

Indiana State University

2006 - 2007 Academic Annual Report

Nursing

Vision Statement

[View/Modify Vision](#)

Below is your vision statement from previous years. Please take this opportunity to review it and if necessary update it.

The College of Nursing/Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Department has a vision to provide the best educational experiences that result in competent and caring nurses for diverse clients in a changing health care system; and to address the growing nursing and nursing faculty shortages. Our professional programs strive to fulfill the strategic plan of the University through experiential learning and community engagement, and endeavor to obtain a status of pre-eminence in the state and nation.

Year in Review

Accomplishments

As you have heard, increasing public awareness of Indiana State University's accomplishments is crucial to building student enrollment, influencing policy makers, and developing a place of pre-eminence in the Midwest. What do you consider to be your department's accomplishments for the 2006-2007 year that will contribute to this effort? [Please list in priority order and limit to no more than 8.]

1. Increased BSN NCLEX-RN pass rates. State regulations require that the percent of graduates passing the exam be no more than 1 SD below the national rate for first time takers. 2004 2005 2006 ISU 70.60% 89.36% 92.59% National Pass Rate 84.80% 87.29% 88.11% One SD below National Pass Rate 70.20% 76.49% 75.25% 2. The Graduate Program has been recognized in U.S. News and World Report as being among the top 100 graduate programs in the nation. Only three on the list were from Indiana. 3. Graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track in the Graduate Nursing Program had a 100% pass rate on the AACN certification examination. This was above the national pass rate of 93.24%. 4. Increased enrollments including transfer and distance students. Enrollments for fall 2006 and spring 2007 remain above 800 students (graduate and undergraduate). 5. Continued to gain recognition or approval through individual State Boards of Nursing or Higher Education Commissions for offering the LPN-BS distance track. We now have approval in 32 states and 2 territories with approvals pending 20 more states. 6. Gained approval for Nurse Educator Track in the Graduate Nursing Program. 7. Completed a successful search for 3 of 4 full-time tenure track faculty lines. 8. All tenured and tenure-track faculty are involved in some governance committee work.

Research and Scholarship

What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of research and scholarship that is focused primarily on contributions to practice and discipline-based scholarship? Are you satisfied overall? In which areas do you feel your department does particularly well? In which areas do you feel your department needs to improve?

Faculty have reviewed 17 discipline-based books, journals, and web pages, contributed to 5 book chapters, published 7 articles in professional journals, and published two learning modules. Current

topics of research in progress include uncaring behavior, measuring complimentary therapy use among breast cancer patients, implications of hematuria in adult patients, safe patient handling and movement, and using blackboard discussion groups for research creating virtual focus groups for qualitative collection. Faculty publications are increasing but it is recognized that improvement is needed. The growing enrollments and large number of clinical hours have inhibited productivity in some faculty. It is hoped that enrollment management, and opportunities for collaboration provided by the merger will help with time-management issues and motivation.

Grants, Contracts & Off Campus Professional Service

What is your assessment of accomplishments in the area of grants, contracts, and off campus professional service? Are you satisfied overall? In which areas do you feel your department does particularly well? In which areas do you feel your department needs to improve?

There have been 14 grants and contracts granted to nursing faculty in 2006-07. Several of these are internal and are a good beginning for learning grant writing. The TAG grant, and HRSA ANET (annual traineeship) are more significant. We are hopeful that the HRSA grant to provide for faculty and equipment in the LPN-BS track will be granted in July-this is for \$750,000 over 3 years. We need to become more proficient in grant writing to support the current program. Six faculty were active members of community boards (i.e., March of Dimes, CODA, Wabash Valley Breast Cancer Survivor Organization, United Way agencies, Atsina charity medical clinic). Several faculty who are Nurse Practitioners provided service at physician's offices, indigent or free clinics, Sycamore Nursing Center remote health and on-line clinics. Faculty provided care to over 100 individuals through the Home Health division either through direct services or supervised student participation. Faculty provided well-child care to 136 children 1 month-19 years through the ambulatory clinics at Sycamore Nursing Center either through direct services or supervised student participation including immunizations and physicals; and health assessments for adults and women (pap smears & pelvic exams); and health teaching. Faculty have done 12 professional presentation. Many are officers of professional nursing organizations at local, state, regional and national levels and have spent many hours in service to these organizations. I am proud of the accomplishments of the faculty in this area.

Teaching

We would like to highlight innovative approaches to teaching. Has your department developed any pedagogies or practices you'd like to share with us? Please describe briefly.

1. Both the graduate and undergraduate programs have growing distance education tracks for students with some nursing background (LPN or RN). In terms of clinical supervision with clients it is essential for distance students to have a qualified registered nurse as preceptor. Qualifications vary with the program and state regulations. The ISU course faculty is responsible for the on-line instruction of the student and clinical evaluation with input from the preceptor. Agency and preceptor contracts must be in place and validation of the credentials of the preceptor are essential components for success and maintaining the integrity of the preceptorship. The preceptor is not compensated monetarily so it has been cost effective. This has been most successful. 2. The Sycamore Nursing Center is a nurse managed clinic administered through the College of Nursing that provides healthcare services to Wabash Valley residents. It is staffed by nursing faculty and students at different levels of the curricula. SNC provides ambulatory clinics in pediatric, adult and women's health, as well as providing home health care. The clinic provides faculty with a unique opportunity to engage students in real health care situations. Faculty serve as professional role models as they practice and teach.

Course Scheduling/Enrollment Management

How is the department making sure that students are able to get the classes they need to graduate in a timely manner?

Nursing students are assigned to learning communities in the first semester of the program of studies. While the LCs are a benefit to the students and help with retention, it is often difficult to get them registered into other required cognate courses/labs that do not conflict in time. The Director of Student Affairs in the College and I have worked with Robert Guell to map out the most appropriate timing for the LCs to avoid conflict. In the schedule for fall 2007 the learning communities will a group of required courses (Nursing, Psychology 101, and Chemistry 100), rather than 2 courses from the program of study. We are hopeful that this will help resolve the problem. The B&HD Nursing Department continues to work collaboratively with other disciplines to address the shortage of spaces in sections of prerequisite and core courses required for the major. In some cases the students cannot progress in a timely fashion and may transfer to other institutions. It can cause the student problems with financial aid because they may not be able to carry a full load. At the very least they are not satisfied with the system. Distance students have been taking courses at other institutions and transferring credit, or using credit by examination to meet requirements when there are not sufficient distance spaces. A year-based statistics course is an alternative to campus-based modality that is working for the undergraduate statistics requirement. It is hope that approval for the year-based statistics at the graduate level can be obtained as well. The students are working RNs in the health care workforce. With the National shortage of nurses it is difficult to impossible to expect employers to allow time away from work to take campus-based classes even if the student is local or has access to another campus. The graduate students are nearly all distance learners. Many students in the graduate program could benefit from the additional time-frame of a year-based course to assimilate the content of a statistics course and to be able to apply it in practice.

Outreach

What are the outreach opportunities for your discipline? (non-traditional modes of delivery and timing, etc)

1. Distance education is reaching many nurses who otherwise would not be able to continue their education (LPN-BS, RN-BS completion, Graduate). These are nurses who are working full or part-time, and often have family responsibilities. Many agencies offer benefits to their nurses that pay for continuing education. 2. Many health care agencies are seeking Magnet Status through the American Nurses Association in an effort to attract professional staff (physicians, nurses, other health care providers) and to improve patient perception/satisfaction with services provided. In order to achieve Magnet Status there are requirements relate to the educational level of the professional nursing staff. This will increase the desire of those institutions to provide educational opportunities to existing employees. 3. A contract with The College Network, a publishing company, has provided an increase in visibility for the College of Nursing as well as ISU through its marketing efforts. TCN publishes educational materials designed to prepare students for credit-by-examination (general education, cognate and select nursing courses). These efforts have helped to recruit students into our distance education tracks.

Assessment

Please share your stated student learning outcomes.

Stated Student Learning Outcomes: BS in Nursing found at <http://www.indstate.edu/nurs/pdfs/bs-outcomes-competencies.pdf> Stated Student Learning Outcomes: MS in Nursing found at <http://www.indstate.edu/nurs/pdfs/ms-outcomes-competencies.pdf>

Strategic Initiatives

Community Engagement I

Please summarize your faculty's efforts in community engagement this year.

1. Six faculty were active members of community boards (i.e., March of Dimes, CODA, Wabash Valley Breast Cancer Survivor Organization, United Way agencies, Atsina charity medical clinic). 2. Several faculty who are Nurse Practitioners provided service at physician's offices, indigent or free clinics, Sycamore Nursing Center remote health and on-line clinics. 3. Faculty provided care to over 100 individuals through the Home Health division either through direct services or supervised student participation. 4. Faculty provided well-child care to 136 children 1 month-19 years through the ambulatory clinics at Sycamore Nursing Center either through direct services or supervised student participation including immunizations and physicals; and health assessments for adults and women (pap smears & pelvic exams); and health teaching. 5. The College worked collaboratively with three local health care agencies to form a consortium for obtaining a workforce development grant (TAG).

Experiential Learning

What is your vision for experiential learning in your department?

We will continue to maintain standards for a sound nursing education including experiential learning in all programs/tracks. We are competing for clinical agency placement of our students with regional community colleges. We are and will continue to collaborate with the regional/local institutions and the agencies involved to find placement for campus-based students. The College utilizes qualified/experienced RN preceptors to mentor distance students. We will need to be creative in finding other opportunities to benefit the students as well as the community.

Fundraising Activities

What steps have you taken to support fundraising activities in your department? How can your efforts be supported?

The Department and the Foundation have established a working relationship. With the guidance of the Foundation liaison we try to cultivate the relationships with the benefactors. The scholarship committee works diligently to select recipients according to the benefactor's specifications. Benefactors are invited to the awards ceremony to present the scholarships when possible.

Quality

Quality

Please provide 1-2 suggestions to increase the ability of your department or the University to meet the criteria above.

Nursing has determined a plan for capping enrollment in the graduate and undergraduate programs to manage/utilize faculty and agency resources optimally and maintain standards. The plan will be implemented next year. It is imperative that prospective students are notified in advance that admissions will be competitive. There is potential for growth as resources are available. The demand for the programs is high.

Feedback

This section is to allow you to share your ideas for enhancing enrollment, dealing with budget and other challenges facing the university community.

1. As suggested in the last report, there is a need for either more distance education (DE) sections of

general education courses or a means for DE students to have priority over campus-based students to enroll in those sections, only opening them to campus-based students after a reasonable time during registration if spaces are left. In order for our distance tracks to be sustained and grow in enrollment the University must be able to provide the non-nursing courses (general education and cognate courses) as well as major's courses. Student satisfaction with the University has a bearing on recruitment/enrollment/retention. 2. Support of the Board of Trustees is needed for the implementation of a clinical course fee. Plans are being developed to institute a new clinical fee that will allow a stipend to be paid to compensate qualified preceptors, and to off set the cost for adjuncts. It is hoped that this will help with recruitment and retention of these individuals. It may allow assignment of a reduced student to faculty ratio (