



# Healthcare Advisory Committee

## Annual Meeting

August 16, 2022  
5:30 p.m. Via zoom

### MINUTES

Dr. Becker called the via zoom meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

**Present members:** B. Raman (Dean of Instruction and Student Services), Dr. T. Becker (Interim Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health), J. Morgan (PVUSD RN Nurse), L. Mills (RN Instructor), C. Martinez (RN Instructor), A. Bavaro-Ricci (LVN Instructor), A. Ruiz (Innecare-BFHC), D. Copple (LVN Instructor), A. Lujano (Nursing Placement/Clinical Coordinator), M. Schuerger (RN Director), M. Miranda-Copple (LVN Instructor), M. Martinez (La Paz CEO), and S. Lainez, (Recorder-Nursing/Instructional Services Technician).

**Introduction of Nursing and Allied Health Staff:** Dr. Becker introduced the nursing staff members as indicated on the agenda.

#### Program Reports:

- Dr. Becker's main proposal for this meeting is to activate the Fast Track Vocational Nursing Program and deactivate the Traditional Vocational Nursing Program.

Curriculum Outline for Fast-Track Vocational Nursing Program includes prerequisites: Mat 95, ENG 100 Reading and Composition with Supplemental Support or ENG 101, PSY 201, BIO 210 and BIO 211 or NUR 102 and **NSC 128 Medical Terminology**.

#### VN Fast Track Courses:

NUR 115 Pharmacology for Fast Track VN  
NUR 116 Fast Track VN Fundamentals Theory  
NUR 141 Fast Track VN Fundamentals Clinical  
NUR 117 Nutrition for Nursing  
NUR 143 Fast Track VN Medical-Surgical Nursing Theory  
NUR 144 Fast Track VN Medical-Surgical Clinical  
NUR 145 Fast Track VN Clinical Focus (summer course)

Note: In the current VN Program courses, students are taking Pharmacology NUR 103 & NUR 106. In the RN Program students would only take one course of Pharmacology NUR 115 course.

Question: B. Raman asked if the success of the Fast Track Program was on par or better than the year and a half sequence, D. Copple confirmed. M. Miranda also mentioned that pass rates for Fast Track students were 95% pass rate.

Question: M. Miranda asked Dr. Becker, how long does she anticipate it would take for a Traditional VN Student to complete the VN program; and how long does she anticipate it would take for a Fast Track student to complete the program. Currently, aside of the pre

req. the program itself would take a year and a half. In the Fast Track students would complete the program in one year, saving the students one semester.

Question: B. Raman asked when and if the Fast Track Program gets approved, will we be accepting 15 students or what is the number of students? Dr. Becker confirmed that we would be accepting the 15 students.

Dr. Becker apologized for a missing prerequisite on the list above. Add NSC 128 Medical Terminology to the list of prerequisites. It's a very necessary course since it is a prerequisite for the RN Program also.

Question: B. Raman asked if VN accepts 15 students and the RN accepts 20 students per year, will there be a potential bridge for the RN Program? Dr. Becker explained that there would be an opportunity for the VN student to enter the RN Program in the second year of the RN Program. It is not comment that by the second year we do NOT have all 20 students. All students that are VNs and going into the RN Program will need to take and pass the Transition course.

M. Miranda commented that the health care in the Palo Verde Valley has had many changes, we have many loss provider locally, loss of health services for our community members, however, we have had new healthcare organization enter our community such as the Riverside University Health system, SAC Health system and are clinical settings looking to employ LVN and MAs. The only RNs they have are RN Managements, so this is going to be a necessary need in the upcoming year or two.

**M. Miranda-Copple motioned to deactivate the Traditional Vocational Nursing Program and activate the Fast Track Vocational Nursing Program; B. Raman seconded the motion. Motion carried. 13 Yes, 0 No - unanimous**

- CNA Program- D. Copple reported that we have 16 CNA students; some concerns that the CNA is not a prerequisite for the new F/T VN Program. A. Bavaro-Ricci is excited to be teaching the CNA clinical portion of the program. She will be teaching for 5 weeks and turn it over to C. Martinez to finish the rest of the weeks.
- RN Program- M. Schuerger briefly commented on the need for the RN Program and the benefits for the community; the excellent RN Board virtual visit; the submission to NEC of the final documentation.
- Phlebotomy Program- D. Copple commented that the Phle. Program is very popular. Currently, we have 18 students enrolled in the lecture class and 16 in the practical experience class. We are having a problem with the ABG Observation portion of the course, D. Copple is working with the hospital.  
Dr. Becker and J. Randal, Dean of Needles Center, have talked about offering a Phlebotomy & IV Certification course at the Needles campus and working with Colorado River Medical Center, students have requested for these two Program on campus.
- IV Certification – Dr. Becker confirmed that we usually offer the IV course after each VN Program has been completed, D. Copple confirmed. We will be continuing working with BVNPT on getting the program approved for Needles campus.
- Home Health Aid – D. Copple explained that report has been complete and mailed to CDPH for approval. D. Copple received an email that the report was being reviewed, hopefully we will hear back from them soon to add the course onto the Spring schedule.

Question: M. Martinez asked regarding the RN Program, can the clinical cross over to Arizona or does it have to be kept in California? Dr. Becker and Dr. Schuerger confirmed yes it must stay in California, they have tried to explain that La Paz is so close.

**Future Goals and Plans:**

- We will continue to increase enrollment in all our programs. Dr. Becker would like to do some pop-up events to advertise for these programs, we do have a counselor working with the high school students. Maybe it would help for students to talk to a nurse, nurse educator to talk about the benefits of being in the healthcare.
- Continue working in getting the Fast Track VN implemented through the curriculum, Chancellor Office and BVNPT.
- Working on offering the RN Program in January 2023 and announce any progress and share mid-November the approval that we are anticipating.
- Dr. Becker will continue to work with J. Randal on the two courses to get started on Needles campus.

Question: B. Raman asked, what does it take to get the Medical Assistant Program (MA). Does it require different facilities, equipment or labs or do we have the needs? Dr. Becker explained that a lot of the VN & RN equipment is the same that would be used. MA focus on becoming Phlebotomist Certified, and EK Certified, and the skills are very similar just in a different level of education. Unsure what California's regulations are.

B. Raman suggested reviewing this area once all other programs are stable and active.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.