

## **Report on Communication Activities by the Texas Board of Nursing Consultants for Education**

### **SUMMARY:**

This report describes participation of the Texas Board of Nursing (Board or BON) education consultants in activities to promote communication and share information with the Texas nursing programs.

### **Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) Self-Study Forum**

On November 1 and 2, 2013, Nursing Consultants for Education, Dr. Virginia Ayars, Dr. Gayle Varnell, and Sandi Emerson, attended the ACEN Self-Study Forum in Dallas, Texas. The purpose for attendance at the forum was to learn about the 2013 Standards and Criteria and current policies in accreditation review. A pre-forum workshop enabled participants to gain knowledge in systematic planning for program evaluation and assessment of outcomes, Standard 6 of the ACEN Standards.

The Dallas Forum was attended by more than 350 deans, directors, and faculty of professional and vocational nursing education programs across the United States. Seventy-eight (78) individuals, including deans, directors, coordinators, and faculty, from Texas professional nursing education programs were in attendance at the forum. The Nursing Consultants for Education were able to network with a number of these individuals over the two (2) days.

The self-study forum was informative and provided Nursing Consultants for Education valuable information regarding systematic evaluation and assessment of program outcomes. The Nursing Consultants for Education will be able to incorporate this information into conversations and discussions with program deans/directors/faculty.

### **Informal Information Session**

Nursing education consultants conducted a two (2) hour information session for individuals interested in starting a pre-licensure nursing education program in Texas on December 9, 2013 in Room 102A of the William P Hobby Building, Austin, Texas. The purpose of the informal information session is to present and discuss the essential elements of the proposal for new pre-licensure nursing education program process. Participants are provided an opportunity to meet the Education Consultants and network with other individuals who are in the process of proposal development. Seven (7) individuals representing five (5) potential new vocational, associate and baccalaureate degree nursing programs attended the workshop. The Education Consultants reviewed Board Education Rules 214 and 215 as well as the proposal process in detail. Participant feedback was very positive. Education Consultants plan to host another informal information session in fall 2014.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

These are information reports. No action is recommended.