

MINUTES  
Nursing Department AHE Meeting  
October 12, 2009

Present: Cindy Myers, Linda Valenzuela, Gayle Fujimoto, Susan Nieman, Dix Dixon, Meredith Moore, Deb Hendrickson, Laurie Brown, Becky Ellis, Lori Ellerbroek, Randy Givens, Rosemary Sievila, Angie Marks, Sharon Doty, Nancy Sheppard.

1. Nancy Sheppard reviewed the 2/12/09 CCAHE Bargaining update which stated that the goal of AHE was to establish the standard workload of Clark instructional departments at 15 credit hours (exceptions include courses such as Journalism and English at 12/13 credit hours). This would be done a few units at a time in order to reduce the impact on the College. In this last round of bargaining, Engineering and Graphic Communications were reduced to 15, and Nursing was reduced to 16. Nursing had asked for that load based on the assumption that, since most instructors have a 16 hour clinical load and 2 hour theory load, moonlight would be paid for the 2 theory hours.

At the curriculum meeting of 9/28/09, Nancy shared the information given her by Peggy McClellan regarding moonlight pay. This was that the moonlight hours would be carved out of the clinical hours and paid at the affiliate lab rate. Nancy checked with the CCAHE leadership and found that this was indeed the standard practice of the College, and the provision for paying moonlight at the lowest rate was written in the contract.

2. Randy Givens moved that the Nursing workload be reduced to 15 hours, not only to be commensurate with the other Clark instructional department workloads, but to improve our ability to attract nursing faculty. Laurie Brown seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous with one faculty member absent. When polled later, the absent member voted to approve.

Nancy will take this request to the CCAHE bargaining team with the hope that this change will be approved and implemented with the next bargaining session.

3. Randy asked about the possibility of increasing the base salary for faculty in general and nursing faculty in particular. In the past, years of clinical experience were taken into consideration, and nursing faculty were hired at steps of C, D, and E. This is not being done anymore, and is a further hindrance in hiring nursing faculty.

Nancy will take the question as well as a copy of the Washington Center for Nursing's white paper "Nursing Faculty Workload in Washington State" to the CCAHE leadership. This report addresses retention and recruitment problems in regard to nursing faculty.

4. Nancy reviewed some of the top ten 2009-10 goals of the CCAHE as identified at the Senate retreat on 9/12/09. One of the main goals is to increase attendance/involvement of the CCAHE (including all faculty and not just senate members) in trustee meetings and work sessions. Nancy encouraged all faculty members to consider attending a trustees meeting in order to learn about the processes involved and to show a nursing faculty presence to the trustees.

5. Nancy forwarded a request by CCAHE for home phones and/or e-mails to use if communication needs to occur when school is not in session. The general consensus was that all Nursing faculty check their college e-mail frequently year round, and that home numbers were not needed. Nancy will so inform the CCAHE.
6. Nancy passed out a questionnaire asking faculty members to give input on priorities and specific items of importance they would like to see addressed in bargaining. Please fill out in the next couple of weeks and put in Nancy's box.
7. Nancy stated that volunteer opportunities exist within CCAHE as well as WEA. So if anyone has the interest and some spare time, let Nancy know and she will forward your name to the association.
8. General question and answer session with Nancy followed:

What is the status of help with our parking fees at WSUV?

Answer: unknown at this time. Clark is looking at several options, one of which is the purchase of parking spaces at WSUV. We would then pay Clark for our parking pass, and be able to pay for it pre-tax as the main campus faculty/staff can. This may or may not ever come to pass.

Was an answer ever given to the question raised at the tenure orientation meeting regarding Bob Knight's role in recommending tenure? Rassoul said he would get back to everyone.

Answer: no one has heard anything so far. Nancy will ask the CCAHE leadership if anything has been heard by them.

What is the status of the shared governance project?

Answer: Administration is pursuing some ideas as noted by a session during orientation week. The CCAHE has talked about taking ownership in this process, starting with researching successful shared governance existing in community colleges nationally. Nancy believes this research is currently being done by AHE, and will check on and report back.