



MEMORANDUM

Code: AA-2006-39

To: Chairs, Nursing
Deans, Graduate Studies
Chief Facilities Planners/ Executive Deans
Directors, Institutional Research
Coordinators, Academic Planning Data Base
Directors/ Deans, Admissions & Records
Directors, Information Services Centers

Date: September 18, 2006

From: *Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi*
Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Research and Resources

Re: **Nursing Enrollments for Accountability and Planning Purposes**

Background

In CY 2005-06, the State provided the CSU with additional funding within and above the Compact Agreement to begin to meet the need for new registered nurses in California. In CY 2005-06, the funds were used by the selected campuses to prepare the infrastructure necessary to deliver direct-entry nursing programs in CY 2006-07.

Since the spring 2006 enrollment workshops, Academic Affairs has been working very closely with campuses to establish college-year 2005-06 benchmarks for nursing enrollments across the CSU. The two biggest challenges have been to identify nursing students who were registered nurses (RNs) at entry and to separate reported nursing enrollments into *bona fide* nursing program participants versus students enrolled in the pre-nursing curricula. These two challenges have fallen entirely on the campuses, and we thank everyone concerned for the time and effort it has taken to meet the challenges.

The office of Analytic Studies currently is in the process of generating campus term enrollments and FTES for CY 2005-06 that reflect students who were not RNs at entry and who were enrolled in bachelor of science nursing programs or the master of science nursing programs. The figures for each term and the college year will serve as the primary base for measuring gains in nursing enrollments in CY 2006-07.

This memorandum is addressed to the seven campus officers listed above, because there are important data collection procedures with regard to students and course section information that require the team's attention for both accountability and planning purposes. We thank you in advance for your assistance.

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Copies to: Presidents
Vice Presidents/Provosts, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration
Vice Presidents/Deans, Student Affairs
Vice Presidents, Information Resources Management
Associate/Assistant Vice Presidents, Academic Planning
Associate/Assistant Vice President, Academic Resources
Enrollment Planning and Resources Officers
Chief Budget Officers

Collecting Information about Students in Nursing Programs and Their Status at Entry Regarding the RN: Nursing Accountability

Steps have been taken to capture electronically whether new CSU students at entry have the RN license or do not. Both the CSU Undergraduate Application and the CSU Graduate Application now have an item where students can self-identify as holding the RN license at entry. The new information will appear in 2007-08 ERS files via *CSUMentor*. Unfortunately, campuses will have to identify by hand RN status for *new* bona fide nursing students in 2006-07. As in the previous cycle, Marv Lindsey, mlindsey@calstate.edu, in Analytic Studies will coordinate this *ad hoc* data collection. He will initiate the process by transmitting campus-specific files with instructions. For this cycle, the documentation of RN status will be done separately for each college-year term, beginning with summer 2006.

Especially for campuses that have received additional funding to increase their training of new RNs in MS degree programs, it is important that bona fide nursing students are coded every term. The only FTES counts that will be applied to campus nursing enrollment targets will be those derived from students with codes that reflect admission to the MSN degree program prior to the campus' census date. Thus, for summer 2006 and fall 2006, it is critical that *all* of your *new* classified and conditionally classified graduate students have the proper ERS codes for major, class level, and student standing entered into your information system as soon as possible. It is equally important that you properly identify which of your *new* classified and conditionally classified graduate students already have RN status.

When the Governor's Budget was signed, the change in the calculation of graduate student FTES as discussed at the enrollment workshops was reconfirmed. However, in addition, the CSU was instructed that all FTES growth beyond the base FTES in CY 2005-06 must be "resident." Campus institutional research and admission & records directors have the exact specifications for "resident" students, but the gist is as follows: Students either are billed for nonresident tuition (NRT) plus "resident" fees, or students are billed only for "resident" fees. Increases in the FTES instruction taken by students who only pay "resident" fees continue to receive marginal General Fund support. Increases in the FTES instruction taken by NRT students are supported by the non-resident tuition, and these FTES increases no longer receive marginal General Fund support, beginning in 2006-07.

Another official change to ERS reporting was the establishment of a systemwide major code for pre-nursing students. The 5-digit code ('00121') also has a corresponding CIP code ('511105'). Both codes are now in ERS, so campuses should be using these codes now. The current plan is to evaluate the extent to which pre-nursing enrollments accurately reflect future demand for participation in nursing programs.

An important reference guiding due dates for ERS data submissions is AA 2006-28, a joint memorandum sent by Dr. Philip Garcia, Senior Director of Analytic Studies, and Mr. Ron Basich, Director of Corporate Information Systems. Dr. Garcia, pgarcia@calstate.edu, should be contacted with any questions or concerns about the coding and delivery of ERS data files, as well as the baseline CY 2005-06 reports on nursing that his area will be distributing. Dr. Jim Blackburn, jblackburn@calstate.edu, should be contacted with regard to CSU policies and procedures for distinguishing "resident" and "NRT" students.

Finally, the Chancellor's Office will need to track nursing students who enter without the RN license in both the baccalaureate and master's programs with regard to their student credit units taken, retention, receipt of the RN license, and receipt of the degree. The ERS data system can manage all aspects of the tracking, except for receipt of the RN license. Dr. Christine Hanson, chanson@calstate.edu, Interim Dean of Academic Program Planning at the Chancellor's Office, is soliciting nominations from among the nursing

department chairs and faculty to assist the system in developing the most efficient way to collect such information from the licensure agencies.

Nursing department chairs, institutional researchers, and records officers may need to work with their information services center and graduate studies offices to address these accountability issues.

Collecting Improved Information about Nursing Program Offerings: Planning

The State's provision of within-and-above-Compact support budget funding for nursing students and its continuing interest has required campuses to consider whether nursing has adequate facilities to support especially the intensive laboratory work necessary before a student may sit for licensure as a registered nurse (RN). Several campuses have developed facilities plans in the area of nursing. Several issues complicate the justifications for nursing facilities.

To facilitate the development of adequate nursing facilities, the Chancellor's Office is teaming with the Long Beach campus. While all nursing programs are not exactly alike, the pattern of coursework, especially that requiring laboratories, needs to be documented and understood in contrast with the baccalaureate degree programs in nursing that historically have been offered by CSU campuses to students already holding the RN license.

The use of sophisticated manikins marks an advance in the training of nurses. Rather than practicing nursing skills on human beings, nursing students in on-campus laboratory settings now can respond to a rich array of stimuli without any potential of harm to human subjects. These laboratory settings, however, require special academic justification.

Finally, in examining campus course section records in nursing, staff in Capital Planning, Design, and Construction (CPDC) noted that very few nursing programs were generating laboratory space for nursing. One clear problem has been the use by many campuses of the C-17 designation in the Academic Planning Database (APDB) for nursing laboratories. This course classification is specified only for that part of the nursing and other professional area curricula requiring students to undertake supervised off-campus clinical practice laboratories before program completion. No campus space acknowledgment is granted under the C-17 classification. To address this issue and others associated with APDB, a group of academic associate and assistant vice presidents from several campuses met with Chancellor's Office representatives. In the short run, all concurred that nursing laboratory courses should be coded C-16. This course classification has the same features as C-17, it acknowledges that a laboratory course used and requires campus laboratory space. While the classification is listed as for Science with a facility limit of 24, these factors can be overridden in planning and operations. While the project with the Long Beach campus will lay the foundation for justifying nursing needs, it is extremely important that campuses that offer direct-entry nursing programs have a record of appropriate campus facility utilization.

To implement the appropriate coding of nursing courses, nursing department chairs and APDB coordinators should work with information services centers and facilities planners. Campus facilities planners, in particular, are able to explain the role that APDB disciplinary lecture and laboratory FTES play in capital planning.

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