

**Merced College**  
**RN/LVN/CNA/MA Advisory Meeting Agenda**  
**May 2, 2022**  
**9am-11am**

**Present:**

**I. Call to Order – Welcome**

Claire & Kitty welcomed everyone and the meeting was called to order at 9:17am.

**II. Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves and the facility/agency they represent.

**III. Additions to Agenda**

No additions to the agenda.

**IV. Approval of Minutes from May 2019**

Minutes were approved as written.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Status of VN Program – Claire Alvarez**

- 1. Graduation/NCLEX Pass Rates** – May 2020 Cohort: 34 out of 38 students graduated, with a 74% NCLEX pass rate due to COVID lockdown and testing delays. All passed the NCLEX by their second attempt.

December 2021 Cohort: Online learning for their first semester, 29 out of 36 students graduated (less than usual because of COVID) and the NCLEX pass rate was 84% (National Average is 68%).

- 2. Current Class** – 34 students (less than usual 40 because of COVID). New NCLEX format exam focused on clinical judgment model coming out in April 2023. Innovative teaching methods such as additional case studies and more interactions will be used to prepare students.
- 3. Accreditation** – For the first time, a site visit was done by a BVNPT (Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians) Consultant on August 26, 2021. The LVN Program got a 100% approval and is now approved through November 2025 (4-year approval cycle).

**Faculty/Rotations/COVID Update** – COVID policies created by Program Directors in April 2020 which were approved by administration, allowing students to be on campus to learn skills. COVID led to creative scheduling and working with additional sites. Students helped with several vaccination clinics. A big thank you was given to the clinical partners for their support through these challenging times: Mercy Medical Center & Outpatient Clinics, Anberry Transitional Care Hospital, Anberry Nursing & Rehabilitation Hospital – Atwater, Merced College Child Development Center, Castle Family Health Clinics, Merced Behavioral Health Center, The Schelby School, La Sierra Nursing Home, and Hyland Skilled Nursing Facility.

A special thank you to Mercy for allowing students to complete clinical when most sites shut students out due to COVID.

4. **Employment** - All students from Spring 2020 cohort are IV certified and currently employed. Several have gone on to the LVN-RN Bridge program. Some are working as RNs now, or are about to graduate from the RN program.
5. **Application Process** –There will be a new application process for the August 2023 cohort. The 32 people left on the waitlist will be accepted with the other spots being filled using a lottery system.
6. **Other** – Diane Spork from Merced College asked, “Psychiatric technician is an up and coming degree and certificate in the allied health programs at other schools. Would we have enough community interest to have a program like this?” Claire stated it isn’t something that has been discussed but could be a possibility for the future

## **B. Status of CNA Program – Kitty Cazares**

1. **Faculty/Facility Partners** – A new FT faculty position is open and expected to begin in August 2022. The current instructors are: Amber Dickens, Brenda Lima, Charley Marshall, Raj Mehat, Ana Sanchez Urzua, Nancy Siler & LaTresha Thompson  
  
Facility Partners: New Bethany in LB, La Sierra Care Center, Merced Nursing & Rehab, Anberry Transitional in Merced, & Anberry Atwater
2. **High School Partnerships** – Currently have 28 students at Atwater High but looking to add Mercy County Office of Education (includes Delhi, Le Grand, & Hilmar)
3. **Rotations/COVID Update** – Many challenges with COVID: No Available clinical sites, N-95 masks, shields, goggles, testing, quarantining and lockdowns. Because of this, no CNA classes were ran in Summer 2020 through Spring 2021.

Pre-pandemic report estimated by 2030, 600,000 home health workers would be needed in California. That number has only increased if you take into account the few amount of CNA graduates the last few years due to COVID.

Things are looking better now and hope to go back to pre-pandemic numbers. Current Goals: Summer 2022 (60 spots in Merced, 30 in LB), Fall 2022 (30 spots in Merced, 15 in LB – can expand to Summer numbers), & Spring 2023 (30 spots in Merced, 30 spots at Atwater High, and 30 spots in LB)

## **C. Status of RN Program – Kitty Cazares**

### **1. Faculty/Facility Partners –**

Facility Partners - Mercy Hospital and clinics, Merced Behavioral, Los Banos Memorial, Children’s Hospital, Merced Nursing, & La Sierra Care Center. Future sites: Anberry Atwater (return) & Hylond Care Center

COVID created many issues and changed clinical with masking, goggles/shields, vaccination and boosters. The RN program was shut out of Valley Children’s hospital but around November/December were let back in with limitations (10 students instead of the usual 15). Merced Nursing & La Sierra were added and have kept their doors open to the RNs.

Thank you to the facilities that worked with the RN program during the COVID pandemic to ensure students graduated on time, with a special thanks given to Janet Ruscoe at Mercy and Austin Bradley at Merced Behavioral. In Spring 2020, Mercy hospital kept their doors open to our students—outpatient clinic and one floor of the hospital. Merced Behavioral provided alternative rotations for Psych (virtual). All classes graduated on time with very limited waivers for OB and Peds (without decreasing enrollment).

Faculty - Full-time instructors, Rochelle Grise and Gloria Provencio are retiring, as well as part-time instructor, Aletha Rogers. 4 new instructors were hired: Xochitl Tilley, Brandi Henard, LaTresha Thompson, and Jannette Aguilar for simulation.

### **2. NCLEX-RN Pass Rates/Attrition**

NCLEX Pass Rates: 89.58% for 2019/2020 (national was 87.5%) & 81.82% for 2020/2021 (national 80.48%)

There is a NextGen NCLEX. Faculty are working to prepare students for this new test. The general requirements are the same, but questions are more situational and points are awarded differently. Previously, a question was either answered correctly or incorrectly and the points were all or nothing. With the new test, a “select all that apply” question may have 8 options to choose from, with 5 of the options being correct selections. If the tester selects 4 of the 5 points correctly,

they get 4 points. However, if they select a wrong choice, they get one of those points taken away.

Attrition: 9.22% for 2019/2020 & 8.96% for 2020/2021

NCSBN Study: The national licensing agency is collecting data on the effects of COVID. They are following the students through the program and a year after they graduate – looking for any differences in those that were taught and became a nurse during COVID. Merced College was one of 5 colleges chosen and the Spring 2022 graduates will be included in this study.

### **3. Grant Updates/Hospital Support**

- Nursing Support (Chancellor's Office) - Approx. \$238,000/year
- Song-Brown (OSHPD now HCAI) - 2-year grants-\$100,000 to \$200,000
- Mercy Hospital - Fund one full-time and one part-time faculty/year
- Los Banos Memorial - Donates one part-time instructor

### **4. Application Process** - There is an online application in March each year (used to fill 27 spots in Fall and 27 in Spring the following year, plus 8-12 for the LVN to RN pathway). The typical number of applications is 400+, plus 30+ for LVN to RN.

The system had a glitch during the Spring 2022 application window so an additional day to apply was added to ensure everyone who tried to apply was able to do so. Notifications are expected to go out by the end of May.

### **5. BRN Accreditation Visit – Spring 2023**

Dr. Schindler & Kitty are working on this now as it takes about a year to write everything up.

### **6. Simulation** - The BRN is supportive of increasing simulation from 25% to 50%. However, now the BRN will provide limits on the amount of hours spent in each specialty area.

### **7. Other**

- **CCC-CSU Collaboration:** State-wide discussion coming up. Community colleges are working with the CSU system to take out the redundancy. They could possibly take courses at the CSU at the same time as the community college, but money/financial aid is an issue.

## **D. Status of MA Program – Patty Eighmey**

### **1. Current enrollment** – 13 Medical Assistants completed in Spring 2021. 25 additional students are on track to complete by end of 2022. Enrollment is open, with new cohorts starting and graduating every month.

2. **Los Banos Medical Assistant Program – Sukhraj Mehat** – Newly expanded to Los Banos in June 2021. In Fall 2022, the MA Program will solely be held in Los Banos. The Merced College Outreach personnel are reaching out to all of the high school students to help spread the word and continue to grow the program.
3. **Externship** – Externship is 180 hours and done once the student has completed the program.  
  
Externship sites: Golden Valley, Timothy S. Johnston MD & Associates, Eugina Garcia, M.D., Get Well Urgent Care, Ekizian Family Chiropractic Center, Sierra Vein & Vascular Institute, Central Valley Cardiovascular, Central Valley Nephrology, Merced Heart, Merced Rheumatology, Merced Vein & Vascular Center, Chenn-Yow Fuh, M.D. & Mohan Reddy, M.D.
4. **Certificates** – Certificates are now given out by the Merced College Admissions & Records office twice a year, during the Spring & Fall semesters. If requested, the instructor can provide a letter confirming they have completed the program until they receive their certificate.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **LVN to RN 30 unit option** – mandated by the California Nurse Practice Act. It applies only to those in California. It allows students who want to upgrade from a LVN to a RN the option to get a certificate without getting a degree. Those who graduate using this option can only sit for the California board. They cannot take this to another state because they do not have a degree.

A vote is required to move it forward to the Chancellor's office. Norma and Morgan handed out papers for the attendees to vote, those on zoom voted via an online poll. Results attached: 46 - yes, 5 - abstained, & 1 – no.

- B. **Updates & future opportunities from our partners:**
  - Golden Valley Health Centers is hiring! LVN and RN opportunities! They also have CNA opportunities in Modesto.
  - Stan state has a full time faculty position open for the ASBSn program. We plan to launch a post masters psych-mental health nurse practitioner certificate 2023. We will be launching our new nurse educator certificate soon.
  - La Sierra has openings for CNAs and 2 positions open for licensed nurses, either LVNs or RNs.
  - Anberry Atwater is transitioning to a special treatment center over the next few months. They are looking for a psychiatrist.
  - DaVita needs a float in the Los Banos region which runs through Turlock, Merced, Los Banos, & Atwater
  - John C. Fremont Healthcare District needs RNs, LVNs, and CNAs. They offered a rotation to CSU Stanislaus.

**C. Graduations**

1. RN Graduation – Monday, May 16, 2022 at 6pm, located in the college theater
2. CNA (Merced) Graduation – Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 5:30pm, located in the college theater

**VII. Adjournment – 10:36am.**

Recorder: Morgan Hutchens

**Attended via Zoom:**

Joe Allison - VP Administrative Services, Merced College

Lindsay Roe – RN Instructor at Merced College

Luis Enrique Flores - Researcher at Merced College

Delicia Garcia – RN Clinical Assistant at Merced College

Lilian Her – - Golden Valley Health Centers, Human Resources Specialist

Sylvia Jimenez - Golden Valley Health Centers, Recruiting Manager in HR.

Patricia Murphy - MAA/EHR Certification Teacher, Merced Adult School

Mary Jo Stanley- CSU Stanislaus

Diane Spork - Senior Evaluator at Merced College

Marie Soriano - ROP Medical Instructor Los Banos High School

Saly Sulieman - Assistant Director/Professor of the LVN Program

Gina Vang - Counselor with Merced College

**Attendees In Person:**

See PDF.

Poll Report

Report Generated: 5/2/2022 12:55  
 Zoom Meeting ID 947 2799 6514

**Spring 2022 Advisory Committee Meeting of the Registered Nursing, Vocational Nursing, Nurse Assistant and Medical Assisting Programs**

Poll Details

Vote Type	User Name	Submitted Date/Time	30 Unit Option Vote	Total Abstain
Zoom	Diane Spork   Merced College	5/2/2022 10:18	Abstain	5
Zoom	Sylvia Jimenez	5/2/2022 10:19	Yes	
Zoom	Marie Soriano	5/2/2022 10:17	Yes	
Zoom	Lindsay Roe# RN# MSN	5/2/2022 10:17	Yes	
Zoom	Luis Enrique Flores (he/him/él)	5/2/2022 10:17	Abstain	
Zoom	Patricia Murphy	5/2/2022 10:32	Abstain	Total Yes 46
Zoom	Lilian Her	5/2/2022 10:17	Abstain	
Zoom	Joe Allison	5/2/2022 10:26	Yes	Total No 1
Zoom	Delicia Garcia	5/2/2022 10:23	Yes	
Paper	Sylvia Rodriguez	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Lorita Vasquez	5/2/2022 10:25	No	
Paper	Vilma Reynoso	5/2/2022 10:25	Abstain	
Paper	Michelle Gilardi	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Liliana O. Renner	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Sabrina Gudgel	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Ana Sanchez	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Austin Bradley	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Amanda Smith	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Alejandra Sahota	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Caroline Dawson	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Cassandra Ens-Madruga	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Cassandra Hernandez	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Elva Reyna	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Angela Sanchez	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Erick Borgman	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Skylar Henry	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Gerald Fragasso	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Randy Barber	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Raj Mehat	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Michelle Joseph	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Marielle Valdez	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Jena Ipock	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Mary Whited	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Janice Rogge	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Rachel Gorham	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Gonzalo Tafoyo RN, MSN	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Rosa Campos	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	LaTresha Thompson	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Francisco Tostado	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Rachel Cook	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Angelo Mantoan	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Yvette Rubio	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Vera Rocco	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Rochelle Grise	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Wanda Schindler	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Andrea Lawrence	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Sue Helfgott	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Marie Bruley	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Patti Eighmey	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Cheryl Zelinsky	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Valerie Albano	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	
Paper	Morgan Hutchens	5/2/2022 10:25	Yes	

Nursing Advisory Meeting Sign-In Sheet

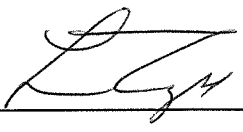
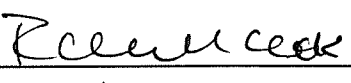





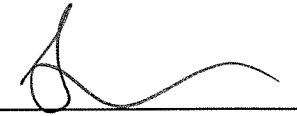

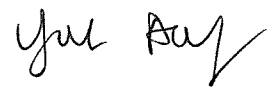
Monday, May 2, 2022; 9am-11am

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email	Signature
Dawson	Caroline	Dean of Instruction	Merced College	(209) 381-6544 <del>381-6544</del>	dawson.c@mccd.edu	Caroline Dawson
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Schindler	Wanda	RN program faculty	Merced College	384-6108	Wanda.Schindler@mccd.edu	Wanda Schindler
Barber	Randy	MED TECH ADJUNCT EL CAPITAN MEDTECH	Merced College EL CAPITAN H.S.	201-1551	barber.r@mccd.edu	Randy Barber
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Nursing Advisory Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Monday, May 2, 2022; 9am-11am

Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email	Signature
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Hernandez	Cassandra	Administrator	Davita	(209) 628-4459	cassandra.hernandez@davita.com	
Grise	Rockell	RN	Merced College			
Helfgott	Sue	Counseling	MC	209-723-7409		
FRAGASSO	Grandy	Instructor	GVHS	559-917-8148	gfragasso@nhisd.org	
Rocco	Vera	RN Educator	Mercy Hospital	564-4311	vera.rocco@dignityhealth.org	
Rubio	Yvette	Health Science Student	CSU Stanislaus	209-216-9014	yrubio2@csstan.edu	

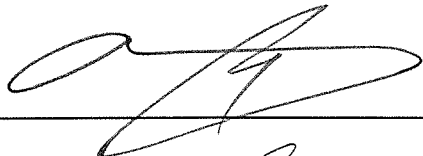



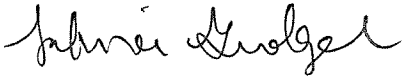

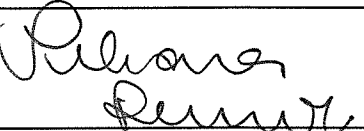
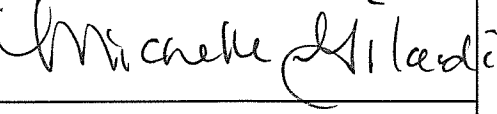

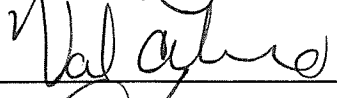
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Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email	Signature
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Joseph	Michelle	Director of CDE	M.C.	209 386 6633 <del>209 631</del>		M Joseph
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Campos	Rosa	Counselor	LeGrand High	209 389 9400 ext. 1014	rcampos@ lghs.us	R Campos

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Last Name	First Name	Title	Organization	Phone	Email	Signature
Brocey	Austin	Don	MERCED BEHAVIORAL	209-777-1232	AUSTIN.BROCEY @mercedbehavioral.com	
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