

## Nursing Workforce Advisory Council Minutes of the February 17, 2009 Meeting

### **Welcome**

Council Chair B.J. Swanson called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. She welcomed council members and alternates in attendance in Boise and via the telephone.

Chair Swanson stated that much has happened since the last meeting with the release of the January 2009 Summary of Findings and Recommendations and Jan. 11, 2009 talking points. Governor Otter announced the formation of a health professions task force which follows the council recommendations for an integrated council. The council fielded a team for the national nursing education summit and has an opportunity to apply for a technical assistance grant. With all that has happened, it is important that we determine our research agenda and decide the next steps before turning our work over to the broader health professions task force.

Chair Swanson asked Cheryl Brush to call the roll. There were no changes to the agenda or the minutes of the last meetings. Noreen Davis moved the minutes of the Nov. 17, 2008 council meeting and the minutes of the Dec. 1, 2008 Legislative Communications Committee be accepted as submitted; seconded by Steve Millard and unanimously approved.

### **Governor's Health Professions Education Council Update**

Chair Swanson introduced Governor Otter's Special Assistant for Health Care Joyce McRoberts to share information about the governor's new council which he announced in his state of the state address.

Ms. McRoberts said that the governor's Health Professions Education Council was a work in progress. She shared information on the governor's task force committee that conducted hearings across the state and listened to testimony from over four hundred participants regarding health care issues in 2007. The task force committee concluded that Idaho needs to focus on workforce issues in the health professions and in education. The governor appointed Dr. Tony Fernandez as the chairman for the new council. Seven additional committee members will be appointed and the governor will sign the Executive Order at a later date. Ms. McRoberts expressed support of Dr. Fernandez as the new council chair and thanked the Nursing Workforce Advisory Council members for all their hard work and accomplishments.

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the continuation of the research and data analysis currently being provided by the department, Idaho Department of Labor Director Roger Madsen assured the committee that the department will continue to be supportive and is committed to the work started by the Nursing Workforce Advisory Council.

## **Nursing Education Capacity Summit Report**

Chair Swanson welcomed Peggy Munson, the president of the Idaho AARP, and expressed appreciation for the commitment of this organization to solve the nurse workforce shortage and Ms. Munson's personal commitment to the effort.

Chair Swanson said that Dr. Carol Ashton, ISU; Susan Ault, IALN; Peggy Munson, AARP and Sara Scudder and Cheryl Brush, Department of Labor, attended the national nursing education summit on February 4 and 5, 2009 in Baltimore, Maryland. Chair Swanson asked Idaho Alliance of Leaders in Nursing Executive Director Susan Ault to report on the nursing education summit.

Ms. Ault reported that the summit meeting focused on exploring strategies to increase nursing education capacity and foster actions at the state level to include four issue areas:

- (1) Strategic Partnerships and Resource Alignment
- (2) The Role of Policy and Regulation
- (3) Increasing Faculty Capacity and Diversity
- (4) Education Redesign

Ms. Ault also said that other major issues discussed at the summit included:

- (1) Moving away from nursing/education focus to focus on healthcare and workforce
- (2) Building diverse partnerships and realizing that not everyone will agree, but it is important to move forward and partnerships will also increase available resources
- (3) Speaking with one voice with the same message
- (4) Preparing for the needs of the baby boomers

Ms. Ault presented a summary of the Nursing Education Capacity Summit with a handout (see attachment). She stated that further information was available at the Center to Champion Nursing in America at [www.championnursing.org](http://www.championnursing.org) and on the summit at [www.workforce3one.org](http://www.workforce3one.org).

### **Request for Technical Assistance Grant and Task Force**

Cheryl Brush will complete the application for the technical assistance grant and asked for volunteers to serve on the task force. Cheryl asked that Peggy Munson serve and all members of the Nursing Workforce Advisory Council will be included unless they notify Cheryl by e-mail.

Communication and Research Administrator Georgia Smith of the Idaho Department of Labor suggested that the nurse faculty shortage brochures be scanned and made available for all members to view.

## **Proposed Data Exchange between the Department of Labor and Higher Education Institutions Update**

Chair Swanson called on Patty Sanchez, State Board of Education, to report on the council's request for data exchange. Ms. Sanchez reported that the State Board of Education is currently working on the legal issues involved with the agreement and would soon finalize the details. Rep. Henbest asked when it would be available; Ms. Sanchez reported that it would be available by the fall of 2009.

## **Future Department of Labor Surveys**

Research Analyst Principal Sara Scudder of the Idaho Department of Labor discussed the following surveys (see attachments):

1. 2009 Program Director Survey
2. 2009 Job Vacancy Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
3. Vacancy & Expansion Survey-Condensed

Discussion ensued. Sara will develop the surveys as directed by the council and expects the surveys to go out some time in March with the returns to take up to six weeks and then the surveys can be analyzed by June 30, 2009.

Communication and Research Administrator Georgia Smith of the Idaho Department of Labor suggested a sub-committee to meet and agree upon the language and questions for the survey. The sub-committee will consist of Susan Ault, Noreen Davis, Margaret Henbest, Karen Hodge and Steve Millard.

Georgia passed out the talking point handout for the Idaho Nursing Workforce Advisory Council dated Jan. 11, 2009 (see attachment). She encouraged council members to make comments so that the document can be used as talking points and the council can speak with one voice.

## **Next Meeting**

Chair Swanson asked members when they would like to hold the next council meeting. Cheryl suggested that after the governor appoints the new council members then it would be appropriate for the Nursing Workforce Advisory Council to meet and help transition to the new council.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the council, Chair Swanson adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

**Attendance:**

Members:

Ms. Susan Ault  
Ms. Noreen Davis  
Ms. Sandy Evans  
Rep. Margaret Henbest  
Ms. Karen Hodge  
Mr. Roger Madsen  
Mr. Steve Millard  
Dr. Pamela Springer

Via Telephone:

Dr. Carol Ashton  
Dr. Manuelita Burns  
Dr. Tony Fernandez  
Mr. Steve Frei  
Ms. Kathleen Nelson  
Dr. David Schmitz  
Ms. B.J. Swanson, Chair  
Dr. Mark Sugden for Claudeen Buettner  
Ms. Amber Miller for Sen. John McGee

Alternates:

1. Ms. Patty Sanchez  
State Board of Education  
for Dr. Mike Rush
2. Ms. Jewels Carpenter  
Professional-Technical Education  
for Dr. Mike Rush
3. Dr. Dale Bowers  
Chief Academic Officer  
State Board of Education  
for Dr. Mike Rush

Guests:

Ms. Joyce McRoberts  
Special Assistant for Health Care  
Office of the Governor

Ms. Peggy Munson  
Idaho State President  
AARP

Staff:

Cheryl Brush  
Sara Scudder  
Pat Nelson  
Georgia Smith  
Alice Taylor