



Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University
Nursing Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
Monday, November 3, 2025 from 10 pm to 12 pm
Via Zoom ID# 879 5634 2602

Welcome and Introductions:

In Attendance Committee Members:

Krista Altaker, Sonoma State University
Katherine Magee, Santa Rosa Junior College
Ali Myers, Sutter Medical Center Santa Rosa

SSU Administration, Staff & Faculty:

Rich Fidler, Kaija Freborg, Anne Marie O'Brien, Jessica Hansen, Elizabeth Wade, Jordan Rose, Janelle Coleman Smith, Karen Werder, Barbara Ritter

SRJC Administration, Staff & Faculty:

Diane Donnelly, Erica Lohne, Tiffany Lundqvist, Anita McInnis, Claire Raymond, Megan Rhodes, Jennifer Richardson, Tammy Sakanashi, Jake Samson, Scott Meehl, Jennifer Castello, Megan Rhodes, and Rachel Smith

Off-Campus Invited Guests:

Suzanne Hewitt, Mendocino Community College
Dana Orvis, Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital
Ronda Steele, Sutter Santa Rosa Regional Hospital
Kristin Lytle, Healdsburg Hospital

Minutes from 4/7/2025 meeting approved.

Santa Rosa Junior College Nursing Updates:

SRJC ADN Nursing Director: Katherine Magee:

- Grant news: In August, awarded 1.1 million via the Chancellors Office Restructuring Nursing Infrastructure Grant. Funds will be used over a 2-year period to renovate unused space as a multi bed sim lab, replace aging equipment and achieve independent accreditation, which will all to conservatively expand admissions capability. These funds are in addition to the annual Nursing Enrollment and Retention Grant received since 2008.
- 47 students graduating in the December 2025 cohort. Pinning 12/5 at Burbank Theater on campus. Overall pass rate for 24-25 is 98%.

- Application cycle began 10/2/2025 through 2/7/2026. Will possibly seat up to 128 students for Fall 26/Spring 27. General decline in applications, but stats show a marked increase in diversity among applicants largely due to college wide support for underrepresented groups.
- Thank you to clinical agency partners supporting placement of 220 students. Clinical practicum partners using 3rd party placement systems- MyClinicalExchange and CCPS. Requests and onboarding for SRJC Clinical completed by Clinical Coordinator, Diane Donnelly.
- Currently preparing for 5-year continuing approval visit from BRN taking place in April 2025.

SRJC CNA Program Coordinator, Tiffany Lundqvist:

- CNA update: Spring cohort 98% pass rate for skills, 100% written. Summer cohort 100% pass rate both written & skills. Just onboarded 4 new associate faculty with plans to expand summer program from 30 to 45. Fall cohort starts clinical this Thursday.

Council on Aging Updates, Day Program Manager, Salina Gonzalez:

- The Adult Day Programs for Dementia at Council on Aging have hired 3 Spanish bilingual and 2 bicultural staff. Our 4 sites are on waitlist status, so we have buzzing programs to share with the nursing students.
- We continue to welcome the SRJC students, Merritt College, and Dominican University students to observe or spend practicum hours at our day sites.
- We're ready to host more as needed, and welcome volunteers for increased experience with the dementia population. Thank you all for your continued support and all the hard work you do to grow the nursing community.

Sonoma State Nursing Updates: Director's Report: Kristin Altaker:

- The state legislature has dedicated \$16 million for growth at Sonoma State. They have been mandated to double the program. Looking at logistics and space renovation, which has been needed for decades. In discussion mode with the provost and cabinet at this point in time.
- Continuing to have diverse applications, also seeing a slight decrease in overall applications, but not impacting program.
- Post Licensure Program- Graduated 29 students in Spring. This Fall has 37 continuing students from previous years admission. 13 of those are SRJC students. 9 are from Mendo. Rest of students are from Napa and Solano. This summer SSU offered admission to 49 students and 44 were admitted- 35 from SRJC and 3 from Mendo.
- Have Approval for one more FT tenure track faculty. Position posted right now for program growth and because they are working on adding psych mental health nurse practitioner program.

Rachel Napoli, SSU Prelicensure Report:

- Priority is trying to find clinical placements, especially with pediatrics at Memorial closing.

- NCLEX pass rates- most recent quarter was 100% and overall, at 95% right now. Switched from ATI to Kaplan. Graduating class of 2025 was first full cohort through with Kaplan.

Rich Fidler, SSU Nurse Practitioner Program:

- Clinical placements are problem for their program too. Average number of students was 36 students per cohort. This past fall they admitted 72, so they have doubled the size of program and are feeling those growing pains with clinical placements. Hopefully will be on track to admit the same number again next cycle.
- General discussion about pressure to grow from the state, but lack of clinical placements.

Clinical Agency Reports:

Ali Myers, Providence:

- Discussion regarding critical thinking skills with current students. How do we instill critical thinking and the sacredness of the nursing career with the current students?
- Understand the need to be certified in simulation and have a lot more simulation, but hope there is a nice balance and sim doesn't take the place of hospital clinical and preceptorship hours.
- In response and being prepared for the nursing shortage, Providence will be cohorting a fall and a spring semester of staff nurses, 20 per year to certain specialties. Will start the process during their preceptorship. Will post some positions soon.
- Had 274 applicants for 1 Staff Nurse I opening.
- Student clinical placement consideration- consider how students are doing in their clinicals to make decisions about who gets specialty units because intention is to hire those people when they go into those preceptorships, so they want the right people in the right specialties to make sure they have the best chance of getting position and being a great nurse.
- Had some variation in how the clinical instructors are in the hospital. Requesting that the clinical instructors are rounding in the departments and checking on the students rather spending time in the cafeteria or conference rooms. Would like to make sure they're out in the departments supporting and assisting the nurses and their students.

Katherine Magee- Program does vet students for the right clinicals placement.

Rachel Napoli- they also get recommendations where student should be placed- whether they should be placed in specialty or med surg, etc.

Ronda Steele, Sutter Health

- Discussion about creating a clinical instructor handbook with Scott. Love the students and there's hope for the future. 338 students at Sutter this year. Would like to add more students, so want to be creative as well.

Janelle Coleman Smith- Clinical lead for SSU med surg. Will reiterate Ali's message to clinical instructors to make sure they are making their rounds.

Katherine Magee- SRJC pays clinical instructors enhanced rate that does include prep time outside of the clinical hours. **Kristin Altaker-** SSU also pays at a rate that includes teaching the class plus the prep and reports that is done outside of teaching time.

Dana Orvis, Memorial Hospital:

- Sad to see the pediatric unit closed at Memorial. Limited with units and physical space, but open to having conversations to brainstorm best ways to fit more students. Good news is stabilization in workforce at Memorial. Struggling with filling preceptorships. Talking with leadership and nurses to accommodate more preceptorships.

Kristin Lytle, Healdsburg Hospital:

- Working with Dana and Petaluma Valley- figuring out how many students they can work with.

Megan Rhodes, SRJC Job Development:

- Fewer opportunities for jobs when students are done with their program. Wondering if it's temporary or long-term restructuring of the industry? Katherine Magee responded that it's an ebb and flow with jobs. There are openings at skilled nursing, but a lot of the graduates don't want to work at a skilled facility.

Suzanne Hewitt, Mendocino Community College:

- First time some of the graduates have not been successful in finding jobs. Out of 24 grads, 3 or 4 had trouble finding a job.

Krista Altaker:

- Pediatric options discussion. Anne Marie O' Brien added that Santa Rosa Community Health have pediatric clinics. SSU have worked with Pediatric Dental Group. Tiffany and Katherine are committed to not having students drive to Oakland or SF for clinical hours. Suzanne said Oakland Children's no longer worked with their students, wanted more local BSN students.
- Adjourn 11:30