

Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Report

Summary of Request:

The committee report is for information only, providing Board members an update regarding the status of ACE activities.

Committee Charge:

The Board issued the following charges at the April, 2006 meeting:

- a. Study the issues involved in the Board approving nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas
- b. Recommend new rules and regulations addressing Board approval of nursing education programs outside Texas' jurisdiction currently operating in Texas or desiring to operate in Texas.
- c. Review rule language for clarity and consistency between Rule 214 and Rule 215 and making recommendations regarding Rule 219

The Board added the following charges at the July, 2006 meeting:

- d. Review possible rule revision to clarify Board expectations in distance education for nursing education programs.
- e. Review rule revision to clarify the role of simulation in clinical learning experiences
- f. Review recommendations on possible limitations or a revised process for re-submitting a proposal for a new nursing education program after the original proposal is denied by the Board.

The meeting of June 27, 2006 laid a foundation for the committee to study the issues involving the Board approving programs from out of state, programs presented online and issues with board approval and accreditation. The committee directed staff to collect additional data.

The Advisory Committee on Education held a second meeting on October 6, 2006, to continue discussion and evaluation of the issues.

Major Points of Discussion

- Information presented by David Linkletter of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board related to the THECB interim approval process a program under Texas Education Code, Title 3, Chapter 7.
- Implications of Sunset recommendations
- Current BNE Faculty waiver process
- Regional versus national accreditation
- Other states' rules for regulation of out of state programs

Action Taken:

- Three motions were passed by the committee.
 1. **To concur with proposed changes to** rule 214.7 (b)(2) Faculty Qualifications and Faculty Organization related to faculty waivers and rule 215.7(c)(E) Faculty Qualifications and Faculty Organization related to faculty waivers (Related agenda related item 7.7).
- Board staff were directed to
 2. Develop a plan to approve out of state programs' clinicals to include, but not limited to, faculty ratio, clinical faculty qualifications and linking of lecture to clinical experiences.
 3. Develop an (approval) process that mirrors the process of THECB in providing interim/temporary approval of programs as described by Chapter 7 of the THECB rules.
- Board staff were directed to
 - o Invite a representative from the Texas Workforce Commission to provide information related to program approval
 - o Research the number of states accepting national accreditation in lieu of regional accreditation
 - o Research language from other entities related to re-submission o a proposal after denial.
- Dates for additional meetings were set to facilitate the work of the committee in addressing charges.

Staff Recommendation:

Information item only