

Report on Communication Activities with Nursing Education Programs

Overview:

In an ongoing effort to utilize the most effective methods of delivery for workshops and outreach activities, Texas Board of Nursing (Board or BON) education consultants presented a webinar entitled *Implementing the Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs)* this past quarter. A summary is provided.

Nursing Education Webinar:

On November 17, 2011, Texas BON education consultants provided a one-hour webinar designed to assist Texas nursing education program deans, directors, coordinators, and faculty members to incorporate the DECs into nursing education program curricula. Over 200 stakeholders from professional and vocational nursing education programs throughout the state participated in the session. Dr. Mary Beth Thomas, BON Director of Nursing, welcomed participants and introduced the webinar that offered the following topics:

1. History of the DECs
2. Rationale for the DECs
3. Implementation of the DECs

Participants were provided an opportunity to submit questions during the webinar with the education consultants responding to the inquiries at the conclusion of the presentation. In addition, attendees were encouraged to e-mail feedback about the webinar to their assigned education consultant. Responses were unanimously positive, and indicated that webinars provide an efficient, effective, and convenient format to maintain open communications and address current education issues. Based on the evaluations, the education department plans to offer more webinars in the future. The PowerPoint presentation is available on the BON website, www.bon.texas.gov, by selecting *Education*, then *Faculty, Program, and Student Information*.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information report. No action is recommended.