TO: Dr. Don Jeffrey, Dean  
College of Health and Human Services

THROUGH: Dr. Bernita Hamilton, Director  
School of Nursing

FROM: Dr. Donna Bedsole, Director  
ASN Program

RE: Proposed Changes to ASN Program

DATE: June 3, 2004

The ASN Program faculty participated in five “Curriculum Work Sessions” throughout Spring Semester 2004 (minutes of final work session of semester attached). As a result of the thorough analysis of the ASN Program Curriculum, the following proposed changes will need approval of the CHHS and, if approved, will need to be presented at the Fall 2004 meeting of the Troy University Academic Council.

Proposed Changes to ASN Curriculum

1. To combine NSG 1130, Basic Nursing Concepts I (a one-credit-hour course) and NSG 1131, Basic Nursing Practicum (a three-credit-hour course) into one four-credit-hour practicum course.  
   Rationale: By combining the courses, clock hours would be increased since the one course would now be classified as a “practicum” course and all ASN nursing practicum courses have a 1:2 ratio (one credit hour=2 clock hours). Therefore a four-credit hour course would equal eight clock hours each week. By increasing the clock hours, students would have more time in a reality clinical setting (i.e., hospital or nursing home) to care for “real” patients during their first semester of nursing courses. ASN faculty believe students need this extra exposure to patients and therefore more time to work with care plan development during the first semester of nursing courses. Another rationale for combining the courses is that the number of first semester nursing courses would be decreased by one course, making the curriculum more attractive for marketing purposes.

2. To separate NSG 2253, Maternal Child Nursing (a three-credit-hour course) into two separate, two-credit-hour courses. One course would be “Maternal-Infant Nursing” and the other course would be “Pediatric Nursing”.  
   Rationale: Students who are not successful in one of the areas (either maternal-infant nursing or pediatric nursing) would only need to repeat the area in which they have been unsuccessful. Also, more time is needed in each of the content
areas, so increasing each separate course by .5 credit hours to make each course a two-credit-hour course would provide the additional time needed and would make these lecture courses consistent with the other ASN “specialty” courses (i.e., “Psychosocial Nursing Concepts” is a two-credit-hour course and “Gerontological Nursing” is a two-credit-hour course).

The ASN Program’s SPIE (attached) will not be affected by the proposed changes. A copy of the “TSU Justification for New Programs and Curriculum Additions/Modifications” is also attached. Please let me know if other information is needed. Also, please let me know the next step that I should pursue in seeking approval for the proposed changes.

Thank you.

Attachments:

1. Minutes of Final Spring Semester 2004 ASN Program Curriculum Work Session
2. SPIE
3. “TSU Justification for New Programs and Curriculum Additions/Modifications”
4. NSG 1130, 1131, 2253 Syllabi

cc: TSU ASN Faculty