

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING  
EDUCATION**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**OPEN SESSION**

**April 19, 2010**

**The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:30 am on the above date in room 401, Department of Health, three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law, so called, and other applicable sections of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island as amended.**

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING**

**Jeannine Borozny, RN**

**Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN**

**Sandra Mergerdichian, RN, MS Vice President**

**Joslin Lesca, RN, MS, RNP, President**

**Cristiana Rosa, MS, RN, PCNS**

**Linda Twardowski, RN,MS**

**Carol Cairns, RN**

**Kristen Young, RN**

**Linda Damon, RN,MS**

**Manuella Reposa**

**Anne Tierney, RN, CRNA, Secretary**

**Michael Gerhardt**

## **BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

**Peggy Matteson, RN, PhD**

**Michelle Cahill, LPN**

**Catherine Rose, RN, MS**

## **STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Pamela McCue, RN, MS Director**

**Linda Tetu Mouradjian, RN, Compliance Officer**

### **1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

**Ms Lesca called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. A quorum was established at this time.**

### **2. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF March 15, 2010**

**On motion of Ms Cairns, and seconded by Ms Mergerdichian, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes of March 15,2010 with amendments. Ms. Lesca's name ins misspelled.**

**A motion was made by Ms. Megerdichian to reorder the agenda and move item 5 section 1 to the first agenda item. Ms Rosa seconded this and the board unanimously voted in favor.**

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

## **1. RIC/URI Proposed Simulation Lab and Classrooms**

**Ms Lesca introduced Commissioner DiPasquale and welcomed him. Commissioner DiPasquale described the proposed project of a new nursing building in the “knowledge district”. He outlined the support for this concept and a summary of the project. Ms. Tierney asked if Brown University would have a separate facility. Commissioner DiPasquale indicated that the building would be separate. Ms. Twardowski asked about LifeSpan’s involvement in the project. Commissioner DiPasquale indicated that LifeSpan is providing guidance and is very supportive. Michael Gerhardt asked if there was an examination of any suburban sites. Commissioner DiPasquale responded that the examination of the city area would be beneficial to the area. The Commissioner reported on the need for synergy between institutions. He pointed out the concerns regarding the budget. He pointed out the need for collaboration amongst the three institutions (URI, RIC, CCRI). Ms. McCue asked a question about process and the role of the General Assembly. The Commissioner stated that the General Assembly would have to approve for it to be put on the ballot as a bond item. Michael Gerhardt pointed out that people may feel different about bonds this year. Ms. Lesca pointed out the multicultural nature of the three state schools. How do you protect and preserve the identities of the three programs? The Commissioner pointed out that despite sharing a structure the schools would still have their own spaces and identities. Faculty would be together to share ideas and information. A state of the art**

nursing simulation center would be shared amongst the schools. There is no intention to merge the schools. Both institutions would keep their own identity. Ms. McCue stated that as a regulating body there is a need is to remediate nurses and if there was consideration for the use of the simulation lab for these purposes. The Commissioner described the collaboration of increased public and private institutions.

Ms Lesca then asked if members of the public had any questions. Jane Williams, Dean of College of Nursing at Rhode Island College stated that she and her faculty were not in support of the proposal. She discussed the concerns regarding secondary school education. She pointed out the student population of RIC and the percentage of minorities and the differences in populations and style of RIC and URI. She stated that the faculty is committed to the program and students. She pointed out the level of support that occurs on campus. She pointed out the faculty salaries are below the national average though faculty are dedicated to the RIC mission. She pointed out that innovation takes faculty and good students. Ms. McCue asked, based on Dean William's testimony, if the proposal included that the college of nursing would no longer be at Fogarty Life Science. Dean Williams responded that this was unknown. Commissioner DiPasquale stated that the planning would take place after the building is approved. Michael Gerhardt asked about the official position of URI and RIC. Commissioner DiPasquale discussed the support of the Presidents of the both URI and RIC and the Board

of Higher Education. Ms. Twardowski asked if the Deans of both schools were consulted prior to official proposal. Dean Williams stated she did attend two meetings. The Commissioner stated that he had wished URI was present at this meeting because they have publicly supported this proposal. Ms. Lesca pointed out that she heard this proposal is about a new additional building for nursing, not that the schools would move to this building. The Commissioner did clarify that there would be faculty offices and classroom space.

Ms Lesa asked if there were any other questions from the public. Cynthia Padula, RIC faculty member, wished to present. Ms Padula proceeded to state that she was currently a faculty member at RIC and spent many years on the URI faculty. Ms Lesca requested that Ms Padula submit her comments in writing to the Board for their review.

Commissioner DiPasquale thanked the Board for extending an invitation to him to discuss this proposal.

Ms Lesca stated that there were several items on the agenda and that time was limited, thus the Board would continue this discussion at the next Board meeting. Again, Ms Lesca stated that if there were any additional comments on this agenda item that they be submitted in writing.

### **3.PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Ms. Lesca introduced the new NCSBN Journal of Nursing Regulation.

**Each Board member received the first issue and would continue to receive each quarterly publication during their service on the Board. Ms Lesca referred Board members to the article addressing the concept of “just culture”.**

**Motion to move item #5.2 and #5.3 to follow the President’s Report by Mr. Gerhardt and seconded by Ms. Borozny.**

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **2 External Jugular PIVs**

**Ms Lesca informed the Board, that the IVT Services Nursing staff at RI Hospital has posed a question to them. The question “Is insertion of external jugular peripheral intravenous catheters within the scope of practice of a RN?”**

**Ms. Lesca called upon Ms Morgan, a member of the community to provide comment. She described her background as an ER nurse, ICU nurse and instructor. She recommended that any organizational policies governing this needs to include education and clinical practice. Donna Policastro, Executive Director, RISNA stated that this should be imbedded in hospital policy. The following motion was made by Ms Megerdichian and seconded by Ms Borozny**

**Insertion of external jugular peripheral intravenous catheters is within the professional registered nurses scope of practice when the RN has demonstrated competencies performing this skill in**

**adherence to national standards (ie Infusion Nurses Society). The motion was passed unanimously, no abstentions or objections.**

### **3 New Institute of Technology Update**

**Karen Haidemenos gave an update to the board on their new nursing program. The school did start as scheduled in April. She described the school did have difficulties with the flooding and that did cause some delays. There are 16 students in the fast track portion in the program. The math and science prerequisites had to be within three years. The fast track students will graduate in 14 months. Accreditation with NLN is proceeding. The school will be moving on October 4th into the new building. Ms. Mergerdichian asked about full time faculty. There is at present 3 full time faculty. Ms. Rosa asked about the requirements for prerequisites and qualifications. Ms. Haidemenos stated that students that did not meet requirements could take their prerequisite courses at the school.**

### **4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**NCLEX pass rates- Ms. McCue described the pass rates. All school are above the 80% required pass rate.**

**National Student Nurses Convention-Ms McCue attended this convention in early April. She reported that there were several hundred students in attendance and that education sessions were dynamic and attendees demonstrated a real energy and enthusiasm. She reported what an enjoyable event and meeting it was.**

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Proposed language to the Nursing Rules and Regulations**

**Ms McCue described the amendments that were discussed at the last meeting, including definitions for preceptors. Ms McCue also informed the Board that Dean McGarry's submitted written comments for their consideration. Ms Lesca indicated the time to the Board and that was late in the morning and that this agenda item needed much more time for discussion. Ms Borozny made a motion to table further discussion and put this topic on the agenda for May 10th. Mr. Gerhrdt seconded this and the vote was unanimous**

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS Ms. Lesca welcomed representative from Lincoln Technical Institute. Ms. Haidemenos asked about the new NCLEX pass standard. Ms McCue explained that NCSBN Board of Directors decided at the December 2009 meeting to raise the NCLEX-RN standard. The passing standard is periodically evaluated to reflect the changes in nursing practice. Ms McCue assured Ms Haidemnonns that several factors are used to determine this and it is not intended nor anticipated that a great number of students will fail the NCLEX .**

### **8. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**On motion of Ms Megerdician, seconded by Ms Rosa, it was unanimously voted to move into Executive Session pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws for the**

**discussion of job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure and licensees and for discussion of investigatory proceedings relating to misconduct by applicants licensure and licensees, and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. The Open Session adjourned at 10:30 am.**

## **9. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS**

**Ms Leasca called the Open Session back to order at 1:30 pm.**

## **9. VOTE TO SEAL MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS OF 42-46-5 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS**

**On motion of Ms Mergerdician, seconded by Ms Damon, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in the Executive Session and to seal those minutes in as much as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.**

## **10. PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS**

**Jay Murray, RN, CRNA**

**Action: reinstate on a 4 yr 8 month probation**

**Susan Serio, RN**

**Action: Suspension**

**Cheryl Harris, RN**

**Action: 2 year probation**

**The following Cases were voted a finding of No Unprofessional Conduct**

**RN09-051**

**RN10-012**

**RN09-112**

**RN09-111**

**PN09-110**

**RN10-006**

**NP10-018**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Ms Twardowski, and seconded by Ms Cairns, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:35pm.**

**Respectfully submitted by**

**Anne Tierney**