

Department Plan-VN- 2011-12

Long Beach City College

Dept - Vocational Nursing

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Mission: The mission of the Department of Vocational Nursing is to provide entry level nursing education to a diverse student population. The faculty members support the college mission and vision, to prepare students for the 21st century, and provide affordable certificate and or associate degree granting programs.

Description: The Vocational Nursing Program is an entry-level-45 week nursing program. Students must successfully completed all prerequisite courses (including nursing assistant preparation) prior to admission. At completion, students apply for a one year career certificate and or associate degree (A.A. or A.S) in the field of Vocational Nursing. Upon licensure, a transitional career pathway to Associate Degree Nursing (A.D.N.) is available for those seeking Registered Nursing.

Summary of Access, Productivity & Effectiveness: Data reflects enrollment in all VN courses (pre-requisite and core classes) increased about 5,000 additional students from the year 2005-06 to 2007-08. Moreover, the average success (84%), retention (88%), and completion (85%) rate and GPA average(2.75) has remained stable. Vocational Degrees/Certificates awarded have increased about 20%, with the largest boost in Vocational Nursing Career Certificates.

Internal Conditions (see Help for list): Internal conditions affecting the program include: overall budget constraints, lack of resources to hire support or clerical staff, high part-time faculty ratio to full time faculty, and competing with other allied health programs for adequate lab and lecture rooms.

External Condition- Regulatory/Legislative Changes: State requirement requires student/faculty ratio of 15/1, however,we are functioning at a lower ratio per clinical site mandate of 10- 12 students/1 faculty member (FT or PT). As a result of using more PT faculty;the burden of maintaining student files and records (which is extremely labor intensive) falls on the full-time faculty without any clerical support to the department. In addition it is not the role of part-time faculty to maintain student files and records in advance of their clinical assignment.

External Condition- Grants Available: Workforce Initiative/Allied Health (WIA) and VTEA grant monies to admit an additional 10- students per year, cover PT faculty costs for the additional 10 students, purchase simulators and upgrade quipment. WIA grant to expire end of Spring 2012.

External Condition- Advisory Committee Input: Clinical training sites (part of LBCC's nursing advisory committee) strongly suggest reducing ratios of students to instructor to a more managable level. The clinical training sites are over-stretched, over-burdened, and overwhelmed by having multiple programs/students utilize their facilities seven days a week.

External Condition- Industry & Labor Market Trends: Labor Markets and trends suggest an increase of at least 22-25% increase in Vocational/Practical Nurses over the next decade, as people age and require more long-term care and other rehabilitation needs.

External Conditions- Other : Our membership which is mandatory (OCLB Nursing Consortium) for clinical placement recommends reducing ratios as described above. Moreover, we must maintain accreditation with the State Board of Nursing.

Faculty & Staff : full time faculty 7
part time faculty 16

Names & Titles of Program Review Participants: Judy Wisenbaker

Susan Radloff
Rhonda Alger
Cynthia Bartlau
Julie McGill
Eva Talastas
Marilyn Coe-Gysel

2009-2010 Accomplishments: Completion of all course and program SLO's.(We were acknowledged by the college as the first program complete all course outcomes assessment plans in Spring 2010. Coordinating with the Success Center workshops (Supplemental learning Assistance, APA and Math for Meds workshops). Integration of simulation Technology into the curriculum, including training on mid-fidelity simulators (located on the 3rd floor -LAC) has been completed by all full time faculty. Selected Scenario based learning curriculum has been identified and shall start academic year 2010-2011. Faculty has attended several conferences/workshops to assist them with this goal.

For academic year 2009-10, (60) certificate of acheivements in Vocational Nursing were granted.

2010-2011 Accomplishments: Able to accept 10 additional students 2010-11 academic year and pay two part-time instructors with WIA grant monies. Able to purchase simulation equipment for skills lab (2- Obstetrics-birthing promptor simulator), additional skills lab supplies and several nasogastric and intravenous therapy skill pumps. Moreover, we have seen many of our graduates move out of state due to lower cost of living compared to California. As a result, we have formally changed our title on our degree/career certificate to better reflect titles used in all other states in the country (PN-Practical Nursing). Currently, our graduates take the national-NCLEX-PN/VN licensing esamination. With this title change, students will have an easier time obtaining licensure in another state and gainful employment. Thus, we better reflect national titles and trends throughout the nation.

No Goals defined for this Assessment Unit.