CALL TO ORDER:

This meeting was called to order by R. Colosimo, at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- S. Snyder announced Nevada State College has hired a new Dean for the School of Nursing; Neal Rosenberg will start May of 2014.
- T. Smyer announced UNLV is on the U.S. News Top 10 Online Graduate Nursing Programs.
- R. Colosimo encouraged anyone interested in writing an article for the NSBN News Magazine to contact her.
A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the October 31, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

B. OLD BUSINESS –
1. Review and discussion regarding tracking of patient safety initiatives in schools of nursing: R. Colosimo informed the committee that the deans and directors met in December of 2013 to discuss patient safety initiatives to meet the Board’s Goals & Objectives.
2. Review and discussion regarding near miss and medication error tracking in schools of nursing: During the December 2013 deans and directors meeting, there was discussion regarding a form that will be used to report errors. There were concerns with the initial form; revisions will be presented at the next EAC meeting.

C. NEW BUSINESS -
1. Orientation of new committee members: R. Colosimo welcomed new committee members Dominic Etli and John Coldsmith, they were appointed to the committee for their first term. C. Perna was re-appointed at the January 2014 Board meeting for her second term.
2. NCSBN and NSBN updates - Debra Scott, MSN, RN, FRE, Executive Director
   a. Legislative Update: Proposed regulations to implement AB170 were issued an LCB file No. R114-13. D. Scott expressed gratitude for the help with regulation change from the APRN Implementation Working Group, American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), Nevada Advanced Practice Nurses Association (NAPNA) and Colleen Platt from the Attorney General’s office. The LCB file was reviewed and approved by the Board on January 15, 2014. The next step is to go before the Interim Legislative Commission on Regulations for approval, then to the Secretary of State to be codified.
   b. NSBN Update: D. Scott informed the committee that two Board members have been re-appointed; Rick Carrauthers, LPN member and Sandy Halley, consumer member. Also, NSBN has two new staff positions available, one is the Compliance Coordinator and the other is Associate Director for Nursing Practice. Descriptions and responsibilities for both positions will be available on the website.
   c. NCSBN Update: D. Scott educated the committee regarding NCSBN and executive directors meeting on March 3, 2014 to discuss borderless boundaries. R. Colosimo and D. Scott agreed that NSBN is not comfortable in joining the compact states as 6 out of the 24 participating states do not fingerprint and criminal background checks are extremely important in protecting the public’s safety. An update will be provided at the next EAC meeting.
3. Review and discussion regarding NCLEX first time pass rates CY2013: R. Colosimo shared the 2013 NCLEX first time pass rates with the committee. Touro University and Kaplan College LPN program were below an 80%; both programs are fully approved and presented a correction action plan at the January 2014 Board meeting. Everest College and Kaplan College RN program have provisional approval and they have two years from the first graduate class to achieve national nursing accreditation and an 80% NCLEX first time pass rate; both programs were below 80%, Everest College will be going to the March Board meeting. At the January Board meeting, the Board expressed concerns with Kaplan College’s pass rate and the lack of their accreditation progress. Nevada Career Institute is the only provisionally approved program above 80% at 87.10%. The remaining BSN programs are above 90% and the associate degree programs are above 80%.
4. Review and discussion regarding NAC 632.640 – 632.680 for possible changes to regulations for nursing programs: R. Colosimo informed the committee that she will be drafting changes to include those suggested by the deans and directors in December of 2013 and will be sent to committee members prior to the next meeting.

5. Review and discussion regarding Nevada State College change to admission requirements: Interim director at NSC, S. Snyder informed the committee that the program is thinking of increasing the GPA on admission requirements due to the increase in applications. They currently only admit 16 students twice a year and have had up to 90 applications most meeting the minimum GPA, making the elimination difficult. The minimum requirement is a 3.25 GPA; the average applicant has a 3.5 GPA. She would like feedback before proposing the change. C. Perna stated UNLV has similar admission requirements but has found that some students with higher GPAs do not always have the best nursing soft skills. Director P. Ruchala, undergraduate coordinator K. Baxter and M. Lambert former undergraduate coordinator at UNR shared their experience with interviewing nursing program applicants. The interviewing panel includes higher level nursing students and faculty. They had to make several tweaks but have found it works for them. S. Snyder expressed concern with subjective issues if they decide to introduce an interview section. K. Baxter stated the first cohorts that went through the interview section will graduate May of 2014 and will share student outcomes with NSC.

6. Review and discussion regarding Touro University change to admission requirements: D. Elmore compared Touro University current admission requirements with other BSN programs in Nevada. She has decided to change from ATI to HESI products which have more of a range of scores. Touro will be using the recommended level set of 75% on the entrance exam. C. Perna stated students that are admitted to UNLV score over 90% on the HESI entrance exam. D. Elmore also proposed changes to admission requirements for students with a former bachelors degree. Committee expressed concerns regarding the importance of anatomy and physiology, nutrition, and human growth being accepted from a non-nursing degree. D. Elmore thanked the committee for recommendations.

7. Review and discussion regarding RN-to- BSN programs, quality and safety competency concerns: There were two articles provided to the committee. The first article was regarding RN-BSN program graduate outcomes due to most not being regulated by boards of nursing, thus, not looked at as closely as pre-licensure programs. P. Ruchala from UNR and L. Fillmore from Chamberlin College shared experiences with their accrediting bodies and the difficulty with curriculum development particularly in duplicating content. Second article was regarding educating future nurses on quality and safety as they move to practice. S. Snyder stated faculty at NSC integrated QI flashcards at clinical. C. Perna asked to share ideas on learning activities with one another. C. O’Reilly informed committee that QSEN website has teaching strategies submitted by other educators. H. Lockert shared her experience with student projects and the student’s significance in educating the floor nurses. R. Colosimo asked practice committee members regarding the verbiage and guidelines on safety at facilities. S. Adamek explained they follow Joint Commission and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) standards. The committee and others present entertained the idea of having a crosswalk between education standards in safety versus safety practice standards in a facility.

8. Review and discussion regarding NCSBN proposal for model rules on distance education: R. Colosimo informed the committee that NCSBN is in the process of drafting model rules on distance education for pre-licensure programs. The proposal of the model rules will signify that students will be completing clinical preceptorships for a program that can be 4,000 miles away.
Concerns from the committee consisted of state to state differences in practice decisions and the ability to discipline an unlicensed student.

9. Review and discussion regarding Kaplan College ADN program change to admission requirements: R. Angelastro, interim director at Kaplan College presented the three projected changes. The first change will be to increase the required entrance exam score on the Wonderlic Scholastic Level Exam from 24 to 27. The second change will be the spread in admission; Kaplan currently is admitting 40 students 3 times a year for 120 students; the proposal is to admit 24 students 5 times a year for the same total of students. Committee was concerned regarding the impact on student clinical placement. M. Lambert asked if they have entered changes to the clinical placement website. R. Angelastro stated it has not but will review with faculty. The third proposed change is to increase the required course pass rate including general education courses from 75% to 80%. R. Colosimo expressed her concerns using a program with difficulties as an example; she stated it will create grade inflation. Other committee members supported improving test construction. Committee made recommendation regarding program evaluations, with faculty evaluations, faculty development, teaching methodology and analytic test reviews.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:
Recommendations for agenda items for the next meeting include:

PUBLIC COMMENT:
- P. Ruchala informed the committee that AACN will be reviewing a proposal from the National Organization for Associate Nursing and requested some feedback regarding new graduates continuing in to an RN-BSN program and then joining the workforce but being turned away due to no clinical experience. S. Adamek stated either way it is difficult to hire with lack of practice experience. J. Coldsmith stated nurses with no work history would be treated as a new graduate.
- R. Colosimo announced that the next Education Advisory Committee meeting will be held on April 17, 2014

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.