**Unfortunately, the system would not record on Wednesday May 21.**

**Notes from the session with Jim Cleghorn are below:**

1. In GA, TN, SC, FL, and AL NCLEX-RN test dates for May, June, July and August are full. There is also limited availability in September. It is imperative to inform graduates that testing outside Georgia and the SE should be encouraged. Please remind graduates they only register with ONE state board, which is the board that will review materials and make the eligible for the exam.
   1. It is fine to register with the Georgia Board of Nursing and take the exam in another state.
2. J. Cleghorn is meeting to increase testing sites but this process may take up to three weeks.
   1. All sites in Georgia are open but there are not enough
   2. This is a Pearson VUE issue
   3. There is consideration for adding shifts for testing
      1. Some centers in some states do have a higher testing capacity
   4. If additional testing dates are added in Georgia, the Board would like to offer graduates testing in august and September the first option to change to an earlier date.
      1. Deans and Directors would like clarification if there would be an additional fee to change test dates.
3. The Graduate Nurse Temporary Permit was extended through August 12. Notification of further extensions will be communicated as decisions are made by the governor.
4. The GBON remains flexible regarding program delivery during this time of disruption. Questions should be directed to the GBON.

The next session will be held Wednesday May 27 at 1pm.

Deans and Directors further dialogued to support one another. The agenda is listed below with notes in RED.

**General Meeting with Georgia Deans and Directors - May 20, 2020**

1. Update from the Executive Director Georgia Board of Nursing, Jim Cleghorn
2. General items for discussion by members present:
   1. Fall challenges and discussion
      1. Spring 2020 – Which schools have remaining the following issues?
         1. Unfinished clinical from Spring 2020 to make up in the Fall + starting a new cohort in Fall 2020

Since this agenda item was submitted, it has been resolved. Students receiving an incomplete from Spring term are actively involved in summer coursework to complete course requirements.

* 1. Buying power for PPE supplies
     1. Has there been any consideration for USG schools to purchase in bulk
        1. Any Governor assistance?

Concern over PPE for students/faculty remains. Schools could be required to have their students/faculty bring their own PPE or it is possible the school may be charged by the facility to use the facility’s PPE. Resolution pending. Some schools are requiring masks and focusing on handwashing/hand sanitizer.

* 1. Clinical placement planning for Fall 2020
     1. If schools must move to virtual, what products worked well?
        1. What gave schools the most BANG for the buck?

Vibrant discussion on this topic. Products discussed:

* NurseTim/Swiftriver product – described as helpful since acuity levels can be adjusted for the level of learner. Faculty can add dosage calculation and medication passing. Students liked the prioritization aspect. The software allowed for discussion posts, ‘to do’ lists, taking note and responding, and there is an ability to link to course objectives. Some students found the software to be repetitive.

Cost: Varies depending on depth of product used. ~$149/student/semester for a full package or could be less for only a course. Past prices may have been introductory.

* VSims – used by many
* Shadow Health – this product has improved and students found very engaging and it was challenging.
* I-Human (Kaplan product)– robust software; did not allow the student to progress ‘too’ quickly (paced); faculty can adjust the number of questions, which will challenge the student to focus. Cost: bundled by course
  + 1. Which products were challenging?
  1. Accreditation latitude – information on GANDD site
     1. On March 12, 2020, the **Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education** (CCNE) provided guidance to its affiliated baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs related to method of program/course delivery and clinical practice experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. At its May 5-8, 2020 meeting, the CCNE Board of Commissioners discussed the enduring nature of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the CCNE Board agreed the duration of this guidance should be **extended through December 31, 2020** (originally established as August 31, 2020). The updated document can be found on the CCNE website. Link to document on GANDD website.
        1. For CCNE, submission of a substantive change notification will not be required for temporary changes made by programs in the areas of (1) method of program or course delivery or (2) clinical practice experiences in response to the coronavirus outbreak. If such temporary changes extend past December 31, 2020, CCNE will consider those changes to be more permanent in nature, and a substantive change notification should be submitted.
     2. ACEN - <https://www.acenursing.org/covid-19-news-announcements/>
  2. The CARES Act Emergency Relief Grant Fund provides emergency financial aid assistance to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus, as stipulated by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act that was signed into law March 27, 2020.
     1. Awards can be distributed to eligible undergraduate and graduate students based on need, as determined by the 2019-20 FAFSA.

This varies from University to University. Check with home administration.

* 1. Hospitals opening up
     1. General discussion regarding opening clinical sites.
        1. Will schools be required to purchase their own PPE? Likely
        2. Would there be any consideration for schools to partner to pool resources? Not yet
        3. Social distancing in the classroom? On campus?
        4. Masks on campus; cleaning protocols.
        5. Temperature scanners
        6. How will Universities may handle immunocompromised faculty/staff

General discussion of items 2-6:

1. If faculty maintain practice (outside of school), consider their exposure.
2. Consider changing more of didactic content to online deliver OR have shorter class times and limit number of students present.
3. Simulation rooms – many moving to <10 in a group
   1. Smaller groups and more frequent labs
4. Concentrate on having masks; gloves could be replaced by emphasis on handwashing.
5. Consider ‘Ted Talk’ style lectures (50 minutes) rather than the usual 3-5 hr lecture time/week.
   1. Consider air exchange calculations vs cleaning measures vs. classroom turnover time.

Deans and Directors are encouraged to send next week agenda items to L. Streit ([streit\_la@mercer.edu](mailto:streit_la@mercer.edu)). One agenda item for next week will be: testing considerations; software resources for off-site testing.

May 21, 2020 LS.