

## Minutes for MINT meeting 4/19/02

The meeting was held in Missoula and the attendees were:

Audrey ConnerRosberg	MSU-B COT Billings
Karen VanDaveer	MT Tech
Lea Acord	Bozeman
Jocie Waldron	Carroll College
Heather O'Hara	Carroll College
Lorrie Boehnke	St. Patrick Hosp. & Hlth Science Center
Linda Henderson	MNA
Trish Goudie	MSU Northern
Kathleen Wankel	Miles Community College
Barb Swehla	Board of Nursing, Helena
Karen Pollington	Northern MT Hospital
Gretchen McNeely	MSU-Bozeman
Rick Gray	HCT
Ellen Wirtz	HCT
Bobette Pattee	Missoula Bone & Joint Surgery Ctr.
Susan Kerschen	Bozeman Deaconess Hospital
Laura Lenau	Salish Kootenai College
Paul Williams	University of Montana
Betty Molette	Dial in
Margaret Wafstet	UM-Msla/COT

Minutes of January 17, 2002 and November 15, 2001 were accepted as corrected.

Future meeting dates were discussed. They are:

- May 21 – Great Falls
- June 20 – Butte
- July 22 – Helena
- August 13 – Kalispell
- September 18 – Billings
- October 2 – Missoula
- November 7 – Miles City
- December 13 – Bozeman

Karen Vandaveer suggested the host find someone to do the minutes as it is difficult to participate in the meeting and take minutes also. Everyone agreed to try and do that when hosting.

Margaret Wafstet introduced the Missoula dean, Paul Williams. He discussed networking and collaborating between universities and employers. He encouraged members to consider joining a health care provider consortium developing now with hopes of changing from a reactionary force to a proactive force in the future. He explained Missoula's "Target" buttons as a strategic

planning initiative, intended to identify the college's passion and describing "who we want to be when we grow up."

Barbara, Margaret, Lea, Linda and Audrey reported on the MINT executive committee (EC) meeting of 4/17/02. The budget was discussed and it was noted that as of yet, Margaret has not been paid. It is apparently a problem between the agencies who are working on it. Articulation was discussed in terms of where do we go from here and Linda explained that the executive committee (EC) saw their role as one of strategizing and keeping the group moving toward accomplishing the goals of the grant. Margaret added that the EC discusses issues and teases out the most important components to start on. Barbara noted that the EC provides the solid core of participants, therefore adds continuity to the MINT group.

Trish asked if this discussion of purpose of the EC was further clarification of previous discussions or a confirmation of that discussion and Linda responded that it was a confirmation. Audrey shared EC discussion re ways to provide incentives to nurses to fill out SBON data survey by using passionate words appealing to the altruistic nature of nurses. Lea agreed to discuss this in the data committee meeting this day.

Margaret announced that the Colleagues in Caring Robert Wood Johnson grant will be stretched to cover this year, ending in December 2002.

A general discussion ensued about articulation. Questions and points made:

Themes of questions and statements

- Can we work together as nurses, leaders and administrators? Knowledge is valid wherever and however obtained. All levels need to be valued.
- Need to find out what is needed and look to programs for potential partnerships – provide access or broadly as possible to all levels of nursing education.
- PN credit creep. Is more always better. Dr. Mary Rapson suggested 1+1+2 model as other states predominant in.
- How to absorb PN's into ASN and BSN programs and how to build a positive image re students, legislators and Board of Regents
- Discussion of Dr. Joyce Scott's letter of April 2. Response to letter and research re NCLEX pass rates if credits change
- Butte program 98% not there for PN but RN degree
- Outcome indicators re program evaluation needs to be varied
- Do we allow a statewide program to emerge or do we want regional programs?
- Only 21% of nurses want to leave nursing, according to national statistics. Being pressured to increase graduate numbers, recruitment and retention a problem.
- NLN prefers separate stand alone programs
- Difficulty recruiting master prepared faculty. Need to grow our own.
- What isn't working is the COT's articulation with the university system. Generic programs have difficulty absorbing PN's.
- Life after MINT discussed. Ideas considered

Center for Nursing

Telecommunications Center  
Scholarship Fund  
Nurses for Nursing Fund

Breakup into articulation group and data group

Results:

- Articulation group unanimously agreed on revised Montana Articulation model with numbers of credits to be assigned after schools discussed with their faculty. To be reported at May meeting.
- Data group divided work with subgroup to report on specific issues at May meeting

Final discussion:

At the next meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>, group will answer online questions re what they do best and Margaret will compile answers. Data will report on their investigations and review all data and analyze. Put article in Pulse and on website by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Develop survey for license renewal. Establish resource to continue to collect data. Explore partnering with other states for data gathering and decide on categories for demand data.

Audrey will make agreed upon model changes and write minutes, send model and minutes to Margaret and model to Joyce Scott and plan to finalize at the next meeting.

Submitted by,

Audrey Conner-Rosberg  
MSU Billings COT