8	18
2000	8	16
1999	11	19
1998	7	13

*There are 22 programs.

**NUMBER OF MASTERS PREPARED NURSES IN LOUISIANA VERSUS
NUMBER OF MASTERS PREPARED NURSES TEACHING IN A NURSING
PROGRAM**

YEAR	NUMBER OF RNs WITH MASTERS IN NURSING	NUMBER OF RNs WITH MASTERS OR HIGHER DEGREES TEACHING IN LOUISIANA PROGRAMS
2002	2205	591
2001	2069	617
2000	1875	578
1999	1736	644
1998	1622	640