

UC 11727125

APPROVED APR 18 2012
9A

Approved by CLASS
Undergraduate Studies Committee

Dr. David Phillips 2-6-2012
Date

Memorandum

To: CLASS Undergraduate Studies Committee
From: Thomas Behr, Director of Liberal Studies
Re: Proposal for a "Pre-Nursing Track" for the UH/UTSON Dual Degree program
Date: December 12, 2011

RECEIVED FEB 06 2012
9

Item: It is proposed to create a "Pre-Nursing Program" in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, as part of the Agreement (see attached) entered into by UH and UTSON to offer eligible students a Dual Degree program, and to be housed under the purview of the Liberal Studies Program for purposes of academic advising and faculty mentoring for the UH Bachelor's degree.

Rationale: The Dual Degree Agreement between UH and UTSON offers students the benefit of pursuing a Bachelor's degree at UH while also completing pre-requirements for admission to UTSON to pursue a B.S. in Nursing. The Agreement imposes certain additional requirements on participating students while at UH and provides for certain exemptions from UH and CLASS degree requirements.

Students will require advising concerning this Pre-Nursing Track, faculty mentoring on their course of studies for the UH B.A. or B.S., and need to be evaluated periodically for on-going program eligibility. The Liberal Studies program staff are ideally suited to help these students be successful.

Program Details

(those affecting degree requirements in bold and italics)

1) Interested FTIC students will complete ***at least 90 credit hours towards a UH bachelor's degree***, completing their Nursing pre-requisites as part of a UH bachelor's degree, selecting a major in CLASS.

- a) While they may select any major from the college, two are particularly well-suited for these dual degree students: Liberal Studies (the triple-minor major) and Psychology. Interested students will begin in their first year at UH to work on their Nursing pre-requisites, which in addition to fulfilling their Core requirements for the UH bachelor's degree, will include additional coursework to fulfill Nursing pre-requisites, Growth & Development, Anatomy & Physiology, and Microbiology, for example. To be eligible for this program, all Math and Science pre-requisites for Nursing must be taken at UH, transfer credit and AP credit is not allowed.

b) Note that students in this Program are expected to fulfill all the requirements of the major they select, even if that might entail completing more than 90 hours at the University of Houston.

2) Participation in the Program requires obtaining and maintaining a 3.5 cumulative GPA and a 3.0 Science GPA. This requirement will be confirmed at 30, 60 and 75 credit hours.

a) Starting with the review for eligibility at 30 hours and continuing so long as eligibility is maintained, **participants in this Program will have priority registration privileges.**

3) Students who are not eligible at any point for the Program for failure to maintain GPA requirements may continue and complete a UH Bachelor's degree. However they will no longer be eligible for Program-related exemptions or waivers and must fulfill all College and University degree requirements.

4) Based on continuing eligibility and successful admission to UTSON under this Program, **up to 30 credit hours of approved coursework from their UTSON Bachelor's degree in Nursing can apply to the awarding of their UH Bachelor's degree.**

a) **The first 30 hours of Nursing coursework at the UTSON will also substitute for the College's requirement of a minor, for purposes of awarding the Bachelor's degree.**

b) **That coursework will be taken in their final 30 hours, so students who are admitted to the UTSON will be exempted from the normal rule requiring the last 30 hours of coursework taken in residence at UH.**

5) **Students accepted into the Pre-Nursing track AND who complete 30 hours at the UTSON may also be exempted from the University of Houston requirement of at least 36 advanced hours for graduation.**

6) **Students accepted into the Pre-Nursing track AND who complete 30 hours at the UTSON will be exempted from the College's Foreign Language requirement for a Bachelor of Arts degree —although Pre-Nursing students will be strongly encouraged to take a "Spanish for Medical Professions" course.**

7) After 75 credit hours, eligible students will be advised to take the designated nursing exam and to apply for admission to UTSON as a dual-degree applicant.

a) At least 25 percent of the admissions slots for each application cycle at the UTSON will be reserved for UH Pre-Nursing students.

b) Students not eligible or not admitted through this program will have the option of applying through the general applicant pool at UTSON or of completing a single UH degree.

c) Program Participants who do not complete the B.S. in Nursing at UTSON, but successfully complete at least 30 hours at UTSON, may still earn their UH Bachelor's degree according to Program waivers and exemptions.

d) Students not admitted to UTSON through this Program, or through UTSON's general admission pool, or who do not successfully complete 30 hours at UTSON may continue to complete their UH Bachelor's degree with no Program-related exemptions or waivers and fulfilling College and University degree requirements.

Conclusion...

While this is a rigorous program, UH already is serving students who need to complete their Pre-Nursing prerequisites. The Pre-Nursing track will require these students to complete an additional year of study at UH. However, the advantages to the students who qualify are clear: careful advising while at UH, the ability to pursue to completion a course of study in the humanities, social sciences or arts, the ability to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Houston while starting their nursing studies, and preferred admissions at one of the nation's top nursing schools.

Catalogue Language

Pre-Nursing Program

The Dual Degree Agreement between UH and UTSON offers students the benefit of pursuing a Bachelor's degree at UH while also completing pre-requirements for admission to UTSON to pursue a B.S. in Nursing. The Agreement imposes certain additional requirements on participating students while at UH and provides for certain exemptions from UH and CLASS degree requirements.

Students will require advising concerning this Pre-Nursing Track, faculty mentoring on their course of studies for the UH B.A. or B.S., and need to be evaluated periodically for on-going program eligibility. The Program advising and faculty mentoring is under the Liberal Studies program.

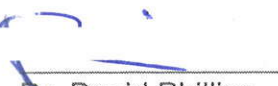
Students must meet the following requirements for participation in the Program, and to have the related UH degree program waivers or exemptions:

- 1) Interested FTIC students will complete at least 90 credit hours towards a UH bachelor's degree, completing their Nursing pre-requisites as part of a UH bachelor's degree, selecting a major in CLASS.
 - a) While they may select any major from the college, two are particularly well-suited for these dual degree students: Liberal Studies (the triple-minor major) and Psychology. Interested students will begin in their first year at UH to work on their Nursing pre-requisites, which in addition to fulfilling their Core requirements for the UH bachelor's degree, will include additional coursework to fulfill Nursing pre-requisites, Growth & Development, Anatomy & Physiology, and Microbiology, for example. To be eligible for this program, all Math and Science pre-requisites for Nursing must be taken at UH, transfer credit and AP credit is not allowed.
 - b) Note that students in this Program are expected to fulfill all the requirements of the major they select, even if that might entail completing more than 90 hours at the University of Houston.
- 2) Participation in the Program requires obtaining and maintaining a 3.5 cumulative GPA and a 3.0 Science GPA. This requirement will be confirmed at 30, 60 and 75 credit hours.

- a) Starting with the review for eligibility at 30 hours and continuing so long as eligibility is maintained, participants in this Program will have priority registration privileges.
- 3) Students who are not eligible at any point for the Program for failure to maintain GPA requirements may continue and complete a UH Bachelor's degree. However they will no longer be eligible for Program-related exemptions or waivers and must fulfill all College and University degree requirements.
- 4) Based on continuing eligibility and successful admission to UTSON under this Program, up to 30 credit hours of approved coursework from their UTSON Bachelor's degree in Nursing can apply to the awarding of their UH Bachelor's degree.
- a) The first 30 hours of Nursing coursework at the UTSON will also substitute for the College's requirement of a minor, for purposes of awarding the Bachelor's degree.
 - b) That coursework will be taken in their final 30 hours, so students who are admitted to the UTSON will be exempted from the normal rule requiring the last 30 hours of coursework taken in residence at UH.
- 5) Students accepted into the Pre-Nursing track AND who complete 30 hours at the UTSON may also be exempted from the University of Houston requirement of at least 36 advanced hours for graduation.
- 6) Students accepted into the Pre-Nursing track AND who complete 30 hours at the UTSON will be exempted from the College's Foreign Language requirement for a Bachelor of Arts degree —although Pre-Nursing students will be strongly encouraged to take a "Spanish for Medical Professions" course.
- 7) After 75 credit hours, eligible students will be advised to take the designated nursing exam and to apply for admission to UTSON as a dual-degree applicant.
- a) At least 25 percent of the admissions slots for each application cycle at the UTSON will be reserved for UH Pre-Nursing students.
 - b) Students not eligible or not admitted through this program will have the option of applying through the general applicant pool at UTSON or of completing a single UH degree.
 - c) Program Participants who do not complete the B.S. in Nursing at UTSON, but successfully complete at least 30 hours at UTSON, may still earn their UH Bachelor's degree according to Program waivers and exemptions.

d) Students not admitted to UTSON through this Program, or through UTSON's general admission pool, or who do not successfully complete 30 hours at UTSON may continue to complete their UH Bachelor's degree with no Program-related exemptions or waivers and fulfilling College and University degree requirements.

Due to the complicated nature of this unique Dual Degree Program, interested students and eventual Program participants are recommended to stay in regular contact with the Academic Advisor and Faculty Director of Liberal Studies.


Dr. David Phillips

2.3.2012
Date

**DUAL DEGREE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON**

This Dual Degree Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into and is effective as of December 1, 2011 ("the Effective Date"), by and between the University of Houston ("UH"), which is a component of the University of Houston System, a state supported institution of higher education established pursuant to Chapter 111, et. seq., of the Texas Education Code, whose offices are located at 4800 Calhoun, Houston, Texas 77204-5641, United States of America, and The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, on behalf of its School of Nursing, ("UTHSON") which is a state supported institution of higher education with a location at 6901 Bertner, Houston, Texas, 77030. UH and UTHSON may be referred to collectively as the "Parties" and singularly as a "Party."

RECITALS

WHEREAS, cordial relations exist between UH and UTHSON; and

WHEREAS, UTHSON and UH have discussed mutual goals regarding academic opportunities for students; and

WHEREAS, UH and UTHSON desire to establish a Dual Degree Program ("Program") for the benefit of students who want to earn both an undergraduate degree from UH and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from UTHSON; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties enter into this Agreement, in order to memorialize fundamental concepts regarding the Program.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PARTIES

In contemplation of establishment of the Program, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

Objectives of the Program

- A. **Program**. To establish a Program that would allow students entering UH to complete both a bachelor's degree from UH and a bachelor's degree in nursing from UTHSON.

ARTICLE II

Responsibilities of UH

- A. UH will collaborate with UTHSON to develop a three-year pre-nursing curriculum, including all UTHSON prerequisite courses, that will apply toward a UH bachelor's degree in the

admission cycles (spring, summer and fall). Priority admission will be granted based on prerequisite cumulative GPA, GPA in science courses, and scores on the admission standardized nursing exam.

- F. UTHSON will reserve at least 25% of the positions available during each admissions cycle for Program participants who have:
- a. Completed at least 90 semester credit hours of course work at UH including all UTHSON prerequisite courses;
 - b. Maintained an overall cumulative minimum 3.5 GPA with a minimum of 3.0 GPA in science courses completed; and
 - c. Earned a competitive score on the standardized nursing examination.

Any unfilled positions reserved for Program participants may be filled with applicants from UTHSON's general applicant pool.

- G. Program participants who are not awarded priority admission will be eligible for admission with the general applicant pool.
- H. UTHSON courses offered to Program participants will be reviewed by UH to determine eligibility for transfer of credit to UH for the purpose of awarding a UH bachelor's degree. Decisions regarding the transferability of credit between UTHSON and UH will be determined by the normal academic approval processes.
- I. Meetings of the UH/UTHSON Oversight Committee will be conducted once per semester to assess and review Program performance. The Oversight Committee will minimally include:
- a. UH faculty coordinator and advisor from CLASS;
 - b. UH UScholars pre-health professions advisor;
 - c. UH administrator from Academic Affairs;
 - d. UTHSON program coordinator; and
 - e. UH and UTHSON administrators broadly responsible for admissions, recruiting and marketing.
- J. The Program will be reviewed annually to ensure ongoing value, quality, and efficiency of process. The annual review will be made available to administrators at both UH and UTHSON.
- K. Each party reserves the right to dismiss a Student from its degree program in accordance with its academic policies and procedures as may be modified from time-to-time.

ARTICLE VI
Miscellaneous Provisions

- A. Contacts. The Party contacts regarding the Program are:

ARTICLE IV
Responsibilities of the Parties

- A. Parties will collaborate on the development of marketing and promotional materials and press releases related to the Program. Materials developed will adhere to the media/marketing standards of both Parties.
- B. Parties will recruit first-time in college ("FTIC") students at UH for participation in the Program.
- C. Parties will collaborate to collect and maintain data to track Program participants' academic progress and career advancement.
- D. Each Party will furnish institutional transcripts to the other Party at no cost to the student at the appropriate designated time.

ARTICLE V
Terms of the Program

- A. FTIC students interested in the Program will be advised to enroll in a prescribed block of first year (nursing prerequisite) courses. Prospective Program participants must complete the prescribed nursing prerequisite courses at UH. Program participants may not use advanced placement credit or credits earned at another institution in science or math courses to satisfy the nursing prerequisite requirements.
- B. Students completing 30 semester credit hours with a cumulative grade point average ("GPA") of 3.5 and a GPA of 3.0 in science courses will be eligible to participate in the Program. Upon completion of 30 semester credit hours, Program participants must declare a pre-nursing dual-degree major in the UH's CLASS. Once students have officially declared their major as Program participants, they will be provided priority registration for additional required courses.
- C. The academic records of Program participants will be reviewed after 60 semester credit hours to determine continued participation in the Program. At 60 semester credit hours, Program participants must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and a GPA of 3.0 in science courses. Program participants who fail to maintain the required GPA for continuation in the Program will be allowed to complete their UH degree, but will no longer be eligible to participate in the Program.
- D. Program participants will be advised to take the admission standardized nursing examination after completion of 75 semester credit hours at UH with the required cumulative GPA for continued Program participation. Program participants will also be advised to apply for formal admission to UTHSON as a dual-degree applicant.
- E. UTHSON will screen application materials of Program participants during their regular

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences ("CLASS"). The UH pre-nursing curriculum will consist of no less than 90 semester credit hours.

- B. UH will accept transfer of selected courses (up to 30 semester credit hours) from UTHSON for the purpose of awarding Program participants a UH bachelor's degree in CLASS.
- C. UH will waive the requirement that the last 30 semester credit hours be completed in-residence at UH in order to award a UH bachelor's degree for Program participants.
- D. UH will provide priority registration for Program participants.
- E. UH will assign personnel to actively participate on a UTHSON/UH Program Oversight Committee.
- F. UH will oversee UH degree completion for Program participants during their first year of matriculation at UTHSON.
- G. Students enrolled in the Program will have access to selected services provided by UH as they matriculate to UTHSON to complete the Program. These services may be contingent upon having a specially designated UH identification card. These services include:
 - a. Access to advising support to assist with the transfer of UTHSON courses to UH for completion of their UH degree;
 - b. Access to the UH Wellness Center pending receipt of payment by UH at the prevailing student rate;
 - c. Access to the UH M.D. Anderson Library;
 - d. Access to events at UH. If charges or admission fees are assessed, Program participants (with a valid UH Identification card), will be admitted under the same terms and conditions of UH students; and
 - e. Access to residential UH housing on a space-available basis.

ARTICLE III
Responsibilities of UTHSON

- A. UTHSON will train and support UH advisors responsible for providing advising support for prospective and current Program participants.
- B. UTHSON will participate in pre-health professions recruiting activities conducted at UH.
- C. UTHSON will establish a UH Chapter of the UTHSON Student Nursing Association for Program participants.
- D. UTHSON will assign personnel to actively participate on a UH/UTHSON Program Oversight Committee.
- E. UTHSON will actively collaborate with UH to facilitate the reverse transfer of credit from UTHSON to UH for the purpose of awarding UH degrees to Program participants.

UH
Kathryn E. Peek, Ph.D. AVP for University Health Initiatives University of Houston 204 E. Cullen Building Houston, TX 77204 Phone 832-842-8196 Email kpeek@uh.edu

UTHSON
Patricia L. Starek, D.S.N., R.N. Dean, School of Nursing The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston 6901 Bertner Avenue, SON 887 Phone 713-500-2002 Patricia.l.starek@uth.tmc.edu

- B. Publicity. Neither Party shall use the other Party's name, logo, or other likeness in any press release, marketing material, or other announcement without the other Party's prior written approval.
- C. Audit. The Program and the respective parties are subject to reporting and auditing requirements.
- D. Governing Law; Venue. This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of Texas without regard to choice of law principles. In the event of any suit or action arising from this Agreement, the Parties consent to jurisdiction of the courts in Harris County, Texas.
- E. Conditions. UH and UTHSON's obligations in this Agreement are conditioned upon approval by the following, as applicable: (i) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and (ii) any other approvals required by the laws of the State of Texas and the United States.
- F. Commitment. The Parties understand and agree that they are making a significant commitment to this collaborative effort. Accordingly, the Parties agree to expend their best efforts on the design, implementation, and successful continuation of the Program.
- G. Term. The term of this Agreement begin on the Effective Date and shall remain in effect unless and until terminated as specified below.
- H. Termination.

Default. A Party will be in default of this Agreement if such Party fails to comply with a material obligation in this Agreement and such failure continues for thirty (30) days after receiving written notice from the non-defaulting Party. In the event of default, the non-defaulting Party, upon written notice to the defaulting Party, may terminate this Agreement as of the date specified in the notice.

Termination for Convenience. Either Party may terminate this Agreement, without cause, with six (6) months advance written notice to the other Party.

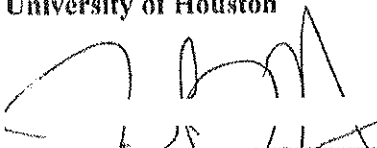
If this Agreement is terminated by either Party, then any Student who has started the Program prior to the notice of termination may have the opportunity to complete the applicable Program in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

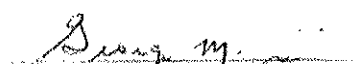
- I. Dispute Resolution. In case of a difference in the interpretation or execution of the terms of this Agreement, the Parties agree to seek resolution of the dispute in an amicable manner to the extent possible.
- J. Discrimination Laws. Each Party shall be separately responsible for compliance with anti-discriminatory laws that may be applicable to their respective activities.
- K. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior contracts, agreements, representations and understandings made by the Parties relating to such subject matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused their authorized representatives to execute this Agreement.

University of Houston

The University of Texas at Houston
Health Science Center at Houston

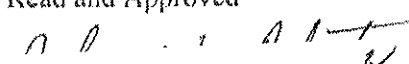

 Alan A. Antel, Ph.D.
 Senior Vice Chancellor & Vice President
 for Academic Affairs & Provost

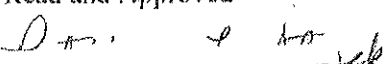
 12/2/10
 George M. Stancel, Ph.D.
 Executive Vice President for Academic &
 Research Affairs

12/1/11

 Date


 Date

Read and Approved

 John W. Roberts, Ph.D.
 Dean
 College of Liberal Arts & Social Studies

Read and Approved

 Patricia L. Starek, D.S.N., R.N.
 Dean
 School of Nursing



 Date



 Date