

**UW-Madison School of Nursing  
Assessment Report  
2005-2006**

**1. Updated Assessment Plan**

Please see attached assessment plan for the UW-Madison School of Nursing. The School will implement for the first-time an Employer Satisfaction Survey. Funding for development and implementation of the Employer Satisfaction Survey was approved in June 2006.

**2.and 3. Assessment Activities 2005-2006**

Individual course and curricular changes occur as a result of assessment of student evaluations, curriculum committee work, and in response to new standards or practices.

**UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**

**Baccalaureate Program (BS)**

The School continued to use, for the sixth year, the exit survey for baccalaureate nursing graduates developed through a partnership with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and Educational Benchmarking, Inc. (EBI). Survey results are reviewed by faculty and are examined against results from the previous year.

A subcommittee of the Undergraduate Program Committee (UPC) continued to review curriculum as well. This review identified that informatics, genomic, and end-of-life care content was lacking across the undergraduate nursing major. In response, informatics and genomic content was integrated into the first year of the undergraduate nursing program. A plan to continue integration of content in the second year courses is in place. The committee suggested a three-pronged approach to genomic/informatics integration: involve clinical instructional staff, move students and faculty beyond data elements to “how to”, and evaluate progress without being burdensome to faculty. The UPC also approved the course N522: End of Life that will be available to senior and graduate students in the spring of 2007.

An assessment of the Undergraduate Honors Program resulted in increasing and making more visible to prospective students the program’s research focus. An Honors Seminar was piloted in Fall 2005 and received a positive response from students. The seminar will now be a required portion of the Honors Program beginning Fall 2006.

An undergraduate advising email survey was conducted at the end of spring semester. Student feedback indicated general satisfaction with the advising services. They

requested that more information be provided on career services and study abroad. Both of these issues are being addressed.

We continue to assess undergraduate student performance by monitoring NCLEX results. Students successfully passed the NCLEX at a pass rate of 93% in 2005. This is above the national pass rate. Despite a high pass rate, students and faculty have requested that NCLEX web-based practice sites be made available to students. The School of Nursing is exploring the purchase of an on-line pre-test option.

### **Collaborative Nursing Program (RN to BS)**

The statewide Collaborative Nursing Program, now called BSN@Home, celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2006. UW-Madison has graduated 103 of the 449 total graduates from the program. Nearly half of the students have completed or are currently enrolled in masters programs with 17% planning to pursue doctoral study. The program continues to use a common course evaluation; which is used in each course each semester. The evaluation of course content and method of delivery are extremely positive and the data collected are shared with all institutions to help guide program decisions.

## **GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

### **Masters Program**

The Graduate Program Committee (GPC) approved the implementation of the Educational Benchmarking, Inc (EBI) survey designed for follow-up on master's students at graduation. Surveys were distributed to students who have or will have graduated in December 2005, May 2006, and August 2006. We will continue to use an internally developed survey to follow-up with alumni who graduated five years ago.

GPC also considered enrollment limits for master's program courses in light of increasing enrollments, limited resources, and the increase in online course offerings. The committee approved guidelines for course enrollments to assure educational quality and student progression.

### **PhD Program**

GPC reviewed and approved three new doctoral courses as part of the curriculum revision. The courses are:

- N815: Knowledge Development in Nursing
- N816: Proseminar in Nursing
- N817: Research in Communities, Populations, and Systems

The GPC discussed the doctoral program evaluation process and recommended including review of the revised curriculum and the Early Entry PhD Option as part of the review. One assessment approach being considered is exit interviews with graduates. Also, the

committee recommended gathering information at three-year intervals from PhD graduates to track their accomplishments (publications, research funding, awards, etc).

**4. Academic Assessment Activities for 2006-2007.**

- Continue to review undergraduate and graduate student survey data
- Implement Employer Survey at the undergraduate and graduate levels
- Review entrance criteria for MS program, including GRE requirement
- Establish progression guidelines for Early Entry PhD Option students
- Continue to develop and assess career services activities