

## **Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Report**

### **Summary of Request:**

The committee report is for information only, providing Board members an update regarding the status of ACE activities.

### **Committee Charge:**

The Board issued the following charges at the April, 2006 meeting:

- a. Study the issues involved in the Board approving nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas
- b. Recommend new rules and regulations addressing Board approval of nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas.
- c. Review rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219

The Board added the following charges at the July, 2006 meeting:

- d. Review possible rule revision to clarify Board expectations in distance education for nursing education programs.
- e. Review rule revision to clarify the role of simulation in clinical learning experiences
- f. Review recommendations on possible limitations or a revised process for re-submitting a proposal for a new nursing education program after the original proposal is denied by the Board.

The committee held four meetings to study the issues involving the Board approving programs from out of state, programs presented online and issues with board approval and accreditation. Committee members had an opportunity to discuss issues with representatives of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and the Texas Workforce Commission(TWC).

### **Major Points of Discussion**

- THECB's interim approval process for a program under Texas Education Code, Title 3, Chapter 7 that is applying for Southern Association of Colleges and School accreditation.
- TWC approval process for diploma nursing education programs
- Implications of Sunset recommendations
- Current BNE Faculty waiver process
- Regional versus national accreditation
- Other states' rules for regulation of out of state programs

**Results of ACE Committee work are detailed in the following table.**

Charge	Actions	Outcomes
1. Studying the issues involved in the Board approving nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas	Review of information from national sources  Discussion with THECB (October) Discussion with TWC (December) (Diploma Programs)	See outcomes at Number 2  Staff in discussion with TWC. Developing guidelines for dual regulation of nursing programs housed in career schools.
2. Recommending new rules and regulations addressing Board approval of nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guideline 3.1.1.d. Process for Approval of a Nursing Education Program Outside Texas' Jurisdiction to Conduct Clinical Learning Experiences in Texas <b>See AGENDI ITEM 3.2.6</b></li> <li>Guideline 3.1.1.e Proposal to Establish a New Professional Nursing Education Program While Awaiting Institutional Accreditation <b>See AGENDA ITEMS 3.2.6</b></li> </ul>
3. Reviewing rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219		Further rule review/revision is held until effects of the 80 <sup>th</sup> legislative can be determined.
4. Review possible rule revision to clarify Board expectations in distance education for nursing education programs.	Review of other states' rules	See outcome at number 2 related to 3.1.1.d
5. Review rule revision to clarify the role of simulation in clinical learning experiences		<p>Proposed changes to Rules 214.10 and 215.10 which will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>eliminated the ratio in settings which do not involve direct patient care (clinical lab, simulation lab).</li> <li>equalized the educational requirements for Clinical teaching Assistants with preceptors.</li> <li>streamlined information regarding Observational experiences to provide clarity to rule</li> </ol> <p>The proposed changes were presented at the February 21-22 Board Meeting. The proposed rules were posted for comment in the March 9, 2007 issue of the Texas Register.</p>
6. Review recommendations on possible limitations or a revised process for re-submitting a proposal for a new nursing education program after the original proposal is denied by the Board		<p>Language developed for insertion at Rule 214.3.(a)(1)(K) and, 215.3.(a)(1)(K), related to <u>Program Development, Expansion, and Closure</u> <b>Submission of the proposed language to the Board is held until Charge #3 has been completed by the Committee</b></p>
	Other	
7. Faculty waiver process to rule language.		Rules 214.7 and 215.7 approved at the December Board Meeting.

- Dates for additional meetings have been suspended pending completion of the 80<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session and anticipated Board charge for rule revisions.

**Staff Recommendation:**  
Information item only