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THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Council on Legislation

#### MINUTES

Capitol
Albany, New York
June 7, 1988
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Jean Heady at 12:20 p.m. The meeting was scheduled in-between appointments with legislators which began at 9:30.

#### Attendance:

Present: Jean Heady, Chairman

Josephine Bolus
Susan Fraley
Carole Kuzmack
Juanita Majewski
Kattie Washington

Absent: Louise Gallagher

Carol Morris Janice Volland

Guest: Juanita Hunter, President

Staff: Janet P. Mance, Director, Legislative Program Christine Tofflemire, Associate Director, Legislative Program

I. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 26, 1988.

The minutes were approved as circulated.

II. REVIEW OF MATERIALS IN FOLDER

Chairman Heady called the members' attention to materials in their folder which she asked that they study at their convenience. The materials are:

- 1. A meeting notice of Upstate New York Certified Nurse Midwives which was held May 21, 1988 attached to a memorandum of support for A4737,S4917 from Region II. Chapter 1, American College of Nurse-Midwives and a letter of support from Elaine Mielcarski, CNM. The bill the group is supporting would license non-nurse midwives.
- Legislative Network for Nurses, issues May 13, 1988 and May 31, 1988.

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- 3. Two newspaper articles:
  - (a) Nurse Heal Thyself, New York Times. May 22, 1988
  - (b) The Politics of Roast Beef in Albany, New Times, May 23, 1988 (a critique of legislative receptions)
- u. Memoranda regarding S8477,A11447 (Nurse Practitioner Bill)
  - (a) Medical Society of the State of New York (opposition)
  - (b) New York State Health Facilities Association, Inc. (support)
  - (c) New York State Catholic Conference (support)
  - (d) City Employees Union Local 237 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (opposition)
  - (e) Hospital Association of New York State (support)
  - (f) American Nurses Association (opposition)
  - (g) Coalition of Nurse Practitioners (support)
- 5. Entry Into Practice position paper, NYSNA Minority Focus Group, revised May 6, 1988.
- 6. NYSNA Report on National Commission on Nursing Implementation Project.
- III. REVIEW OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES IN OPPOSITION TO A11447.88477

Ms. Heady asked Ms. Mance to review NYSNA efforts to date to obtain prescriptive privileges for nurses. Ms. Mance related the activities beginning with the work of a special committee of the NYSNA Board of Directors approximately four years ago. She suggested that perhaps a written chronology might be helpful to both the Council and the membership. All agreed and asked that it be prepared by staff. A review of lobbying activities by the Council and the membership against All447,S8477 followed. Everyone was encouraged to continue their efforts.

VI. STATUS OF THE 1988 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM AND ANALYSIS

Ms. Heady asked staff to relate efforts and progress made this session in moving the Entry Into Practice Bill.
Ms. Mance reviewed the Entry Work Plan which was requested by the Board of Directors in October 1987. She reported on the meetings that have taken place with governmental and legislative leadership, meetings with various units of NYSNA. DNAs and the many lobby days which have taken place.

-3-

Ms. Mance estimated that approximately 300 nurses or student nurses have participated in lobby days, lobbying for the Entry Into Practice Bill. Ms. Mance reported that, as in other years, as the legislative session progressed, NYSNA's focus was diverted from Entry Into Practice to opposing the Health Department's LPN regulations, opposing a major portion of the Health Department's Labor/Health Industry Task Force Report and opposing the Nurse Practitioner Bill.

Ms. Tofflemire reported on the work of the Focus Group of Associate Degree Nurse Educators which was formed this year as part of the Entry Work Plan. Ms. Mance reported on the work of the Minority Focus Group in revising their position statement on Entry Into Practice.

Ma. Mance reported that two critical efforts have not yet been achieved this year. One is a meeting between DC 37 leadership and NYSNA and the other is a meeting of the Minority Focus Group with the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus. In both cases, NYSNA's efforts to establish meeting dates have not materialized.

# V. BEGINNING PLANNING FOR 1989 PROGRAM

The discussion centered primarily on the Entry Into Practice Bill. The following recommendations were made by Council Members.

- 1. Consider whether nurses' fears about the legislation would be overcome by using a very futuristic effective date like 1995.
- 2. Hold a major nurse leadership conference prior to convention with NYSNA's commitment to Entry Into Practice as a given to reach consensus on title and other controversial aspects of the bill and move forward in unification. To assist the participants (and the membership), prepare a "vision statement" to be used as a basis for the discussion along with a description of tomorrow's nurse. The membership must be made aware that we cannot put the technical nurse career down.
- 3. A legislative workshop should be held sometime during the year or perhaps several workshops throughout the state that are very basic.

COUNCIL MEETINGS Ms. Mance and President Hunter suggested that they present the recommendation for a major conference on Entry Into Practice to the Executive Director. The Council expressed understanding that there are fiscal implications. Such a conference will also take lead time to plan and organize. VI. DATES OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting was scheduled for September 7. The Council members expressed hope that the Entry conference could take place prior to that date. VII. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. Two Council members left early to keep 2:00 p.m. appointments with legislators. Others had 3:00 and 4:00 appointments. Jean Heady, MS, RN Chairman Council on Legislation JH: JPM/cjp 6/16/88

TKH

#### THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Clinical Practice Unit

> Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing Guilderland, New York

#### MINUTES

December 4, 1987

## Presiding: Leslie Brower, Chairman

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Leslie Brower, Chairman.

#### II. ATTENDANCE

#### Present

Leslie Brower, Chairman Sharon Shisler

#### Absent

Kathleen Plum

# Staff

Elizabeth Carter, DrPH, RN Deputy Director New York State Nurses Association

### III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the May 8-9th meeting were approved as written. The minutes of the 1987 Convention Business Meeting were reviewed.

# IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS, ARTICLES AND CORRESPONDENCE

# \*A. Correspondence

- 1. NYSNA Legislative Program
  - a. Leslie Brower responded to a letter from Janet Mance, dated 11/5/87, that we endorse the effort to re-evaluate the exempt clause strategy in concert with the Council on Legislation and Council on Nursing Research.

#### Page 2

b. L. Brower, S. Shisler, J. Mance, C. Tofflemire, Dr. Carter and Dr. Evan met to discuss strategies. J. Mance gave background information regarding barriers to Exempt Clause Repeal Act.

Decided to have L. Shortridge, Assemblywoman Connelly, Mary Lou Stauring, S. Shisler and L. Brower meet with staff analysts from Ways and Means Committee (Mary Kirschgraver and Nancy Kelly) to hear their requests for information.

2. Rena Button's Letter of 6/1/87

The Committee discussed:

- a. confidentiality of review process by insurance companies;
- b. concern whether we would be considered as part of provider group; and
- c. NYSNA staff should communicate need to assure that nurses will be recognized as a provider group; referred to Legislative Program staff.
- B. Articles

Five articles were reviewed.

#### V. BUSINESS

- A. ANA and Certification
  - L. Brower will draft a letter to vigorously oppose the changes in certification eligibility requirements.
- B. IRS Information

Implied that nursing as a provider is not covered. The Committee will examine 1988 Tax Code for medical deductions to see if nursing is included in a more positive light. Also, suggestions were made to deduct nursing costs and see what would happen.

C. Pam Walton Letter

She had written NYSNA regarding a newsletter on psychiatric rehabilitation and requested information from psychiatric nurses. S. Shisler called her. She had left employment. S. Shisler sent a letter of inquiry to her home address with no answer as of yet.

#### Page 3

Joint Discussion with Community Health Clinical Practice

The Committees addressed areas of common interest, e.g., homelessness. S. Shisler and D. Hickey will coordinate these activities.

E. Annual Convention in 1988

Possible topics would include patient violence; protesting of assignment; nursing shortage; factors contributing to violence; nurses' rights and responsibilities; and patient abuse and neglect by staff. S. Shisler will discuss with Long Island network group for C.E. suggestions.

- F. 1988 Priorities
  - 1. Re-examination of Exempt Repeal Act.
  - Monitoring of nursing shortage in facilities.
     Review of AIDS position paper.

  - 4. Homelessness Position Paper.

#### VI. OTHER

- A. Community on Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse
- B. S. Shisler is attempting to attend meetings, but is unable because of their last minute scheduling. S. Shisler will write and request a more orderly means of scheduling to enable attendance.

#### VII. NEXT MEETING

Suggestions for the next meeting are: March 4 or February 4, 1988 in the NYC Office.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

LB/KAB/kac 4/27/88

#### THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee
of the
Functional Unit of Deans, Directors and Faculty,
Nursing Education Programs

The Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing Guilderland, NY

February 24, 1988

#### MINUTES

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Vice-Chair-person Anne Frost, in the absence of the Chairperson.

#### II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Anne Frost Absent: Veronica O'Day

Ann Gothler

Staff: Josephine LaLima, Director, Nursing Education Program

#### III. MINUTES

The minutes of the December 15, 1987 meeting were accepted as distributed.

#### IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

#### A. Arden House Consortium

Staff reported that the Arden House Consortium to implement the Arden House recommendations met on January 20, 1988. Representation included NYSNA Board of Directors, NYSNA Consumer Advisory Council, Council of Deans of Nursing, Senior Colleges and Universities in New York State, Hospital Association of New York State, Deans/Directors of Greater New York, Mid-Atlantic Regional Nursing Association, New York State Department of Health, Nurse Recruiters of America and State Board for Nursing. An outcome of the first meeting was to separate into two subgroups, one group to focus on practice and the other on education.

### B. Proposed Scholarship Legislation

Staff shared information about the legislation sponsored by Senator Donovan that proposes the following numbers of scholarships:

100 Associate Degree Full-Time

100 Asociate Degree Part-Time 100 BSN Full Time

100 BSN Completion

50 Graduate Nursing Full-Time

50 Graduate Nursing Part-Time

The legislation stipulates that 500 scholarships would be awarded each year for four years and \$5,000 would be awarded to full-time students and \$3,500 for part-time students.

Committee members commented that this legislation would be somewhat helpful toward recruitment but funding for nursing education remains inadequate.

C. Labor-Health Industry Task Force on Health Personnel

Staff shared with committee members that the task force established by Commissioner of Health David Axelrod to review issues related to the reported shortages of workers in a number of health occupations issued a draft report of its preliminary work. Included in recommendations were: improvement of working conditions and compensation for certain workers; support of career ladders and mobility; support of more effective and creative use of existing workforce; increase of the number of entrants into the workforce: provision of financial support for students.

# V. BUSINESS

A. Finalization of Plans for May 25-26, 1988 Workshop

Committee members finalized plans. Agreed upon were title, purpose, objectives, format, and speakers. The details of the plans are found in Attachment I.

B. NCLEX Examination

Committee members were provided with information about the examination. It was decided that the information would be reviewed and considered an agenda item for another meeting.

# VI. NEXT MEETING

A. Date

April 28, 1988 at The Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing.

B. Agenda

1. Review of format for workshop.

2. Agenda for Business Meeting May 25, 1988.

3. Agenda for Convention Business Meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

AF/JLL/gjb 4/26/88

Attachment I

#### Title:

Clinical Learning/Teaching Strategies in the Real World: Chaos vs. Comfort

#### Purpose:

This program will focus on clinical learning/teaching strategies and new approaches to meet realistic demands of contemporary nursing practice.

#### Objectives:

- . Describe influence of today's clinical setting on teaching and learning.
- . Identify implications of increasing complexity of the health care delivery system on clinical teaching.
- . Identify new approaches/strategies to meet the realistic demands of today's practice.
- . Share ideas for strategies for clinical teaching.
- . Compare clinical teaching strategies for beginning vs. advanced students.
- . Identify strategies to better prepare the student for transition to professional practice.
- . Project relationship between retention of nurses and clinical preparation.

FORMAT - PLENARY AND STRATEGY SESSIONS AND PANEL PRESENTATION

#### **PROGRAM**

May 25, 1988

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - Registration

1:00 p.m. - Welcome and Overview

Veronica O'Day, PhD, RN Chairperson - NYSNA Functional Unit Deans, Directors and Faculty, Nursing Education Program

1:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m. - Keynote

Designing Teaching Strategies for Clinical Learning Em Olivia Bevis, RN, BS, MA, FAAN Curriculum Consultant

#### Break

2:45 p.m.-3:30 p.m. - The Demands on the New Graduate: A
Nursing Service Perspective
Sandra A. Mazzie, MA, RN
Division Director Patient Care Services
St. Francis Hospital, Poughkeepsie, NY

3:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m. - Break

3:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m. - Strategy Session I

4:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m. - Functional Unit Business Meeting

May 26, 1988

7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. - Breakfast Buffet

3:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. - Panel Presentation

Clinical Learning/Teaching Strategies in Selected Clinical Areas Gerontological Nursing Catherine A. Bevil, EdD, RN Co-Director Graduate Nursing Program, College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY

Community Health Nursing
Mary Beth Hanner, PhD, RN
Associate Professor of Nursing,
Russell Sage College, Dept. of Nursing
Troy, NY

Psychiatric Nursing Linda Kelly, MSN, CS Program-Psychiatry VA Medical Center, Albany, NY

Acute-Medical Surgical Nursing Ann Sedore, MA, RN College of Nursing, Syracuse University Syracuse, NY

10:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Group Strategy Session II

12:30 p.m.-1:45 p.m. - Lunch

Speaker: Word Power: A New Clinical
Strategy
Anne Frost, PhD, RN
Co-Director Graduate Nursing Program
College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY

1:45 p.m.-2:30 p.m. - Review of Posted Strategy Reports

2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. - Summary Remarks

Ann Gothler, PhD, RN
Professor of Nursing, Russell Sage College
Department of Nursing, Troy, NY

THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Council on Human Rights

NYSNA New York City Office One Madison Avenue New York, NY

January 11, 1988

#### MINUTES

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Chairman, Kathleen Colling.

#### II. ATTENDANCE

Carolyn Braddock Kathleen Colling Barbara May Dorothy Ramsey Claude Willis

Elizabeth Carter, Deputy Director

#### III. INTRODUCTIONS

The new member, Carolyn Braddock, was welcomed to the group. She shared her particular interest in health care for migrant workers and other high risk groups in the Rochester area.

### IV. MINUTES - September 25, 1987

The minutes were accepted as written.

### V. CONVENTION 1987, EVALUATION

#### A. Program

The evaluations for the program on Cultural Diversity were reviewed. Most participants evaluated the program as "good" or "excellent".

The Council members personally thought the program was scholarly and informative. Audience participation was active, interested and involved. Attendance at the meeting was good.

#### B. Council Booth

The Council members were pleased with the activity at the booth. The bibliography and pencils were seen as appropriate handouts.

The Council would have liked more visuals.

The amount of time for exhibit hours was excessive. The Council would recommend fewer hours in the future.

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#### VI. THIRD WORLD EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

The Experience quidelines were reviewed.

The meeting with Dean Lenora McClean at SUNY Stony Brook was discussed. It was agreed that several of the points were accurate and important.

Perhaps the Council's enthusiasm has prompted a more ambitious project than is possible.

Dr. D. Ramsey will meet with Executive Committee of the Adelphi faculty early in February 1988.

Dr. K. Colling will meet with selected faculty members at SUNY Binghamton late in January 1988.

Future Plans: The Council will discuss this Experience again at the March meeting in view of the planned meetings at Adelphi and Binghamton.

The Council may consider a scaled-down version of the Experience, such as a study tour of 2-3 weeks.

Perhaps other programs which have been more successful should be studied (University of Arizona, U.S. Public Health Service Internships).

VII. RESOLUTION ON IMPROVEMENT OF WORKING CONDITIONS FOR REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES (See attached)

The resolution on Improvement of Working Conditions for Registered Professional Nurses was reviewed. It was noted that the Council on Human Rights and the Economic and General Welfare Program are directed to undertake activities to facilitate the improvement of working conditions for all RNs; and support RNs in their struggle to provide safe and humane care to their patients.

Carolyn McCullough. Associate Director of the NYSNA Economic and General Welfare Program, joined the Council for this discussion. She reviewed the several rallies held by nurses to promote consumer education about practice conditions in the health care facilities and about the economic conditions of nurses in the facilities.

The current analysis of the "protest of assignment" forms was reported.

Several additional possible strategies were identified including:

- a) development of resources
- b) advocacy for nurses
- c) letter writing
- d) development of facility report cards
- e) requesting further information from Districts
- f) media involvement

It was agreed to further strategize around this resolution at the next meeting. Ms. McCullough will report back suggestions and ideas from the E & GW Program.

It will be necessary for the Council on Human Rights and the E & GW Program to work in concert on this resolution, but at different points or levels of the problem.

- 3-

#### VIII. REVIEW OF THE GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR BLACK AFFAIRS DOCUMENTS

The Council deplored the lack of nursing input into these reports and the fact that nurses and nursing practice were not addressed in the documents.

The Council will send a letter voicing these concerns.

The document recommendations were reviewed. NYSNA Council on Legislation will be requested to monitor and support any legislation relating to increased access to and improved health care delivery in the health care system for minority and other underserved clients.

# IX. COUNCIL GOALS AND PLANS 1988-1989

The Council reviewed and discussed the goals identified in September 1987. It was agreed to add work on the resolution on working conditions to the list of goals and plans.

This agenda item will be further discussed at the next meeting.

#### X. CONVENTION PLANS 1988

The 1988 NYSNA Convention will be held October 16-19, 1988 at the Concord Hotel.

#### A. Program

Several ideas were discussed including:

AIDS in the Minority Community Consumer Advocacy Through Work with Community Groups Continued Work on Cultural Diversity A Sensitivity Workshop

The final decision about the program will be made at the March meeting.

#### B. Council Booth

The Council will again sponsor a booth.

Additional visuals will be identified.

Minority nursing associations will be contacted for information and a contact person.

Some handouts will be identified.

A drawing for a prize (Carnegie's book) will be considered.

#### XI. OTHER

The Black History Month poster was shared.

Attachment

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XII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

March 21, 1988 - NYC Office June 24, 1988 - The Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing September 30, 1988 - NYC Office

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Kathleen Colling J

KC:EC:k 1-14-88 THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION ON IMPROVEMENT OF WORKING CONDITIONS FOR REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES Approved by the 1987 NYSNA Voting Body

WHEREAS, the goal of nurses is to provide quality care;

WHEREAS, the working conditions of registered nurses must be such that they are conducive to providing that care:

WHEREAS, today's health care environment severely limits that ability of RNs to deliver care of high quality;

WHEREAS, the effect of the nursing shortage is to dehumanize registered nurses by placing them in deplorable working conditions; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the NYSNA Council on Human Rights investigate the inhumane working conditions of RNs, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSNA Council on Human Rights and the Economic and General Welfare Program undertake activities to: facilitate the improvement of working conditions for all RNs; and support all RNs in their struggle to provide safe and humane care to their patients.

#### THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Council on Continuing Education

The Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing Guilderland, NY

December 21, 1987 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Ann Quinn, Chairman.

II. ATTENDANCE

NYSNA Council on Continuing Education
Ann Quinn, Chairman
Janice Alli-Ferrone
Barbara Carty
Joan Lynch
Marylou Sparks

NYSNA Staff
Barbara Zittel, Associate Director, Nursing Education Program

III. MINUTES

The minutes of September 11, 1987 were accepted as read.

- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
  - A. Call for ANA Nominations

Council suggested that Phyllis Collins' name be submitted to ANA for consideration as a nominee to the ANA Council on Continuing Education.

B. ANA Board of Directors - Education Master Plan

The Plan was distributed with a request from the Chair for an in-depth review in preparation for discussion at the next scheduled meeting.

C. Communications from Phyllis Collins

Greetings were read from the immediate past Chair.

#### D. ANA Council on Continuing Education BOA Changes

A communication was read from Dr. Barbara Gessner, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the ANA Council on Continuing Education in which changes in the ANA structure for accreditation of continuing education in nursing was discussed. In response to these proposed changes, a memorandum was sent from the ANA Council on Continuing Education, Executive Committee to the ANA Cabinet of Nursing Education listing two recommendations:

- 1) The Cabinet on Nursing Education serve as an advocate for maintaining the quality of the accreditation system by seeking support of accreditation in continuing education of nursing as a member service; and
- 2) Changes in the governance structure of accreditation of continuing education be delayed until January of 1989.

Council discussed the potential impact of accreditation changes on the NYSNA system of approval. Concern was expressed that changes in the ANA governance structure is precipitous since it is too early to determine the fiscal impact of adoption of the new accreditation model in August 1987 on the total system. Additionally, Council questioned how one body, responsible for both policy development and implementation, can provide an appeal structure and whether quality control can be maintained without site visits.

Council's comments and concerns will be shared with ANA.

#### E. Monthly Record

The yearly report of continuing education activities received and reviewed was discussed. (Attachment 1)

F. Joint Meeting with Functional Unit of Providers of Continuing Education/Staff Development

Council reviewed a request from the Functional Unit to meet and discuss joint interests and collaborative efforts. The Chair agreed to meet with the Executive Committee of the Functional Unit at their next scheduled meeting on April 18, 1988 for a preliminary discussion.

G. Schedule of Review Team Meetings and Roster of Council Members

This material was distributed for Council's reference.

#### V. BUSINESS

A. Plans for Continuing Education Workshops

Staff presented locations and dates for five continuing education workshops which will present criteria for approval of continuing education activities. All workshops will be conducted by June 30, 1987.

B. Appeal Procedure

Staff informed Council that the appeal mechanism must be revised in view of changes inherent in the current approval process. After some discussion, Council requested that this item be placed on the next meeting agenda.

C. Evaluation Study Results

The results of the evaluation study conducted by the Council was reviewed (Attachment 2). Council was requested to consider ways in which the information could be disseminated. Discussion will continue at the next scheduled meeting.

D. Quality Assurance Site Visit

The site visit made by Lois Moses to the NYSNA approved offering "Sensitivity Training for Anatomical Gift Requestors," sponsored by Presbyterian Hospital was reviewed. Excellent correlation between the approved application and the presented offering was noted.

VI. MEETING DATES FOR 1988

The following meeting dates were selected for 1988:

- . March 14
- . May 25
- . July 14

All meetings will be held at the <u>Veronica M. Driscoll Center</u> for Nursing, 2113 Western Avenue, Guilderland, New York

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Ann P. Quinn, MS, RN
Chairman

ATTACHMENT 1

Frankous years figures shown for comparison

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outhly Record of Continuing Education Activiti

PC/BZ/cjp 12/30/87

ATTACHMENT 2

# THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION Council on Continuing Education An Evaluation Study

In its effort to strengthen the process associated with providing contact hour award for continuing education activities, the New York State Nurses Association's Council on Continuing Education conducted an evaluation study in 1987. One purpose of the study was to determine a profile of providers, agencies or individuals who seek contact hour approval from NYSNA for the programs they present.

The following questions were addressed in this phase of the study:

- . Is there a "typical" provider/sponsor?
- . What are the characteristics of sponsors?
- . Why do sponsors seek NYSNA?
- . How strongly do NYSNA criteria for approval impact on program planning?

A questionnaire (attachment 1) was developed and mailed to 250 sponsors of continuing education-sponsors who had submitted offerings for review to NYSNA during the most recent year. Seventy-nine question-naires were returned (32%). An overview of the principle findings of the analysis of the responses follows.

### ANALYSIS

Question I: Classification of Agency Submitting Applications to NYSNA for Review

- A) An overwhelming majority (81%) of sponsors of continuing education who submit their continuing education activities to NYSNA for review classify themselves as private agencies or individuals.
- 3) In terms of the type of agency, the majority of respondents (55%) are associated with an inpatient facility. The next highest group is composed of a melange of agencies classified as "other." Ranging from free standing centers to regional specialty support groups, from outpatient facilities to corporations promoting nursing entrepreneurship, this group comprised 15% of the respondents. Volunteer Health Agencies accounted for 12% of the replies, while colleges or universities accounted for 7%. The fact that colleges/universities represent such a low percentage is not surprising. Many colleges affiliate directly with ANA, bypassing the state association approval system, while others choose to present their nursing continuing education through a non-nursing school of continuing education.

# Question II: Mission of the Provider Unit

Health Care Delivery was chosen as the primary mission by 67% of the respondents. Education was chosen as the primary mission by 28%. This last finding is initially perplexing when contrasted with the results of Question I, which points to only 7% of respondents from colleges/universities. The data suggest that a high percentage of volunteer health agencies, individuals acting as agencies and individuals in the "other" category view education as their primary mission. For the 6% of respondents who checked the "other" category, four indicated that research was their agency's primary mission. It is encouraging that although many of the respondents do not view education as a major goal, resources are still used in submitting applications to NYSNA for review and approval.

Question III: Location of Agency

An urban setting accounted for 82% of the location of agencies submitting applications.

Question IV: Location for Presenting Approved Offerings

The majority of offerings (61%) are presented in-house.

Question V: Size of the Provider Unit

- A) Total number of personnel employed (an approximate figure). The size of provider units is quite diverse as is evident by a range from 1 to 10,872 employees with a standard deviation of 1632.5. The values of the mean (1225), mode (4) and median (1000), point to a positively skewed distribution, i.e., more providers with small numbers of employees than providers with large numbers of employees.
- B) Total number of RNs and LPNs employed (an approximate figure). Although the range of RN and LPN employees is similar (0-5000) the agencies submitting offerings to NYSNA for approval employ considerable more RNs than LPNs. The ratio of RN to LPN employee is 3:1. Twenty percent do not hire any LPNs.

Question VI: Education of Individuals Submitting the Offering

The majority of individuals responsible for submitting applications are prepared at the masters level or above (71%) while 16% hold a baccalaureate degree.

# Question VII: Criteria for Approval of Applications

This question sought to determine the degree of impact of NYSNA criteria on the actual program planning of providers of continuing education.

The criterion which refers to learner fees being commensurate with the type of offering (number 9) appears to have the least effect on providers. It is interesting that in recent revisions this criterion has been removed.

The two criteria which appear to have the highest impact on planning relate to objectives and content (numbers 4 and 5).

The criterion related to including an RN in planning and implementation is surprisingly low in its impact. Since revised criteria now specify the inclusion of two RNs in the planning process, providers will be forced either to include RNs in planning committees or sever their relationship with NYSNAs approval process.

Question VIII: Reasons for Seeking/Not Seeking NYSNA Approval

A) Benefits of obtaining NYSNA approval. One hundred fifty-seven (157) separate remarks were made in relation to this question. When responses were grouped according to their similarity, four major topic areas were identified: (1) signifies quality assurance; (2) satisfies need for CEU; (3) increases marketability; and, (4) is prestigious.

The major benefit of submitting continuing education offerings to NYSNA for approval relates to the aspect of quality control. Fifty percent of the responses identified that NYSNA approval was sought for the purpose of documenting the program's participation in a peer review quality assurance process. A sampling of the types of remarks in this category follows:

- guarantees the quality of the program
- validates our offering as being worthwhile
- is an external quality control
- provides a feedback loop with the profession
- provides a structure which assures educationally sound planning and identifies deficiencies
- reflects compliance with professional standards

The next largest category of responses relate to NYSNA approval meeting the need of nurses for CEUs. Twenty-three percent of all responses were grouped in this category. Typical statements follow:

- NYSNA approval meets the needs of nurses with specialty certification
- NYSNA approval is accepted by nearly all state nursing boards and state nurses' associations
- meets most state requirements for mandatory continuing education for relicensure

Eighteen percent of the responses fell into the third category. Providers of continuing education are motivated to seek NYSNA approval because of a belief that marketability is positively influenced, attendance promoted and reimbursement for participants assured.

The fourth group of responses concerned prestige conferred to staff with the receipt of NYSNA approval. Eleven remarks (7%) related to the growth process of the developer, the sense of accomplishment and status for the department in receiving NYSNA approval for their programming.

Four responses were unable to be grouped. These miscellaneous remarks do not relate to the question and were deleted from the analysis.

B) Presentation of continuing education which is <u>not NYSNA</u> approved. Of the seventy-eight total number of respondents, thirty (38%) indicated that all of their continuing education offerings are NYSNA approved.

The forty-seven respondents who do present non-NYSNA approved offerings listed sixty-two reasons for this action.

Not having enough lead time in program planning is the major reason cited for not seeking approval by 18 respondents (29%). Subjects stated that when the demand for a particular offering is immediate, the eight week time frame requirement is prohibitive. Added to this category were comments related to the cost (6), the amount of paperwork (5) and the total amount of time involved in the entire application process (8). This category, therefore, accounted for 61% of the total comments for this section.

A second category, comprised of 14 responses, was identified as having the common theme, "conditions not appropriate for NYSNA approval." Within this group were statements such as: content not consistent with the legal definition; time less than 50 minutes for some offerings; content not appropriate for nursing; and, some programs are orientation, not continuing education. Three respondents also stated that they had received approval from other agencies or that an offering was being presented in states that did not recognize NYSNA approval.

The last category of statements (10 comments) relate to continuing education activities which are not submitted for nursing contact hour approval because of the multi-disciplinary nature of the activity. Four remarks indicated that other disciplines do not comply with NYSNA criteria for approval. Four remarks indicated that approval was not sought for paraprofessionals.

Question IX: Additional Comments

The comments in this section are miscellaneous notes to Council members or staff.

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