



## Executive Officer's Report

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### 1. Board Member Update

- Vacant Positions – There are currently four vacant board member positions – two LVNs and two public members. Anyone interested in serving on the BVNPT should contact the Governor's Appointment Secretary. The BVNPT's Administrative Analyst, Sophia Cornejo, has the contact information.

### 2. Budget Update

- Budget Change Proposal (BCP): Retroactive Fingerprinting – The BVNPT received enforcement funding (i.e., for staff, office space, equipment, Attorney General services and Office of Administrative Hearing services) and approval to hire 13.5 to 15.5 staff members over the next two fiscal years to handle the retroactive fingerprinting workload. Of those, only 6.0 of the 15.5 positions approved are permanent positions. The limited term positions will expire by June 30, 2011. Efforts are underway to lease and renovate additional office space and to obtain the equipment needed for the new staff members.
- BCP: Licensing Workload – The BVNPT plans to request additional staff for the Licensing Division in Budget Year 2010/11. Backlogs are growing due to the number of students graduating from VN Programs. As a result, the workload associated with all licensing functions has increased proportionately, causing significant backlogs in those licensing functions. BVNPT records indicate that there is a 68% increase in the number of applications for new vocational nursing programs and a 110% increase in the number of student admissions to VN programs in the past 5 years.
- Furlough Program (Executive Order S-16-08) – The Governor's Executive Order S-16-08 ordered a mandatory two-day furlough each month for applicable state employees. Beginning February 6, 2009, offices closed the first and third Fridays of each month. After March 6, 2009, employees began a self-directed furlough program that specifies two furlough days per month. Upon ratification by the Legislature, employees represented by Service Employees International Union will change to a one-day furlough program that will be reconciled as of February 1, 2009 through June 2010.

### 3. Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Updates

- Agency & DCA Updates – On March 18, 2009, Fred Aguiar was appointed as the State & Consumer Services Agency Secretary and DCA's Chief Deputy Director Scott Reid was appointed as the State & Consumer Services Agency Undersecretary. Fred Aguiar replaces Rosario Marin who resigned on March 5, 2009. On March 27, 2009, Carrie Lopez resigned from her position as DCA Director, effective April 3, 2009. Patricia Harris is the DCA Acting Chief Deputy Director.
- Substance Abuse Coordination Committee (SACC) Working Group – Senate Bill 1441 directs DCA to establish a Substance Abuse Coordination Committee that consists of

Executive Officers of the Healing Arts Boards. The purpose of the committee is to formulate uniform and specific standards in certain areas that are to be used in dealing with licensees identified as having substance abuse problems by January 1, 2010. A working group comprised of staff from the healing arts boards was created to assist the SACC in developing those standards. Marilyn Kimble, Analyst with the Enforcement Division, attended the working group meetings on April 10, 16, and 23, 2009.

- Professionals Achieving Consumer Trust (PACT) Meeting – The DCA is planning its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual PACT Meeting in January 2010.

#### 4. Education Program Update

	VN Program	PT Program	Totals
#Accredited Programs	185	15	200
#Approved Programs	26	2	28
<b>Total Programs:</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>228</b>
#Proposed Programs	82	8	90

- Submission of New Proposals and School Materials for Nursing Education Consultant’s Review – The BVNPT asks for your cooperation when submitting new proposals and other materials to your consultant. Due to the shortage of consultant staff and the imposition of two furlough days per, the BVNPT now projects that new proposals may take twelve (12) months or longer for review, depending on the quality and completeness of the proposal. Please work with your consultant to establish mutually agreeable deadlines. The BVNPT thanks you for your cooperation and understanding.

#### 5. Examination Update

- Examination Development – On March 24, 2009, the PT Annual Planning Meeting was conducted with the DCA Office of Professional Examination Services.
- Examination Statistics

Current Fiscal Year to Date (7/1/08 to 4/20/09)	VN Program	PT Program
Average Annual Pass Rate for <b>First-Time</b> Graduates	73%	72%
Overall Pass Rate	55 %	58%
<b>Total # of First-Time Graduates Tested Year to Date:</b>	<b>6,176</b>	<b>577</b>

#### 6. Statutory & Regulatory Update

- Governor’s Consolidation Proposal – On December 31, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger proposed consolidating the Licensed Vocational Nurses with the Board of Registered Nurses to create a new Board of Registered and Vocational Nurses. He also proposed consolidating the Psychiatric Technicians with the Board of Psychology and the Board of

Behavioral Sciences to create a new Board of Mental Health. To date, legislation has not been introduced to implement this proposal.

- Retroactive Fingerprint & Fee Regulations – On January 9, 2009, the Office of Administrative Law approved the emergency regulations to implement retroactive fingerprinting and a fee increase to obtain the staff and funding needed for this action. Some of the major changes are:

- Fingerprint Authority – For a license that expired on or after **April 1, 2009**, the BVNPT requires LVN's and PT's that were licensed prior to January 1, 1998 or for whom a record of the submission of fingerprints no longer exists, to submit a complete set of fingerprints to the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.
- Fee Change – For licenses that expire on or after **July 1, 2009**, the following fees are established:

	<u>VN Program</u>	<u>PT Program</u>
Biennial Renewal Fee:	\$120 to \$150	\$200 to \$300
Delinquency Fee:	\$60 to \$75	\$100 to \$150
Initial License Fee:	\$120 to \$150	\$200 to \$300

- Statutory Fee Range Change – Unfortunately, the BVNPT was not able to obtain an author in 2009 to amend its statutory fee ranges. Due to the State's budget deficit, most of the Legislators are not willing to author a bill related to fees. The BVNPT will be actively seeking an author for next year's legislative session.

## 7. Liaison Activities

- Stanbridge College Vocational Nursing Program – On February 27, 2009, John Vertido, Board President, was the commencement speaker at this graduation.
- Psychiatric Technician Annual Planning Meeting – On Wednesday, March 18, 2009, Cheryl Anderson, NEC, and the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) convened the 2009 Psychiatric Technician Annual Planning Meeting. The purpose of meeting was to evaluate the California PT Licensure Examination and develop future project plans.
- Woodcreek High School – On March 26, 2009, John Vertido, Board President, spoke to students at Woodcreek High School regarding the vocational nursing profession.
- California Association of Psychiatric Technician Educators (CAPTE) – On April 17, 2009, Cheryl Anderson, NEC, attended the California Psychiatric Technician Educators' Director Forum at Mission College, Santa Clara, CA. Six (6) of the seventeen (17) approved and accredited programs were represented. A report on the model curriculum was presented. Other topics of discussion included Orientation of New Program Director; Director Release Time; Selection of Program Textbooks; and PT Licensure Examination Program Statistics.
- Licensed Vocational Nurses League of California (LVNLC) – On April 22, 2009, John Vertido, Board President and Anne Powers, Nursing Education Consultant, presented information on Legislation and the Nursing Profession – Past, Present and Future.

- Psychiatric Technician Committee of Content Experts Conference – On April 20 – 24, 2009, Cheryl Anderson, NEC, and the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) convened the 2009 Psychiatric Technician Committee of Content Experts Conference. The purpose of the conference was the construction of the 2010 Psychiatric Technician Licensure Examinations.
- California Vocational Nurse Educators (CVNE) – On April 24, 2009, John Vertido, Board President, presented information on proposed legislation that may affect the Board.

## **8. Other Important Issues**

- Customer Service Surveys – The BVNPT distributes a “Customer Service Survey” to solicit feedback regarding how the BVNPT is accomplishing its mission and goals. The information is used to develop the BVNPT’s Strategic Plan and is included in the BVNPT’s Sunset Review Reports. Please complete the survey form and leave it on the table at the back of the room. The BVNPT is very interested in obtaining any recommendations you can make regarding improving effectiveness.
- New Telephone System – On March 10, 2009, the BVNPT converted to a new telephone system. Problems occurred due to the switch from AT&T to Verizon as the telephone service provider. In addition, installation of the Web Center was delayed until late April 2009. The Web Center is a full feature call center that will enable the BVNPT to queue the incoming telephone calls and establish a call tree for automated responses.

(5/7/09)