Memorandum

To: Marilyn Geist
CC: J. Lemire, G. Smokvina
From: Peggy Gerard, Graduate Program Head, PUC Nursing
Date: 3/20/01
Re: IPFW Proposal for Certification Program in Nursing Administration

Dr. Gloria Smokvina and I reviewed and strongly endorse the attached proposal from IPFW School of Nursing for a Certificate Program in Nursing Administration. The proposed certificate program will be offered through the Graduate Nursing Consortium and will be available to nurses living in the Fort Wayne, Calumet, and West Lafayette areas.

Please forward this proposal to the appropriate Area Committee.

Thank you for your assistance.
Graduate Certificate in Nursing Administration

Title of Proposed Certificate Program: Graduate Certificate in Nursing Administration

Proposed Date of Initiation: Spring semester of 2002

Purpose of the Program

This is a proposal by the Department of Nursing within the School of Health Sciences at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne for a graduate level, academic credit certificate in nursing administration. The purpose of the program is to (1) provide the basic graduate level knowledge to function as a health care manager (2) provide a positive graduate level academic experience for persons interested in health care management and (3) offer the certificate program through the Purdue nursing consortium via distance education.

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) conducted a study of nursing needs in hospitals and nursing homes for the Department of Health and Human Services. The resulting IOM report recommended that hospitals expand the use of registered nurses with advanced practice preparation and skills to provide clinical leadership and cost-effective patient care, particularly for patients with complex management problems. (Institute of Medicine, Nursing Staff in Hospitals and Nursing Homes. Is it Adequate? National Academy Press, Washington, D.C., 1996)

The ratio of Advanced Practice Nurses to members of the population in the state of Indiana is only 7.4 per 100,000 persons. This is one of the lowest ratios in the nation. Forty-two Indiana counties have been designated by the federal government as medically under served. Some of these counties are in northeastern Indiana and within the area serviced by Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne. The majority of registered nurses in northeastern Indiana are educated at the associate degree level and the health care community acknowledges a significant gap between the current levels of education and the Department of Health and Human Services’ recommendation for additional advanced practice nurses. The RN to BS program at IPFW has been successful at increasing the number of nurses in the community with undergraduate degrees and prepared to advance to graduate education.

This certificate program will (1) provide baccalaureate graduates who do not desire a masters degree with some foundational knowledge in nursing administration, (2) provide an opportunity for those undecided about a master’s degree to experience graduate education with a shorter time commitment, and (3) influence some students to matriculate into a masters program. All of these certificate program functions would contribute to and enhance the community endeavors to increase the number of nurses with graduate level knowledge. The Department of Nursing at IPFW expects to admit 6 students to the program every year starting spring 2002 with a total of
12 students in the program by the year 2003. In addition, the program can accommodate additional students from other Purdue campuses via distance education. The target population will be current and aspiring nurse managers and advanced practice nurses with a clinical focus who also need management knowledge and skills. With the exception of a 2 credit practicum these students will register in courses currently being offered by the Graduate Program in Nursing. The fraction of students who are expected to participate in the program and who are not concurrently working toward a graduate degree is estimated at 82%.

The Master of Science with a major in nursing administration that is offered at IPFW is Purdue’s only program in nursing administration and one of only two active programs in the state of Indiana. The program at Fort Wayne services the entirety of northeastern Indiana. Offering the certificate as well as the degree program will maximize access and participation at the graduate level. This certificate program will be offered via distance learning to the Purdue campuses at Calumet and West Lafayette through the Purdue nursing consortium. A purpose of this consortium is to share graduate level nursing programs and eliminate duplication of programs.

**Objectives of the Proposed Certificate Program**

Upon completion of the certificate program the student will:
- Possess the primary knowledge necessary to develop as a nurse manager.
- Integrate learned skills and knowledge into the nurse manager role.
- Profess the value of graduate education to the registered nurse role.

**Admission Requirements** *

1. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution.
2. Minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0/4.0 with possibility of conditional admission for applicants who do not meet this requirement.
3. Minimum TOEFL score of 550 for applicants whose native language is not English, with possibility of allowing exceptions, including substitution of alternate criteria.
4. A minimum of a diploma in nursing.
5. Students who are currently admitted to a graduate degree program are eligible to earn a graduate certificate in nursing administration whether it is in their field or not in their field.

* Criteria for admission to the Graduate Certificate in nursing administration program and the Master of Science with a major in nursing administration program differ.
Completion Requirements

1. The certificate will require 17 credit hours.

2. Course requirements

   NUR 650 Nursing Administration I
   NUR 651 Nursing Administration II
   NUR 653 Nursing Administration Financial Management
   NUR 540 Nursing Administration Certificate Practicum
   NUR 654 Human Resource Management
   NUR 525 Informatics in Nursing
   (All courses are 3 credit hours with the exception of NUR 540 which is 2 credits hours)

3. GPA requirements:

   An overall GPA of 3.0 is required for successful completion of the program.

   The minimum grade of C in no more than 2 courses (6 credits) can be applied toward the certificate. Any grade below C is not considered a passing grade.

4. Maximum time to Completion
   Three years is the maximum time allowed for completion of the certificate program.

Application of Transfer Credits

Three equivalent graduate level credits may be transferred from another university.

Application of Undergraduate Credits

No undergraduate credits may be applied toward the certificate.

Application of Credits to More Than One Certificate

Since the Department of Nursing does not offer any other graduate certificate, the application of credits to another certificate does not require consideration.

Application of Credits Taken Prior to Admission

Six credits from courses in the proposed certificate taken prior to admission to the certificate program may be applied to the certificate. Students in the Master of Science with a major in nursing administration program may apply 15 credits to the certificate.
Administration

The Director of the Graduate Program in Nursing will notify the Purdue Graduate School when a student completes the 6 courses in the curriculum (including any transferred credits). This audit process will be the responsibility of the Director. In addition, The Director will submit an annual report to the Purdue Graduate Council with the following information:

1. number of students currently admitted to the certificate program

2. for each admitted student
   
   date admitted

   whether the student is also currently admitted to a degree program at Purdue, and if so, which degree

   number of credits completed toward fulfillment of certificate requirements

3. number of certificates awarded annually

The Department of Nursing will disseminate completion certificates received from the Registrar.
Proposal for A Graduate Certificate Program in Nursing Administration
Program Currently Offered at IPFW Campus
Degree Origination - Purdue University - Fort Wayne Campus

Carol S. Sternberger, Chair, Nursing Department
Date: 2/23/01

James E. Jones, Dean, School of Health Sciences
Date: 2/23/01

Judith A. Lemire, Director, Graduate Program in Nursing
Date: 3/20/01

Gloria J. Smokvina, Head & Dean