



Commission on
Collegiate Nursing
Education

Serving the
Public Interest
Through Quality
Accreditation

February 23, 2011

Barbara Taylor, PhD, RN
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing
Point Loma Nazarene University
3900 Lomaland Drive
San Diego, California 92106-2899

Dear Dr. Taylor:

This letter is to inform you that at its meeting on February 14, 2011, the Executive Committee of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) officially recognized the substantive changes addressed in the notification submitted by the nursing program at Point Loma Nazarene University on December 3, 2010. Upon its review of the notification, the committee voted to recognize the following changes:

- Creation of a vision statement for the School of Nursing.
- Revisions to the School of Nursing mission/philosophy statements and objectives.
- Major curricular changes in the baccalaureate program to align with the BSN *Essentials* which will be implemented in Spring 2011.

Thank you for notifying CCNE of the changes to the nursing program. Please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (202) 887-6791, extension 245, or by e-mail at cpool@aacn.nche.edu if I can answer questions or offer assistance.

Sincerely,

Crystal Pool
Assistant Director

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December 3, 2010

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530
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To Whom it May Concern,

As part of ongoing, informal and formal assessment and evaluation, professional practice issues (e.g. communication, service) became increasingly evident. To that end, the Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), School of Nursing (SON) faculty reviewed the evidence regarding best practices in nursing education during the academic year of 2008-09 and crafted the current proposal. In 2009-10, the SON has recently received university approval for implementation of major curriculum revisions, starting spring 2011. The curriculum revisions have been approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) in September 2010. These revisions are now being submitted to the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and include:

- Creation of a vision statement for all SON programs
- Revision of mission/philosophy statements for all SON programs to intentionally identify and describe the faith-based focus of the SON at PLNU
- Revision of program terminal objectives with subsequent revision of course objectives for all SON programs to move to program values as our program objectives and to reflect an overarching commitment to the nursing profession
- See Attachment A for vision, mission/philosophy statements and program values
- Deletion of Roy Adaptation theoretical framework with subsequent revision of course descriptions to reflect current nursing practice and collegial relationships with other disciplines
- No changes in total units for baccalaureate graduation requirements
- Redistributed 2 units of community health clinical content for integration throughout baccalaureate program
- Creation of a required, pre-nursing course entitled *NSG 150 -Caring Faithfully: An Introduction to Nursing (2 units)* which will serve to support early socialization into the nursing major and assist in the holistic development and academic success of the nursing student
- Redistributed the 2 units from *NSG 480 – Trends/Issues in Professional Nursing* into new and revised senior courses
- Revised course title (currently *NSG 470- Nursing of Communities: Leadership and Management Focus*) and added one unit to proposed *NSG 470 –Leading Faithfully: A Synthesis and Transition to Professional Nursing Practice*
- Revised course title (currently *NSG 480 – Trends/Issues in Professional Nursing*) to proposed *NSG 480 – Nursing Capstone*
- Redistributed the 3 units from current *NSG 471 – Nursing of Communities: Leadership and Management Clinical Practicum* to proposed *NSG 481 – Nursing Capstone Practicum* in order to provide each senior student with a

comprehensive clinical experience which facilitates transition to professional nursing practice

- See Attachment B for course titles and descriptions

The above proposed major curriculum changes serve to improve the education of students, specifically Section 1426, items (d) & (e) of the California BRN, Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR). Specific areas of improvement include legal, social and ethical aspects of nursing, nursing leadership and management. Through the proposed courses and changes, student learning regarding the nursing process is purposely augmented in the areas of knowledge and skills required to develop collegial relationships and communication.

The curriculum revisions reflect incorporation of the 2008 BSN Essentials, and each of the four Standards and key elements for accreditation. With respect to Program Quality in Mission and Governance, Institutional Commitment and Resources, and Curriculum and Teaching-Learning Practices each of the revisions will be a regular and intentional part of assessment and evaluation. Program Effectiveness regarding aggregate student and faculty outcomes will also be a regular and intentional part of assessment and evaluation.

If approved, the proposed curriculum will begin in spring 2011 with the pre-nursing class (Class of 2014). As these students progress, applicable changes will be implemented accordingly. Thus full implementation of the new curriculum will be completed by spring 2014.

Due to the progressive nature for implementation of the curricular changes, the SON faculty has been proactive and is working with clinical agencies to facilitate future clinical placement needs. There are no other foreseeable effects related to clinical facilities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our proposed major curriculum revision. If you have further questions, I can be reached at 619-849-2766 or bataylor@pointloma.edu.

Sincerely,

Barbara Taylor, RN, PhD
Dean, School of Nursing
Point Loma Nazarene University