

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on June 5, 2013 at the Department of Public Health Complex, Room 470-A/B, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Ellen M. Komar, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN – *left at 11:00 AM*
Maria Pietrantuono, RN – *left at 11:30 AM*
Gina M. Reiners, RN – *left at 11:15 AM*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Carrie Simon, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Schulman, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Alfreda G. Gaither, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, PLIS, DPH
Jolanta Gawinski, Health Program Supervisor, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS - There were no students in the audience at this meeting.

OPEN FORUM - There were no questions or concerns brought up for discussion by the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

The hearing regarding Natalie Primini, LPN has been continued to September 18, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennifer Filippone stated that the 2013 Legislative Session ends at midnight. The Department is not aware of "any last minutes surprises." Effective October 1, 2013 mandatory, on-line, licensure renewals for nurses, physicians, and dentists becomes effective. There is a \$5.00 surcharge for credit card use which is now included in the licensure fees. All licensees will need to maintain an active e-mail account with the Department of Public Health. Licensees will be able to print their own duplicate license which will specifically say "Duplicate License." DPH's goal is to reach a paperless license renewal system. The answering of survey questions will be mandatory on renewals.

SCHOOL ISSUES – UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH CT – NEW PROGRAM CHAIR

Dr. Pamela Aselton, Interim Chair of Nursing, was present at this meeting to introduce to the Board Dr. Patricia Padula Morgan who will begin her service to the University of Saint Joseph (USJ) as the Chair of Nursing/Associate Dean of School of Health and Natural Sciences on July 1, 2013. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, to approve Dr. Morgan as Chair of the Nursing Program at USJ. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Gina Reiners who recused herself from the discussion and the voting. The Board wished Dr. Morgan success in her new position at USJ.

NCSBN UPDATE – ANNUAL MEETING

The NCSBN is celebrating their 35th Anniversary and 2013 Annual Meeting in Rhode Island's capital city of Providence which is one of the oldest cities in the United States. Delegates for the NCSBN Annual Meeting will be Chair Bouffard and Gina Reiners, Ellen Komar will be an Alternate Delegate, and Jennifer Long will also be attending.

NCSBN BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

Chair Bouffard provided an update regarding the Finance Committee which remains stable, the audit of Pearson Vue which was satisfactory, NURSYS' goal in to become a fully electronic system – no more paper, APRN Committee is developing guidelines for grandfathering in congruence with the APRN Consensus Model. A focus group will get together to develop a decision-tree model to uniformly apply guidelines. A question was raised as to whether there should be a limitation of the number of times a student/graduate be allowed to take the NCLEX. No psychometric reasons exist to limit this although some states have limitation rules. Bylaw changes regarding associate members in the Board of Directors. MidYear had supported this but now the recommendation is to not allow associate members voting rights on the Board. Selection of Honorees for Delegate Assembly recognition: there are five states celebrating their 100th year: Arkansas, College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba, Florida, Montana, and Kansas.

PREHEARING REVIEW – JEANNIE V. PASACRETA, APRN

DPH Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Prehearing Review for Jeannie Pasacreta. Ms. Pasacreta was present with counsel, Attorney Stanley K. Peck. After discussion and review of the documentation presented, it was the recommendation of the Board that this case be dismissed.

CONSENT ORDER – NANTSI VOSE, RN

DPH Staff Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Consent Order for Nantsi Vose. A Consent Order was originally presented to the Board on April 17, 2013. It was the recommendation of the Board to add a \$500.00 Civil Penalty to the Consent Order. Ms. Vose was present pro se. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Ellen Komar, to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – EILEEN HARTMAN, RN

DPH Staff Attorney David Tilles was present representing the Department. Attorney Tilles requested a continuance in this matter. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Gina Reiners, to grant the continuance. The motion passed unanimously. The continuance date is July 17th and will be the first hearing on the agenda.

HEARING – AMBER KALOUSTIAN, RN

DPH Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department. Ms. Kalouostian was present with counsel, Attorney Mony B. P. Yin. Testimony was provided by Marlene Jones and Judith Steiner. Jennifer Long, Gina Reiners, and Maria Pietrantuono left during Ms. Jones' testimony. The hearing closed at 12:33 PM and will be rescheduled for September 4, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 12:35 PM.

Patricia C. Bouffard, Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on June 19, 2013 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Carrie Simon, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ellen M. Komar, RN
Gina M. Reiners, RN

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy M. Schulman, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Pamela Pelletier-Stevens, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Licensure Regulation and Compliance, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS - There were no students in the audience today.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Revised agendas provided to everyone for this meeting
Additional waiver request for Capital Community College

SCHOOL ISSUES – UCONN SCHOOL OF NURSING – NEW DEAN – STORRS CAMPUS

Paula McCauley, Associate Dean was present from the program. At the November 2, 2011 Nursing Board Meeting the Board approved the Interim Appointment of Dr. Regina Cusson as Dean of the UConn School of Nursing. Dr. Cusson has since been appointed as Dean of the UConn School of Nursing effective March 25, 2013. Maria Pietrantuono moved and Mary Brown seconded to accept the credentials of Dr. Cusson which meet the Regulations of the State of Connecticut for Nursing Programs. The motion passed unanimously. The Board congratulated Dr. Cusson and wished her continued success on her appointment as Dean of the UConn School of Nursing.

ST. VINCENT'S COLLEGE – FACULTY EDUCATION WAIVERS

Theresa Cryan and Suzanne Capasso were present from the program to request these waivers. Margo McCarthy, Chairperson of the ADN Program at St. Vincent's College, is currently on vacation and was unable to attend today's meeting. Ms. McCarthy is requesting two temporary faculty education waivers. The Program currently has no waivers and is requesting a six-month waiver for Christine Booth who is currently pursuing an MSN in Nursing Education with an anticipated graduation date of December 2013.

Mary Brown moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to grant the program a six-month temporary faculty education waiver for Christine Booth pending the letter of matriculation from Chamberlain College. The motion passed unanimously.

The Program is also requesting a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Jessica DeMoura who is currently pursuing an MSN in Education from Liberty University with an anticipated graduation date of May 2014.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to grant the program a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Jessica DeMoura. The motion passed unanimously.

STONE ACADEMY – NEW DIRECTOR – WEST HAVEN CAMPUS

Deborah Cardi was present from the program for this discussion. Leslie Harris, the prior manager of the West Haven Campus of the Stone Academy LPN Program, completed her Doctorate in Nursing and resigned from her position at Stone Academy effective May 24, 2013. Deborah Cardi resumed the position effective May 28, 2013.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Jennifer Long seconded to accept the credentials of Deborah Cardi as meeting the Regulations of State of CT for an LPN Program Manager. The motion passed unanimously.

The BOEN and the Department wish Ms. Cardi success in her new position as Program Manager.

CAPITAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE – PERMANENT WAIVER REQUEST

Dr. Cynthia Adams, Director of the ADN Program at Capital Community College, was present to request a permanent waiver for Linda Edson and a one-year temporary waiver for Ryann Nocereto.

Maria Pietrantuono moved to grant the permanent waiver for Ms. Edson. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long for discussion. The motion failed as all were opposed. Ms. Edson's advanced degree is not in nursing and does not meet the regulations. Her degrees are not in the clinical area. The regulations are very clear that an MBA is not appropriate to teach clinical.

A new motion was raised by Maria Pietrantuono to deny the permanent waiver request. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously.

Dr. Adams also requested a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Ryann Nocereto. Ms. Nocereto is matriculated into the University of Hartford's Master's in Science in Nursing Education Program with an anticipated graduation date of May 2014. Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to grant the one-year temporary waiver for Ms. Nocereto. The motion passed unanimously.

NCLEX-RN – STATISTICAL REVIEW

Currently there are 17 RN Schools in CT offering 22 RN Programs. The seat capacity of the 22 programs is 1,929. A total of 2,254 students were admitted to the RN programs. The admissions were based upon 1-3 times per year depending on the school and chairs available per admission cycle. Another interesting statistic was the number of qualified applicants that could have been accepted which was 2,136. More male students were accepted for 2012, a total of 380, which in 2011 there were 256 males accepted.

NCLEX-PN – STATISTICAL REVIEW

Currently there are 16 LPN Schools in CT offering 21 LPN Programs. The seat capacity of the 21 programs is 940. A total of 987 students were admitted for the year 2012. The admissions were based upon one to four times per year depending on the program. This is down from the 2011 total of 1,161 students. The number of NCLEX-PNs eligible in 2013 for 2013 is 616 students. This is down dramatically from 1,588 in 2011. Another interesting fact is the attrition rate. For 2012, the average is 17% compared to 2011 which was 29%.

NCLEX-RN – ANNUAL REVIEW – May 1, 2012 – April 30, 2013

There were two RN Programs who failed to achieve the first-time pass rate of 80% for the dates reviewed.

Present from the program were Susan Capasso and Theresa Cryan. Carrie Simon moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to accept the Plan of Correction for St. Vincent's College Evening Program which had a 72% pass rate. The motion passed unanimously. Mary Brown then moved to place the St. Vincent's College Evening Program on Conditional Approval for one year. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Long and passed unanimously.

Present from the program were Paula McCauley and Robin Muler. The Board reviewed and approved the Plan of Correction for the UConn CEIN Program, Groton-Avery Point Campus which had a 71% pass rate. Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to place the Avery Point Campus of the CEIN Program on Conditional Status for one year due to their NCLEX score of 71%. The motion passed unanimously. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to place the UConn Avery Point CEIN Program on Conditional Status for one year. The motion passed unanimously.

NCLEX-PN – ANNUAL REVIEW – May 1, 2012 – April 30, 2013

The following programs failed to achieve the first-time pass rate of 80% for the dates reviewed.

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Carrie Simon, to accept the Plan of Correction for A.I. Prince Technical School, whose pass rate was 68%. The motion passed unanimously. Jennifer Long then moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to place the program on Conditional Status for one year, effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Carrie Simon, to accept the Plan of Correction for Eli Whitney Technical School whose pass rate was 70%. The motion passed unanimously. Mary Brown then moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to place the program on Conditional Status for one year, effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to accept the Plan of Correction for Vinal Technical School whose pass rate was 53%. The motion passed unanimously. Jennifer Long then moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to place the program on Conditional Status for one year, effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to accept the Plan of Correction for W. F. Kaynor Technical School whose pass rate was 75%. The motion passed unanimously. Jennifer Long then moved, seconded by Carrie Simon, to place the program on Conditional Status for one year, effective immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board also requested an updated report regarding the identified programs Conditional Status at the December 18, 2013 meeting.

At the meeting of the Board of Examiners for Nursing on June 19, 2013, the Board reviewed and approved the Plan of Correction for the Hamden Evening Campus.

The BOEN acknowledges that the LTI Hamden Evening Program was placed on Conditional Status in December of 2011. Due to the 69% pass rate, the Board decided to extend this Conditional Status until **April 30, 2014**. This date will allow the BOEN to annually review the NCLEX scores set forth in the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, Section 20-90-47 (b)(2)(A).

In addition, the BOEN requests that LTI appear before the board on December 18, 2013 with an update regarding the Hamden Evening Program's progress and NCLEX scores.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE CALLS – APRIL 2013

Pam Pelletier-Stevens updated the Board on the scope of practice calls received in the Board Office for the month of April. The majority of the calls were the standard questions regarding

scope and licensure requirements. LPNs continue to inquire if they can do assessments and work in settings that do not have RN or APRN supervision. The answer to both of these questions is no.

CONSENT ORDER – PAULA BOVE, LPN

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzino presented the Board with a Consent Order for Paula Bove. Attorney Ellen Costello was present with Ms. Bove. Mary Brown moved to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and failed as all were opposed. Mary Brown raised a second motion to deny the Consent Order. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously. The Board had reviewed the documentation provided and after discussion, the Board stated that this case should be dismissed. This was clearly a system problem and the Respondent did document the fact that she could not do this.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES – JEANNIE V. PASACRETA, APRN

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges for Jeannie V. Pasacreta. Ms. Pasacreta, along with her counsel Stanley K. Peck, met with the Board on June 5, 2013 for a Prehearing Review. It was the recommendation of the Board that the charges be dismissed. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to grant the Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention, Carrie Simon. Chair Bouffard signed the Motion.

HEARING – ALICIA A. DOUCETTE, LPN

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Doucette was not present and did not have representation at this hearing. There was no testimony provided. Attorney Leslie Scoville made an oral Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Marie Pietrantuono, to grant the Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted as Ms. Doucette did not attend today's hearing and did not file an Answer to the Statement of Charges as instructed in the Notice of Hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Carrie Simon moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded that Ms. Doucette be found on all charges. This was based on the documents provided to the Board by the Department and again the fact that Ms. Doucette did not file an Answer to the Statement of Charges and did not attend today's hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Carrie Simon seconded that Ms. Doucette's license be revoked. Based on the documents provided, the Board felt revocation was the only option in order to keep the public safe. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board questioned Ms. Doucette's license which expired July 31, 2012. Attorney Scoville stated that you can revoke a lapsed license up to 18 months after it had lapsed.

BETHANY BOZZUTO, LPN

Staff Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Bozzuto was present without representation at this hearing. Testimony was provided by Ms. Bozzuto.

The Board instructed Ms. Bozzuto to provide the Department of Public Health with the following records by August 7, 2013 at 4:00 PM: treatment records and letters from all treatment providers, documentation of participation in Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous including a letter from her sponsors, support letters, employer records, recent drug tests, and therapist reports. This hearing will be rescheduled for August 21, 2013 at 8:30 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 11:14 AM.

Patricia C. Bouffard, Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing