

AACON Business Meeting  
Spring 2020 Meeting  
February 28, 2020

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Presiding: Jenny Schuessler

Meeting called to Order 1000

Brief welcome to those dean's/director's attending for the first time and to the USG representatives

Members Present: **Augusta University** – Beth Nesmith, Tanya Sudia, **Clayton State University** – Lisa Eichelberger, Victoria Foster, Grace Nteff, Michael Scott, **College of Coastal Georgia** – Lydia Watkins, **Columbus State University** – Janet Alexander, **Dalton State University** – Lynda Ridley, Sylvia Driver, **East Georgia State College** – Linda Upchurch, **Georgia College & State University** – Debbie Greene, Debby MacMillan, Sallie Coke, **Georgia Gwinnett College** – Sharon Grason, **Georgia Highlands** – Rebecca Maddox, Sheila Sutton, Michelle Boyce, **Georgia Southwestern State University** – Paula Bryant, Sandra Daniel, Teresa Teasley, **Georgia State University** – Joan Cranford, Regena Spratling, **Georgia Southern** – Catherine Gilbert, Melissa Garno, **Gordon State** – Samantha Bishop, **Kennesaw State University** – Yvonne Eaves, **Middle Georgia State University** – Donna Ingram, Kendra Russell, Tara Underwood, **University of North Georgia** – Joanna Carrega, Sharon Chalmers, **University of West Georgia** – Jenny Schuessler, **Valdosta State University** – Michelle Ritter

Guests Present: USG representatives: Tristan Denley per SKYPE, Jennifer Rutledge Pettie, Rebecca Corvey; UAPRNs: Desiree Clement, Michelle Nelson; Lobbyist: Julianna McConnell; GABON: Jim Cleghorn

Report from Dr. Denley and Jennifer Rutledge Pettie

- Alignment Follow-up Discussion
    - Dr. Denley joined remotely to offer updates on USG alignment (See slides)
      - Thanked all for the reports submitted to the USG office
      - Encouraged all to aggressively pursue plans to increase capacity
- FOLLOW UP ACTION CAPACITY: All to follow through on capacity plans
- Discussed RN to BSN programs. Envisions 3-4 schools as clusters based on geography and accreditation to collaborate together and share teaching of these courses. Columbus State has existing model through e-major portal.
  - Much concern expressed by deans and directors in terms of the logistics and next steps related to this. Some expressed concerns that the RN to BSN track is their biggest and only program

**FOLLOW UP ACTION RN to BSN:** Working groups led by Linda Upchurch. Will organize a phone call for all programs with an RN to BSN program and develop sub-groups based on location and accreditation body.

- Dr. Denley also discussed catapult courses. Analysis of each SON has been done and will be shared with deans in the near future. All to develop interventions to improve these catapult courses.

**FOLLOW UP ACTION CATAPULT COURSES** -look for this information, develop/ implement plans to improve these courses.

- Dr. Denley discussed gen ed redesign. Implementation Fall 2022. 42 hours in old core, 33 hours In new core
  - Several questions were asked. Dr. Denley answered that area F written communication would likely be taught by English faculty. Institution wide courses are not college specific. May be a chance for one science rather than 2.

**FOLLOW UP ACTION GEN ED REDESIGN** Working groups led by Jenny Schuessler and representatives from USG tiers.

- Jennifer Rutledge did a presentation on updates that Included other suggestions such as programs for veterans and accelerated degree programs (See attached)
  - Shared that she will be posting and Spread sheet with the directions on tracking cohorts by graduation and NCLEX pass rate.

**FOLLOW UP ACTION COHORT DATA:** Look for spread sheet from Jennifer and enter data. All check regularly with their institutional assessment and effectiveness offices to ascertain that professional nursing students are coded correctly and not confused with pre-majors.

Further Discussion- after all shared brief introductions, general discussion of the following topics took place

- Paid Preceptors
  - There is lots of competition to get preceptors as some are being paid by for profit schools. Thus when the preceptor has a choice of precepting a USG student versus a proprietary school, they tend to go with the student that is paying.
  - There are companies that provide preceptors at a cost, but they are expensive and some of the experiences have been sub-par
  - Some NP students are competing for the same sites as medical students and med students have been paying for their preceptor experiences.
  
- Out of state clinical placements

- Clinical placement sites are limited for nursing students in Georgia, however, students from north Florida and east Alabama are using clinical sites in Georgia
- This is happening with NP students as well
- Would like for Georgia student clinical needs to be addressed first.

**FOLLOW UP ACTION PAID PRECEPTORS, OUT OF STATE CLINICAL PLACEMENTS:.**

Need volunteer leader to pull together those this affects most. The deliverable from group is a statement about this matter that reflects concerns correctly.

- GBON Updates
  - Jim Cleghorn attended meeting to present GBON updates”
  - NEXT GEN NCLEX is on its way; the implementation date no sooner than April 2020

FOLLOW UP ACTION-Continue to prepare for NEX GEN NCLEX
- UAPRN Update (see slides)
  - Dr. Michelle Nelson, Dr. Desiree Clemonts and Julianna McConnell presented updates for APRNs
  - States Florida is moving toward full practice authority
  - Some discussion about APRNs in Georgia inability to order x-rays except in an emergency situation, so still some restrictions
  - Discussed the closure of several rural hospitals and how NPs can assist with this problem
  - Mentioned the need for nurses to have a unified voice

FOLLOW UP ACTION: Encourage Nurse Press Conference at Capitol attendance on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 1300-1500
- Nurses on Boards
  - Dr. Lisa Eichelberger discussed nurses on boards and encourage everyone to serve to improve the health of communities
  - GNLC Doctoral Conference on February 29<sup>th</sup> from 0900-1500 at Mercer
  - Discussed workforce data, final results pending

FOLLOW UP ACTION: Please register on nurse on board registry and encourage colleagues to do so
- Adverse Childhood Events/Resilience (see slides)
  - Dr. Sharon Grason did a presentation on the topic discussion the types of abuse and clinical services to assist students
  - Discussed community services that may be helpful

FOLLOW UP ACTION- this topics is germane to our roles as we work with students, colleagues as well as patients. It is also critical that we make our students aware of ACES so that they can include it in their nursing assessment and care. To that end, we will continue to consider ways to promote resilience in our students.

- Committee Reports
  - Program Committee- Yvonne Eaves shared the draft agenda for the June retreat. Please let Yvonne know by March 31<sup>st</sup> if you know of topics that need to be included.
  - Nomination Committee- Michelle Boyce shared the ballot. The committee will complete it for vote at the retreat.
- Jenny Schuessler encouraged all to attend the AACN meeting related to the Essentials coming up next week in Atlanta
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- Adjourned at 3:30.

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