



Lower Columbia College 1600 Maple Street, Longview, WA 98632

Nursing Advisory Board Minutes

Thursday, October 17, 2019, 4:30 P.M.

Health & Science Building, Room 235

I. Meeting called to order at 4:40 p.m.

II. ATTENDEES

Michelle Ashby, Cowlitz County Health and Human Services

Lorelei Catlin, Koelsch Senior Communities

Kim Hash, Community Health Partners

Jennifer Jenkins, Peace Health/Health Science Careers

Kelly Klein, LCC Student

Lynn Nelson, CTE teacher, Cascade Middle School

Karen Joiner, LCC

Tamara Norton, LCC

Karen Joiner opened the meeting with information about community college advisory boards. The boards provide valuable insight for LCC's Professional/Technical Programs and provide an outside perspective for program content. The Nursing Advisory Board purpose is twofold – to meet state requirements and nursing accreditation requirements.

III. Minutes of 4-28-2019

Minutes from April 28th Nursing Advisory Meeting were reviewed by members and approved by consensus.

IV. Nursing program updates

a) House Bill 2158 – nursing faculty retention and recruitment

Karen shared information about House Bill 2158. The Bill established a Workforce Education Investment account. The intent of the legislation and funding is to address nursing faculty recruiting and retention. Nursing programs struggle to retain faculty with master's degrees or doctorate level degree because of the disparity between industry wages and wages paid to nurse educators. The funding provides a 26.5% wage increase for both full time and part time faculty.

The funds allowed LCC to hire three full-time, temporary faculty. Because we don't know how long the funding will last, Karen added, these positions will be renewed on a year by year basis. The funding, however, does have a tax base associated with it.



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b) Application and enrollment numbers

LCC's Nursing Program has two application cycles. The most recent cycle had 332 applications. Of those 204 qualified and 88 were admitted to the program.

c) Program outcomes data

Karen shared monitoring data used for the program. First time testers of the NCLEX-RN exam for 2019 are at 94% to date; for 2018 they were 87.5%. Additional data regarding student satisfaction, employer satisfaction, and preparing graduates for employment was shared. Data can be found at this link [Link to LCC's Nursing Program outcomes web page.](#)

In a previous review of passing rates LCC faculty found areas that students were struggling with. The college purchased software that measures where students struggle and allows faculty to adjust curriculum to address those areas of concern.

d) Labor market data

Data was shared from Labor Insight, a research platform designed to measure job postings and demand for specific jobs and/or sectors. Data was pulled for Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Lewis and Clark counties. The data showed 1,202 postings for Registered Nurse in the past 12 months and 334 postings for Licensed Practical Nurse in that same time period. Both positions have a projected growth over the next 10 years of 20.8% and 12.2% respectively.

e) Proposed changes to handbook: clarification of re-entry policy

Karen and Tamara Norton shared proposed changes in handbook to make sure it is meeting the need of students and of the program. Language added regarding minimum required grade and options for the student, exits and re-entries to the program, reasons for withdrawal and restrictions on number of re-entries allowed.

f) Changes to application/admission policies

Students already in the program will be covered under old policies until they graduate.

Any new students are subject to the new policy handbook.

LCC has a \$10 application fee and Karen asked members for input. Members said the fee is too low and should be increased to at least \$25 because of the amount of work that goes into the process by nursing faculty and staff.

g) PeaceHealth and Pyxis access

PeaceHealth shut down all student and instructor access to Pyxis. Karen shared with members that PeaceHealth gave faculty access to Pyxis but never granted students direct access causing students to need direct supervision by a registered nurse in order



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for them to give medications. It's difficult to evaluate a student's abilities without access. It does appear access will be activated in the spring.

h) Upcoming events

- Flu Vaccination Clinic for students/staff at LCC, Oct 21-25
- Nursing Student-Faculty meeting (quarterly), Dec 9, 9:00 AM
- Nurse Appreciation Day: May 8, Rose Center

i) Member input

Nursing student Kelly Klein is taking clinicals at the Nippon Dynawave on site medical center as a nursing technician. The employer works directly from a checklist provided by Karen and Kelly is able to practice his skills under the supervision of an occupational health nurse. LCC faculty have direct contact with Kelly's supervisor every quarter to share what skills he has learned and what he is allowed to do.

V. Spring Meeting date/time

April 23rd, 4:30 p.m., Health & Sciences Building, Room 235

VI. Roundtable/member news

Jennifer Jenkins shared that she currently has 23 students in Health Science Careers. To track student pass rate she created Survey Monkey and learned pass rate is up over last year. They changed how skills were delivered and expect the increased passing rate is a result of that change.

She also shared that OSPI is encouraging stronger connections with post-secondary programs, asked for recommendation of a guest speaker to come into the high school classroom. Karen recommended Donovan Tate, LCC advisor, and also recommended that Jennifer connect with Amy Boultinghouse, nurse faculty taking a larger role with nursing assistant training.

Michelle Ashby told the group the county is grappling with the vaping issue and will be increasing efforts to restrict the practice in public places. She also shared that county staff are participating in Trauma Informed Care training – the practice of being more mindful of interactions you have with people and how to avoid making whatever trauma they may have experienced worse.

Lynn Nelson shared with the group that she is working to get Cascade Middle School students thinking about careers in health care, medicine, and chemistry careers. She has



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brought 7th and 8th grade students to tours of the Health & Sciences Building so they can see what their future options for education are right where they live.

Kim Hash told the group the free clinic has to move out of the current facility by March 2021 and the board is actively looking for a new space. They need a location with greater visibility that has patient rooms, office space and a room for establishing a dental appointment option.

The clinic's average patient is middle-age, may have lost job and insurance. They can't serve people eligible for Medicaid.

Lorelei Catlin shared that Delaware Plaza is hiring nursing assistants as soon as they finish classes and then gives them 120 days to take their exam.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.