

2016-17 Department Student Success Plan Assessment Report

Department of Baccalaureate Nursing

Please answer the following questions in two pages and submit to your Dean by October 2. Your Dean will offer you feedback by Oct. 16 and advance final version¹ to Academic Affairs by October 20. This report will inform your 2017-18 Student Success Plan update that will be due to your Dean by Nov. 3. Previous report and plans can be found at this website: <http://irt2.indstate.edu/cms7/sp16/index.cfm/department-plans/>.

Person Primarily Responsible for Preparing this Report: Marcee Everly

1. Specific accomplishments/achievements this past year (*briefly explain using bullet points, noting any changed/adapted*):

- Admitted our first freshman student into the “guaranteed admission” pilot. She is presently in her third pre-nursing semester, finishing prerequisites, and doing extremely well. Her admission to the major is on track and she’ll begin courses with clinicals next semester (Spring 18).
- We exceeded our Fall 17 target and admitted 5 new freshmen to the “guaranteed admission” pilot as of this semester (Fall 17) instead of the target of 3. We look forward to seeing how these students do.
- We exceeded our goal of “completion in 5 semesters after formal admission to the major.” Five semesters is the stated program length after admission to the major (ie no courses dropped or repeated; all passed on time/on schedule). Our goal was 70.3%, our actual average from the Fall 16 and Spring 17 graduating cohorts was 81.1%

2. Objective/Actions Not Achieved (*briefly explain using bullet points*):

- For the first time in several years, our graduates fell below the national first-time pass rate on the NCLEX licensure exam. The national first-time pass rate average for 2016 was 84.57%; our graduates were 80.25%. However, our 2017 rate is looking better than last year’s. Our 2017 graduates are at a 90% pass rate so far this year. The current national pass rate for 2017 is at 88.4%.

3. Attention areas going forward as informed by 2016-17 retention, completion, course completion ratio, credit hour productivity, and D/F/drop rate data provided as well as other Blue Report or departmental data (*briefly explain using bullet points*).

- We’ve seen a concerning trend in the Fall of 16 and Spring of 17 regarding students who were just admitted to the major failing the first nursing courses. We had 6 students fail pharmacology in Fall 16 (1 of those students also failed a second nursing course that semester resulting in dismissal); and another 6 fail pharmacology Spring 17 (and again 1 of those students failed a second nursing course in that same semester resulting in dismissal). The course, professor/instructor, course design, text, etc did NOT change compared to previous semesters, so we are not sure why we have seen such a high rate of first semester failures of newly admitted nursing students. Unfortunately, we also had an increase in students caught cheating or attempting to cheat in the first semester of the major (this did result in at least one of the pharmacology course failures as a result of a grade penalty due to cheating). We do fear potential grade inflation and/or lack of rigor in the prerequisite courses, but we don’t know that so that might not be what is happening. We really can only potentially change what we are doing as we don’t have control over what other departments are doing. Thus, further interventions regarding reducing nursing course failures will be included in the updated success plan. However, it is extremely important to maintain the rigor of this program in order to

¹ Dean will request a refinement to the report if it is not suitably addressing the questions. Report will be shared with Trustees.

continually strive for high NCLEX pass rates as required by our accrediting bodies and promote safety of patients who may be cared for by our future RNs.