



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### NURSING EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVES

KRISTEN BARBEE, PhD, RN, CNE  
Program Director & Associate Professor  
Wingate University  
Wingate, North Carolina

NANCY PHOENIX BITTNER, PhD, CNS, RN  
Vice President for Education/Professor of Nursing  
Lawrence Memorial/Regis College  
Medford, Massachusetts

JOY COLE, PhD, RN, SFHEA  
Associate Professor of Nursing  
Utah Valley University  
Orem, Utah

CLAUDIA ESTRADA-HICKMAN, MSN, RN, CNE  
Nursing Faculty  
Pueblo Community College  
Pueblo, Colorado

DIANE EVANS-PRIOR, DNP, RN  
Dean, School of Nursing and Patient Support  
Central New Mexico Community College  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

SHARI GHOLSON, DNP, RN, CNE  
Dean of Nursing and Allied Health Division  
West Kentucky Community & Technical College  
Paducah, Kentucky

AMY M. HALL, PhD, RN, CNE  
Dean, School of Nursing  
Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MONICA KIDDER, DNP, MEDSURG-BC, NPD-BC, CNE  
Curriculum Coordinator, Covenant School of Nursing  
Covenant Medical Center  
Lubbock, Texas

CHERYL OSLER, EdD, MS, MA, MSL, RN, CNE  
Associate Dean of Nursing  
Spokane Community College  
Spokane, Washington

CHERYL SHAFFER, PhD, RN, PNP, ANP  
Associate Dean, School of Nursing  
Suffolk County Community College  
Sayville, New York

### NURSING SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

CAROLYN JO McCORMIES, MS, RN, APRN, FNP-BC  
Family Nurse Practitioner - Family Practice Primary Care Clinic  
San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation  
Peridot, Arizona

DEMICA WILLIAMS, DNP, RN, CNE  
Director of Allied Health and Nursing  
Piedmont of Augusta  
Augusta, Georgia

JESSICA ESTES, DNP, APRN-NP  
Chief Operating Officer  
Cumberland Hall Hospital  
Hopkinsville, Kentucky

### PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

BARRY GOLDSTEIN, PhD  
Consultant  
Roswell, Georgia

ROBERT A. SINTICH, EdD  
Hancock, New York

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 13, 2023

Annebelle Nery, PhD  
President  
Santa Ana College

Mary Steckler, MSN, RN, CNE  
Director of Nursing, Associate Dean of Health Sciences  
Santa Ana College  
1530 West 17th Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92706

Dear Dr. Nery and Ms. Steckler:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) at its meeting in September 2023. The Board of Commissioners granted continuing accreditation to the associate nursing program and scheduled the next evaluation visit for Spring 2031. Please see ACEN Policy #9 Disclosure of Information About an Accredited Program for the required disclosure statement regarding this decision, which must be made to all current and prospective students within seven business days of this letter.

Deliberations centered on the materials available to the Board from this accreditation review process and the recommendation for accreditation proposed by the peer evaluators on the site visit team and the Evaluation Review Panel. Final decisions were made based on the 2023 Standards and Criteria.

The Board identified the following:

#### **Areas of Strength**

#### **Standard 3 Students, Criterion 3.4**

- Students and faculty stated that student services at the college and within the nursing program are easily accessible, provide a positive experience, and quickly answer questions. The college website uses a tool to help ESL students translate all website information into another language if needed. Additionally, the students are using ebooks and are serviced by faculty using the same tools, such as highlighting, outline, and digital flashcards. The Learning Disability Specialist assists with community resources for testing for learning disabilities, and accommodations are aligned when the student presents the necessary paperwork. Finally, the college uses the RAVE mobile safety app and email to communicate inclement weather or threats to safety. Student services personnel hold training workshops that include earthquake preparedness and school shooter awareness alerts for all students.

**Areas of Strength (Continued)**

**Standard 3 Students, Criterion 3.4**

- The President indicated that student services have been impactful in student enrollment (from 8,982 in Fall AY 2021–2022 to 10,076 overall) (combined summer and fall). Student services personnel were having informative workshops along with the Office of Financial Aid to help students enroll. The nursing program has not felt a gap. Students named contact the following personnel: the Student Coordinator, the Academic Counselor, the librarian, the Learning Disability Specialist, and the Dean of Financial Aid. There was one military student who stated that the Veteran Services worked well with all the other services, and he was able to apply and learn about his benefits at SAC through the Student Services and Veteran Affairs Liaison. He had Medical Corp experience for trauma care; his military status helped his onboarding application with points for lived experiences and training.

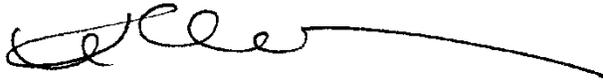
**Areas Needing Development**

**Standard 4 Curriculum, Criterion 4.8**

- Ensure the total number of credits required to complete the defined nursing program of study is consistent with the policies of the governing organization and the state.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement! If you have questions about this action or about ACEN policies and procedures, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Kathy Chappell, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing

Has Awarded  
Accreditation  
to

**Santa Ana College**  
Associate Nursing Program

For Achievement of Quality and Excellence in Nursing Education

Spring 2023 to Spring 2031



Diane Evans-Prior, DNP, RN  
Chair, ACEN



Kathy Chappell PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer, ACEN