

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on **June 4, 2014** 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  
Ellen M. Komar, RN  
Jennifer Long, APRN  
Geraldine Marrocco, RN  
Gina M. Reiners, RN  
Robin Rettig Cattanio. LPN

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member  
Carrie Simon, Public Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** Alfreda Gaither, Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, PLIS, DPH  
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH  
Stephen Carragher, Public Health Services Manager, DPH  
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH  
Sarah Montauti, HPA, 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 Stone Academy – West Haven Campus.

#### CHAIR UPDATES

Chair Bouffard had no updates at this time.

#### OPEN FORUM

There were questions from the audience regarding issues related to attaining nurse licensure in the State of CT.

#### ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

Revised agendas were e-mailed to the Board Members on Monday and were also placed at their seats prior to the meeting.

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennifer Filippone stated that the APRN Bill passed and DPH is currently putting together a FAQ and Face Sheet regarding APRNs. Also, the Med Spa Bill passed and there is no grandfathering language in this Bill. Ms. Filippone also stated that Jill Kentfield, Office of Government Relations, will work with the Board regarding the regulations process.

Geraldine Marrocco arrived at this time.

Chair Bouffard announced to everyone that June 12, 2014 will be Jennifer Filippone's last day at DPH. Jen has taken a position at a private concern after twenty-three and a half years of DPH state service. The Board wished Jen well and continued success in all of her future endeavors. Jen will truly be missed by this Board. The wealth of knowledge that Jen is taking with her is irreplaceable.

#### CONSENT ORDER – RACHEL M. MARCANO, LPN

Ms. Marcano was present with counsel, Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department.

Ellen Komar moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt announced that she has joined the Law Firm of Rome McGuigan, P.C. in Hartford, CT.

#### CONSENT ORDER – LORI KAREN SALUPEN, RN

Ms. Salupen was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department.

Gina Reiners moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

#### DISCUSSION REGARDING DISCIPLINE

Kathleen Boulware, DPH Public Health Services Manager, was present at this meeting, at the Board's request, to answer questions the Board had regarding the HAVEN Program/DPH interfacing. Attorney Alfreda Gaither arrived during this discussion. Robin Cattanio arrived at the conclusion of the above discussion.

#### SCHOOL ISSUES – NCLEX-RN SCORES - MAY 1, 2013 through APRIL 30, 2014

Pam Pelletier-Stevens has forwarded each nursing program a copy of their school's scores and the student roster for the time period stated including the out-of-state takers. The following programs failed to meet the 80% first time pass rate.

#### ST. VINCENT'S COLLEGE

Dr. Karen Barnett, Dean, and Margo McCarthy, Chair, were present for this discussion regarding their NCLEX Scores and their Plan of Correction. The Day Program has a 63% first time pass rate and the Evening Program has a 55% first time pass rate. Geraldine Marrocco moved that the day program be placed on conditional status for one year and the evening program be placed on conditional status for one additional year. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously.

The program was reminded that any substantive changes to their curriculum and/or student requirements must be provided in writing to the Board and does require Board notification and approval.

#### CENTRAL CT STATE UNIVERSITY (CCSU)

During the May 1, 2013 - April 30, 2014 time period, the CCSU nursing program had a 69% first time pass rate.

Dr. Margaret Levvis, Chair of the Nursing Program, was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict. In Dr. Levvis' absence, attending were Nancy Peer and Catherine Thomas, Assistant Professors at CCSU, for the discussion regarding CCSU's NCLEX scores and their Plan of Correction. Mary Brown moved to accept CCSU's Plan of Correction and to place their program on conditional status for one year. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously.

The program was reminded that any substantive changes to their curriculum and/or student requirements must be provided in writing to the Board and does require Board notification and approval.

#### UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH CT (USJ)

During the May 1, 2013 – April 30, 2014 time period, the USJ Program had a 76% NCLEX first time pass rate.

Dr. Patricia Padula Morgan, Chair of the Department of Nursing, and Dr. Kimberly Joerg, Director of the Undergraduate Program, were present to discuss their NCLEX scores and to present their Plan of Correction (POC) to the Board. After a review of the POC, Mary Brown moved to accept USJ's POC. The motion was seconded by Ellen Komar and passed unanimously. After review of USJ's NCLEX Scores for the above time period, Geraldine Marrocco moved to place the program on conditional status for one year. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously.

The program was reminded that any substantive changes to their curriculum and/or student requirements must be provided in writing to the Board and does require Board notification and approval.

#### UCONN – GROTON CAMPUS

During the June 19, 2013 BOEN Meeting, UCONN's Groton Campus was placed on conditional status for their NCLEX-RN score of 71%. Their pass rate for their first time takers for the above time period was 91%. Jennifer Long moved, which was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco, to remove the conditional status and return the program to full approval. The motion passed unanimously.

#### SCHOOL ISSUES – NCLEX-PN SCORES - MAY 1, 2013 through APRIL 30, 2014

Patricia Fennessy, Educational Consultant for the CT Technical High School System (CTHSS), was unable to attend today's meeting. In her place was Anne Simko, Department Head for the Eli Whitney Program, and Deb Detrick, Department Head for the A.I. Prince Program. Also present was Karen Ivers, Bullard-Havens Department Head, who updated the Board on the progress she has made over the past year in bringing up the NCLEX scores for her program. The next graduating class for CTHSS will be in June of 2015.

Pam Pelletier-Stevens has forwarded each nursing program a copy of their school's scores and the student roster for the time period stated including the out-of-state takers. A.I. Prince, Eli Whitney, and Vinal Tech Programs failed to meet the 80% first time pass rate for the May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014 time period.

A.I. PRINCE TECH had a 77% first time pass rate for the May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014 time period. This program has been on conditional status since June of 2013. Mary Brown moved to accept the POC and to place A.I. Prince on an additional year of conditional status through June 2015. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

ELI WHITNEY TECH had a 75% first time pass rate for the May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014 time period. This program has been on conditional status since June of 2013. Mary Brown moved to accept the POC and to place Eli Whitney an additional year of conditional status through June 2015. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

VINAL TECH had a 65% first time pass rate for the May 1, 2013 - April 30, 2014 time period. This program has been on conditional status since June of 2013. Mary Brown moved to accept the POC and to place Vinal Tech on an additional year of conditional status through June 2015. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

W. F. KAYNOR TECH had a 79% first time pass rate for the May 1, 2013 - April 30, 2014 time period and one out-of-state taker which brought their pass rate to 80%. This program has been on conditional status since June of 2013. Mary Brown moved, which was seconded by Ellen Komar, to remove the W. F. Kaynor Tech Program from conditional status to full approval status. The motion passed unanimously.

PORTER AND CHESTER INSTITUTE – ENFIELD CAMPUS has a 67% first time pass rate for the above time period. This program had 10 out-of-state first time takers which increased their pass rate to 84%. This program has been on conditional status since June of 2013. Jennifer Long moved, which was seconded by Ellen Komar, to remove the Porter and Chester Institute Enfield Campus from conditional status to full approval status. The motion passed unanimously.

LINCOLN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – HAMDEN CAMPUS: During the December 12, 2011 and June 19, 2013 meetings, the LTI – Hamden Evening LPN Program was placed on conditional status for a NCLEX pass rate of 69% for first time takers. Their current score is now 80%. Jennifer Long moved, which was seconded by Ellen Komar, to remove the Lincoln Technical Institute Hamden Campus from conditional status to full approval status. The motion passed unanimously. At the Board's May 7, 2014 meeting, Patricia DeLucia, Regional Director for the LTI Programs, announced that Lincoln Technical Institute was closing their *entire* Hamden Campus effective June 30, 2014. Students will be relocated to the student's choice of either LTI's New Britain or Shelton Campuses.

### RN STATISTICS FOR 2013

This was the first year of using the survey monkey tool was quite challenging. There are still some sections in the stats that have to be worked on as we are not capturing all of the necessary information. Revisions to the survey monkey tool will be made prior to sending it out in January 2015.

The RN student population has increased by 273 students while the attrition rate decreased from 8% to 4%. There were 291 more males that entered the RN programs and there was no change in the number of LPNs entering the RN programs. The total graduates from all RN programs has increased by 99 students.

### LPN STATISTICS FOR 2013

The LPN student population has increased by 97 students while the attrition rate decreased from 29% to 15%. The 2012 survey projected 1,588 LPN graduates for 2013. A total of only 773 graduated from all the LPN programs for 2013.

### CORRESPONDENCE/STATISTICS ON INQUIRIES

Pam Pelletier-Stevens apprised the Board of the calls received in the Board Office during the month of April. Once again, the majority of the calls were from LPNs who do not understand the limitation of their scope. LPNs *cannot* work under the direction of an MD unless there is RN accessibility in the office. If they continue to work under an MD without an RN in the office or facility, they are putting their license in jeopardy. Many calls – “can I do this” or can I do that?”

Also, there were many nurses calling as to whether or not they can work below their license level because they cannot find jobs in their licensure level. Nurses can work below their licensure level, but must work within the scope of that level and cannot perform duties at their current licensure level. Example, if hired as a nurse aide, they cannot dispense meds if they are licensed as a nurse. If you were hired as an LPN and you also have an RN license, you cannot do assessments as this is done by an RN.

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE

The NCSBN Board of Directors (BOD) met May 7 – 9, 2014. During this time the BOD was able to meet Elliot Vice, Director, Government Affairs, who will serve as NCSBN's presence in Washington, D.C.

The Finance Committee reported that the operating deficit is much less than originally projected therefore the NCSBN continues to enjoy a solid financial position.

The Finance Committee recommended and the BOD approved elimination of the e-Notify fee. The rationale behind the decision is to increase participation (for the benefit of public protection) and to provide a mechanism to determine who is practicing in the state, thereby helping the workforce data collection process. The e-Notify program is designed so that boards of nursing have the ability to easily offer their licensure and discipline data to their stakeholders.

The BOD received the committee reports and expresses its appreciation to all volunteers who served as chair or committee member, and the NCSBN staff who provided herculean support. Thank you!

The BOD approved the revised APRN Compact with the inclusion of the terminology "independent practice." The modified document will be presented at Delegate Assembly in August 2014 for adoption.

The BOD looked at some Nursys® trend data, which naturally prompts further questions. This endeavor will continue as the NCSBN strives to discover what they can learn from studying their own database.

The BOD approved the following committees for FY15: Awards, CORE, APRN, Distance Learning Education and IRE. Finance, NCLEX® Examinations and Leadership Succession (LSC) Committees are in the bylaws and therefore do not need BOD approval for continuation.

At the Award Ceremony at the NCSBN Annual Meeting in August, the following outstanding nurse regulators will be honored: Myra Broadway, Maine BON, Gloria Damgaard, South Dakota BON, and Ann L. O'Sullivan, PA BON. The Nevada BON will be awarded the Regulatory Achievement Award, and there will also be several service awards to executive officers of BONs including Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief of PLIS at DPH. Also, the Kentucky BON and the Mississippi BON are celebrating their 100 years of nursing regulation in 2014. The CT BOEN celebrated their 100 year anniversary in July 2005.

The NCSBN, founded March 15, 1978 as an independent not-for-profit organization, was created to lessen the burdens of state governments and bring together Boards of Nursing to act and counsel together on matters of common interest. Membership is comprised of the BONs in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories – American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands. There are also 16 associate members that are either nursing regulatory bodies or empowered regulatory authorities from other countries or territories.

## REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – JAMES SNOW, RN

Mr. Snow was present to request from the Board a reinstatement hearing for his RN license and to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the packet of information that was provided. The Board was mailed a packet of documents for review prior to today's meeting. After review of the documents presented and the discussion, Jennifer Long moved to grant Mr. Snow's reinstatement hearing request. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. The hearing will be scheduled for August 20, 2014.

## MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Alfreda Gaither, Board Counsel, provided the Board Members with an overview the MODs being presented for signature.

### CAROL D. GEE, RN

Ellen Komar moved, which was seconded by Gina Reiners, to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Gee's RN license. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision which becomes effective immediately upon signature.

### SAMANTHA COLBERT, LPN

Gina Reiners moved, which was seconded by Ellen Komar, to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Colbert's LPN license. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision which becomes effective immediately upon signature.

## ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 10:50 AM.

## STUDENTS

After the adjournment of today's meeting, Chair Bouffard provided the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair  
Board of Examiners for Nursing

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** had scheduled a meeting on **June 18, 2014** at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

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At their May 7, 2014 meeting, the Board revised their calendar for the remainder of 2014.

At that time the June 18, 2014 meeting was cancelled.

Patricia C. Bouffard, D.N.Sc., Chair  
Board of Examiners for Nursing

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