

## 2011-2012 Committee Annual Report

Committee Name: Vernon College Associate Degree Nursing Advisory Committee

Chairperson: Melody Chandler

List of members:

Chad Brownlow	RN, MSN, FNP-BC	Hillcrest Clinic
Trish Byars	Attorney	
Melody Chandler	Co-Director of Regional Simulation Center	North Central Texas Health Care Consortium
Brenda Copas	Senior Counselor	Hospice of Wichita Falls
Susan Doyle	Director, Educational Center	Jackson County Memorial Hospital
Bobbie Graf	Nurse Manager	Wilbarger General Hospital
Nancy Handy	Chief nursing officer	Wilbarger General Hospital
Lisa Laminack	Nurse Educator	North Texas State Hospital
Linda Martinez	Psych Nurse Practitioner	North Texas State Hospital
Karen Polvado	Chair of Wilson Scholl of Nursing, MSU	Midwestern State University
Kelley Pruitt	Medical Surgical Nurse Educator	United Regional Health Care System
Sam Whatley	RN	Outreach Home Health
Darrell Willie	Substance Abuse Counselor	North Texas State Hospital

Dates of meetings: 11-08-2011; update letter to Advisory Committee 5/14/2012

Accomplishments: Program and course objectives and outcomes are being updated with the information the members provided in the SCANS rating chart and the competency profile; additionally, the Differentiated Essential Competencies in Nursing (DEC) will be implemented in spring 2012. Courses are being updated with recent WECM course changes. A new policy on Civility, Social Networking and Netiquette in the Nursing Handbook for the fall semester was sent for review and approval by the committee.

Recommendations: The committee emphasized the importance of students learning to use technology, especially, electronic medical records software, and the possible use of e-books. One member recommended that clinical students be assigned 2 – 3 patients in an effort to prepare graduates to work with multiple patients; however, this is difficult due to limitations at the clinical facilities; the skills lab is used to practice managing multiple patients.

Membership suggestions: None

Agendas, exhibits and minutes posted to Vernon College web site address: Advisory Committee meeting agenda and minutes; update letter 5/14/2012

Submitted by: Cathy Bolton

Date submitted: 8-3-2012

## ADN Advisory Committee Spring Update: 5/14/2012

### Program News:

- One of the greatest challenges that face the VC nursing program was United Regional's decision to reduce the number of students on the clinical areas at any one time. This led to limiting clinical experiences for the students to every other week at the hospital. Vernon College and Midwestern State University nursing programs will alternate weeks during the semester for clinical experience for the students. This will reduce the number of hours of actual clinical experience on the floor, so we will be supplementing the weeks not in the clinical facility with either SIMS lab instruction or the VC Skills Lab instruction. Scenarios will be developed to assist the student in developing competencies for the clinical areas. A meeting was held with MSU and VC nursing programs to develop a schedule for the Fall semester to incorporate these changes. MSU will begin the first week of the semester and VC will begin the second week of the semester at United Regional.
- Exciting news for the college is all of the renovations going on at our campuses. The Nursing Lab on the Vernon campus was renovated to make the Computer Lab a Skills Lab, adding hospital beds and equipment. Since this lab is shared by the LVN and the ADN department, this will provide more opportunities to utilize the Lab space. Renovations at the Century City campus will include a Nursing Department with 7 office spaces for faculty, a distance learning classroom that will seat 96 people and a Skills lab. We are very excited to have these facilities located at the Century City campus. It will provide more opportunities for the Wichita Falls area students to attend classes in Wichita Falls. By the fall semester, the areas will be fully operational.
- A new policy on Civility, Social Networking and Netiquette has been added to the Nursing Handbook for the Fall semester. I have attached to policy for your review and approval.
- The VC ADN program has agreed to partner with several colleges and universities in the state in a Perkins Leadership grant. This grant was developed in response to the Institute of Medicine Report (IOM) on the Future of Nursing (2011). This report established a goal to be reached by the year 2020 that 80% of nurses in the U.S. would hold a bachelor's degree in nursing. This grant will help to provide a seamless ADN to BSN curriculum, with an ADN exit, that reduces barriers and duplication and improve seamless articulation/transfer from ADN to BSN education.
- In conjunction with the Perkins grant and the changes occurring in nursing education, it was decided to discontinue COSC 1301 Introduction to Computing and replace with PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth and Development. This decision was based on most students are computer literate when they enter the program and the PSYC course is one that will articulate into the BSN curriculum. A statement was added to the catalog informing the students of this change that will be effective for those entering in the Summer of 2012.
- In the Fall 2012 semester, the entering generic students will be required to purchase digital devices to access some of the nursing textbooks. Nursing Central will be purchased by the students for their use. Several of the students' resources will be available in one bundle with easy and immediate access in the clinical setting or at home on a smartphone or a handheld device. This is being piloted this year with the possibility of adding more ebooks in the future.
- 94 students graduated from the program in May.
- 50 students were accepted for the LVN Transition program for the Summer semester.

### Faculty News:

We are proud to announce that Beth Arnold, faculty and Assistant Director of the ADN program, received the Dr. William Leroy Estes Excellence and Innovation Award at the graduation ceremony this year. We want to congratulate Beth and express our appreciation for all that she does for the nursing program at VC. Resignations from Gina White and Jamie Buchanan were received this spring. Gina will be

completing her Psych Nurse Practitioner program in the summer and will seek employment in that field and Jamie has been offered a position at Midwestern State University for the Fall semester. We would like to wish both Gina and Jamie good luck in the new endeavors. We will advertise this summer for replacements for both of these faculty members.

**Professional Development:**

- Eight faculty members attended a Nursing Education Conference in Las Vegas in January funded by the money received in the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Grant.
- All faculty members attended the Texas Board of Nursing Tour of Texas that was held at Midwestern State University, April 27. This educational workshop offered by the Board covered online application processes, criminal background checks, security issues with the NCLEX-RN and statistical information.
- Five faculty members attended the Texas Organization of Associate Degree Nursing conference in Plano in March. Updates on nursing education and trends in the profession were highlighted.