

**Notification of Howard Payne University Joining  
Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing Consortium  
In Abilene, Texas**

**Historical Perspective:**

- Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing (PHSSN) in Abilene, Texas, began in 1979 as a consortium between three (3) local Christian universities: Abilene Christian University, Hardin-Simmons University, and McMurry University. The School of Nursing is a separate building apart from the universities.
- Students complete pre-requisite and support courses at one of the universities and receive a degree from their chosen home university.
- PHSSN is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the consortium universities are accredited by Southern Associate of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
- Nina Ouimette, RN-BC, EdD, is Dean of the PHSSN, and Indira D. Tyler, PhD, RN, is Associate Dean and Director of the BSN program.
- In 2012, Abilene Christian University (ACU) separated from the consortium and established a BSN program at ACU with a beginning class enrolled in Fall 2013.
- Howard Payne University (HPU) has requested to join PHSSN Consortium to offer the BSN Degree with a proposed start date of Fall 2014, pending all necessary approvals.
- PHSSN has also submitted a plan to Board Staff to initiate an extension site/campus at HPU in Brownwood, Texas. They have also submitted a substantive change proposal to CCNE for their approval and will also notify SACS of the changes.
- The Application for Initiating an Extension Site/Campus indicates support from PHSSN and HPU administration and adequate resources to successfully implement this extension site.
- Since PHSSN is accredited by a national nursing accreditation organization, BON approval of the extension site is not required, but PHSSN administration chose to provide full information to the BON to document these changes.
- The addition of a new partner to the consortium is a business decision and does not require BON approval, but this notification and report will also document these changes in the educational program.

This report is for information only. No Board action is required.