

**Proposal to Establish a New Nursing Educational Program
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in El Paso, Texas
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program**

Summary of Request:

Consider the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) proposal to establish a new baccalaureate degree nursing education program as the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) in El Paso, Texas, and the report of the survey visit (See Attachment #1). The final revised proposal was provided via internet to members of the Board under separate cover. A notice of public hearing has been posted (See Attachment #3).

Historical Perspective:

- This proposal represents the evolution of an existing pre-licensure baccalaureate degree (BSN) El Paso extension campus of the Lubbock, Texas-based Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing (TTUHSC ATPSON). The extension site is proposed to be administratively reorganized as an independent, free-standing nursing education program known as the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (TTUHSC GGHSON).
- The current extension campus currently offers pre-licensure education in two tracks: 1) Traditional (generic) BSN; and 2) Second Degree BSN. The Traditional BSN track has been offered in El Paso since 2009, and the Second Degree BSN has been offered since 2008.
- A site visit was conducted on April 1, 2011.

Summary of Proposal:

Overview of the Proposal:

- TTUHSC proposes to convert the existing extension campus in El Paso to a free-standing, independent BSN education program with the currently-operating Traditional and Second Degree BSN tracks.
- A first cohort of forty (40) Traditional BSN students is planned for the Fall 2011 enrollment, an increase of ten (10) students over the number admitted in Fall 2010 as part of the existing extension program.
- Similarly, a first cohort of thirty (30) Second Degree BSN student is planned for Spring 2012 admission, an increase of six (6) students over the number admitted in Spring 2011.
- Didactic content will continue to be offered online with face-to-face discussion and case study sessions, as it has been delivered through the extension campus. Examinations will continue to be offered via computer and proctored by Program faculty. Clinical rotations for the Traditional BSN track will continue to be conducted primarily on the weekends at the same clinical sites that have been in use by the extension campus. Clinical rotations for Second Degree BSN students will continue to be conducted through the use of preceptors or clinical coaches at previously-used clinical sites.
- The required curriculum will be the same as that currently offered as the extension campus. Curriculum review and likely revision to better meet the specific cultural needs of the community will be determined at a later date, after the program has established ongoing stability.

Rationale and Need for the Program:

- The need for the program is discussed thoroughly in the proposal. The area is historically underserved in health care and has relatively unique cultural challenges and needs, serving a predominantly Hispanic population and a large and growing military installation.

- Letters of support from the community, including letters from institutions providing existing ADN and BSN educational programming, support the proposed program development and addition to the community and area.
- A survey of clinical facilities indicates available clinical space will support additional student clinical groups without negative effects on students currently receiving clinical education there. Projections of systematic growth of the program are supported by a projected increase in acute care beds in the El Paso community. Along with growth in the number of beds, occupancy is projected to increase in the coming years.

Administration and Organization:

- TTUHSC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to award bachelor, master's, doctoral, and professional degrees.
- TTUHSC is a member of the Texas Tech University System, a public university within the state of Texas.
- An *Administrative Change Request Form* to establish the independent TTUHSC GGHSON baccalaureate program was submitted to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) in February 2011. The THECB Committee on Strategic Planning and Policy approved the establishment of the program on March 22, 2011. The final approval of the program will be considered by THECB at their April 2011 meeting.
- The proposed nursing program has the full support of TTUHSC administration.

Availability of Faculty and Clinical Sites:

- The existing extension campus has a Regional Dean, Dr. Josefina Lujan, serving as administrator. Dr. Wrennah Gabbert, Associate Dean, is dedicated to providing increased access to nursing education in El Paso through the development of the Program. The current four (4) faculty and two (2) faculty associate members will form the core faculty at the proposed Program. A retention specialist is currently on staff working with students on an as-needed basis.
- Existing clinical affiliates will continue to provide clinical learning experiences for the Program. Feasibility was reassessed in January 2011 to update a prior assessment of facilities done in 2008.
- As noted earlier, other professional nursing education programs in El Paso have indicated their support in letters, along with expectations of working collaboratively to meet the needs of the community.

Financial Support and Resources:

- The university administration is committed to providing funding and resources for this program.
- Community support is evident from education, government, private, and business sectors of the community, including donation of funds from the Hunt Family Foundation to establish the School.
- Formula funding and student fees for El Paso students will be reallocated from the Lubbock program to the El Paso program.
- The THECB Hospital-based Nursing Education Partnership grant provides additional support.
- A full range of student and academic services is available to students.

Program of Study:

- The proposed Program will continue to implement the existing curriculum approved for TTUHSC ATPSON (Lubbock). The curriculum was reviewed in August 2010, at which time a curriculum change was implemented. The administration and faculty of the proposed GGHSON in El Paso anticipate a future review and probable curriculum revision to better meet the specific needs of the community will be needed once they can evaluate any unforeseen issues that might arise as they move from being an extension campus of the Lubbock program to being an independent, free-standing program in El Paso. They recognize that attempting any major curriculum revision at this time might have a deleterious effect.
- Because they will continue to implement the existing curriculum, Board staff advised that submission of the entire curriculum was deemed unnecessary, and three (3) representative syllabi are included in Appendix J of the proposal.
- The curriculum includes a plan for ongoing testing, evaluation, and remediation.

- Clinical evaluation tools have been developed with progressive expectations of student behaviors.

Total Evaluation Plan:

- The program's total evaluation plan is a comprehensive plan based on the plan of the current primary campus (Lubbock) plan.

Comments from Survey Visit:

Board staff met with campus administration, prospective Dean, Associate Dean, and nursing faculty.

The current regional campus school of nursing building will continue to be used for this new BSN program. Multiple classrooms are available to meet the needs of the program, along with skills/simulation labs. A collaborative relationship has been developed with a physician faculty member of the School of Medicine working in the same building to provide simulation space and equipment. The Program will also have access to simulation opportunities in the School of Medicine, located at another campus a few miles distant.

University Medical Center is in the midst of a significant building expansion project, to include a new Children's Hospital. This complex is located adjacent to the new School of Medicine complex, and there is room for additional construction and/or remodeling of existing space to bring nursing into closer proximity. There is clear evidence of collaboration and cooperation between nursing and medicine, which should serve both disciplines well in the future.

Pros:

- TTUHSC has been operating an extension campus in El Paso since 2008. That program is now proposed to be spun off as an independent, free-standing BSN program.
- The administration at TTUHSC is fully supportive of this program.
- The curriculum will remain that used by the primary campus in Lubbock and at the current extension campus in El Paso. The El Paso faculty will consider a possible curriculum revision in the future to perhaps better meet the needs of the local community and region.
- The educational facilities allocated to the nursing program are spacious and will provide an appropriate educational environment.
- The proposed Interim Dean has been involved in pre-licensure nursing education since 1998, fulfilling roles as faculty and administration, including serving as Dean for an associate degree nursing program.
- The program currently has qualified faculty at the campus.
- The community, including the two other pre-licensure professional nursing education programs in the area, openly expresses positive anticipation and support for this new program.

Cons:

- The final approval for the new BSN program is on the April 2011 agenda for THECB.

Staff Recommendation:

Move to grant initial approval to the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center for a Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program in El Paso, Texas, contingent upon approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, with an initial cohort of forty (40) Traditional BSN students to begin in Fall 2011 and an initial cohort of thirty (30) Second Degree BSN students to begin in Spring 2012, based upon the proposal and survey visit and issue the requirement as indicated in the attached letter (Attachment #2).

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING

SURVEY VISIT PROGRAM REPORT

Professional Nursing Educational Programs

NAME OF NURSING PROGRAM: Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (TTUHSC GGHSON) Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program

DEAN OR DIRECTOR: Proposed Interim Dean: Josefina Lujan, PhD, RN

REASON FOR SURVEY: New Proposal VISIT DATE: April 1, 2011

SURVEY VISITOR(S): Paul R. Waller, PhD, RN

VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION: The program intends to seek Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accreditation, separate from the accreditation that is granted as an extension campus of the primary program located in Lubbock.

In this report the nursing program met standards and criteria unless otherwise indicated by narrative. Narrative in the Evidence column documents findings of pertinent data, outstanding performance, or deficiencies. Narrative in the Comments column includes recommendations or requirements to be met based on analysis of the survey visit

§215.11 Facilities, Resources, and Services	Evidence	Comments
(a) The governing institution shall be responsible for providing: (1) educational facilities, (2) resources, and (3) services which support the effective development and implementation of the nursing education program.	The facilities provided for the nursing program are spacious and adequate. Classrooms are furnished with audio-visual equipment and individual student desks or tables and chairs. The building has a lounge shared by faculty and students. Faculty offices are generally shared two per room, but with adequate space and furniture. A full range of student services is available. Paper library resources are located within the medical school complex as well as online resources.	Criteria met

<p>(b) The dean or director and faculty shall have adequate secretarial and clerical assistance to meet the needs of the program.</p>	<p>Current staff includes three administrative/ secretarial support staff located in proximity to the Dean, Associate Dean, and faculty with whom they work most closely. A full-time receptionist is located at the building entrance.</p>	<p>Criteria met</p>
<p>(c) The physical facilities shall be adequate to meet the needs of the program in relation to the size of the faculty and the student body.</p> <p>(1) The dean or director shall have a private office.</p> <p>(2) Faculty offices shall be conveniently located and adequate in number and size to provide faculty with privacy for conferences with students and uninterrupted work.</p> <p>(3) Space for clerical staff, records, files, and equipment shall be adequate.</p> <p>(4) There shall be mechanisms which provide for the security of sensitive materials, such as examinations and health records.</p> <p>(5) Classrooms, laboratories, and conference rooms shall be conducive to learning and adequate in number, size, and type for the number of students and the educational purposes for which the rooms are used.</p>	<p>The Interim Dean and Associate Dean have private offices; faculty generally share offices. Multiple rooms serve as classrooms, skills and simulation lab space, and storage. Supplies and equipment are in place to serve the needs of the current ongoing extension campus.</p> <p>Conference rooms for faculty meetings or student conferences are available on both primary floors. Additional undeveloped space currently used as storage is available in the basement to be outfitted as additional offices and an auditorium/ large classroom as needed.</p>	<p>Criteria met</p>
<p>(d) The learning resources, library, and departmental holdings shall be current, use contemporary technology appropriate for the level of the curriculum, and be sufficient for the size of the student body and the needs of the faculty.</p> <p>(1) Provisions shall be made for accessibility, availability, and timely delivery of information resources.</p> <p>(2) Facilities and policies shall promote effective use, i.e. environment, accessibility, and hours of operation.</p>	<p>Two libraries within the medical school complex, a few miles from the nursing building, presently has a collection of current nursing texts which students reportedly use. Students will have access to online search databases and full articles for download. The library will continue to provide full assistance to students.</p>	<p>Criteria met</p>

<p>§215.12 Records and Reports</p>		
<p>(a) Accurate and current records shall be maintained in a confidential manner and be accessible to appropriate parties. These records shall include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) records of current students; (2) transcripts/permanent record cards of graduates (3) faculty records; (4) administrative records, which include minutes of faculty meetings for the past three years, annual reports, and school catalogs; (5) the current program of study and curriculum including mission and goals (philosophy and outcomes), and course outlines; (6) agreements with affiliating agencies; and (7) the master plan of evaluation with most recent data collection. 	<p>The extension campus currently maintains these records and will continue to do so as a new independent program.</p>	<p>Criteria met</p>
<p>(b) Records shall be safely stored to prevent loss, destruction, or unauthorized use.</p>	<p>The student/program files will be stored in a fire-retardant, locked cabinet in the Dean's private office, which is consistently locked when not occupied by administration.</p>	<p>Criteria met</p>
<p>(c) Copies of the program's Annual Reports and important Board communication shall be maintained as appropriate.</p>	<p>The Dean, Associate Dean, and administrative staff will maintain records.</p>	<p>Criteria met</p>

DRAFT LETTER

May 2, 2011

Josefina Lujan, PhD, RN
Associate Professor and Regional Dean
TTUHSC GGHSON
415 East Yandell
El Paso, TX 79902

Dear Dr. Lujan:

At the April 28-29, 2011 meeting, members of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board) discussed the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Proposal to Establish a New Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Educational Program to be known as the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing in El Paso, Texas. In addition to the proposal, they considered the report of the April 1, 2011, survey visit by Board staff. The members of the Board wish to thank you and <<INSERT AS NEEDED>> for being present to answer questions.

As indicated by the enclosed order, the Board takes pleasure in informing you that based upon the discussion and review of documents, it was the Board's decision to grant Initial Approval status to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (TTUHSC GGHSON), contingent upon documentation of approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The Board further decided to allow the admission of forty Traditional BSN track students beginning in Fall 2011 and thirty Second Degree BSN track students in Spring 2012.

The Board also issues the following requirement as stated in the Board Order:

Requirement #1: The program shall provide a copy of the approval letter from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

We wish you success with the program. If you have questions, or if we may be of assistance, please contact board staff at (512) 305-7658.

Sincerely,

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President of the Board

Paul R. Waller, PhD, RN,
Nursing Consultant for Education

copy: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**Texas Board of Nursing
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460
Austin, Texas 78701-3942**

BEFORE THE BOARD OF NURSING
IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

In the matter of the proposal of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

For approval to implement a Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program to be named

Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing

ORDER OF THE BOARD

TO: Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

The Board of Nursing in and for the State of Texas in a regularly scheduled meeting, held on the 28th day of April 2011, considered the proposal for authority to implement a Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program and obtain Approval from the Board, pursuant to Section 301.157, Texas Occupations Code.

At the meeting, Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN, President of the Board, presided and the following members were present:

Deborah Hughes Bell, CLU, ChFC, Consumer Member
Patricia Clapp, BA, Consumer Member
Tamara Cowen, MSN, RN, Representing Practice
Sheri Denise Crosby, JD, SPHR, Consumer Member
Marilyn J. Davis, RN, BSN, MPA, Representing Practice
Richard Robert Gibbs, LVN, Representing Practice
Kathy Leder-Horn, LVN, Representing Practice
Mary LeBeck, MSN, RN, Representing ADN Education
Beverly Jean Nutall, LVN, Representing Practice
Mary Jane Salgado, MEd, Consumer Member
Verna Kathleen Shipp, MSN, RN, FNP, Representing APN Practice

The Board reviewed the proposal of the above school and after having discussed the proposal in an open public meeting, the Board makes the following findings:

FINDINGS

1. That a written proposal has been filed with said Board.
2. That a public meeting on said proposal was held to take testimony and evidence by the Board.
3. That the written proposal does meet the minimum requirements for proceeding with the development of an approved program offering a Baccalaureate Degree.

ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT the proposal of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is approved, contingent upon approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, having been found to comply with minimum requirements for establishing a Baccalaureate Degree

Nursing Education Program in El Paso, Texas to be known as the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing and to prepare professional nurses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT THE aforementioned school is authorized to proceed to implement a professional nursing education program and prior to admission of students, all requirements of Chapter 215 Professional Nursing Education shall be met.

Specifically, the Board requires the following conditions as described below to be met prior to the beginning of nursing classes in the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Education Program. The governing institution and the nursing program director will provide board staff:

1. Evidence of program approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

DATED THIS 28th day of April, 2011.

THE BOARD OF NURSING IN AND
FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS

Seal

By:

Kristin K. Benton, MSN, RN
President

TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING
333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460
Austin, Texas 78701-3942

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

for

Consideration of a Proposal from Texas Tech University

To Establish A

Professional Nursing Education Program

in El Paso, Texas

Date and Time: April 28, 2011 at 2:00 PM

Place: Hobby Building

333 Guadalupe Street

Tower 2, Room 225

Austin, Texas

The Board will hear testimony from individuals who wish to present information concerning the proposal.

Written testimony will also be considered and should be received in the Board's office by April 14, 2011.

Address written testimony to:

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, Executive Director

Texas Board of Nursing

333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-460

Austin, Texas 78701-3942