Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC)
Meeting Summary
November 18, 2009

Members Present: Dr. Arnett Mace (Chair), Dr. Valerie Hepburn (Co-Chair) by phone, Dr. Susan Kelley (for Dr. Mark Becker), Dr. Kathryn Hornsby (for Dr. Freida Hill), Roman Cibirka (for Denise Kornegay), Ms. Deborah Lyons, Dr. Gary Means, Dr. Patrick Schloss, Dr. Jeff Etheridge (for Dr. Peter Sireno), Ms. Phyllis Johnson (for Mr. Gary Steppe), and Dr. Jim Thompson.

Center for Health Workforce Planning and Analysis (CHWPA) staff present: Chris Albrecht, Kristi Fuller, Dara O’Neil, and Ben Robinson.

Opening Remarks:
Dr. Arnett Mace opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for their willingness to serve on the committee. Each member introduced themselves to the group.

Review and Approval of July Meeting Summary:
The July 2009 meeting summary was approved.

Revised Charge for the HPAC:
Dr. Mace discussed with the committee members the need to review the mission and purpose of the HPAC. Bylaws were distributed and committee members were asked to review and provide recommendations to Ben Robinson, Arnett Mace or Valerie Hepburn prior to the next meeting.

Updates on Developments in Nursing Education:
1) NEEP: Ben Robinson gave an update on the summary of the revisions to the Nursing Education Expansion Plan (NEEP).

Discussion: The committee is concerned with faculty salary discrepancies and would like to make data available to help inform decisions in this area. They have asked that the report on faculty salaries be forwarded and that Dara O’Neil give a report on this topic at the next meeting. Also mentioned during the discussion was the fact that nurses will be facing increasing responsibilities in the next ten years. The committee would like to have a goal created in the NEEP that supports the use of innovation to address these responsibilities.

2) Strategic Initiatives Related to the NEEP: Dara O’Neil gave an update on the Nursing Education Task Force Funding Initiative

Discussion: It was agreed that there should be a process to evaluate the awardees’ progress at the end of the final year. The committee felt Center staff should talk with Fiscal Affairs to discuss the allocation and condition of the funds as well as draft a letter to each institution
outlining the expectations for funding continuation. There was also discussion to have each institution share their best practices from this initiative.

3) Faculty Development
   a) ICAPP – 2011 Health Professions Initiative (HPI) request for proposals was distributed
   b) Tuition Assistance Program – was approved and the process has been developed for part-time nursing faculty to access this benefit.

Discussion: Ben Robinson mentioned that NE GA Health System wanted to start a dialog regarding the preparedness of nursing graduates from all systems – USG, TCSG and private institutions. Ben asked that committee members forward him names of nursing educators that should be included in this conversation. Debra Lyons mentioned possibly using the workforce profiling tool her office currently uses to identify skills gaps.

The following topics were announced and the committee was asked to review the documents associated and prepare to discuss these at the next meeting:

Other Strategic Developments Needed/Pending:
Clinical Rotations
Dialog on needs of nursing education with health employers

Mental Health
Special initiatives in behavioral health
Outline of concerns with behavioral health workforce
Request for Governor’s Special Advisor on Mental Health

Next Meeting
The HPAC will meet again on February 10 from 1pm until 3pm at the Board of Regents offices in Atlanta.

Future Agenda Items:
Clinical Nursing – Dara O’Neil to report
Discussions with hospitals
Governor’s Special Advisor on Mental Health - update on request regarding nursing
Mental Health Nursing – get Ben names for psychiatric nursing consortium

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Albrecht, MHSA
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Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia