



► The STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:  
WHERE ARE WE NOW?  
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► ENGAGING FACULTY IN UNDERGRADUATE  
CURRICULUM REVIEW  
PATRICIA BRENNAN, PHD, RN, FAAN 2



► COMPETENCY WATCH 2  
► RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT 2



# Competency focus

UPDATING THE NURSING COMMUNITY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE ESSENTIAL NURSING COMPETENCIES AND CURRICULA  
GUIDELINES IN GENETICS AND GENOMICS.

*Each of the four goals of the Strategic Implementation Plan has seen activity. Much work remains to be done, but progress has been made towards achieving each goal. Please contact one of the Competency Initiative Co-Chairs if you would like to be involved!*

## The Strategic Implementation Plan: Where Are We Now?

Since October 2006 when the Competency Strategic Implementation Plan was established, the Co-Chairs and Advisory Group for the Genetic/Genomic Nursing Competency Initiative have been very busy lending a hand to this work. Here is an update, FYI:

### GOAL: Infrastructure

Provide the structure, direction, and focus for all efforts identified under the three critical goal areas of Practicing Nurses, Academics, and Regulation/Quality Control as well as provide centralized coordination of strategic plan activities.

- Developed a framework for a US Center of Genetic Nursing Education
  - Have submitted two separate proposals for funding
  - Unfortunately, neither have been funded
  - Continue to explore financial support
- Established and maintain a Competency Initiative Listserve
- Established a Competency Activity Matrix to track all activities
- Established a Core Slide Set for dissemination of the Competency information
- Developed a Newsletter Article template distributed to all endorsing organizations updating them on this initiative

### GOAL: Practicing Nurses

All nurses in practice will have a foundation of knowledge in basic human genetics and genomics and current applications to nursing practice.

- Developed and received IRB approval for a pilot test of a nursing survey to assess baseline nursing competency in genetics and genomics
  - Will be followed by a national survey in collaboration with the American Nurses

- Association
  - Data will be compared to data from a family practice physician survey
- Presentations at or scheduled for the following meetings
  - Sigma Theta Tau, National Nursing Staff Development Organization, American Academy of Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), International Society for Nurses in Genetics, National League for Nursing
- Worked with the Nephrology Nursing Society to develop a genetic/genomic chapter for the Core Curriculum For Nephrology Nursing
- Partnered with organizations to move genetics and genomics forward for their constituency
  - Sigma Theta Tau, American Nurses Association
- Lobbied for inclusion of the Competencies in the newly developed Breast Care certification to be offered by the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation
- Completed a series of genetics/genomics in nursing in the Journal of Nursing Scholarship, now being published as a book.
  - <http://www.genome.gov/17515679>

### GOAL: Academics

All nurses will have a foundation of knowledge in basic human genetics and genomics and current applications to nursing practice.

- Developed and received funding for a collaborative meeting with AACN to establish
  - Learning Outcomes and Practice Indicators
  - A multi-media faculty genetic/genomic tool kit

- Participated and presented on the Competencies at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing meeting to revise the Baccalaureate Nursing Essentials
- Distributed the Competencies to all 1,626 Schools of Nursing in the US and Territories
- Developed and received approval for a session on Implementing the Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guidelines for Genetics and Genomics at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Baccalaureate Education Conference November 2007
- Partnered with the Human Resources and Services Administration Bureau of Nursing to
  - Identify opportunities for funding
  - Recruit experts who would be willing to pursue funding for projects related to nursing faculty development

### GOAL: Regulation/Quality Control

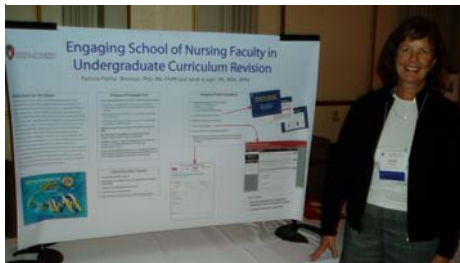
Genetics and genomics is included practice content on assessments of quality healthcare outcomes.

- Developed a proposal for a State of the Science meeting to establish research priorities that will serve as the underpinning for the development of research that produces the essential outcome data needed to incorporate genetics and genomics into NCLEX and accreditation.
- Distributed the Competencies to all 59 US and Territories State Boards of Nursing

This review is by now means complete but hopefully provides you with an update of some progress in implementation to date. Endorsing organizations are completing an update to be highlighted next newsletter. If you would like lend a helping hand, please contact us at [calzonek@mail.nih.gov](mailto:calzonek@mail.nih.gov) or [Jean.Jenkins@nih.gov](mailto:Jean.Jenkins@nih.gov)



# SPOTLIGHT



## Engaging Faculty in Undergraduate Curriculum Review

Report from the University of Wisconsin School of Nursing and College of Engineering.

**Process Improved:** Insuring the curriculum of undergraduate professional programs keeps pace with rapidly changing knowledge in the practice arena demands that faculty devise creative and efficient ways to add new content without sacrificing essential existing content. While full-scale curriculum revision has value when there is a change in the major thrust of a curriculum, determining how to integrate new content into an existing structure may prove more promising and timely. Motivated by the Institute of Medicine's recommendation that basic professional programs prepare graduates with knowledge from genomics and informatics, the School Nursing embarked on a process to update the curriculum without changing its fundamental structure. Several strategies including strong administrative support, anchoring accountability with the Undergraduate Learn@UW web resource, holding

monthly brown bag lunches, and acquiring consultation and training services from national experts provided a strong foundation for integration.

**Unit (s):** School of Nursing

**Customers of the Process and Their Needs:** Students and faculty of the School of Nursing

**Problem/Opportunity Statement:** Address professional nursing curriculum content recommendations advanced by the Institute of Medicine

**Changes Made:** Course objectives, lecture content and activities revised to capture content

*Infusing Genetics and Genomics into Nursing Curricula.*

PATRICIA BRENNAN, PHD, RN, FAAN  
MOEHLMAN BASCOM PROFESSOR

**Results:** Faculty engaged in the content revision; students eagerly embracing new ideas

**Lessons Learned:** early engagement and ongoing support of key faculty is essential to the development of new curriculum content

**Next Steps:** Extend the approach to the second year of the undergraduate curriculum

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## DO YOU NEED A COPY OF THE COMPETENCIES?



ESSENTIAL NURSING COMPETENCIES  
AND CURRICULA GUIDELINES  
FOR GENETICS AND  
GENOMICS

Established by Consensus Panel,  
September 21-22, 2005

Download your own copy  
today:

<http://www.genome.gov/Pages/Careers/HealthProfessionalEducation/geneticscompetency.pdf>



## COMPETENCY WATCH

Implementing the Competencies is similar to gardening, requiring care and nurturing to help the initiative grow. Where can your expertise be utilized?

### Baccalaureate Essentials Regional Meetings – Draft Document to be posted August 1.

Be sure the Competencies don't get lost in the sea of competing demands. Participate in the upcoming Baccalaureate Essentials Regional Meetings. The Baccalaureate Essentials Task Force has planned five (5) regional meetings, September 2007-April 2008. The focus of these meetings will be to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to review and provide feedback regarding the draft Baccalaureate Essentials document including the end-of-program competencies for baccalaureate nursing education. AACN member institution representatives, faculty, practice partners, and representatives of other healthcare and education organizations are invited to attend.

Baccalaureate Essentials Regional Meeting Dates and Locations:

San Diego, CA	September 27-28, 2007	Westin Horton Plaza San Diego
Savannah, GA	November 2-3, 2007	Hilton Savannah DeSoto
Tucson, AZ	January 15-16, 2008	Sheraton Tucson
Nashville, TN	March 13-14, 2008	Hilton Nashville Downtown
Boston, MA	April 24-25, 2008	Royal Sonesta Boston (Cambridge)

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/BACEssentMtg.htm>

### State Boards of Nursing

Each of the individual State Boards of Nursing are in receipt of a copy of the Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guidelines for Genetics and Genomics.

- ✓ What if any impact has there been in your own State Board of Nursing in response to the Competencies?
- ✓ State Boards of Nursing will review and prepare a position statement on topics relevant to the practice of nursing. Has your State Board developed a position statement regarding the Competencies?
- ✓ Is there someone with genetic/genomic expertise on your Board of Nursing?

If your answer to any of these questions is "I don't know", now is the time to find out. Go to <https://www.ncsbn.org/515.htm> to find the contact information for your State Board of Nursing!

## Resource Highlight



The National Genetics Education and Development Centre in the United Kingdom (UK) has just launched:

### Telling Stories: Understanding Real Life Genetics

The purpose of this project is to link the UK nursing competence framework directly to a resource that uses real-life stories to help promote understanding of genetics. The co-chairs of the US Competency Initiative are collaborating with the UK group on a similar story project focused on cultural diversity. Check out the stories at: <http://www.geneticseducation.nhs.uk/tellingstories/>