

October 2, 2002  
Meeting held in Missoula  
ATTENDEES

Kathy Wankel  
Trish Goudie  
Linda L Henderson  
Audrey Conner-Rosberg  
Margaret Wafstet  
Ellen Wirtz  
Lea Acord  
Chere S.Allan

ORGANIZATION

Miles Community College  
MSU Northern  
MNA  
MSU Billings-COT  
U of M/Missoula-COT  
U of M/Helena-COT  
MSU Bozeman  
St. Vincent Healthcare

0945 Call to Order  
The September 17, 2002 minutes were approved as corrected.

Margaret shared the poster she will put up at Montana Nurses Association convention this week to promote the MINT project. She also shared Becky Rice's notice that the Nurse Reinvestment Act still has no funding approved. Becky is encouraging everyone to contact their legislators and encourage them to fund the act.

The Data and Articulation groups met separately in working session to complete the tasks as noted on the agenda.

The articulation group made final revisions on the articulation plan, which will be sent out to all to add their respective numbers to the PN and ASN validation or escrow credit's awarded. It was noted by Audrey that the final report will be sent to Joyce Scott and appear in the final paperwork of accomplishments. The assumption that Dr. Scott will be content with the report if she can see that throughout the state nurses will be able to articulate and that a variety of articulated programs are available.

In the afternoon session Lea discussed the "White" paper the data group is completing. She recommends it be a part of the final report to the RWJF/cc. She asked if the consortium sees this as information only, or if there should be recommendations made and to whom. The group felt that it would be appropriate to forward any recommendations to the Governor, as further support for some of the recommendations made by the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force. The group especially would reinforce to the Governors office the need to continually collect work force supply & demand data. The group discussed suggesting funding methods such as increase in licensing renewal fees to support a continuing data collection effort.

Margaret asked if the group would see the value in a state-wide workforce development center, which would have broad representation from regulation

education, employees and professional organizations. Kathy stressed the group needs to clearly verbalize how any information gathered could be used so it was not simply a compilation endeavor.

The articulation sub committee shared the articulation plan discussed in the morning session. The wording of statements re: general education transferability and lateral transfer was discussed and finalized. Who should review the plan at each institution was addressed. Audrey Conner-Rosberg will send the plan out to everyone along with a form Mary Rapson is sending, that is a contractual agreement to adhere to the plan. Everyone is to have that agreement signed, to bring with them to Miles City, November 7, along with the articulation plan. Besides signing the contract, each school needs to list the number of credits in nursing that they will accept for articulation, and email that information to Audrey by October 28, 2002.

Prior to the November 7 meeting, the numbers of the Data group will complete their sections of the report, send them to Lea Acord and she will send them to Connie Schultz. Connie will put all the pieces together in a logical report, which will be a major discussion item on November 7. Audrey and Kathy Wankel will attempt to put data, articulation, differential practice and the preamble together in draft form between Nov. 1 and Nov. 6 so the group as a whole can review it on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Once a brochure is printed, the group suggests distribution to MHA, all MUS, MNA, MON and BOR.

Linda Henderson announced the group should be aware of plans to introduce legislation to create a level of personnel called "medication assistant". The Montana Health Care Association plans to introduce this legislation in 2003. She encouraged all to remain attentive. Lea spoke about a meeting in Billings on Oct. 18 to discuss the shortage of nurses in the Billings area. The health care facilities in Billings are asking the MUS to help resolve the shortage. She will keep us advised

Adjourned @ 3:45