

**Texas Statewide Health Coordinating Council
Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday, March 1, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

**Location: Department of State Health Services, 1100 West 49th Street, Moreton
Building, Austin, Texas, 78756, Room M-100**

Teleconference from: https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_ZGY2NDYzMGltOTRiOS00NTliLThmYTctZmRmYTlhNzU2Njhk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%229bf97732-82b9-499b-b16a-a93e8ebd536b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2230a8645b-8b77-4bb6-80fb-3f4299415740%22%7d

Call-in Number: +1 (512) 580-4366

Access Code: 943 670 235#

Members Attending

Angel Angco-Barrera, MBA, BSN, RN
Serena Bumpus, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Diana Dolan, PhD, CNML, RN
April Ernst, MSN, RN, CNE
Cheryl L. Johnson, RN, MSN, CDP, CADDCT
Karen Kendrick, MSN, RN, CPHQ
Cora Rabe, DNP, CRNA
Susan Ruppert (Co-Chair), PhD, APRN, FNP-C, ANP-BC, FNAP, FCCM, FAANP, FAAN
Rena Schumann, PhD, RN, CNE
Lisa Taylor, PhD, RN, CNS, FNP
Katherine Thomas, MSN, RN, FAAN
Remy Tolentino, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Grace Werckle, BSN, RN
Sally Harper Williams

Members Absent

Sheila Fata, MBA, BSN
Elizabeth Mayer, M.P.Aff.
Lula Pelayo, PhD, RN, FAAN
Tamara Rhodes (Co-Chair), MSN, RN
Linda Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP, FAANP, FAAN
Linda H. Yoder, PhD, MBA, RN, AOCN, FAAN

Public Present

Lisa D. Anaya
Kristin Benton
Janice Hooper (BON)
Lyn McCright
Teresa Walding

Staff Present

Ann Barnett, MS, MS
Ky Burke
Lissette Curry, Ph.D.
Kayla Davis, MS
Kristina Juarez, MPH
Pam Lauer, MPH
Cheyenne Neese, MPH

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<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>Dr. Ruppert called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., and welcomed the committee members, staff, and guests present, who introduced themselves. Dr. Ruppert announced that the meeting would be recorded as required by the Administrative Procedures Act and the Open Meetings Act, and that members should state their name for the record when making motions.</p>
<p>2. Establish Quorum and Approval of Excused Absences</p>	<p>With over 50% of members present, a quorum was established.</p> <p>Sheila Fata, Elizabeth Mayer, Dr. Lula Pelayo, Tamara Rhodes, Dr. Linda Rounds, and Dr. Linda Yoder requested excused absences.</p> <p>A motion to approve excused absences was made by Remy Tolentino and seconded by Angel Angco-Barrera. The motion carried.</p>
<p>3. Review of March 1, 2023, Agenda</p>	<p>The agenda was not reordered.</p>
<p>4A. Minutes of the December 15, 2022, Meeting</p>	<p>No revisions were requested for the December 15, 2022, meeting minutes.</p> <p>A motion to approve the minutes was made by Katherine Thomas and seconded by Cheryl Johnson. The motion carried.</p>
<p>4B. 2022 Nursing Education Program Information Survey Reports</p>	<p>Ky Burke, Kristina Juarez, and Kayla Davis presented the factsheets, highlights and policy recommendations from the 2022 Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) Reports.</p> <p>2022 VN NEPIS Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ky Burke presented the components of the 2022 VN NEPIS Reports. • On the verbiage of the table on the first page, April Ernst asked that the "For-profit and other institutions" category be changed to, "Career Schools/College." • On the 2022 VN Student Demographics factsheet, April Ernst commented that there seemed to be text cut off mid-sentence. • Dr. Ruppert asked a clarification question on the 2022 VN Student Demographics factsheet. <p>A motion to approve the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies' 2022 VN Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) Reports was made by Dr. Dolan and seconded by Dr. Schumann. The motion carried.</p> <p>2022 RN NEPIS Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristina Juarez presented the components of the 2022 RN NEPIS Reports. • Dr. Ruppert stated that in the 2022 RN Program Characteristics factsheet, the staff might want to check what ratio programs who weigh simulation hours differently use to weigh program hours.

	<p>A motion to approve the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies' 2022 RN Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) Reports was made by Dr. Rabe and seconded by Remy Tolentino. The motion carried.</p> <p>2022 Graduate NEPIS Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kayla Davis presented the components of the 2022 Graduate NEPIS Reports. • There were no comments for Graduate NEPIS Reports <p>A motion to approve the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies' 2022 Graduate Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) Reports was made by Karen Kendrick and seconded by Dr. Taylor. The motion carried.</p>
<p>4C. Organizational Updates</p>	<p>Katherine Thomas gave an update on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON), which included information on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 25, 2023, Texas Health and Human Services office of the Inspector General (OIG) uncovered the nationwide sale of faulty nursing degrees, diplomas, and transcripts, which were used to obtain licensure by individuals in several states. Operation Nightingale, the name the OIG and FBI are using, has a website linked to the BON's website homepage. Some individuals have been indicted for selling these documents. They are in the process of looking at all cases individually and have found over 25 cases. Since posting this, Florida's Commission of Education has ceased graduation from programs in South Florida. The BON has also posted warning signs for employers of nursing on their website. More reports will follow. They have increased scrutiny in approving licensure as well. • The BON is following over 450 bills. Katherine Thomas gave a few examples of the types of bills they are watching. <p>Karen Kendrick gave an update on behalf of the Texas Hospital Association (THA) which included information on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The THA is following hundreds of bills related to hospitals, healthcare, and nursing, with an emphasis on appropriations. THA has joined 26 other organizations across the state to form the Nursing Shortage Reduction coalition. A member of the advocacy team testified in front of the House of Representatives committee for appropriations about fully funding programs to increase the pipeline and fill nursing vacancies across the state. • Short-term solutions they are working on include recruitment, retention, satisfaction, resiliency, and other ways to support nurses and keep them in the workforce. <p>Dr. Serena Bumpus, CEO of the Texas Nurses Association (TNA), gave an update which included information on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The TNA is following and advocating for several bills. over 600 nurses joined them at the Capitol for state Nurse's Day. • They are following and advocating for bills relating to increasing funding for the Nursing Shortage Reduction Program, streamlining the Nurse Faculty Loan Repayment Program,

	<p>appropriating scholarships for those interested in becoming nurses, protecting nurses from workplace violence, evacuating surgical smoke in operating rooms for healthcare workers, allowing school nurses to provide Albuterol to students when needed, and removing practice barriers for APRNs and dental anesthesia for CRNA's.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are in the process of preparing their annual conference on June 9-10, 2023 in Houston. It is focused on the changes in work environment as the nursing field has changed. They will have several prominent speakers leading sessions. • Many leaders from TNA who worked with Claire Jordan have developed the Claire B. Jordan Endowment for Health Policy in memory of Claire Jordan who supported the work of TNA for many years.
<p>4D. TCNWS Update</p>	<p>Pam Lauer provided an update on The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce's current activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TCNWS has hired one new Research Specialist IV, Cheyenne Neese, which will allow the center to expand its capacity for new projects. • TCNWS will make the NEPIS revisions and upload them to the website within the next week. • The RN and VN dashboards will be updated with new data, and the graduate dashboard will be sent out for comment before it is published. • They will be preparing the 2023 NEPIS surveys and sending out surveys to ask whether we are asking the right questions covering faculty. • Many things on the website were absent since the website transition for DSHS occurred. However, all of the most recent reports have been uploaded to the website. • They hope to have preliminary supply and demand projections early in March and done in late April; the center will publish the results in the summer after data validation and report creation occurs. The center will ask for voluntary participation for input on the supply and demand subcommittee. The contractor will conduct focus groups to catch data that does not appear in the numbers. • The workplace violence grant program made four awards in the summer, but has over \$100k left. The center is trying to open a rolling grant cycle for facilities to apply for these funds for specific items listed. They are working to make the grant application process more accessible. • They received updated licensure data from the BON, and once data are validated, they will update demographic dashboards and demographics and trends reports. • TCNWS will design a workplace violence individual survey and distribute the survey to a sample of nurses. • The next TCNWS Advisory Committee meeting is in the summer, and potentially include a strategic planning meeting. The meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2023, but may be rescheduled.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is an LVN vacancy on the TCNWS Advisory Committee, and there's been difficulty filling this role. TCNWS asked that the Advisory Committee help with this.• HB990 would establish a subcommittee over diversity in the workforce.
5. Public Comment	<p>Dr. Ruppert opened the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Lyn McCright with Advancing Nurse Coaching made a public comment about there being an epidemic of burnout in the nursing profession and their course taught on nurse resiliency.</p> <p>Teresa Walding, McCright's coworker, made a public comment about how their work is helping nurses stay in the nursing field. The vision of nursing through nurse coaching is to help create momentum to become more resilient from a different perspective of wellness and health.</p> <p>There were no other comments from the public.</p>
6. Adjourn	<p>Dr. Ruppert called the meeting adjourned at 11:53 A.M.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Schumann and seconded by Dr. Bumpus. The motion carried.</p>