UCC Program Review Committee summary of review

Program – School of Nursing

This program includes the following degrees and certificates:

- Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program offered at Ohio U. Chillicothe, Ohio U. Southern and Ohio U. Zanesville.
- The Baccalaureate Program offered in Athens through two tracks: Online RN to Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) Completion and the Generic BSN.
- The Master’s Blended Program offered in Athens with four program options: Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator, Family Nurse Practitioner and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.
- The Master’s Online Program offered in Athens with three program options: Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator and Family Nurse Practitioner.

Recommendation

This program is found to be viable, see report for commendations, concerns, and recommendations.

Comments – non-binding

This review was one of several to use the program’s accreditation process as part of the review.

The next review may use the accreditation report but there should be a site visit by internal reviewers.

Date of last review – AY 2005

Date of this review – Spring 2013

This review has been sent to program chair, her comments are attached to the report.

This review has been sent to program college dean, he has no comment.

This review has been sent to graduate council, they have no comment.
Executive Summary

The associate, baccalaureate, and master nursing degree programs offered by the School of Nursing are viable programs. The School is dedicated to excellence in nursing education; all programs are professionally accredited by national associations. Programs offer multiple pathways and prepare students for careers in nursing. Specifically, the programs are as follows:

- Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program offered at Ohio U. Chillicothe, Ohio U. Southern and Ohio U. Zanesville.
- The Baccalaureate Program offered in Athens through two tracks: Online RN to Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) Completion and the Generic BSN.
- The Master’s Blended Program offered in Athens with four program options: Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator, Family Nurse Practitioner and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.
- The Master’s Online Program offered in Athens with three program options: Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator and Family Nurse Practitioner.

Commendations

The School of Nursing degree programs are to be commended for the following:

- Accreditation for all programs by their external, national accrediting commissions and approval by the Ohio Board of Nursing;
- Number and breadth of faculty holding certifications in nursing;
- Maintaining or increasing the total number of and the percentage of full-time faculty with scholarly and creative activities at all four campus locations;
- The Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) major on the Athens campus (conditionally approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing in May 2009);
- The initiation and accreditation of the Masters of Science in Nursing Blended program in 2007;
- The development, redesign, and remarkable growth of the RN to BSN online program in 2009; and
- The initiation and growth of the Masters of Science in Nursing Online program in 2011.

Concerns and Recommendations

- None

Program Review

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programs are professionally accredited by national associations. Programs offer multiple pathways and prepare students for careers in nursing. Specifically, the programs are as follows:

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**Faculty Profile**

**Number of Faculty.** The total number of faculty in nursing has grown as the nursing programs have grown. Between 2004 and 2011, full-time faculty on the Athens campus has ranged from 6-8 while part-time faculty (emeritus and clinical) ranged from 1-12. Full-time faculty at the branch campuses has also increased in the past seven years including an increase from 6 to 11 at Chillicothe and an increase from 1 to 7 at Southern. However, full-time faculty at Zanesville has decreased from 10 to 9.

**Changes in Faculty Composition.** The primary changes that have occurred since 2005-06 related to early retirements have been in Athens and Zanesville. Five Athens group I faculty members and one Zanesville group I faculty member retired early. The Athens positions have been replaced due to the growth of the RN to BSN online program.

**Specializations.** The School group I and II faculty hold 36 certifications in nursing that are nationally recognized and/or board certified. Examples include Certified Nurse Educators \(n = 7\) and Certified Nurse Practitioners \(n = 15\).

**Faculty Diversity.** Nursing faculty members are highly diverse in background, academic preparation and specialization. However, due in part of strict board of nursing rules related to clinical practices in the US, there are no non-US faculty members teaching in the programs.

**Programmatic Practices**

**Teaching and Advising.** In general, the program has been able to offer class sizes that are small enough to provide individual attention to students yet large enough to be economically efficient. The typical teaching load for full-time, group I and group II faculty on the regional campuses and group II faculty on the Athens campus is 24 semester hours. Teaching load for the Athens campus is 15-16 semester hours per year. There are possibilities for load reductions for new faculty at the regional campuses and pre-tenured, group I at the Athens campus. In addition, full-time faculty members have significant student advising responsibilities in all programs.

**Research and Creative Activity.** All faculty members in the School of Nursing are eligible through their assigned campus for professional development funding. All faculty members have
the equal opportunity to apply for both internal and external grant funding. Awarded grants can provide for potential teaching load reductions.

**Service.** Service contributions of the faculty include service to the program of assignment, school of nursing, campus or college, the university and to profession or community and is expected of all group I faculty members. Group II faculty members provide service to the program and school of nursing.

**Interdisciplinary Work.** The School has participated in interdisciplinary work in both the educational and research realms over the review period. For example, one faculty member served on the college level Interprofessional Education Committee which presented the first CHSP Grand Rounds events in 2011-12.

**Diversity of Students.** In general, programs make efforts to promote diversity. For the student population, there is diversity with respect to gender yet females outnumber male students in both undergraduate and graduate programs. For example, there were 56 males in the total population of 428 undergraduates (13.1%) in 2011. With respect to race, ethnicity of the student population is primarily White / Caucasian. For example, there were 34 racial minority undergraduate students (7.9%) in 2011.

### Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

**Scholarship.** Over the review period, the total scholarly and creative activities (SCA) have increased at three of the four locations where nursing programs are offered. (Note: Zanesville maintained a consistently high number of SCA’s including 18 in 2010-11.)

- **Athens.** There was an increase in the total number of SCA activities from 7 in 2003-04 (number of full-time faculty = 7; percentage of full-time faculty with SCA = 28%) to 13 (number of full-time faculty = 7; percentage of full-time faculty with SCA = 71%) in 2010-11. The seven full-time faculty members on the Athens campus produced 10 journal articles in 2011.

- **Chillicothe.** There was increase in the total number of SCA activities from 3 in 2003-04 (number of full-time faculty = 6; percentage of full-time faculty with SCA = 33%) to 11 (number of full-time faculty = 11; percentage of full-time faculty with SCA = 63%) in 2010-11.

- **Southern.** There was increase in the total number of SCA activities from 7 in 2006-07 (number of full-time faculty = 7; percentage of full-time faculty with SCA = 100%) to 17 (number of full-time faculty = 6; percentage of full-time faculty with SCA = 100%) in 2010-11.

**External Support.** The total amount of research grant dollars varied during the review period. In 2009-10, Athens faculty received $810,331 in program grants/contracts and $205,900 in community grants/contracts. Funding has improved the ability to award student scholarships with grants that provide for both undergraduate and graduate students.

### Resources
Staffing. Staffing varies by campus and by program. For example, staff on the Athens campus includes an administrative coordinator, an administrative associate, three office assistants, nursing academic advisors, and graduate assistants.

Physical Facilities. The physical facilities used to support the nursing programs on each campus include faculty offices, support staff work spaces, classrooms, conference rooms, nursing skills/simulation labs, space for secured files, and a centralized nursing office.

Technology. Technology is utilized to support the nursing programs at each location. Computer labs are available for both independent and classroom use. Power Point, Blackboard and print scanners are available to faculty for presentations. All nursing locations include adult, pediatric, birthing, newborn simulators and numerous task trainers. Other technology related resources include computer assisted instruction, computer-interactive video programs, specialized professional computer packages, and remedial study programs.

Undergraduate Program Review

Associate Degree Curriculum. The curriculum plan of study consists of course content in nursing art and science, the physical biological and technological sciences, and social and behavioral sciences. The ADN curriculum semester plan of study contains 18 courses totaling 71-74 credit hours, 45 credit hours are nursing whereas 26-29 are non-nursing, offered in 24 months. Students take throughout the curriculum courses (fall, spring) that provide them with the content and competencies included in the contents areas.

Associate Degree Students. The ADN program curriculum is designed to contribute to intellectual and personal development and career goals of students, emphasizing liberal studies. Undergraduate major programs prepare students for employment in a variety of careers and for continued study. The numbers of graduates who successfully completed the program from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 was 302.

Baccalaureate Degree Curriculum. The baccalaureate program offers two tracks: RN to BSN Completion (since 1975) and Generic BSN (since 2009). The RN to BSN program requires 192 quarter (120 semester) credits. The credits are a combination of transfer work and courses completed at OU, including upper division nursing courses.

A total of 196 quarter hours (120 semester hours) are included in the generic BSN degree. The curriculum is structured at each level to achieve the desired student outcomes by moving the student from simple to complex thereby meeting the breadth and depth of the BSN Essentials. The Health Education Systems, Inc. (HESI) assessment tests (11) are utilized to benchmark individual student progress in acquiring knowledge necessary for professional nursing practice and success on NCLEX-RN (RN licensing examination).

Baccalaureate Degree Students. The majority of the learners in the RN to BSN program are part-time students. Students are admitted eight times a year. Students are registered nurses who are part of the Academic Outreach Initiative (AOI) Hospital Partner group, the Community College Partnerships (CCP) group or a miscellaneous group of students with neither affiliation. By 2011, the size of the program grew to about 4,000 students.
The first class of pre-nursing (BSN) students was admitted fall 2009 and in the spring of 2010, 106 students were selected for the major. In spring 2011, 100 students were selected for the major and 101 students were selected for the major in spring 2012. Retention yield is 93 in the Class of 2013, 89 in Class of 2014 and 105 in the Class of 2015. Most students are traditional age, residential college students.

Graduate Program Review

Curriculum. The inclusion of a Master of Science (MSN) program in the School of Nursing has been part of the School’s strategic plan since the mid-1990s. MSN students complete 36 to 39 semester credits of graduate level work. The MSN Program offers four options: (a) education, (b) administration, (c) family nurse practitioner (FNP), and (d) acute care nurse practitioner (ACNP). Courses were originally delivered through a combination of regular classroom, interactive television classroom, and online delivery strategies. The totally online option was added in 2012.

The MSN Program has the primary goal of providing a high quality educational program that prepares nurses for roles as advanced practice nurses, nurse educators, and nurse administrators. These individuals return to their communities and improve the quality of the health care delivered in those communities. There are 21 credits in the core taken by all students and 13 or 16 credits in courses specific to each option.

Students. As of August 10, 2012 there were 217 students in the MSN: (a) 31 in education with 6 blended and 25 online, (b) 28 in administration with 3 blended and 25 online, (c) 152 in family nurse practitioner (FNP) with 36 blended and 116 online, and (d) 13 in acute care nurse practitioner (ACNP) with 13 blended.

Commendations

The School of Nursing degree programs are to be commended for the following:
- Accreditation for all programs by their external, national accrediting commissions and approval by the Ohio Board of Nursing;
- Number and breadth of faculty holding certifications in nursing;
- Maintaining or increasing the total number of and the percentage of full-time faculty with scholarly and creative activities at all four campus locations;
- The Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) major on the Athens campus (conditionally approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing in May 2009);
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- The initiation and growth of the Masters of Science in Nursing Online program in 2011.

Concerns and Recommendations

- None
Dear Dr. Ingram,

I have reviewed the report and consider it to be accurate. I appreciate the acknowledgment of our national accreditations, Board of Nursing approval and the nursing faculty's impressive number of professional certifications over many specialty areas in nursing.

Thank you to the committee on behalf of the School of Nursing, Regional Higher Education and The College of Health Sciences and Professions.

Sincerely,

Deborah Henderson PhD, RN, CNE
Professor and School Director
Associate Executive Dean, Nursing Education, Regional Higher Education Associate Director BSN and RNBSN Program College of Health Sciences and Professions Grover Center E365
(740) 593-4494- Telephone
hendersd@ohio.edu

On 10/31/13 3:19 PM, "Ingram, David" <ingram@ohio.edu> wrote:

>Debbie and Randy
> Please find attached the review of the Nursing Program.
> The UCC procedure is such that if you do not have any comments you do
> not need to reply with the two week deadline. We will assume that you
> consider the review to be accurate and that our recommendation
> (viable) is acceptable to you.
> If you do have comments, please get them to me by November 13th.
> Thanks
> David
> 
> Chair, Program Review Committee of UCC
> 
> David C. Ingram (ingram@ohio.edu)
> Professor and Chair
> Department of Physics and Astronomy