The Strategic Implementation Plan: Where Are We Now?

Since October 2006 when the Competency Strategic Implementation Plan was established, the Co-Chairs and Advisory Group for the Genetic/Genomic Nursing Competency Initiative have been very busy lending a hand to this work. Here is an update, FYI:

GOAL: Infrastructure
Provide the structure, direction, and focus for all efforts identified under the three critical goal areas of Practicing Nurses, Academics, and Regulation/Quality Control as well as provide centralized coordination of strategic plan activities.
- Developed a framework for a US Center of Genetic Nursing Education
  - Have submitted two separate proposals for funding
  - Unfortunately, neither have been funded
  - Continue to explore financial support
- Established and maintain a Competency Initiative Listserv
- Established a Competency Activity Matrix to track all activities
- Established a Core Slide Set for dissemination of the Competency information
- Developed a Newsletter Article template distributed to all endorsing organizations updating them on this initiative

GOAL: Practicing Nurses
All nurses in practice will have a foundation of knowledge in basic human genetics and genomics and current applications to nursing practice.
- Developed and received IRB approval for a pilot test of a nursing survey to assess baseline nursing competency in genetics and genomics
  - Will be followed by a national survey in collaboration with the American Nurses Association
  - Data will be compared to data from a family practice physician survey
  - Presentations at or scheduled for the following meetings
    - Sigma Theta Tau, National Nursing Staff Development Organization, American Academy of Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), International Society for Nurses in Genetics, National League for Nursing
    - Worked with the Nephrology Nursing Society to develop a genetic/genomic chapter for the Core Curriculum For Nephrology Nursing
    - Partnered with organizations to move genetics and genomics forward for their constituency
      - Sigma Theta Tau, American Nurses Association
      - Lobbied for inclusion of the Competencies in the newly developed Breast Care certification to be offered by the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation
      - Completed a series of genetics/genomics in nursing in the Journal of Nursing Scholarship, now being published as a book.
  - http://www.genome.gov/17515679

GOAL: Academics
All nurses will have a foundation of knowledge in basic human genetics and genomics and current applications to nursing practice.
- Developed and received funding for a collaborative meeting with AACN to establish Learning Outcomes and Practice Indicators
- A multi-media faculty genetic/genomic tool kit
  - Participated and presented on the Competencies at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing meeting to revise the Baccalaureate Nursing Essentials
  - Distributed the Competencies to all 1,626 Schools of Nursing in the US and Territories
  - Developed and received approval for a session on Implementing the Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guidelines for Genetics and Genomics at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Baccalaureate Education Conference November 2007
  - Partnered with the Human Resources and Services Administration Bureau of Nursing to
    - Identify opportunities for funding
    - Recruit experts who would be willing to pursue funding for projects related to nursing faculty development

GOAL: Regulation/Quality Control
Genetics and genomics is included practice content on assessments of quality healthcare outcomes.
- Developed a proposal for a State of the Science meeting to establish research priorities that will serve as the underpinning for the development of research that produces the essential outcome data needed to incorporate genetics and genomics into NCLEX and accreditation.
- Distributed the Competencies to all 59 US and Territories State Boards of Nursing
This review is by now means complete but hopefully provides you with an update of some progress in implementation to date. Endorsing organizations are completing an update to be highlighted next newsletter. If you would like lend a helping hand, please contact us at calzonek@mail.nih.gov or Jean.Jenkins@nih.gov
**Engaging Faculty in Undergraduate Curriculum Review**

Report from the University of Wisconsin School of Nursing and College of Engineering.

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**Resource Highlight**

The National Genetics Education and Development Centre in the United Kingdom (UK) has just launched:

**Telling Stories: Understanding Real Life Genetics**

The purpose of this project is to link the UK nursing competence framework directly to a resource that uses real-life stories to help promote understanding of genetics. The co-chairs of the US Competency Initiative are collaborating with the UK group on a similar story project focused on cultural diversity. Check out the stories at: [http://www.geneticseducation.nhs.uk/tellingstories/](http://www.geneticseducation.nhs.uk/tellingstories/)

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**COMPETENCY WATCH**

Implementing the Competencies is similar to gardening, requiring care and nurturing to help the initiative grow. Where can your expertise be utilized?

**Baccalaureate Essentials Regional Meetings – Draft Document to be posted August 1.**

Be sure the Competencies don’t get lost in the sea of competing demands. Participate in the upcoming Baccalaureate Essentials Regional Meetings. The Baccalaureate Essentials Task Force has planned five (5) regional meetings, September 2007-April 2008. The focus of these meetings will be to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to review and provide feedback regarding the draft Baccalaureate Essentials document including the end-of-program competencies for baccalaureate nursing education. AACN member institution representatives, faculty, practice partners, and representatives of other healthcare and education organizations are invited to attend.

Baccalaureate Essentials Regional Meeting Dates and Locations:

- **San Diego, CA**  
  September 27-28, 2007  
  Westin Horton Plaza San Diego
- **Savannah, GA**  
  November 2-3, 2007  
  Hilton Savannah DeSoto
- **Tucson, AZ**  
  January 15-16, 2008  
  Sheraton Tucson
- **Nashville, TN**  
  March 13-14, 2008  
  Hilton Nashville Downtown
- **Boston, MA**  
  April 24-25, 2008  
  Royal Sonesta Boston (Cambridge)

http://www.aacn.nche.edu/BACEssentMtg.htm

**State Boards of Nursing**

Each of the individual State Boards of Nursing are in receipt of a copy of the Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guidelines for Genetics and Genomics.

- What if any impact has there been in your own State Board of Nursing in response to the Competencies?
- Are your State Boards of Nursing aware of the Competencies?
- Is there someone with genetic/genomic expertise on your Board of Nursing?

If your answer to any of these questions is “I don’t know”, now is the time to find out. Go to [https://www.ncsbn.org/515.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/515.htm) to find the contact information for your State Board of Nursing!