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Board of Nursing Education/Accreditation Committee Meeting
9960 Mayland Drive – Conference Center Suite 201 – Board room 2
Henrico, Virginia 23233
May 20, 2014

Committee Members Present:

Louise D. Hartz, Citizen Board Member	Virginia Board of Nursing
Guia Caliwagan, RN, MAN	Virginia Board of Nursing
Joyce A. Hahn, PhD, APRN, NEA-BC	Virginia Board of Nursing
Jeanne E. Holmes, Citizen Board Member	Virginia Board of Nursing
William Traynham, LPN, CSAC	Virginia Board of Nursing
Lauren Goodloe, PhD, RN, NEA-BC	Virginia Nurses Association
Lucy Smith, RN, MS, CNS, PMHCNS-BC	Fortis College
Ben Warner, BSN, RN, MBA, CENP	Virginia Organization of Nurse Executives & Leaders
Nina Beamon, EdD, RN-BC, PMH, RNC-AWHA, CMA	Virginia League for Nursing
Patti Lisk, RN, PhD	Virginia Community College System
Barbara Larar, Senior Vice President	ECPI University

Committee Members Absent:

Deb Zimmermann, DNP, RN, NEA-BC	Virginia Action Coalition

Others Present:

Jay P. Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE	Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing
Paula B. Saxby, RN, PhD	Deputy Executive Director, Virginia Board of Nursing
Charlette Ridout, RN, MS	Senior Nursing Education Consultant, Virginia Board of Nursing
Elaine Yeatts	Senior Policy Analyst, Department of Health Professions

Call To Order and Introduction of Committee Members:

Ms. Hartz asked members to introduce themselves and thanked them for their interest in the Committee and their willingness to serve.

Review of the Committee Charge:

Ms. Hartz summarized the charge of the Committee. The Board of Nursing at its March 2014 meeting voted to adopt proposed regulations governing the practice of nursing which included regulations pertaining to nursing education. In reviewing public comment from organization and individuals, the Board noted a recommendation to require national nursing accreditation for RN pre-licensure education programs. The Board decided this matter required further study, Dr. Ingalls appointed a committee to study the recommendation and to bring a final recommendation back to the Board. Ms. Hartz communicated to the Committee that if a recommendation was made and the Board accepted it, further regulatory action would be needed.

Review and Discussion of Meeting Materials:

Ms. Hartz reviewed the materials that had been provided to the Committee including:

- NCSBN requiring national nursing accreditation; strategies for boards of nursing
- NCSBN 2011 – 2013 percentage of accredited programs
- NCSBN 2012 comparison of prelicensure approval and accredited programs
- NCSBN A preferred future for prelicensure program approval
- NCSBN A map depicting current processes used by boards of nursing

Dr. Saxby reviewed the staff accreditation status report that indicates out of 78 approved RN programs, 25 do not have ACEN or CCNE accreditation. 24 out of 47 approved associate degree program are not accredited. One out of 29 BSN programs is not accredited.

The only diploma program in existence is accredited. The one prelicensure masters program is accredited.

Committee Discussion:

General discussion and comments facilitated by Ms. Hartz identified the following factors significant to the matter of nursing accreditation:

- Cost of accreditation is an issue
- Cost of masters prepared faculty
- Availability of prepared faculty
- Accrediting bodies expectations of faculty can be burdensome e.g. making presentations
- Community colleges are having difficulty recruiting qualified faculty in rural areas
- Sharing of faculty between rural and urban education programs as a possible solution
- Video streaming of didactic courses with local clinical faculty as a possible solution
- Sharing of technology may also be a possible solution
- Affordable Care Act and the requirement to provide benefits for faculty working greater than 29 hours per week is an obstacle.
- Non accredited programs have difficulty in establishing clinical agency agreements
    - Geographic location of program
    - Number of ADN graduates in Virginia versus BSN graduates
- Student loan and funding issues may exist if programs do not have nursing accreditation
- Concern for student education progression opportunities if prelicensure education program is not accredited
    - Progression in Magnet facilities is most often mandatory
    - One proprietary program present shared how they had addressed this by progressing students into their own RN to BSN program
- Issue with part-time and fulltime faculty percentages and ratios: ACEN requires that BSN faculty be part-time
- From an employer perspective (VONEL), graduates from accredited programs provide higher quality of care
- Concern expressed whether joint visits between BON and accrediting bodies would be effective for BON and less burdensome for programs
- CCNE published new standards in 2013. Need for crosswalk between BON regulations and accrediting body requirements
- A question was proposed could the BON use accrediting standards as a foundation for developing regulation
- One proprietary program opined that if accreditation becomes mandatory, programs would need time to implement, possibly 5 years.

- Consensus from Committee members that requirements for RN accreditation is the preferred model however obstacles need to be worked through
- For regulation promulgation purposes, the positive and negative impacts and public good of mandatory nursing accreditation needs to be well articulated
- Patti Lisk "Rewards embedded" within having nursing accreditation
- Industry standards may be driving the need for required nursing accreditation
- Need for collection of data prior to next meeting
- What financial impact would requiring accreditation have on students
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Next Steps

Collect following information for review at next meeting:
- Hiring practices and requirements of hospitals – are hospitals employing graduates from non-accredited program (VONEL)
- Hospitals practices regarding clinical agreements (VONEL) with nursing programs that do not have accreditation
- Develop a state by state comparison BON requirement for nursing education program to be accredited (BON staff)
- Compile information regarding endorsement barriers
- Review of NCSBN Uniform Core Licensure Requirements (BON staff)
- Crosswalk between BON standards and BON regulations. Dr. Hahn suggested that identification of a student to do this might be a possibility.

Next Meeting

September 16, 2014

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M

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