

## **REPLACEMENT REPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (ACE) REPORT**

### **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The report is two-fold:

- presentation of an update regarding the status of ACE activities for informational purposes; and
- consideration of staff recommendation regarding nominations for new committee members.

### **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:**

- At the April 2006 Board meeting, the Board issued a charge to ACE regarding Board approval of nursing education programs outside of Texas' jurisdiction including, but not limited to:
  - Studying the issues involved in the Board approving nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas.
  - 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.
  - Reviewing rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219.
- ACE addressed the first two charges issued at the April 2006 Board meeting, but because of Sunset requirements, ACE is still addressing the third area, reviewing rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219.
- At the July 2006 Board meeting, the Board issued three (3) new charges to ACE including, but not be limited to:
  - Recommending possible rule revision to clarify Board expectations in distance education for nursing education programs.
  - Recommending possible rule revision to clarify the role of simulation in clinical learning experiences.
  - Recommending possible limitations or a revised process for resubmitting a proposal for a new nursing education program after the original proposal is denied by the Board.
- ACE has addressed all of the three (3) new charges issued to ACE at the July, 2006 Board meeting.
- As a result of the Sunset Commission's report to the Texas Legislature, HB 2426 was passed into law and became effective on September 1, 2007.
- At the July 2007 Board meeting, the Board issued an additional charge related to the agency's Sunset Implementation Plan including statutory changes and management actions.
  - Reviewing and revising the education rules, policies, and procedures to ensure that the rules, policies, and procedures do not exceed the Board's responsibility to certify minimum competence to enter the profession of nursing;
  - Recommending to the Board a process to allow for Board approval of hospital-based diploma nursing programs; and
  - Recommending to the Board allowing Board approval of nursing education programs for a period longer than one year.

One additional charge added was: Evaluating the number of program hours for vocational nursing (VN) education programs outlined in Rule 214.

### **ACE ACTIONS TO DATE:**

- Studied the issues involved in the Board approving nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas.
- Recommended a process addressing Board approval of nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas.
- Recommended rule revision to clarify Board expectations in distance education for nursing education programs.
- Reviewed the role of simulation in clinical learning experiences.
- Recommended rule revision for resubmitting a proposal for a new nursing education program after the original proposal is denied by the Board.
- Reviewed revisions to the education rules, policies, and procedures to ensure that the rules, policies, and procedures do not exceed the Board's responsibility to certify minimum competence to enter the profession of nursing.
- Recommended a process for Board approval of hospital-based diploma nursing programs.
- Recommended a process allowing Board approval of nursing education programs for a period longer than one year.

### **REMAINING CHARGES TO BE ADDRESSED BY ACE:**

The committee will begin addressing the following remaining charges after appointment of new committee members in January 2008.

- Reviewing rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219; and
- Evaluating the number of program hours for vocational nursing education programs outlined in Rule 214.

### **FUTURE ACTIONS:**

- The next ACE meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2008. The agenda of the meeting will include the following:
  - Election of a chairperson;
  - Presentation by Nancy Spector, PhD, RN, Director of Education at the National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) on National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Studies on Practical Nursing Evidenced-Based Nursing Education; and
  - Begin discussion regarding the evaluation of the number of program hours for vocational nursing education programs outlined in Rule 214.
- Subsequent ACE meetings will complete the two remaining charges to ACE:
  - evaluation of the number of program hours for vocational nursing education programs outlined in Rule 214; and
  - review of rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219.

### **ACE MEMBERSHIP:**

- Purpose/Function of ACE:
  - The ACE was established by the Texas BON to identify, review and analyze issues in the education and practice arenas that have or may have a significant impact upon regulation of nursing education in Texas.
  - Membership of the ACE is comprised of representatives of all levels of nursing education and persons nominated by stakeholders of the Texas BON (See Attachment One).
  - Members serve a three year term. The terms may be extended to provide continuity, if the committee is working on a particular charge.
  - Current ACE membership includes three appointed members and eight vacant slots (See Attachment Two).
- Nominations for New Members:
  - To date letters of nomination and support have been received from six (6) of the eight (8) applicable stakeholders needing to nominate representatives for vacant membership slots;
  - Board staff is continuing to re-contact the remaining applicable stakeholders to solicit nominations and will submit these nominations at a later date for Board approval; and
  - The six (6) nominated individuals have submitted biographical data forms to board staff.

**PROS AND CONS:****Pros:**

- Board staff review of the completed biographical data forms for the nominated individuals indicated that the nominated individuals are qualified to serve as members on the ACE;
- Five (5) of the six (6) nominated individuals have previously served as members of the ACE and have experience in the role of a ACE member; and
- One (1) of the five (5) nominated individuals as previous and similar experience with another state board of nursing.

**Cons:**

The two (2) remaining vacant membership slots will need to be filled as soon as possible.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

The staff recommendation involves two motions. Staff recommends that the Board move to:

1. accept and approve the nominations for new members on the ACE as follows:
  - Frances Chatman, LVN, for LVNAT to represent vocational nursing;
  - Susan Sportsman, PhD, for TNA to represent professional nursing;
  - Betty Sims, MSN, RN, for TAVNE to represent VN programs in Community Colleges/Universities;
  - Nancy Maebius, PhD, RN, to represent VN programs in Career Schools and Colleges;
  - Bonnie Higgins, EdD, RN, for TOADN to represent Associate Degree Nursing Programs;
  - Eileen Deges Curl, PhD, RN, for TADDPNP to represent Professional Nursing Programs; and
2. authorize board staff to refer nominations for new ACE members to the Education Liaison Committee and the Board President for Interim Approval when these nominations are received during the intervals between regularly scheduled Board Meetings.

**Excerpt from Rule 211 regarding ACE membership:**

“§211.6(f)(1)(B) the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) advises the Board on education and practice issues that have or may have an impact on the regulation of nursing education in Texas. The ACE is comprised of representatives from the following:

- (I) Licensed Vocational Nurses Association of Texas (LVNAT);
- (ii) Texas Association of Vocational Nurse Educators (TAVNE);
- (iii) Texas Organization of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Education (TOBGNE);
- (iv) Texas Organization of Associate Degree Nursing (TOADN);
- (v) Texas League for Vocational Nursing (TLVN);
- (vi) Texas Organization of Nurse Executives (TONE);
- (vii) Texas Nurses Association (TNA);
- (viii) Texas Association of Deans and Directors Professional Nursing Programs (TADDPNP);
- (ix) various educators in Texas nursing programs;
- (x) interested state agencies; and
- (xi) other members approved by the Board.”

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**BREAKDOWN OF REPRESENTATION FOR VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PROFESSIONAL NURSING:**

**VN**

**LVNAT**

**TAVNE (VN Programs in Community Colleges/Universities)**

**VN Programs in Career Schools & Colleges**

**VN Hospital-based Programs**

**TLVN**

**RN**

**TNA**

**TOBGNE (Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Programs)**

**TOADN (Associate Degree Nursing Programs)**

**Diploma Programs**

**TADDPNP**

**TONE  
(VN and RN Employers)**

**Board Liaison - Board Member (Non-voting)**

**BREAKDOWN OF CURRENT REPRESENTATION (As of January 1, 2008):**

Brenda Jackson, PhD, RN, Board Liaison - Board Member (Non-voting)

**VN Programs**

LVNAT - Vacant

TAVNE - Vacant (VN Programs in colleges and universities)

VN Programs in Career Schools & Colleges - Vacant

VN Hospital-based Programs - Beverly Skloss, 4/2008

TLVN - Vacant

**RN Programs**

TNA - Vacant

TOBGNE - Janet Noles, 1/2010

TOADN - Vacant

Diploma Programs - Annette Hallman, 1/2009

TADDPNP - Vacant

**VN and RN Employers**

TONE - Vacant