Consideration of Appointment of Replacement Member to the Task Force to Study Implications of Growth of Texas Nursing Education Programs

Summary of Request:
Consider Board Staff’s request to appoint a replacement member to the Task to Study Implications of Growth of Texas Nursing Education Programs.

Historical Perspective:
The Task Force (TF) was originally established by the Board at the October 2011 meeting to study issues surrounding the rapid growth of nursing education programs in Texas since 2006. The Board appointed members representing nursing practice and education constituents at the January 2012 meeting.

The TF determined that their purpose was to create a forum for dialogue among stakeholders on how to ensure that the State of Texas will continue to provide quality nursing education and produce safe, competent graduates in a changing environment.

The Board approved a report from the TF at the January 2013 meeting that included two education guidelines designed to improve clinical instruction:
- *Education Guideline 3.8.3.a. Precepted Clinical Learning Experiences*; and
- *Education Guideline 3.8.5.a. Utilization of Part-Time Clinical Nursing Faculty*.

Two new charges were issued to the TF by the Board at the October 2013 meeting:
- Develop a guideline describing optimal clinical instruction in pre-licensure nursing programs; and
- Provide an analysis of findings from the 2013 Nursing Education Program Information Survey related to required clinical hours in pre-licensure nursing programs.

Following three TF meetings during 2013 and 2014, the Board approved a new Education Guideline, *Promoting Optimal Clinical Instruction*, and a monograph, *Towards Defining Excellence in Clinical Instruction in Pre-licensure Nursing Education Programs* at the October 2014 quarterly Board meeting.

At the October 2014 meeting, the Board issued two new charges:
- Disseminate the information to the nursing education programs and clinical partners through the website, webinars, publications, and a statewide nursing faculty workshop; and
- To create a dialogue between nursing education and clinical partners to facilitate optimal clinical learning experiences for all constituents.

Board Staff and the TF held a statewide conference on March 6, 2015 entitled *Excellence in Clinical Instruction in Pre-Licensure Education* to disseminate the new education guideline, monograph, and highlight innovative clinical education strategies that was well-attended by nursing faculty from pre-licensure nursing education programs across the state.
Current Perspective:

The TF has one outstanding charge, to create a dialogue between nursing education and clinical partners to facilitate optimal clinical learning experiences for all constituents. The TF has met three times to address this charge since fall 2018.

On June 19, 2019 Board Staff received notification that Michelle Dionne-Vahalik would be assuming a new role with Texas Health & Human Services (HHS) and would be vacating her membership on the TF. Ms. Sharilyn Mead, RN, CDP, CADDCT, has been named by HHS as a nominee replacement member to the TF. Ms. Mead currently practices as a nurse in the Quality Monitoring Program for HHS and has a long practice history in public health since 2001 working for the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services as both a facilities surveyor and for HHS as a nurse quality monitor. Prior to her practice in public health, she practiced nursing case management for managed care organizations. Board Staff recommend Ms. Sharilyn Mead, RN, CDP, CADDCT be considered for appointment to the TF.

Rationale for Board Recommendation:

Ms. Mead’s expertise will assist the TF to address the current charge to create a dialogue between nursing education and clinical partners. Board Staff wishes to formally thank Dr. Michelle Dionne-Vahalik, DNP, RN for her contributions and service.

Board Recommendation:

Move to appoint Ms. Sharilyn Mead, RN, CDP, CADDCT to the Task Force to Study Implications of the Growth of Nursing Education Programs in Texas.