

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on August 5, 2015 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-D, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Ellen M. Komar, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda G. Gaither, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Centeno, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

STUDENTS

There were no students in attendance.

CHAIR UPDATES

There were no Chair updates.

OPEN FORUM

There were no issues brought up for discussion from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

Revised Agenda posted on the Web site and the Board's secure Web site on Monday afternoon

2015 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – SPECIAL SESSION UPDATE

Kathleen Boulware was present to update the Board on the 2015 Legislative Session.

SCHOOL ISSUES – UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH (USJ)

Pamela Pelletier-Stevens provided an overview of Dr. Morgan's request. Dr. Pamela Padula Morgan was present from the program to request a change in USJs nursing program admission policy to include a "pre-Nursing" admission status for students who do not meet the requirements established in 2014, especially the requirement of an SAT score of 1000. Mary Brown moved to approve the new admission criteria. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES – CENTRAL CT STATE UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

Dr. Levvis had a scheduling conflict and was unable to attend today's meeting. Helen Centeno provided the Board with an overview of the part-time faculty education waiver request for Sarah Lennon. Ms. Lennon is matriculated in an MSN Program and is expected to graduate in May of 2016. Carrie Simon moved to grant the program a one-year faculty education waiver for Ms. Lennon. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES – WESTERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

Present from the program was Dr. Joan Palladino. Helen Centeno provided the Board with an overview of the part-time faculty education waiver request for Teresa Puckhaber which will be a renewal of the one year waiver that was granted last year. Ms. Puckhaber is expected to graduate in December of 2015. Carrie Simon moved to grant the program a one-year faculty education waiver for Ms. Puckhaber. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES – THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE – DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT

Edith Ouellet was present to notify the Board that she has received a permanent appointment as Division Director of Nursing and Allied Health at Three Rivers Community College. Ms. Ouellet has served as Interim Director since December 2013 and participated in a national search process. Ms. Ouellet was offered and has accepted the permanent position as Director which became effective July 1, 2015. Mary Brown moved to accept the appointment of Edith Ouellet as her credentials do meet the criteria as specified in the Nursing School Regulations. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. The Board congratulated Ms. Ouellet and wished her well in this new position.

SCHOOL ISSUES – THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

Present from the program was the newly appointed Division Director Edith Ouellet. Helen Centeno provided the Board with an overview of the one-year temporary faculty education waiver request for Bernadette Marshall. Ms. Marshall is matriculated in an MSN Program with an anticipated graduation date of May 2016. Jennifer Long moved to grant the program a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Ms. Marshall. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES – THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

Present from the program was recently appointed Division Director Edith Ouellet. Helen Centeno provided the Board with an overview of the one-year temporary faculty education waiver request for Katarzyna Deme. Ms. Deme is matriculated in an MSN Program with an anticipated graduation date of May 2016. Jennifer Long moved to grant the program a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Ms. Deme. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed with Carrie Simon abstaining.

SCHOOL ISSUES: GOODWIN COLLEGE – ADVERSE ACTION RE: RN-BSN PROGRAM

This is just an FYI for the minutes to avoid any confusion regarding Goodwin College's ADN Program which is accredited by ACEN. The Nursing Board does not oversee the completion programs although Goodwin wanted to make sure that there was no confusion at the state level regarding their ADN Program's accreditation status.

CCNE did not grant initial accreditation status to the RN to BSN Program and this action ONLY relates to the RN to BSN Program and NOT to their ADN Program which remains accredited by ACEN through 2018. This is a relatively easy problem to correct and an action plan was in process even prior to receiving the CCNE response.

Goodwin College has been invited to reapply for initial accreditation by CCNE in November 2015 with a confirmed site visit for February 1-2, 2016.

Also, effective July 1, 2015, Goodwin's RN to BSN Program has a new Director, Dr. Susan Eichar. Dr. Eichar was the former Director of the MSN Program at the University of Hartford. Dr. Eichar brings a skill set with her that will facilitate the attainment of CCNE accreditation.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE CALLS - JUNE

Helen Centeno reviewed the calls received in the Board Office during the month of June, 2015. There were a total of 64 calls during the month of June. Regarding the APRNs the calls were related to areas including arterial line placement, trigger point injections, peripheral nerve blocks and intercostal nerve blocks and practice in medical spas. Regarding the RNs the calls included Intravenous therapy in long term care setting, telephone orders from physicians on school health records, medication start and end dates, employed below level of license, performing vaginal speculum exam after a sexual assault and practice in med spas. LPN calls included APRN/RN supervisor, vaccine administration and practice in medical spas. Unlicensed Assistive Personnel were in the areas of the medical assistant's role in health care & medication administration. Calls received from nursing programs included plans of correction, student policy and graduation, feasibility study, and 5-year study. There were several calls regarding licensure reinstatement and participation in several NCSBN surveys.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the following minutes.

June 17, 2015

Lisa Freeman moved to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed with all in favor with the exception of Mary Brown, Jennifer Long, and Ellen Komar who abstained.

July 15, 2015

Jennifer Long moved to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed with all in favor.

NCSBN UPDATE

Attending the Annual Delegate Assembly in Chicago the week of August 17th, 2015 will be Kathleen Boulware, Gina Reiners, Mary Brown, and Jennifer Long. Chair Bouffard is unable to attend due to the start of the fall 2015/2016 school semester. In prior years, with the exception of last year, the Delegate Assembly was always held during the first week of August and held at one of the participating Member Boards. Last year the meeting date changed to the third week of August and the location changed to Chicago.

Kathy Apple, NCSBN CEO, provided an update during the Monthly Conference Call on the Nurse Licensure Compact and there will be two new sessions that will be held at the 2015 NCSBN Annual Meeting.

Alicia Byrd added that a president mentor program was suggested years ago but it was found that presidents could not commit the time. Perhaps a less formal program can be arranged. NCSBN could pair up presidents from similar Boards of Nursing.

The Tools of Collaboration Project will soon implement HIVE which will replace wikis and will be cutting edge and user friendly. There will be a presentation on HIVE at the annual meeting at the president networking meeting.

NCSBN stated that in addition to complimentary books, many online courses would be very helpful to presidents who are new to the role. NCSBN 101 is available free to charge to all NCSNM Members.

At the July 13-14 meeting the Board of Directors confirmed committee appointments and NCSBN staff will be in contact with the new appointees. Kathleen Boulware did state that CT Board Member Geraldine Marrocco was appointed to the NCSBN APRN Committee.

Chair Bouffard apprised the Board that Kathy Apple, CEO of the NCSBN, will be retiring September 30, 2015 after 14 years of leadership of the organization. Dr. David Benton has accepted the appointment as the new CEO of the NCSBN effective October 1, 2015. Dr. Benton has a history of working in nursing regulation, education, and practice. He served as the Chief Executive of the National Board of Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland (which is Scotland's regulatory body for Nursing). Prior to his present role as CEO of the International Council of Nursing, he held the role of consultant in nursing and health policy, specializing in regulation, licensure and education. Dr. Benton also serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the NCSBN Journal of Nursing Regulation. He holds the NCSBN in the highest regard and is eager to meet and work with everyone and the Boards of Nursing. Dr. Benton will be introduced to everyone at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Chicago

Chair Bouffard also apprised the Board that for the first time, the number of students graduating with a BSN degree exceeded those graduating with an ADN degree according to a study led by health care economist Peter Buerhaus. Using data from a system of interrelated government surveys, researchers found that beginning in 1984, the Number of BSN and ADN graduates moved in the same direction and remained relatively stable until 2002, and then changed significantly from 2002 through 2012. The number of ADN graduates exceeded the number of BSN graduates over this entire period until 2011, when the number of BSN graduates exceeded the number of ADN graduates for the first time.

Additionally, the total number of graduates from BSN and ADN programs more than doubled, from roughly 77,000 in 2002 to 184,000 in 2012, according to the study. The finding that the number of BSN graduates exceeded those graduating with an ADN degree suggests that the output of the nurse education system has moved in step with the Institute of Medicine recommendation for a registered nurse workforce comprised mostly of BSN-prepared nurses by 2020, according to researchers.

CONSENT ORDER – DANIEL S. MORRISON, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Consent Order for Daniel S. Morrison. Mr. Morrison was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Ellen Komar and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – PAMELA CIPRIANO, APRN

OLRC Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Consent Order for Pamela Cipriano. Ms. Cipriano was present with counsel Attorney Richard Brown. Jennifer Long moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.

CONSENT ORDER – NATASHA S. FREIJE, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Natasha S. Freije. Ms. Freije was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown for discussion. The motion failed as all were opposed. It was the recommendation of the Board that the Department make sure that the language in the Order is accurate.

CONSENT ORDER – DENISE A. CALLAHAN, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Denise A. Callahan. Ms. Callahan was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDER – RACHEL J. DeLaSOTA, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Consent Order for Rachel J. DeLaSota. Ms. DeLaSota was not present and did not have representation at this meeting. Jennifer Long moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon for discussion. The motion failed as all were opposed. The Board stated that the timeliness was troublesome. Most of the documents presented were at least a year old. The Board questioned as to the date Ms. DeLaSota's last worked, the accuracy of the last day of work, and stated that they need clarity on this issue. Also, treatment documents from at least the last three months were requested.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

The Board reviewed the following Memoranda of Decision for signature.

DAWN PALMER, RN

Mary Brown moved to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Ms. Palmer's license on probation for two years. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

VIRGINIA JULIAN, RN

Jennifer Long moved to affirm the Board's prior decision that no additional discipline needs to be assigned to Ms. Julian's license. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CHRISTINE HETRICK-SHAMASNA, RN

Lisa Freeman moved to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Hetrick-Shamasna's license. The motion was seconded by Ellen Komar and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES – NAKISHA R. ALTRECHE, LPN

OLRC Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges as Ms. Altreche has Voluntarily Surrendered her license to the Department. Ms. Altreche was not present nor did she have representation at this meeting. Ellen Komar moved to grant the Department's Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Motion to Withdraw the Charges.

HEARING – MICHELLE DOTSON, LPN

OLRC Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present for the Department. Ms. Dotson was not present and did not have representation at this hearing. There was no testimony provided. Attorney Scoville made an Oral Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Mary Brown moved to grant the Department's Motion to Deem, which was seconded by Ellen Komar, and passed unanimously. The hearing closed. Carrie Simon moved that Ms. Dotson be found on all charges as they were deemed admitted. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Carrie Simon moved that Ms. Dotson's license be revoked as Ms. Dotson did not respond to the charges and did not attend the hearing. Therefore the Board had to make their decision based solely on the documents presented by the Department of Public Health. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 10:05 AM.

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

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on August 26, 2015 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-D, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Lisa S. Freeman, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN – *left for the day at 10:10 AM*
Geraldine Marrocco, RN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ellen M. Komar, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Alfreda G. Gaither, Legal Counsel to the Board, DPH
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, DPH
Christian Andresen, Section Chief, Practitioner Licensing and Investigations, DPH
Dana Povilonis, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Helen Centeno, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Brittany Allen, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, OLRC, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM.

STUDENTS

Attending today's meeting is a student from Chamberlain College who is being precepted by Geraldine Marrocco, RN Board Member.

CHAIR UPDATES

None

OPEN FORUM

There were no issues brought up for discussion from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

Revised Agenda was posted on the Web Site August 24, 2015

2015 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kathleen Boulware did report that due to the Mandatory Reporting Bill that was signed in Session, the Investigation Unit expects up to an additional 300 cases per year and there were no additional funds allocated to the Department for additional staff.

If any co-workers have a reason to believe that the health care practitioner is not able to work with reasonable skill and safety, they must be reported to Department of Public Health.

SCHOOL ISSUES: SOUTHERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY – PERMANENT WAIVER REQUEST

Helen Centeno provided the Board with an overview of the permanent waiver request from SCSU for Lisa Guerrieri who has a MBA with a Health Care Management Concentration. There was no one present from the program to answer any of the Board's questions regarding Ms. Guerrieri's nursing background and educational history. Geraldine Marrocco moved to grant the permanent waiver request. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and failed as only Jennifer Long and Mary Brown were in favor. Geraldine Marrocco then moved to table this discussion till representation from the SCSU Nursing Program was in attendance to answer the Board's questions. The motion was seconded by Carrie Simon and passed unanimously. Again, the Board stated that Permanent Waivers are not portable to another institution. The candidate must apply for a permanent waiver at each institution.

SCHOOL ISSUES: ELI WHITNEY – NEW PROGRAM LOCATION

Patricia Fennessy, Educational Consultant for the CT Technical High School Programs, was present for this review. The Eli Whitney LPN Program has moved to the Platt Technical High School in Milford due to continued renovations at Eli Whitney High School which is located in Hamden. The program was temporarily housed at High Meadows in Hamden since February 2013. Helen Centeno provided the Board with an overview of the site visit.

An on-site visit was completed on August 20, 2015 of the Milford location by Pamela Pelletier-Stevens and Helen Centeno. The LPN program is located in the basement level of the building with their own private entrance from their assigned parking lot which is close to the program entrance. There is handicap access into the building from multiple location and students have access handicapped bathrooms within the school building. The bus line is within walking distance. Clinical experiences will remain in the Hamden/New Haven areas and all students have been informed that they must have reliable transportation during this temporary relocation. There is adequate office and classroom space which is fully equipped for instruction. Wiring was being installed for the smart board and student computer area during the inspection and everything would be fully functional prior to student admission on August 27, 2015. Patricia Fennessy apprised the Board at today's meeting that the wiring for the smart board and computers were fully functional. Also inspected were the library, student lab, and designated student lounge area. There are multiple restaurants within a few miles and a culinary program within the school that offers meals and sandwiches.

The one issue that was in need of attention is the floor in the nursing program area. This was brought to the school's attention and the Department was informed that the condition of the floor would be addressed in a timely manner. At today's meeting Patricia Fennessy provided images of the floor which had been cleaned up and polished prior to the start of classes.

Jennifer Long moved to approve the temporary location at Platt Tech in Milford for the Eli Whitney LPN Program. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

NCSBN UPDATE

Annual Delegate Assembly was attended by Kathleen Boulware, Mary Brown, and Jennifer Long. Gina Reiners was unable to attend. The report will be presented at the September 16, 2015 Board Meeting.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 5, 2015 MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes presented. Jennifer Long moved to accept the minutes as edited. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed with one abstention: Geraldine Marrocco.

REINSTATEMENT HEARING REQUEST – SAMANTHA COLBERT, LPN

Ms. Colbert was present to request a reinstatement hearing regarding the revocation of her nursing license. Ms. Colbert had provided the Board Office with a packet of documents which was placed on the Board's secure web site prior to today's meeting. Ms. Colbert's license was revoked in the Memorandum of Decision dated June 4, 2015. Mary Brown moved to deny Ms. Colbert's request at this time as the Board needs more information to make a reasonable decision. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. The Board recommended to Ms. Colbert that in addition to the information she has already provided, that she provide the following information when she submits another request for a reinstatement hearing: documentation of participation in support groups, any employer reports since the revocation of her license, her most recent urine screens, and a letter from her therapist with a historical overview of Ms. Colbert's treatment.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – ARLENE DUMAIS, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Arlene Dumais. Ms. Dumais was not present and did not have representation at this meeting.

Jennifer Long moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for September 16, 2015 at 9:00 AM.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – MICHAEL TELLA, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney Joelle Newton presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Michael Tella. Mr. Tella was not present nor did he have representation at this meeting.

Mary Brown moved to grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for September 16, 2015 at 9:00 AM.

CONSENT ORDER – PATRICIA WARREN, RN

OLRC Staff Attorney David Tilles presented the Board with a Consent Order for Patricia Warren. Ms. Warren was not in attendance at this meeting although Attorney Gaileen Kaufman was present on Ms. Warren's behalf.

Lisa Freeman moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and failed. In the documents provided it appeared that the Respondent and sonographer read and interpreted a pelvic ultrasound without having the physician exam the patient or review the ultrasound. The Board questioned whether or not an RN can read an ultrasound, requested a clearer timeline, felt that there was not enough information provided including a letter from the doctor and the facilities written protocol, and also stated that it would have been helpful if the Respondent had been present to respond to the Board's concerns.

It was the recommendation of the Board that there be a full six month probation, a reprimand, monthly employer reports, and the successful completion of coursework in scope of practice.

Jennifer long left for the day.

HEARING – ELLYN McDONALD, LPN

OLRC Staff Attorney Brittany Allen was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. McDonald was present pro se. Due to the fact that the opening statements and all testimony would be related to Ms. McDonald's medical records, Mary Brown moved that the hearing be go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. The room was cleared of all observers and the Attorney Allen and Ms. McDonald provided their opening statements. Testimony was provided by Dana Povilonis, DPH Nurse Consultant, and Lena McMorrان, Licensed Professional Counsel. Mary Brown moved that the hearing return to Public Session. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously. Observers were invited back into the hearing. Closing statements were made and the record was closed.

Mary Brown moved that Ms. McDonald be found on all charges. The motion was seconded by Geraldine Marrocco and passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved that Ms. McDonald's license be placed on suspension for one year with concurrent probation for five years upon signature of the Memorandum of Decision. The terms for the one year suspension/probation are as follows: therapist and employer reports monthly, drug/alcohol screens weekly, and participation in support groups at least eight times per month for the one year suspension period. At the conclusion of the suspension, the usual disciplinary probation terms go into effect including one year of no access to the narcotic keys during which time Ms. McDonald not be allowed to administer controlled substances upon her return to work as a nurse, and participation in support groups at least six to eight times per month. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 11:54 AM.

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