UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Report on Nursing Programs Enrollment Levels, FY 2008-09

2008-09 Legislative Session

Budget and Capital Resources
May 2009
The Honorable Denise Moreno Ducheny
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room 5035
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Ducheny:

Pursuant to Item 6440-001-0001, Provision 12, of the 2008 Budget Act, enclosed is the University of California's report on Nursing Programs Enrollment Levels, FY 2008-09.

If you have any questions regarding this report, Associate Vice President Obley will be pleased to speak with you. She can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9112, or by e-mail at Debora.Obley@ucop.edu.

Sincerely yours,

Mark G. Yudof
President

Enclosure

c: The Honorable Gloria Romero, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
(Attn: Ms. Amy Supinger)
(Attn: Ms. Cheryl Black)
The Honorable, Wilmer Amina Carter, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2
(Attn: Sara Bachez)
(Attn: Amy Rutschow)
Mr. Mac Taylor, Legislative Analysts
Mr. Mike Genest, Director of Finance
Mr. Dotson Wilson, Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Mr. Gregory Schmidt, Secretary of the Senate
Ms. Diane Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
Ms. Sara Swan, Department of Finance
Mr. Steve Boilard, Legislative Analyst's Office
Joint Legislative Budget Committee (18)
Senior Vice President John D. Stobo
Executive Vice President Katherine N. Lapp
Senior Vice President Daniel Dooley
The Honorable Denise Moreno Ducheny
April 30, 2009
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(cc list continued)

Vice President Patrick Lenz
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez
Associate Vice President Marsha Kelman
Associate Vice President Cathryn Nation
Associate Vice President Obley
Director Kathleen Dettman
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Report on Nursing Enrollment Levels, FY 2008-09

This report is submitted by the University of California (UC) in response to language contained in the 2008 Budget Act, which states:

“12. The university shall report to the Legislature and the Governor by May 1, 2009, on the total enrollment in the 2007-08 and 2008-09 academic years in the entry-level clinical and master's degree nursing programs and the master’s of science nursing degree programs.”

It should be noted that no additional State funds were provided in 2008-09 for entry-level master’s and traditional master’s degree level nursing students.

I. ENROLLMENT LEVELS IN THE 2007 AND 2008 ACADEMIC YEARS

Although the 2008 Budget Act requires UC to update the Legislature and the Governor on master’s degree enrollments only, this report provides nursing enrollment data for all UC Nursing programs (doctoral, master’s and baccalaureate degree programs). This information is included in order to provide a more comprehensive view of UC efforts to address statewide nursing needs and increase educational opportunities for students.

Currently, nursing programs are offered at three UC campuses - Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Irvine. UC remains focused on its role in training new nursing faculty and helping to rebuild the pool of baccalaureate-prepared students who can continue on for graduate study in nursing.

Doctoral Program Enrollments. The UCLA and UCSF Schools of Nursing both offer research-focused nursing doctoral programs which grant a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree. A total of 194 students are enrolled in UC doctoral nursing programs in 2008-09. UCLA enrolled a total of 41 doctoral students and UCSF enrolled 153 doctoral students.

Master’s Program Enrollments. Both UCLA and UCSF offer Master’s programs at their Schools of Nursing. In 2008-09, UC enrolled a total of 769 students in master’s programs. UCLA enrolled a total of 333 students - 111 students in the newly established Master’s Entry Clinical Nursing (MECN) program – now at steady state enrollment, and an additional 222 students in the traditional master’s program. In that same year, UCSF enrolled 436 students in their Master of Science program. Students enter into this program either through the Master’s Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN) or the traditional master’s program.

Baccalaureate Program Enrollments. Both UCLA and UCI began new four-year undergraduate nursing programs in Fall 2006. In 2008-09, each campus accepted their third cohort of students, for a total of 360 undergraduate students across all years. Included in this total were thirty-five students enrolled in a small UCLA “bridge” program designed for students who are already licensed as a registered nurse, have earned an Associate’s Degree in Nursing, and wish to earn a B.S. in preparation for advanced practice study at the graduate level.
Enrollments in UC Nursing Programs (2007/08 - 2008/09)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>(7)^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s – Traditional (MSN/MS)*</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>24^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Entry Clinical Nursing Program (MSN)</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>1^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s of Science (BS)**</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total UC Enrollments</strong></td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>1,323</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ Represents a normal year-to-year fluctuation in actual student headcounts across existing nursing programs, not an increase in state-funded enrollments

* Includes students entering after one-year in the UCSF Master’s Entry Program in Nursing

** Includes students in a small UCLA “Bridge” program for Associate Degree nurses

In its 2009-10 budget request, the University requested funding for 32 graduate professional master’s students and 100 undergraduate nursing students requested but not funded in 2008-09, and ten additional graduate professional doctoral and 50 undergraduate nursing students to support the 2009-10 phase of a planned multi-year expansion of undergraduate nursing. The State budget did not, however, provide new resources for nursing.

Because admissions to most programs were made before UC’s budget was finalized by the state, the University made the decision to accommodate planned undergraduate enrollment, including nursing students, in 2008-09. Graduate nursing student enrollments in some programs increased for the same reason. It is anticipated, however, that campuses will not grow further at the graduate level without additional resources. At the undergraduate level, the University has adopted a plan to reduce freshmen enrollment across nine campuses by 2,300 students (although transfer students are expected to increase by 500). It is expected that this enrollment curtailment will also have an impact on UC’s ability to meet the planned enrollment increases at the baccalaureate level.

During a budget crisis, the temporary solution used for 2008-09 nursing workload increase was necessary, but this is not a sustainable solution over time if the quality of the nursing programs is to be preserved. Accommodating enrollment growth with no new resources other than student fee income means that new and existing students are impacted by the lack of adequate resources to support a high quality academic clinical training program. Without new workload support, the University will need to develop plans to bring enrollments in line with resources.

II. FUTURE UC NURSING PLANS

UC recognizes the importance of addressing California’s significant and growing shortages of nurses and nursing faculty. However, the absence of state support for the required increase in workload jeopardizes the expansion that has already occurred and that UC would plan to continue if instructional support is provided. Given uncertainties
associated with the 2009-10 budget, UC is not yet able to project nursing enrollments for 2009-10 and beyond at this time.

**When adequate resources are provided, however, future plans for growth are as follows:**

**UC Los Angeles.** Current plans include modest proposed growth in the post-licensure RN-BS program, and continued growth in the Baccalaureate degree program - which would reach steady state enrollment with 200 students in 2009-10.

**UC Irvine.** The Irvine campus is planning new graduate programs at both the master’s (MS) and doctoral (PhD) levels, with initial implementation to begin with the master’s program. In 2008, the UC systemwide Academic Senate approved Irvine’s master’s nursing program proposal. If adequate funding is provided, the campus anticipates its first class of students fall 2009 (with a target of 24 students). At full enrollment, UCI’s graduate nursing program currently aims to enroll 90 master’s students and 85 doctoral students.

**UC Davis.** In July 2007, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation pledged a $100 million grant to help launch a new school of nursing at UC Davis (UCD). In March 2009, the UC Regents formally approved the new nursing school at Davis (named for Betty Irene Moore). Like other UC schools, appropriate State resources consistent with standard UC budgetary practices for new enrollments will be requested and critical to its success and operations. Pending necessary program approvals and State support, UCD anticipates admitting its first students in the master’s and doctoral programs in fall 2010 at UCD’s Sacramento campus. The bachelor’s of science in nursing program is planned to follow, provided that state support is forthcoming and that plans involving graduate nursing instruction are on track. At maturity, the school plans to enroll a total of 456 students (56 PhD, 200 master’s degree students, and 200 undergraduates).

**III. ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The need for continued expansion of nursing programs is discussed below, followed by a more detailed description of the nursing programs UC currently operates.

**California’s Nursing Crisis:** Virtually all Americans will require nursing care at some time in their lives. Whether this care involved maintenance of health, episodic care of a highly technical or less complex nature, care for a chronic condition or illness, or long-term supportive care, it is important to ensure that appropriate nursing care will be available. Therefore, continuing reports of a serious nursing shortage raise concerns that must be addressed in California and nationwide.

The state ranks 50th in the nation in the number of nurses per capita (589 vs. the U.S. average of 825 nurses per 100,000). Causes of the nursing shortage include rapid population growth (especially of those over age 65); an aging nursing workforce (California nurses are 5 years older than the national average and a large proportion are over age 50); increasing mean age of nursing faculty nearing retirement; and limited nursing school enrollment capacity and insufficient funding for education. Current nurse staffing ratios for California hospitals and national accreditation standards limiting the number of hours medical residents can work have created further demand.

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1 At the time this report was submitted, the UC Irvine Nursing Science Program was reviewing student applications received for the Master’s program, recognizing that core State support is essential for the stability/viability of the teaching program. Final decisions about admissions have not yet been made in light of budget uncertainties.
Planning for Growth in UC’s Nursing Education Programs


In the area of Nursing, the Council recommended “substantial enrollment growth, with a focus on graduate education in nursing and the need to train increased numbers of future nursing school faculty.” The Council also recommended that new programs at the undergraduate level be developed to increase educational opportunities for undergraduates and to help build the pool of students who will go on to graduate study, stating “…This should include growth in existing nursing schools and programs and creation of new ones at new locations.”

The Council called for development of new educational models involving interdisciplinary training and team-based approaches to patient care; and redoubled efforts to significantly increase the diversity of all UC health professions faculty and students, with stable funding provided to support best practices and model programs. The Council also encouraged innovative approaches to teaching, including telemedicine, distance learning, and use of new technologies.

UC Nursing Programs: UC currently operates two Schools of Nursing (UCLA and UCSF), and a Program in Nursing Science (UCI). A third nursing school at UC Davis was formally approved by the Board of Regents in March 2009 (first students anticipated in fall 2010). Until fall 2006, UCLA and UCSF offered only graduate nursing education, with the exception of a small 3rd and 4th year baccalaureate program offered at UCLA for students who are already licensed as a Registered Nurse. The graduate programs play a central and critical role in preparing advance practice nurses and future faculty. Faculty shortages in nursing exist statewide and are a major barrier to increasing enrollments at UC, CSU and CCC campuses.

Overview of UC’s Nursing Schools and Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Year established</th>
<th>Degrees offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UC San Francisco</td>
<td>School of Nursing</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>MS, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Los Angeles</td>
<td>School of Nursing</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>BS, MSN, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Irvine</td>
<td>Nursing Science Program*</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>[BS, MS, PhD]**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Davis</td>
<td>School of Nursing</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>[BSN, MSN, PhD]**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* UC Irvine plans to seek School of Nursing status
** Anticipated degree offerings; First cohort of students have not yet graduated

A. Baccalaureate Degree Programs

UC currently offers two baccalaureate nursing programs – one at UC Irvine (launched Fall 2006) and the other at UCLA (re-established in Fall 2006). Both programs continue to steadily build their programs and work towards steady state enrollments. College-bound high school graduates interested in nursing, but strongly committed to a UC undergraduate education, once again have the opportunity to do both. The BS programs at both campuses are four year programs. These programs continue to draw strong and growing interest from undergraduates with highly competitive applicant pools.
UC Irvine. The Baccalaureate in Nursing Science offers talented and highly motivated undergraduates the opportunity to enter the healthcare environment with an education founded upon the theory and practice of nursing. Completion of the program’s curriculum will lead to a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Nursing Science, a key asset for today’s nurses, who must provide care to a diverse group of patients through evidence-based practice. Graduates of the Program in Nursing Science are prepared to serve as generalists in professional nursing practice and to collaborate with other healthcare providers in clinics, hospitals, and community health settings. The undergraduate program prepares students for success in academia as well; graduates are poised to attain advanced degrees in Nursing Science and to significantly contribute to the field through original research.

UC Los Angeles. The Nursing Generic/Prelicensure program for undergraduate study leading to the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Nursing was re-established in Fall 2006. The BS/Generic Prelicensure program is designed to prepare students for a career in nursing and focuses on managing both individuals and population-based cohorts within an acute care hospital or medical center. Conceptually, the curriculum has been developed according to the principles of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention; moving from a systems, population-based approach, to a cohort-based or unit-based perspective, and culminating with an intense focus on the individual-level of care. Graduates of the program will be well-prepared to deal with the demands of the present day high acuity patient populations and sophisticated technological environments. The program provides a BS degree with a major in Nursing and eligibility to take the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX) to be certified as a registered nurse (RN) after completion of the program.

B. Entry-Level Clinical and Entry-Level Master’s Degree Programs in Nursing

UC offers two master’s entry nursing programs: the Master’s Entry Clinical Nurse Program (MECN) at UCLA, and the Master’s Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN) program at UCSF. The two programs differ in curriculum, length of program, fee structure and objectives. Both are master’s level professional nursing programs in which the students enter without having a baccalaureate degree in nursing or having completed the requirements for RN certification.

UC Los Angeles Master’s Entry Clinical Nurse Program – MECN. The School of Nursing at UCLA offers an entry-level master’s degree program, called the Master’s Entry Clinical Nurse Program (MECN). The MECN is a two-year program that enrolled its first students in 2006, in which students enter without an undergraduate degree in nursing and earn both a master’s degree and satisfy the requirements for RN licensing concurrently. The students are prepared for careers as bedside nurses with more skills in managing a unit in a hospital (e.g., having the ability to deal with administrative and cost issues), as well as more skills in using, and helping to conduct, research than RNs who have not had graduate level instruction. Students in the MECN program pay the same fees as those paid by other nursing Master’s students – the Educational, Registration and Nursing Professional fee.

The MECN program assumes that students have completed a comprehensive undergraduate curriculum that will have satisfied some of the BSN licensing requirements. Prerequisites for the program include statistics, anatomy and physiology, as well as chemistry, epidemiology, microbiology, and a course in nursing fundamentals (or C.N.A. certification). The program also encourages the completion of at least one course in psychology and communications or speech prior to enrolling. Other RN licensure requirements are completed as part of the two-year intensive master’s curriculum.

UC San Francisco Master’s Entry Program in Nursing – MEPN. Students in UCSF’s 3-year long MEPN enter with a BS or BA degree in any field other than nursing. In the initial 12 months of the program, students complete coursework to satisfy the requirements for RN licensure, and then move into the two-year Master’s of Science in
Nursing (MS) program. Graduates of the program graduate as "advanced practice nurses" and are prepared for one of three advanced practice roles: nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist. As such, they are prepared to work independently (although often in close collaboration with physicians) in both primary and specialty health care.

The intensive initial segment of the MEPN program is "self-supporting," that is, supported by a student fee for the 12-month period (anticipated fees for students beginning June 2008 are $31,000 for the first year). During this self-supporting year, the MEPN students are not included as part of State-funded enrollments because no General Fund support is provided for this initial year. After the first year, however, the students enter the MS program and are included in the State reportable enrollments and do receive State support at the same level as other graduate nursing enrollments. During the MS program years, these students pay the same fees as other nursing Master's students - the Educational, Registration and Nursing Professional fee.

C. Master of Science in Nursing Programs - Traditional

**UC Los Angeles.** The UCLA Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is a two–year course of graduate study that prepares advanced practice nurse administrators, nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists. Students in the MSN program contribute to improving nursing care through research, which includes analysis, articulation, and documentation of the nursing process. The curriculum is designed for students to obtain theoretical and practical knowledge of the foundations for specialized practice, as well as an opportunity to implement that knowledge through advanced clinical practice. Each area of specialization has requirements over and above the minimum core requirements for the degree.

**UC San Francisco.** The UCSF Master of Science (MS) program is a two-year course of graduate study that prepares leaders in the roles of nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, administrator, teacher, and consultant. Most applicants applying to this program are experienced registered nurses who have successfully completed a bachelor's degree. Upon graduation, all have a base of knowledge in a specific area of nursing; can participate knowledgeably in research activity and application; and are capable of contributing to the formulation of theory and to the application of theory to nursing practice. The Master of Science program is ordinarily a two-year program; the vast majority of students are on full-time status at the university (although many undertake part-time paid work concurrently with their study schedule). Each student must select an area of specialization, with opportunities in a number of fields ranging from midwifery to critical care, and health policy to family nurse practitioner training. For many of these specialty areas, the UCSF School of Nursing is acknowledged to be the leading, or the only, nursing school for that particular specialization area at the master’s level.

D. Doctor of Philosophy Programs

**UC Los Angeles.** The UCLA Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program is research oriented with a focus on clinical nursing research and designed to provide the theoretical and scientific knowledge necessary for scholarly pursuit in nursing. Students will show competence in an appropriate cognate area relevant to their major area of study by completing theory courses in nursing and related disciplines. The purpose of the PhD program is to educate scholars who, through the conduct of original research and the generation of theory, will build the scientific knowledge base for the advancement of nursing practice, research and health care policy. This research focuses on the individual, family, community, and organizational systems within the context of cultural diversity and across the life span to optimize health outcomes. The program emphasizes specific areas of study in which nursing makes a significant contribution towards health. These areas are defined by the research expertise of faculty in the context of the interdisciplinary resources available at the academic and health sciences campus and the local, national and international community.
UC San Francisco. The UCSF Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing program prepares scientists to conduct research in nursing and to contribute to the body of knowledge in nursing. Graduates of this program focus their careers on generating the knowledge base of the nursing discipline through positions as academic or clinical researchers. The curriculum is designed to develop habits of scholarly thinking. The initial segment of the curriculum provides course work in the areas of research, nursing science and theory development. The emphasis in the middle segment shifts to course work, research residencies, and independent studies that provide a basis for the student’s projected dissertation focus and the subsequent initial program of research. The final segment of the program, preceded by the qualifying examination and advancement to candidacy, entails development of a dissertation research proposal, data collection and analysis, and the writing of the dissertation. The dissertation is a work of independent research that makes an original contribution to knowledge in nursing. A key element of the program is faculty consultation and advising. The program entails approximately four years of academic work.

Additionally, the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the UCSF School of Nursing offers a doctoral program which leads to the PhD in Sociology. The substantive focus of the program lies in the sociology of health and illness and biomedicine, with options for specialization in an area relevant to health. Qualitative research and analysis and quantitative methods are emphasized. The SBS PhD program in Sociology emphasizes the sociology of health, medicine, and health care systems. The department’s strong multidisciplinary faculty teach and conduct research across a wide range of interests, focusing on the social, political, and policy level. Areas of expertise include aging and long term care policy; managed care; the tobacco industry and tobacco control policy; substance use policy; feminist theory; women’s health; science and technology studies; ethics; health economics; violence and youth, and others. Tailoring programs to meet the individual learning goals of students is an aim of all programs.