

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on September 4, 2013 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair  
Mary M. Brown, RN – *arrived at 12:05 PM*  
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member  
Ellen M. Komar, RN  
Geraldine Marrocco, RN – *left at 1:50 PM*  
Gina M. Reiners, RN – *left at 11:00 AM*  
Carrie Simon, Public Member – *left at 11:00 AM*

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jennifer Long, APRN

**ALSO PRESENT:** Joanne V. Yandow, Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH  
Linda Fazzino, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH  
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH  
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH  
Tynan E. Cooney, Court Reporter

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Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM as soon as the Board had a quorum.

#### STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Lincoln Technical Institute Shelton and New Britain Campuses and the UConn CEIN Program.

Chair Bouffard would provide the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs at the conclusion of today's meeting.

#### OPEN FORUM

No requests or concerns from the audience.

#### ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS & REORDERING OF AGENDA

No new agenda items. Reordering of agenda will be based on quorum needs.

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 2014 SESSION IS FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2014

Elizabeth Beaudin, Connecticut Hospital Association, provided a brief update on preparing for the 2014 Legislative Session, scope of practice discussions, and the APRN shedding the Collaborative Agreement.

#### BOARD UPDATE

Joanne V. Yandow announced that the Board currently has two LPN vacancies and two public member vacancies. If anyone knows of anyone who might be interested, they can contact the Board Office. Chair Bouffard recently attended the NCSBN Delegate Assembly and stated that almost all states have Board Member openings. This is a national problem that is of great concern to everyone.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – ST. VINCENT’S COLLEGE – FEASIBILITY STUDY

Suzanne Capasso, Theresa Cryan, and Karen Barnett, the new administrator for the BSN Program, were present to answer any questions and to discuss any concerns the Board may have regarding this program. A Letter of Intent was received in the Board Office on March 7, 2013 to change St. Vincent’s ADN Program to a BSN Program.

After review and discussion of documents presented, Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, to approve the Feasibility Study Report for St. Vincent’s College to establish a BSN Program. The motion passed with all in favor with one recusal, Geraldine Marrocco, who had left the room during the discussion and voting. The program is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2014.

Prior to the start of the program, Pamela Pelletier-Stevens will visit the campus to ensure that the campus meets the regulatory requirements, can accommodate the BSN students, and has adequate faculty with the proper credentials. This information will be reported to the Board of Examiners for Nursing for approval at their September 3, 2014 meeting. Also, the program may be required to provide an update to the Board regarding the transition from the ADN program to the BSN program progression.

Gina Reiners moved and Ellen Komar seconded that Karen Barnett, RN, DNP, be approved as the new administrator for the BSN Program as she meets the requirements as specified in the Nursing School Regulations. The motion passed with all in favor with two abstentions: Geraldine Marrocco and Carrie Simon.

Break: 10:20 AM – 10:40 AM

## SCHOOL ISSUES – YALE SCHOOL OF NURSING – RELOCATION REPORT REVIEW

Lisa Freeman and Geraldine Marrocco were going to recuse themselves from this discussion which would result in the Board not having a quorum. At this point in the meeting there was no one from the program in attendance. The Board waited until later in the day to see if anyone from the Yale Program arrived. No one from Yale School of Nursing arrived therefore this will be placed on the September 18, 2013 meeting agenda.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING – FIVE-YEAR SELF-STUDY

Dr. Carol Papp, Director, and Dr. Linda Podalak, Associate Director of the School of Nursing, were present to review and discuss the documents provided to the Board. The Board stated that the report was well organized and well written. At the conclusion of the discussion, Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to approve the five-year self-study. The motion passed unanimously. The next review will be in October 2018.

A Letter of Intent was received in the Board Office on January 11, 2013 notifying the Board of BHSO’s transition from an RN Diploma Program to a BSN Program. The timeline for this transition is designed for admission of BSN students in August of 2014. Once the program and curriculum are redesigned, it was to be presented to the Board for approval. On August 27, 2013 a letter was received in the Board Office from BHSO stating that they have decided to keep the diploma program intact and seek a partnership with the University of Bridgeport to provide an RN to BSN completion program by the fall of 2014. The partnership would be facilitated in keeping with the mission, goals and objectives of both the Bridgeport Hospital (Yale Health New Haven Health System), the BHSO and the University of Bridgeport. The decision to continue the diploma program with a partnership is in keeping with the education mobility plan for BHSO diploma students. It is a logical response to the growing trend in the professional nursing arena requiring more BSN prepared nurses and is supported by all members of the health system community on our campus.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – CENTRAL CT STATE UNIVERSITY – FIVE-YEAR SELF-STUDY

Present from the program were Dr. Linda Wagner, Dr. Margaret Levvis, and Shelly Bochain.

The Board reviewed the five year self-study. The Board advised that the program's mission statement be revised.

Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, that CCSU has met all the regulatory requirements outlined in Criteria 1-17 and that the program be granted full approval. The motion passed with one abstention, Carrie Simon, and one opposed, Geraldine Marrocco. The programs next review will be in October 2018.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – CENTRAL CT STATE UNIVERSITY – CURRICULUM CHANGE

Dr. Wagner had provided the Board with a written document outlining the changes and program revisions necessary to decrease overlaps and gaps in their nursing program. CCSU is also increasing the GPA requirements from 2.7 to 3.0 and initiating the use of the TEAS V exam as an admission tool to evaluate a student's ability to succeed in the nursing program. These changes will not affect current Junior and/or Senior level students. Dr. Wagner was present to discuss the changes in the curriculum. After review and discussion regarding the documents presented, Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, to approve the new changes in the curriculum. The motion passed unanimously.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – CENTRAL CT STATE UNIVERSITY – NEW CHAIRPERSON

The Board Office received a letter from Michael P. Alfano, Dean, of Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) that effective September 1, 2013, Dr. Margaret Levvis will be assuming the role of Chairperson of the Nursing Department at CCSU. The Board reviewed Dr. Levvis' credentials. Gina Reiners moved, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, that Dr. Levvis meets the criteria set out by the Regulations of the State of Connecticut for Nursing Programs. The motion passed unanimously. The Board wished Dr. Levvis good luck in her new position as Chairperson of the Nursing Program at CCSU.

The Board commended Dr. Linda Wagner for her hard work in establishing this BSN Program for CCSU and the revision of the nursing program curriculum.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – CT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL LPN PROGRAMS – 2010 GRADUATE/EMPLOYER SURVEY REPORTS

Present from the programs were Patricia Fennessy, Consultant, Anne Simko, Department Head at Eli Whitney, Karen Ivers, Department Head at Bullard-Havens, and Deborah Detrick, Department Head at A. I. Prince Tech. All programs struggle with getting the survey results. The results were minimal. There was a large group of students in the audience and it was brought to their attention the importance of these surveys and the reasons they should always respond.

## SCHOOL ISSUES – PORTER AND CHESTER INSTITUTE FIVE-YEAR SURVEY REPORT

Patricia Donovan, Corporate Director, and all five campus supervisors, Robin Thebargé – Watertown, Marianne Baril – Branford, Kayrn Therrien – Rocky Hill, Elizabeth Donofrio – Enfield, and Grace Clark – Stratford, were all present for this presentation and discussion.

Pamela Pelletier-Stevens made the following site visits during the month of August 2013 to the Porter and Chester Campuses and Clinical Sites: Stratford – August 1 and 2, 2013, Enfield – August 8 and 12, 2013, Branford – August 15 and 16, 2013, Rocky Hill – August 22 and 26, 2013, and Watertown – August 29 and 30, 2013. The following issues were identified and the Board requested additional information be provided as follows: Stratford Campus – provide copy of Accreditation Letter upon receipt; Enfield, Branford, and Rocky Hill Campuses – provide

plan for completion of adequate office space for faculty and program supervisors; and forward a copy of the Faculty Evaluation Form and outcomes of the evaluations to be added to the five-year study.

Geraldine Marrocco moved, seconded by Gina Reiners, to approve Porter and Chester Institute's first combined five-year study for all LPN campuses and to grant full approval. The motion passed unanimously and the next combined review will be in September, 2018. Gina Reiners left for the day at this time.

#### SCOPE OF PRACTICE – CORRESPONDENCE/STATISTICS ON INQUIRIES

Diane Cybulski provided the Board with an overview of the calls received in the Board Office during the months of May, June, and July. Ms. Cybulski also explained to the students the response process regarding scope of practice inquiries received in the Board Office.

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE ON ANNUAL MEETING

Chair Bouffard and Jennifer Long attended the NCSBN Annual Delegate Assembly in Providence, Rhode Island August 14 – 16, 2013.

This Annual Meeting was the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NCSBN. On the first day forums took place throughout the day giving attendees a chance to learn about the work of the Finance, NCLEX Examination, Bylaws, and Member Agreement Review Committees. The NCSBN hosted an anniversary lunch honoring the NCSBN first president, Elaine Ellibee. The second day was a very busy day for the Board of Director business. The meeting concluded on Friday with a presentation from Jonathan C. Peck regarding "Alternative Futures for State Boards of Nursing," and ended with the delegates voting on association business. The Delegate Assembly elected new member to the Board of Directors. Significant actions approved by the delegates included:

- Adoption of the 2014-2016 Strategic Initiatives;
- Adoption of the amendments to the NCSBN Bylaws;
- Adoption of the revision to the Member Board Agreement setting the member board annual fee to zero;
- Adoption of the 2014 NCLEX-PN Test Plan; and
- Adoption of the Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland & Labrador, the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba, Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses, and the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland as associate members.

A new business item was raised that the Board of Director explore getting Information Technology to facilitate electronic voting.

The 2013 NCSBN Annual Meeting concluded and another year of business was in the books. The NCSBN looks forward to the upcoming fiscal year and eagerly anticipates what the next 35 years will bring.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Just prior to the approval of the minutes, Carrie Simon left and the Board lost its quorum. Minutes will be placed on the September 18, 2013 agenda.

#### REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – MEGAN J. REILLY, LPN

Attorney Richard Brown was present with Ms. Megan Reilly to request a reinstatement hearing. Ms. Reilly's license was revoked by the Board December 21, 2011. Attorney Brown provided the Board with a brief overview of what lead Ms. Reilly to having her license revoked by the Board and what she has done since the revocation. Prior to today's meeting, all Board Members were mailed documents received in the Board Office regarding Ms. Reilly's request. Due to the fact

that the Board did not have a quorum at this time, Attorney Brown waived his right to be present when the Board held the vote on Ms. Reilly's request. This will be brought up for a vote after the Follert Hearing if we have a quorum at that time.

#### MOTIONS TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES – MICHELE NOVELLA and CHRISTINE PIMER

The above two Motions to Withdraw Statement of Charges will be voted on later in the day when the Board has a quorum. Attorney Matthew Antonetti waived his right to be present when the Board held the vote.

#### HEARING – JANE A. SMITH, LPN

Staff Attorney Matthew Antonetti was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Smith was not present and did not have representation at this hearing. Ms. Smith was served in hand by the state marshal. There was no testimony provided. Due to the fact that Ms. Smith was not present and did not respond to the charges, Attorney Antonetti was going to enter a Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Due to the fact that the Board did not have a quorum, he withdrew this request and entered exhibits into the record. The hearing closed. Due to lack of a quorum, Fact Finding will take place on October 16, 2013.

#### REINSTATEMENT HEARING – JUDITH FOLLERT, RN

Mary Brown arrived at 12:05 PM and the Board once again had a quorum and the Judith Follert Hearing went forward. Staff Attorney Matthew Antonetti was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Follert was present with counsel, Attorney Robert Salerno. Testimony was provided by Ms. Follert. Mary Brown moved, Geraldine Marrocco seconded to move into Executive Session to question Ms. Follert on her medical records. The motion passed unanimously at 12:40 PM. At 1:05 PM Lisa Freeman moved to end Executive Session and return to an open hearing. Mary Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. After additional questioning by the Board, the hearing concluded.

Mary Brown moved and Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to grant Ms. Follert's request for licensure reinstatement. The motion failed as only Mary Brown was in favor, Lisa Freeman abstained, and all others were opposed. Ms. Follert's request for licensure reinstatement is denied.

#### REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – MEGAN REILLY, LPN

At this point in the meeting, the Board once again has a quorum. The Board Members present have reviewed the documents regarding Megan Reilly. Earlier today Attorney Richard Brown waived his right to be present during the vote in the event that the Board did have a quorum at some point today and could vote on Ms. Reilly's request. Ellen Komar moved, seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to grant Ms. Reilly's request for a reinstatement hearing. The motion passed unanimously and the hearing will be scheduled for December 4, 2013.

#### MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES – MICHELE NOVELLA, RN, APRN

DPH Staff Attorney Matthew Antonetti presented the Board with a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges earlier in the meeting. At the July 17, 2013 Board Meeting the Department presented a Prehearing Review. After review and discussion, it was the recommendation of the Board to dismiss the charges. The Department concurred and presented a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges at the August 21, 2013 meeting. After the vote there was a question of a quorum due to the abstentions, therefore the Board tabled a vote to today's meeting. Earlier today, Attorney Antonetti waived his right to be present during the vote, if the Board did indeed have a quorum at some point. Mary Brown moved, Geraldine Marrocco seconded, to remove this from the table and the vote taken at the August 21, 2013 meeting stands to grant the Motion. This new motion passed unanimously.

## MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES - CHRISTINE PIMER, RN

DPH Staff Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. At the July 17, 2013 Board Meeting the Department presented a Prehearing Review. After review and discussion, it was the recommendation of the Board to dismiss the charges. The Department concurred and presented a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, to grant the Department's Request to Withdraw the Statement of Charges. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention, Lisa Freeman.

At 1:45 PM the Board recessed for lunch and the meeting resumed at 2:15 PM. Geraldine Marrocco left at 1:50 PM at which point the Board once again lost its quorum for the day.

## HEARING – AMBER KALOUSTIAN, RN

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Kaloustian was present with counsel, Attorney Mony Yin. Testimony was provided by Ms. Kaloustian.

Due to lack of a quorum, Fact Finding will take place at the Board's October 16, 2013 meeting.

## ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 3:40 PM at which point Chair Bouffard spoke with the students.

Patricia C. Bouffard, Chair  
Board of Examiners for Nursing

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on September 18, 2013 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair  
Mary M. Brown, RN  
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member  
Jennifer Long, APRN  
Geraldine Marrocco, RN  
Gina M. Reiners, RN  
Carrie Simon, Public Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ellen M. Komar, RN

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stacy M. Schulman, Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH  
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH

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Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

#### STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Vinal Tech LPN Program, Goodwin College RN Program, Western CT State University, and Sacred Heart University.

Chair Bouffard will provide the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs at the conclusion of this meeting.

#### SCHOOL ISSUES – YALE SCHOOL OF NURSING – RELOCATION REPORT REVIEW

Board Member Lisa Freeman recused herself from this discussion and voting and left the room. On August 19, 2013 Pamela Pelletier-Stevens toured the new location for the Yale School of Nursing which is located at the University's West Campus, 400 West Campus Drive in Orange, which is located on the border of West Haven and Orange, CT. After the completion of the tour of new Yale School of Nursing, Ms. Pelletier-Stevens stated that Yale has met all the regulatory requirements outlined in Criteria 1 through 17 of the Nursing Education Program Review for Registered Nurse Preparatory Programs, no issues were identified, and the building was ready to accept nursing students. This was originally on the Board's September 4, 2013 agenda and no one was present from the program therefore the Board tabled to the September 18, 2013 agenda. Although there was no one present from the program again today, the Board moved forward. Gina Reiners moved to approve the new clinical lab site. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Geraldine Marrocco arrived after the voting had been completed.

#### MINUTES – May 1, 2013

The Board reviewed the minutes presented. Jennifer Long moved, which was seconded by Mary Brown, to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Carrie Simon, Lisa Freeman, and Geraldine Marrocco.

#### MINUTES – MAY 15, 2013

The Board reviewed the minutes presented. Jennifer Long moved, which was seconded by Mary Brown, to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Lisa Freeman, and Geraldine Marrocco.

## MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – NICOLE SANTO, LPN

Staff Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Nicole Santo. Ms. Santo was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant this Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for October 2, 2013 at 9:00 AM.

## MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Janice E. Wojick provided a brief overview of the following Memoranda of Decision prepared for signature today.

### ALICIA DOUCETTE, LPN

After review of the documentation presented, Jennifer Long moved and Carrie Simon seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Doucette's license. The motion passed with all in favor with Lisa Freeman abstaining.

### SAMANTHA COLBERT, LPN

After review of the documentation presented, Gina Reiners moved and Carrie Simon seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to suspend Ms. Colbert's license to September 20, 2013 with four years' probation. The motion passed with all in favor with Lisa Freeman abstaining.

### ANTOINETTE VOSE, RN

After review of the documentation presented, Jennifer Long moved and Gina Reiners seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to increase her current probation for one additional year and the modification of the terms of her employer and therapist reports and the frequency of the drug/alcohol screens. The motion passed with all in favor with Lisa Freeman abstaining.

Chair Bouffard and the Board expressed grave concerns about the length of time it is taking for the Memoranda of Decision to return to the Board for signature. They stated that six months after the hearing is way too long.

## ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 8:50 AM.

Patricia C. Bouffard, Chair  
Board of Examiners for Nursing

