Mission

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), composed of Member Boards, provides leadership to advance regulatory excellence for public protection.
Resources for Educators:

- www.ncsbn.org
  - Education Papers & Toolkits
  - NCLEX pages
  - Research and Data
- Journal of Nursing Regulation
- NCSBN grants
- “Leader to Leader”
- nspector@ncsbn.org
Call for Innovations in Nursing Education

- Complexities in health care
- National focus on patient safety
- 2003 IOM report
- 2009 Carnegie report on nursing education
“The Nursing Shortage: Where We Stand”

- Clarke & Cheung

Nursing Education→Now:→Enrollments Maximized

Future: “heavy pressure for innovations to increasing ‘production’ of new graduates”
NCSBN’s Initiative on Innovation

• March 25, 2008: NCSBN invited practice, education & regulation to a roundtable
NCSBN’s Initiative on Innovation

Questions to participants

- What and how do we teach best and who should teach it?
- Evidence to support policies, regulations?
- How can we best prepare our graduates in these uncertain times?
NCSBN’s Innovation Roundtable

- Regulatory, education, practice and student barriers were all discussed
- How do we maintain quality, while promoting innovation?
- Future vision?
Faculty Qualifications Committee

- Hosted conference March 26, 2008
  - Exemplars of innovative nursing education presented
  
  - Much discussion about innovations and how education and regulation can foster
Faculty Qualifications Committee

Model Education Rule Recommendations:

• Based on literature review and the evidence, strengthened qualifications: Minimum of MSN for PN and RN programs.
  –Full report is available on Web site
Faculty Qualifications Committee

Also recommended:

• Collaborative teaching with those with graduate degrees in related professions (BSN educated faculty for PNs)

• Boards of Nursing are encouraged to collaborate with educators to foster innovation in nursing education.
1) Identify real and perceived regulatory barriers.

2) Develop a regulatory model for innovative education proposals.
Definition of Innovation

Innovation – OED = etymology from Latin *in*

+*novare:* “to make new”

*Regulatory perspective:*

“To change into something new”, but no relationship to “making it better”
One Innovation that Failed
Reasons Edsel Failed: Sound Familiar?

• Some said poor quality
• “Same old, same old”
• Priced too high
• Consumers didn’t understand what it was supposed to be
• Overblown hype
• Not visionary, either in design or for the changing times
Literature Review

Detailed report that includes:

- Calls for innovation
- Faculty are innovating (Ironside & Valiga, 2007)
- Literature reports myriad innovations
Literature Review

Barriers reported

• Higher Education (Bellack, 2008; Coonan, 2008)
• Practice (Unterschuetz, 2008)
• State and Federal Policy Makers (Coonan, 2008)
• Regulation (Dreher, 2008)
Literature Review

• Risk-to-Benefit ratio (Hargreaves, 2008)
• Implementing Innovations (Murray, 2007; Rogers, 2003)
• The Future of Innovations (Tanner, 2008; Benner, in press)
Definitions

• Innovation - A dynamic, systematic process that envisions new approaches to nursing education.

• Regulatory barrier - Real or perceived regulatory parameters that hinder innovation in nursing education.
Developed Premises

• 11 Premises (see www.ncsbn.org)
  – Such as:
    • Quality can be maintained amidst innovative changes.
    • Regulation criteria for nursing programs should reflect minimum requirements and be the least burdensome criteria consistent with public protection.
Collaborative Conference Call

Held Conference Call with Education Organizations:

• AACN
• CCNE
• NAPNES
• NLN
• NLNAC
Collaborative Conference Call

Examples of Themes from Call:

- Communication issues
- Simulation replacing clinical experiences
- Distance learning questions
- Faculty qualifications

❖ Generally were grateful to be included
Model for Describing Regulatory Influences

- Laws/Rules
- Communication
- Process
Handouts for Distribution

• Flyer for BONs with recommendations for fostering innovations

• Flyer for BONs to distribute to educators to begin dialogue on innovations
Model Rules

Developed model rules for fostering innovations for membership to consider:

• Open doors for educators to develop innovations
• Way of building knowledge for quality innovations
• Maintain core quality indicators for public protection
Essentials of the model rules

• Practice Act: Provision for innovative approaches in nursing education programs.

• Rules: The Board shall, by administrative rule, identify the process for implementing innovative approaches in nursing education programs.
Essentials of the Model Rules

Operational definition of an innovative approach:

A creative nursing education strategy that departs from the current rule structure and requires Board approval for implementation.
Purposes of the Model Rules

1) To foster innovative models of nursing education to address the changing needs in health care.

2) To assure that innovative approaches are conducted in a manner consistent with the Board’s role of protecting the public.

3) To assure that innovative approaches conform to the quality outcome standards and core education criteria established by the Board.
Eligibility Criteria:

Because the mission of the Boards is to protect the public:
1. The nursing education program shall hold full Board approval without conditions.

2. There are no substantiated complaints in the past 2 years.

3. There are no rule violations in the past 2 years.
Application

Keep it simple!
Application

- Specifics provided
- 1-page executive summary
- Jurisdiction decides # of pages (educators suggest limiting to 10)
Seven Standards for Approval

• Key: *The innovative approach will not compromise the quality of education or safe practice of students.*

• Must submit evaluation plan
Review of Application and Board Action

• Must meet standards of approval and eligibility criteria

• Board may limit numbers, based on resources
Periodic Evaluation

• Describes ongoing evaluation

• Discusses remedies for students who might be adversely affected
Request for Continuation

Continued approval may be sought if the innovative approach has achieved desired outcomes, has not compromised public protection, and is consistent with core nursing education criteria.
Concerns Voiced

• Limiting numbers of applications

• “Our rules are already flexible enough”
Boards Can Adapt

• Some Boards may not need to incorporate these because the current rules are flexible and allow for innovation, but others would like a template for fostering innovations.

• May adapt these to meet individual state and territory needs.
August, 2009, Delegate Assembly

Model Rules Passed Unanimously!
Other Recommendations

NCSBN will create a Web site to serve as a clearinghouse (Innovations Toolkit):

• Report on our work
• Handouts for faculty and BONs
• Video-clips from conference
• Wiki for education consultants to post innovations
Innovations Toolkit

Links:
Texas BON Innovations:
http://www.bon.state.tx.us/nursingeducation/innovative.html

California Innovations:

AHRQ Web site:
http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/resources/resources.aspx
Plans for Dissemination

NCSBN will disseminate the information in NCSBN’s new journal, in *Leader to Leader*, and in *Council Connector*, etc., for the purpose of encouraging innovative approaches.
Other Recommendations

NCSBN will establish a plan to evaluate whether Boards of Nursing have adopted the innovation model rules and whether they have been effective in fostering innovations in nursing education.
Summary

Now is the ideal time for regulation to collaborate with educators, practice, and accreditors to transform nursing education.
“The two most important requirements for major success are: first, being in the right place at the right time, and second, doing something about it.”

~ Ray Kroc