

**Proposal to Establish A New Nursing Education Program  
Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

**Summary of Request:**

Consider the Angelo State University (ASU) proposal to establish a new generic baccalaureate degree nursing (BSN) education program in San Angelo, Texas, and the report of the survey visit (See Attachment #1). The final revised proposal was made available online to members of the Board. A notice of public hearing has been posted (See Attachment #3).

**Historical Perspective:**

- The prelicensure nursing programs at ASU were established in 1972.
- ASU has recently become a member of the Texas Tech University System.
- ASU delivers undergraduate and graduate programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional disciplines, including nursing education.
- Three types of nursing programs offered at ASU include
  - an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AASN),
  - a Bachelor of Science in Nursing for Registered Nurses (RN-BSN), and
  - a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN).
- The Nursing Department at ASU indicated an intent to develop a generic baccalaureate degree program in 2005, and the faculty have been working on the proposal slowly and deliberately.
- Board staff met with Dr. Susan Wilkinson, Nursing Department Head, who will serve as director of the proposed program on May 13, 2011.
- Board staff discussed the new program with Dr. Wilkinson and had only minor suggestions for proposal revisions.
- A site visit was conducted on June 7, 2011, by Janice Hooper.

**Summary of Proposal:**

Overview of the Proposal:

- The proposed program is based upon a 120 credit, four-year curriculum pattern with general education and support courses offered during the first two years.
- The program is planning to begin in Fall 2011 with 20 students, 20 students in Spring 2012, 30 students in Fall 2012, and 30 students in Spring 2013.
- The new generic BSN program has been approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).
- The nursing programs at ASU have been accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The incorporation of this new program under the accreditation will be considered during the NLNAC survey visit and program evaluation in 2012.
- The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the regional accreditation body, has been notified and the change accepted.

Rationale and Need for the Program:

- The rationale for developing a generic baccalaureate degree nursing program at ASU is to fulfill the recommendation from the Institute of Medicine (2010) that 80% of professional nurses will hold bachelor's degrees by 2020. Their goal at ASU is to move toward producing more graduates with a baccalaureate degree in nursing education.
- The data provided in the proposal indicate a need for the BSN program in the San Angelo area as well as strong support from community leaders.

#### Administration and Organization:

- Since ASU joined the Texas Tech University System in 2007, administrative changes are in process but should not affect the functioning of the nursing programs.
- Susan Wilkinson, PhD, RN, CNS will assume the director role for the generic BSN program as she is Department Head and Chair of the Department of Nursing. She is assisted by competent coordinators over each program.
- ASU guarantees financial support for the new program and will reallocate funds from the existing AASN program due to expected shifts in enrollment.

#### Availability of Faculty and Clinical Sites:

- The ASU Department of Nursing employs about thirty-three (33) qualified nursing faculty, a ready pool of faculty to begin teaching the program.
- The nursing programs have established clinical agreements in place with nine (9) major clinical areas in San Angelo, dozens of supplemental clinical areas, and out of town hospitals.
- Clinical evaluation tools include required progression in expected student behaviors across the curriculum.

#### Financial Support and Resources:

- The ASU campus is a traditional state university with a complete array of student services available to nursing students.
- The Department of Nursing includes a new simulation lab for use by all nursing programs.

#### Program of Study:

- The curriculum is sound, logically organized and meets all requirements of the rule.
- Clinical evaluation tools demonstrate progression in expectations of students across the curriculum.
- Clinical learning experiences will be provided in all required study areas with a senior capstone clinical course at the end of the program.
- A completed matrix matching BSN program objectives to the new *Differentiated Essential Competencies (2010)* included in the proposal.
- Copies of the Faculty and Student Handbooks with all required policies are included in the proposal.

#### Total Evaluation Plan:

- The program's total evaluation plan follows the NLNAC evaluation format and includes the required components to meet Rule 215.13.

#### **Comments from Survey Visit (Attachment #1):**

Staff met with:

- the Chair of the Nursing Programs (Dr. Susan Wilkinson),
- the proposed coordinator of the new program,
- the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services (where the Nursing Department is housed),
- the Provost, and
- the Vice Provost.

Administration expressed strong support for the new generic BSN program.

Dean Leslie Mayrand described the initiatives of Angelo State in establishing a Community Research Center where undergraduate and graduate nursing students can practice and participate in nursing research. Angelo State has committed to hiring two new nursing faculty to assist in teaching and research.

Dr. Mayrand also discussed the restructuring in the university that would move health programs into one college and promote interdisciplinary studies and interactions.

Board Staff also visited the nursing student Welcome Center where the over four hundred (400) pre-nursing students receive information about the nursing program and advisement in their preparation for admission into the program.

Dr. Wilkinson and Board Staff visited three clinical sites and met clinical staff:

- San Jacinto School Based Clinic - serving pediatric patients in San Angelo
- San Jacinto School Based Clinic Pediatric Mental Health Clinic
- Shannon Medical Center Skilled Nursing Unit

These are a few of the clinical sites that provide unique clinical experiences for all levels of students.

Several Angelo State students from the Associate Degree Program were participating in clinical experiences in the clinical sites.

The tour of the Nursing Department indicated that all aspects and resources are in place to support a successful generic BSN program.

Pros:

- Administration support the new BSN program at Angelo State University.
- Opportunities for clinical learning experiences in the community are available and adequate.
- An experienced, qualified group of nursing faculty are in place.
- The university has committed to hiring two additional doctorally-prepared nursing faculty.
- The resources and physical spaces will provide an excellent educational environment.
- The Nursing Department Chair is qualified and has many years of experience in professional nursing education.
- There are over four hundred (400) pre-nursing students at ASU.
- Student and Faculty Handbooks are in place with required policies.
- ASU has a long history of successful nursing education.

Cons:

- None noted.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Move to grant initial approval to Angelo State University Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in San Angelo, Texas, with a Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 enrollment of 20 students, moving to a Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 enrollment of 30 students, based upon the proposal and survey visit as indicated in the attached letter (Attachment #2).

**TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING**  
**SURVEY VISIT PROGRAM REPORT**  
Professional Nursing Education Program

NAME OF NURSING PROGRAM: Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, Generic BSN Program

PROPOSED DIRECTOR: Susan Wilkinson, PhD, RN, CNS

REASON FOR SURVEY: New Proposal

DATES: June 7, 2011

SURVEY VISITOR(S): Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN

VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION: NLNAC

In this report the nursing program met standards and criteria unless otherwise indicated by narrative. Narrative in the Evidence column documents findings of pertinent data, outstanding performance, or deficiencies. Narrative in the Comments column includes recommendations or requirements to be met based on analysis of the survey visit

<b>§214.11 Facilities, Resources, and Services</b>	Evidence	Comments
(a) The controlling agency/governing institution shall be responsible for providing: (1) educational facilities, (2) resources, and (3) services which support the effective development and implementation of the nursing educational program.	The Provost, Vice Provost, and Dean of College all assured strong support for all nursing programs at Angelo State, and especially for this new BSN program. The adequacy of resources was evident during the visit.  The Nursing Department has established a separate "Welcome Center" advisement center for pre-nursing students which has greatly improved the efficiency of admissions and advisement for all pre-nursing and nursing students.	Criterion met.
(b) An appropriately equipped skills laboratory shall be provided to accommodate maximum number of students allowed for the program. (1) The laboratory shall be equipped with hot and cold running water. (2) The laboratory shall have adequate storage for equipment.	The Nursing Department has two large, fully equipped skills labs and a spacious simulation lab with four fully equipped units, a high risk unit, and a birthing room. The technician demonstrated the computerized monitoring system.	Criterion met.
(c) The director/coordinator and faculty shall have adequate secretarial and clerical assistance to meet the needs of the program.	Adequate secretarial and clerical assistance are in place.	Criterion met.

<p>(d) The physical facilities shall be adequate to meet the needs of the program in relation to the size of the faculty and the student body.</p> <p>(1) The director/coordinator shall have a private office.</p> <p>(2) Faculty offices shall be conveniently located and adequate in number and size to provide faculty with privacy for conferences with students and uninterrupted work.</p> <p>(3) Space for clerical staff, records, files, and equipment shall be adequate.</p> <p>(4) There shall be mechanisms which provide for the security of sensitive materials, such as examinations and health records.</p> <p>(5) Classrooms, laboratories, and conference rooms shall be conducive to learning and adequate in number, size, and type for the number of students and the educational purposes for which the rooms are used.</p> <p>(6) Teaching aids shall be provided to meet the objectives/outcomes of the program.</p> <p>(7) Adequate restrooms and lounges shall be provided convenient to the classroom.</p>	<p>Individual offices for the director, coordinator, and all nursing faculty are available. The Nursing Department is located in a large area of an academic building in an arrangement that facilitates the work of the faculty. Clerical staff have adequate space for their work as well as for records storage.</p> <p>Several "smart" classrooms are available for instruction for over 100 students. There are two separate fully-equipped skills labs, a computer testing room, and a modern simulation lab which has various units representing different clinical experiences.</p> <p>Adequate restrooms, and student and faculty lounges are available.</p>	<p>Criterion met.</p>
<p>(e) The learning resources, library, and departmental holdings shall be current, use contemporary technology appropriate for the level of the curriculum, and be sufficient for the size of the student body and the needs of the faculty.</p> <p>(1) Provisions shall be made for accessibility, availability, and timely delivery of information resources.</p> <p>(2) Facilities and policies shall promote effective use, i.e. environment, accessibility, and hours of operation.</p>	<p>Angelo State University has a large library and students also have online access to nursing journals.</p>	<p>Criterion met.</p>
<p><b>§214.12 Records and Reports</b></p>		
<p>(a) Accurate and current records shall be maintained for a minimum of two (2) years in a confidential manner and be accessible to appropriate parties, including Board representatives. These records shall include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>(1) records of current students;</p> <p>(2) faculty records;</p> <p>(3) administrative records, which include minutes of faculty meetings for the past three years, and school catalogs;</p> <p>(4) the current program of study and curriculum including mission and goals (philosophy and outcomes), and course outlines;</p> <p>(5) agreements with affiliating agencies; and</p> <p>(6) the master plan of evaluation with most recent data collection.</p>	<p>Adequate record storage is available.</p>	<p>Criterion met.</p>

DRAFT LETTER

July 25, 2011

Susan Wilkinson, PhD, RN, CNS  
Chair, Nursing Department  
Angelo State University  
ASU Station #10902  
San Angelo, Texas 76909

Dear Dr. Wilkinson:

At the July 21, 2011 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON or Board) discussed the Angelo State University Proposal to Establish a New Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program in San Angelo, Texas, and the report of the June 7, 2011, survey visit. The members of the Board wish to thank you and -----, for being present to answer questions.

As indicated by the enclosed order, it was the Board's decision to grant Initial Approval status to the Angelo State University Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program, San Angelo, Texas, and to allow a Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 enrollment of 20 students each, and an enrollment of 30 students in Fall 2012 and in Spring 2013.

Congratulations and best wishes.

If you have questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-6814.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN  
President of the Board

Janice I. Hooper, PhD, RN, Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Leslie Mayrand, PhD, RN  
THECB  
NLNAC

**Texas Board of Nursing  
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460  
Austin, Texas 78701-3942**

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING  
IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the matter of the proposal of Angelo State University  
in San Angelo, Texas

For approval to implement a Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO:

The Board of Nursing in and for the State of Texas in a regularly scheduled meeting, held on the 21st day of July 2011, considered the proposal for authority to implement a Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program and obtain Approval from the Board, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code.

At the meeting, Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN, President of the Board, presided and the following members were present:

Deborah Hughes Bell, CLU, ChFC, Consumer Member  
Patricia Clapp, BA, Consumer Member  
Tamara Cowen, MN, RN, Representing Practice  
Sheri Denise Crosby, JD, SPHR, Consumer Member  
Marilyn J. Davis, RN, BSN, MPA, Representing Practice  
Richard Robert Gibbs, LVN, Representing Practice  
Kathy Leader-Horn, LVN, Representing Practice  
Mary LeBeck, MSN, RN, Representing ADN Programs  
Josefina Lujan, PhD, RN, Representing BSN Programs  
Beverly Jean Nutall, LVN, Representing Practice  
Mary Jane Salgado, MEd, Consumer Member  
Verna Kathleen Shipp, APN, RN, Representing Advanced Nursing Practice

The Board reviewed the proposal of the above school and after having discussed the proposal in an open public meeting, the Board makes the following findings:

FINDINGS

1. That a written proposal has been filed with said Board.
2. That a public meeting on said proposal was held to take testimony and evidence by the Board.
3. That the written proposal does meet the minimum requirements for proceeding with the development of an approved program offering a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing.

ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT, the proposal of the Angelo State University is approved having been found to comply with minimum requirements for establishing a Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program to prepare professional nurses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT THE aforementioned school is authorized to proceed to implement a professional nursing education program and prior to admission of students, all requirements of Chapter 215 Professional Nursing Education shall be met.

DATED THIS 21st day of July, 2011.

THE BOARD OF NURSING IN AND  
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

Seal

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN  
President

**BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460**

**Austin, Texas 78701-3942**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

for

Consideration of a Proposal from Angelo State University

To Establish A

Generic Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program

in San Angelo, Texas

Date and Time: July 21, 2011 at 2:15 PM

Place: Hobby Building

333 Guadalupe Street

Tower 2, Room 225

Austin, Texas

The Board will hear testimony from individuals who wish to present information concerning the proposal.

Written testimony will also be considered and should be received in the Board's office by July 14, 2011.

Address written testimony to:

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director

Texas Board of Nursing

333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460

Austin, Texas 78701-3942