


*Campus Correspondence*

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**RE: Update on Major Field Assessment**  
**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

Faculty in the Undergraduate Program in the School of Nursing have continued to gather data pertaining to outcomes related to our School of Nursing and to our graduates, in accordance with our Program Evaluation Plan. The initial plan concluded at the end of the last academic year. A new plan is nearing completion to better evaluate our newly implemented revised undergraduate curriculum and organizational structure. Indeed, the rationale for major curriculum changes was based on evaluation data obtained, as well as changes occurring in the health care environment and in the NLN criteria for evaluation of degree programs in nursing.

Each nursing course is evaluated by students at the end of each term, each level of the curriculum is evaluated by the students as they conclude such, and faculty evaluations have been completed according to University SOT guidelines. Students also evaluate faculty regarding clinical laboratory experiences. We have also reviewed our students' comments regarding the SLU Exit Survey. Numerous course changes have resulted from student and faculty suggestions.

All graduating senior students regularly complete the NLN Comprehensive Achievement tests each semester. Since Fall of 1995, many graduating seniors additionally take an NLN Diagnostic Test designed to predict success on the NCLEX licensure exams. Students are counseled regarding achievement and diagnostic test outcomes. They are also appraised of campus resources available to provide learning assistance. We have also been closely monitoring our graduates' performance on the NCLEX licensure exam, and have contacted all recent graduates who were initially unsuccessful in passing. We are in the process of updating graphic depictions of results of both NLN and NCLEX student performance since 1990.

Our graduates licensed in July, 1993 also participated in an NLN survey of Education and Employment Outcomes - all were employed at the time. Alumni and Employer surveys were last completed in 1991 with overall positive outcomes. New survey instruments will be developed to gather data more useful for School of Nursing improvement. We have administered the California Critical Thinking Skills Test to graduating seniors and to Nursing 208 students, but are reconsidering the use of generic critical thinking objective tests. Other measures may more appropriately assess gains within the discipline of nursing.