

Minutes of September 26, 2007
Meeting of IUK School of Nursing Administration
and Area Hospital Nursing Administration

The Indiana University Kokomo School of Nursing hosted a breakfast meeting Wednesday, September 26, 2007 in the Main Building, room 170. Administrators in attendance from area facilities were as follows: Ronda McKay—Howard Regional Health System; Jeanette Huntoon—Logansport Memorial Hospital; Kathy Pattee—Logansport State Hospital; Nancy Walker—Riverview Hospital; and JoEllen Scott and Teresa Burns—Tipton County Memorial Hospital. IUK School of Nursing administration in attendance was as follows: Penny S. Cass—Dean; Lynda Narwold—ASN Director; Nancy Schlapman—Baccalaureate & Higher Degree Programs Chair; Sue Hendricks—Director of Assessment and Evaluation, and Linda Wallace—International Programs Director.

Introductions of those present were made around the table and Cass thanked everyone for taking time to attend.

Administrative Update—Penny Cass

Cass announced her intention to retire December 31, 2007, and thanked everyone for the support and collegueship during her tenure as dean. Cass shared she has enjoyed the 13 years in her position and is looking forward to being able to be a full-time grandmother to her 4 grandchildren.

The initial search for her replacement resulted in a failed search due to an insufficient candidate pool. The decision has been made to extend the search and readvertise the position. A transition team consisting of 4 tenured and/or long-term contract faculty members has been created to assist with a smooth transition during the interim. The team has been working on white papers to provide information and assistance to the incoming dean.

Cass discussed the disaggregation of the IU School of Nursing as a system school. Transferability will remain in place for students who need to move from one IU campus to another. The degree completion programs offered at the Kokomo campus will continue as well.

Cass reminded those present of the upcoming regularly scheduled accreditation visit with CCNE in spring 2010. Agencies and stakeholders will be invited to participate in the process and provide feedback relative to the BSN program. An event will be scheduled on campus for those present to meet with site visitors and more information will be forthcoming nearer to the identification of the site visit dates.

Baccalaureate & Higher Degree Program Update—Penny Cass

In Nancy Schlapman's absence, Cass provided information relative to the status of the baccalaureate and master's programs. The baccalaureate program will begin admitting students twice a year (fall and spring) in this academic year 2007-08. The target figure for each admission cycle is 80. January 2008 will be our first spring admission cohort, and the target figure of 80 appears reachable. Cass spoke about the need to evaluate methods currently being utilized to arrive at the program outcomes relative to the clinical and/or application component within the curriculum. Faculty are identifying ways to include use of the simulation experience (currently have two Vital-Sim Annie's) to expand the clinical experience. Cass shared that approval to write a proposal for an independent MSN program has been authorized by campus administration. The proposal would begin the approval process through the IU system and move toward ICHE approval after the upcoming campus accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission, scheduled for spring 2009. Until such time as approval to offer an autonomous program is granted, the campus will begin discussions with IUPUI to write a memorandum of understanding to continue to offer a collaborative MSN with IUPUI. The possibility of offering an MSN in collaboration with SPEA on the Kokomo campus is also being explored.

Program Assessment & Evaluation—Sue Hendricks

Hendricks distributed the 2006 BSN assessment plan and discussed the gradual improvement that has been seen in the BSN NCLEX pass rates. The improvement has been due in great part to the implementation of the ATI testing system within each course in the curriculum. Hendricks shared that faculty are currently in the process of enhancing and evaluation clinical outcomes. Additionally, faculty are considering and looking at alternative clinical models and Hendricks highlighted a pilot project currently underway at HRHS. Hendricks encouraged anyone whose facility would be interested in discussing alternative clinical models to contact her to explore options. The accrediting agency for the school (CCNE) is very open to innovation and creative methodology to deliver clinical experience to students.

ASN Program Information—Lynda Narwold

Narwold reminded everyone of the ASN program suspension, and that the final student cohort will graduate May 2008. A celebratory event acknowledging the vital role the ASN program has served over its 40 year history as well as looking forward to future growth of the baccalaureate program is being planned for March 2008. Look for more information as event plans are finalized.

International Programs/Exchanges—Linda Wallace

Wallace shared that the Korean exchange program is now entering its 7th year, and it is anticipated that approximately 6 students and 1 faculty member will be visiting from Korea in January/February 2008. Additionally, students have spearheaded creation of a Spanish healthcare elective which involves travel to Guatemala during spring break 2008. The trip is open to the public and is facilitated through Ambassadors for Children.

Wrap Up

Cass again thanked those present for attending. Cass also shared information regarding the academic progress of the nursing faculty. Concern was voiced regarding losing momentum without leadership and oversight of a dean during the interim period. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.