

## **CAP's Final Recommendation on the Transfer Credit Policy for the RN to BSN Program**

**TO:** Steering Committee

**From:** Committee on Academic Programs

**RE:** Final Recommendation on the Transfer Credit Policy for the RN to BSN Program

**Date:** February 28, 2017

### **Background:**

In September 2016 CAP received a charge from the Steering Committee to review a proposed change in the transfer credit policy for students in the RN to BSN program. The College's transfer credit policy allows a maximum of 64 credits to be transferred from a community college or junior college, allows for a maximum of 80 credits to be transferred in from all sources, and does not allow for credits to be transferred from diploma schools unless credits have gone through ACE review.

The School of Nursing requested revisions to the transfer credit policy. The revisions requested would cover candidates matriculating in the RN to BSN program to be able to transfer 1) a maximum of 30 credits from diploma schools of nursing, provided that the diploma school is accredited by a national nursing accreditation body; 2) a maximum of 70 credits from schools designated as community or junior colleges; 3) no change to the maximum of 80 credits from all sources.

### **Charge:**

Steering asked CAP to review the requested change in the transfer credit policy for the RN to BSN program and determine if it wishes to modify the existing Transfer Credit Policy. CAP was charged with developing a revised policy if the committee decided that revisions were needed. Steering also charged CAP with determining whether there were any units that might be affected by the proposal that have not been consulted. After preparing a preliminary recommendation, CAP was requested to solicit testimony in the form of written feedback (through a survey and or e-mail), including from the Faculty Senate.

### **Final Recommendation:**

CAP reviewed the proposal and consulted with the Nursing Outreach Coordinator in the Department of Nursing. The committee prepared a preliminary recommendation which was sent to the Faculty Senate and the Nursing Outreach Coordinator for testimony. CAP considered the testimony from the Faculty Senate and the Nursing Outreach Coordinator during its February 22, 2017 meeting. The committee felt that in order to maintain the strong caliber of our nursing program, to maintain the standards of the College, and to be consistent with the transfer credit policy for other departments and programs in the College, that:

- 1) the transfer credit policy of accepting a maximum of 64 credits from a community or junior college should stand
- 2) the transfer credit policy should be amended to allow for students to be able to transfer credits from accredited diploma schools.

CAP's final recommendation is:

1) CAP recommends amending the current transfer credit policy to allow accepting up to 30 credits from accredited Diploma Schools.

*Rationale:* Accredited Nursing Diploma Schools are endorsed by the same agency that accredits two-year associate degree programs. CAP therefore does not see any difference in accepting credits from a diploma school or a two-year associates degree program.

2) The committee does not recommend increasing the maximum number of allowable credits from a community college or junior college. .

*Rationale:* By accepting credits from an accredited diploma school students in the RN to BSN program are helped in their course of study and the College's standards for accepting transfer credits are consistent across programs and departments.

CAP believes that all affected units have been consulted.