South Central College
Nursing Advisory Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2009
North Mankato Campus

Present: Marta Arch (Pathstone), Donna Lewis, Cathy Sandmann, Emily Goetzke, Marilyn Swan, Louise Murray (Faribault faculty), Beth Stuckey, Christina Hinz, Annette Benson, & Jenn Paulson (Mankato Clinic)

1. Welcome and Introductions were made.

2. Industry Partner Updates:

   Pathstone: Influenza and H1N1 are hot topics right now. There is confusion on the signs and symptoms of each. They will not be starting their seasonal flu shots earlier than usual; lots of demand from staff and residents. They are fully staffed and may be looking to add more RN’s. Rehabilitation business remains strong. All construction is completed.

   Mankato Clinic: Has been in a hiring freeze, however, will be posting positions for LPN’s, especially in family practice.

3. Nursing Assistant Updates
   a. Lyn Kruckeberg is teaching today, however, she wanted to extend thanks to all who completed paperwork for the NCSBN meeting. There were 2-3 documents per facility that needed to be completed and each document was over 12 pages long. A big “thank-you” to Wendy from Hillcrest, Margo & Marta from Pathstone Living, and Sharon at Mapleton Community Home.
   b. SCC will be offering a 4th section of our 4 credit Basic Nursing course this fall.
   c. In the spring, SCC will offer a 1 credit Home Health Aid/Homemaker course.

4. SCC’s Nursing Programs Mission, Vision, and Values & Review of 3-5 year goals and plan
   a. Reviewed current program mission, vision and values. No additions or changes were suggested.
   b. The 3-5 year goals and plan was reviewed. No additions or changes were suggested.
5. Minnesota Board of Nursing Pass Rates—first time pass rates reviewed with committee. Third quarter results will be available mid to late October. Last year SCC’s rates went down in the 3rd and 4th quarters. Congratulations to the PN faculty on a 100% pass rate!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Candidates</th>
<th>Percent Passing</th>
<th>Percent Passing</th>
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<tr>
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<td>30</td>
<td>93.33</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009 2nd quarter</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>89.66 / 91.53 YTD</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
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<td>108</td>
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<tr>
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<td>41</td>
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6. Program Changes (A.S. Degree and PN Diploma)
   a. SCC will be separating the PN and the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing and will be closing the “pathway” option. SCC will continue to offer the “pathway” option (last students to be admitted will be in the spring of 2010) until all admitted students into that course of study have completed the program. Since there is no “pathway program”, this means that SCC will no longer admit into the Minnesota Board of Nursing approved “Mobility Program”.
   b. There are variety of factors driving this change, including, changes in acute care sites related to the role of the LPN, need to increase Practical Nurses in the workforce, first time NCLEX-RN pass rates below minimum standard for 2 years, inability to successfully revise the mobility curriculum, and the need to achieve NLNAC national accreditation with the program that will take us to the future. SCC’s administration strongly supports this change and has provided ½ time release position to faculty to help move this change forward.
   c. Beginning in the fall of 2010, SCC will offer a 4 semester, generic Associate of Science Degree in Nursing. We are working with MnSCU and the Minnesota Board of Nursing on program approvals. A draft program guide was reviewed with the committee by faculty member Beth Stuckey.
   d. SCC will continue to offer a Practical Nursing program, however, PN students will not have the option to automatically move into the Associate of Science Degree. PN students will continue to take 36 credits and earn a diploma at the successful completion of their studies. SCC will be making credit and course adjustments to the PN curriculum which will be in place for fall of 2010. A draft program guide was reviewed with the committee by faculty member Louise Murray.
   e. **Discussion from clinical partners:** Support voiced for curricular and program changes; there was dislike for the mobility program (created a task mindset which made transitioning
into the RN role difficult). Change will positively increase the current pool of PN’s in the market and that there is an employment market for LPN’s (Mankato Clinic has been under a hiring freeze, but will begin hiring LPN’s). The program changes will help in the understanding of the different roles of the LPN and RN. Industry partners noted that of their employees, graduates of the program who had transitioned from a PN to the RN role through the Mobility program did not exhibit the expected RN-level of critical thinking but seemed to remain at the PN level. The change in the program will more clearly delineate the higher level of RN critical thinking to assist PN’s in transitioning to that role.

7. Health Simulation
   a. Annette Benson, RN, MSN, CNE, was hired this summer as SCC’s “Health Simulation Specialist”. Annette has 8 years of teaching experience and is a Certified Nurse Educator.
   b. On the North Mankato campus, a 4 bed simulation center is being constructed. Anticipated completion is mid-March of 2010. Marilyn Swan is the project manager.
   c. On the Faribault campus, as part of a large bonding project, a 4 bed simulation lab will be constructed. The faculty and Director have been meeting with the architects on the design. Anticipated completion will be 2012.
   d. SCC would like to invite clinical partners to work with Annette and the nursing faculty on simulations involving our students. There are a variety of essential components and roles in simulation. By working together on simulation, we increase the understanding and knowledge of simulation in the greater Mankato and Faribault communities. Those interested should contact Annette Benson at 507-389-7317.
   e. Clinical partners expressed interest in partnership with simulation for their staff. Mankato Clinic has new skills competencies for LPN’s at the clinic.

8. H1N1
   a. SCC has distributed information on signs & symptoms of the flu and H1N1 to all nursing students.
   b. Question from SCC to Industry Partners: In the event of a moderate H1N1 outbreak and hospital/site capacity is being challenged, in this situation, what do you see as the role of students and faculty?
   c. Discussion: MDH is recommending that health care workers who have signs and symptoms of an influenza-like illness stay home for 7 days from onset. This means that up to 30% of the healthcare workforce could be out ill during an outbreak. Mankato Clinic is currently holding meetings to talk about their surge capacity. Pathstone reports that they would not keep residents who were positive for H1N1 in their facility (they do not have negative pressure rooms). This would necessitate their movement to an acute care setting. Not all individuals with signs and symptoms are being tested for H1N1; there is a 48-hour turn around in the H1N1 test. A regional hotline has been set up for people to call in and get additional information.
   d. In the event of an outbreak, facilities will let SCC know what they would like us to do with clinical groups.
9. Feedback on the consideration to limit the transfer of science credits
   a. Many nursing programs have a 5 year limit on accepting science transfer credits from other institutions. Currently, SCC has no limits in place. The concern is that students can transfer in science credits that are old (i.e. for example, 20 years). The idea behind the limit is that students need to have current science knowledge in order to be successful and in understanding current nursing content.
   b. **Discussion:** consider a science test for placement. Five years may not be long enough for students who are working and returning to school slowly; group was most comfortable with 7 years &/or with a possible appeal component.