

## **Department/ Division Compliance Report on Distant Education:**

**Department of Nursing: College of Health Sciences**

**Submitted: June 2012**

### **a) “Develop, monitor and review Internet course offerings and make recommendations for change and improvement”**

Presently, the Department of Nursing does not have any online course offerings within the department. There are some courses which may require on line activity, but students are still required to attend courses which do not completely meet the definition of a hybrid course or online course.

In order for the Department of Nursing to be more competitive, it is recommended to start one or two on line courses. One of the possible options for consideration could be within the RN- BSN track. This could be a good option since these programs are attractive to nurses working full time.

### **b) “Assist faculty members teaching Internet courses to be adequately prepared to teach and prepare required materials”**

We do not have any faculty teaching on line courses. However, much of the nursing content for the nursing courses is communicated and accessible on line. Only two nursing faculty with the lightest course workload this year were able to complete the online teaching course conducted by CTRE during the intercession in preparation for online teaching. All faculty are encouraged to take the course, however many of the Department of Nursing have increased cues loads which has made this difficult.

To encourage faculty to begin training in distant learning, it is suggested that workloads may need to be adjusted to encourage participation and buy in. The faculty in the department who carried the lowest workload had the ability to attend the training.

### **c) “Provide a methodology to evaluate the effectiveness of the distance learning offerings;”**

To provide the best methodology to evaluate the effectiveness of distant learning offerings, a discussion will need to be conducted with the new and returning faculty during Fall 2012.

### **(d)“Develop a procedure that ensures adequate advisement for students registering for Internet courses”**

To develop a procedure that ensures adequate advisement for students registering for Internet courses this will need to involve engagement of the faculty as well as the academic advisor and the academic performance coordinator. Presently, the advisors in the department often conduct

some initial advising or assistance to student by phone. This may also be an option for advising distant learning students.

Once the university moves closer toward distant education, an approval process for students registering for internet courses can be established.

**(e)“Make recommendations for change and improvement to Internet courses and the supporting infrastructure**

In order for some our programs to be competitive, particularly the RN-BSN, and the newly added Masters of Science in Nursing, we would need to have a more competitive edge by initially offering 1-2 courses. Once the courses are up and running, 1-2 additional courses could be added per year.

The university infrastructure for providing the foundation for these courses will be needed to ensure the success of the programs for students, faculty, and the university.