

# T a v N E T

Publication of Texas Association of  
Vocational Nurse Educators

Spring 2006

## Dr. C. William Mukey, Ed.D “Developing an Objective Clinical Grade”

### Spring Seminars

March 29-31, 2006  
Renaissance Worthington  
Hotel, Fort Worth. Dr.  
Mulkey will present  
“Developing an Objective  
Clinical Grade” on  
Thursday, March 30, 2006.

Dr. Mulkey has  
lectured to thousands of  
educators in Radiology and  
the Health Sciences over  
the past 32 years in Canada  
and the U.S. He has  
lectured in 42 states at  
professional meetings,  
individual college/hospital  
programs and educators  
seminars.

Dr. Mulkey, has a BS  
in Rad Tech from Medical  
College of Georgia, M.Ed,  
from Univ of South  
Carolina, Ed.D, from Univ of  
South Carolina.

His 33 years of  
teaching and program  
administration experience  
with hospital and college  
programs uniquely qualify  
him as a leading authority  
on clinical education  
matters, consultant for self-  
studies, site visits, and  
other educational issues.

He has presented numerous  
students ARRT reviews and  
has authored two books for  
educators, The Program  
Director’s Guide to Program  
Quality in the Health  
Sciences, and The clinical  
Instructor/Supervisor’s Guide  
to Program Quality in the  
Health Sciences.

### Educational Seminars for Spring Convention

Spring Convention  
Registration begins at 4pm  
Wednesday evening followed  
by a tasty evening meal and  
General Business Session  
from 6-8:30 pm.

Carol Erb, Marybeth  
Sinclair and Candi Seaback of  
Kingwood College will present  
**Service Learning in the  
Nursing Curriculum** from  
8:30-9:30pm.

Thursday kicks off with  
breakfast at 7am and  
registration continuing at  
7:30am.

Dr. Mulkey begins his  
full day presentation with **The  
Purpose and Problems of  
Clinical Grading** at 8:30 am.

Lunch will be served  
from 12:45pm – 2pm.  
**Setting Objectives and  
Documenting the Clinical  
Grade** will end out the  
afternoon session from  
2:00-5:30pm.

Friday morning will  
begin with breakfast from  
7:15 – 8:15am. Presenting  
Dr. Tony Paterniti,  
Methodist Health System,  
Director of Education will  
speak on **Transitioning the  
Graduate Nurse from the  
Academic to the Clinical  
Setting** beginning at 8:30 -  
10:00am.

Reconvening at  
10:30am the conference will  
close out with **TAVNE  
Business meeting and  
Wrap up**.

Approximately 11.1  
CEU’s could be granted for  
full attendance.

**REGISTRATION TIME**  
**Wednesday 4 – 6 pm and**  
**Thursday 7:30 -8:15 am.**

**DOOR PRIZES NEEDED!!**

**EACH SCHOOL IS ASKED  
TO BRING AT LEAST ONE  
DOOR PRIZE.**

## Notes From the President



All roads lead to Ft. Worth, Texas better known as Cowtown, the gateway to the West. Spring Convention 2006 should be one of the most rewarding ever. The Executive Board has been working diligently to bring forth another exciting educational experience for our membership. I am pleased to be a part of such a committed group.

A heartfelt welcome is extended to new faculty. We are delighted to have you in attendance. Please contact any Executive Board member or other TAVNE member if you have questions regarding the organization.

Fall Convention attendance was over the top. It sends a message that the enhancement of professional growth and the opportunity to network is still a vital part of TAVNE.



The Executive Board strives diligently to meet the needs of the membership. Sometimes, incidents beyond the Board's control surface but are faced as opportunities and not challenges. We appreciate your patience.

TAVNE continues to be active on committees outside of TAVNE. When there is reportable activity, it will be passed on to the membership. Although the last year was not an active one for the legislative committee, the Board through the legislative committee continues to be alert to any activity.. TAVNE continues to be represented on committees such as: NLAC, TCNWS (formerly NWDAC), ACE, NPAC, and TPAPN.

I hope all with internet access has had the opportunity to visit our web site [www.tavne.org](http://www.tavne.org). We continue to update the web site to make it more user friendly. If you have not done so, please bookmark as one of your favorites for even quicker access. For those of you who have made suggestions for the site, they are being reviewed for feasibility.

To all of you that are working on committees within TAVNE, I thank you. It is so important that we have individuals that are willing to give of themselves to serve. I am hoping that we have a slate of officers like never

before this spring. Whatever your purpose is for attending the convention, I hope at least one is to become involved by running for office or working on a committee. There will be sign-up folders at the registration table for individuals interested in working on a committee, so please look for them and sign-up. To those attending that are not members, I encourage you to join this prestigious group and make our total membership soar.

Change is always upon us and we are finding out that hotels are not conducting business as usual. Among other things, rates are increasing not only for rooms but also for other aspects of putting on a convention/conference. Please be advised, the Board will continue to do everything possible in keeping with current trends of the type of hotels and amenities we are accustomed to with dollars and cents in mind.

Safe travels to everyone.

Jackolyn Morgan, MSN, RN



What Texas zoo was the first in the nation to create a replica of a rain forest? **Fort Worth**

**TAVNE Fall Conference**  
**November 1-3**

**Where:** Omni Southpark

**Conference Fee:** 90.00

Members: \$90.00 (**\$100 after deadline**)

Non-Members: \$130.00 (**\$140 after deadline**)

**Hotel Room Fee:**

Single \$90 Double - Quad \$109

For Hotel Reservations Call:  
(512) 448-2222

**October 11, 2005**  
**DEADLINE**

(for hotel and registration)

Hotel Address:  
Omni Southpark  
4140 Governor's Row  
Austin, TX 78744

**TAVNE EXECUTIVE**  
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## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is seeking Candidates for **Spring 2007** for the office of:

Treasurer

Parliamentarian

Corresponding Secretary

## **GOT NEWS?**

Share your news with TAVNE.  
Send your news to:

**Kay Williams Shaw  
PO Box 8482  
Marshall, TX 75671**

E-mail: kshaw@panola.edu

## **Did You Know**

**Only one person in two million will live to be 116 or older**

**A human being loses an average of 40 to 100 strands of hair a day**

**By age 60, most people have lost half of their taste buds**

**Fingernails grow faster than toenails**

## Exhibits Committee

The Spring Convention is just around the corner March 29<sup>th</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup> and is being held in Fort Worth, Texas at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel,.

We will have tables with our exhibitors showing faculty the most recent textbooks and software available to help our students learn and to help us with our uniform needs also. We will also have exhibitors that will be there to help us treat ourselves by having things for us to pamper ourselves such as with jewelry, clothes and lotions.

Exhibitors will be with us starting on Wednesday afternoon and continuing on Thursday. Make sure to stop by to say hi and see what they have in store for you and your students.

As usual our exhibitors are looking forward to seeing all of your smiling faces during our stay in Fort Worth.

See you there,  
Olma Guerra-Weaver  
Chairperson



**Population 540,391  
Average Life Expectancy –  
73 years**

## Legislative Committee

The 79<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session (2005) started January 22, 2005, and ended in May, 2005, with no new legislation passed related directly to vocational nursing education. The 20 members of the TAVNE Legislative Committee remained active by email during the legislative session, participating in NLAC conference calls and keeping abreast of nursing legislative bills.

The interim time between legislative sessions offers TAVNE a good opportunity to work on establishing the legislative agenda for the next legislative session, which begins in January, 2007. A report about Nursing Legislation passed in the 2005 session was posted on the web site.

A notice about the Sunset Review self-evaluation process for the BNE was posted on the TAVNE web site. Nancy Maebius, Gie Archer and Jane Lopes attended the BNE Board meeting and Sunset Review Public Hearing in Austin on July 20 and 21, 2005

Nancy Maebius  
Legislative Chair

## Vice President's Report

Hello to all. I would first like to introduce myself. My name is Pam Sessums and I am acting as interim Vice-President. My information for you will be brief as I have not been in position but a short while.

I have been working closely with Renaissance Hotel in Fort Worth to make this convention fun, exciting and educational. The hotel is beautiful and the location is perfect for restaurants, shopping and entertainment, all within walking distance.

I am currently working on the location for Spring 2007. Any and all suggestions are welcome.

I will be candidate for the Vice-President position in March. Your vote will be greatly appreciated. I have enjoyed the work I have done for TAVNE so far and am looking forward to working harder for you in the future.

Pam Sessums  
Interim Vice-President

## TAVNE Curriculum Report

Fall Conference TAVNET contained a request for syllabus, course packets, and teaching strategies to share with other instructors. Those items are still being accepted and compiled for a Curriculum Exhibit at the Fall 2006 Conference.

Please also take time and fill out the attached survey and bring to Spring Convention and give to any member of the Curriculum Committee or any Executive Board Member.

The Curriculum Committee is in need of members. Please stop by and sign up for this exciting committee.

Valerie Jenkins  
Chairperson

### **Hmmmm!!!!**

Coca-Cola was originally green

Cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$6,400



### **March is Poison Prevention Month**

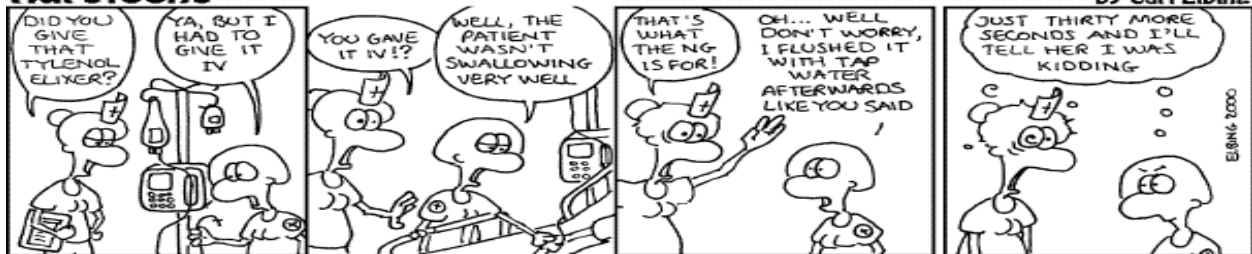
Millions of people are unintentionally poisoned every year. A poison is any substance that can cause an unintended symptom.

Every 30 seconds a child is poisoned in the United States. Sixty percent of all poisonings occur to children under the age of six.

It is not uncommon for adults to become victims of an unintentional poisoning

If you think someone's been poisoned — act fast! Don't wait to see what happens! Call the National Capital Poison Center RIGHT AWAY!!

### **Nurstoons**



Treasurer's Report  
Financial Report

**Balance 10/31/05 \$50,325.61**

Fall Conference Expenses \$27,881.41  
Fall Conference Deposits \$35,162.00  
Balance \$57,599.20

Executive Board Meeting 2/3/06 \$4,295.73  
Deposits \$1,576.00

**Balance 2/27/06 \$54,879.47**

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Balance 10/31/05 \$8,474.76  
Interest \$55.77

**Balance 1/31/06 \$8,530.53**

Membership Report

The 2005 membership total was **397**

The current membership (as of 2/2/06) is **112**

Membership cards for 2006 are neon pink in color

Members must have a **CURRENT** membership (2006) card in hand to vote.  
Jane Lopes, Chair

The TAVNET apologizes to Sue Owens for any inconvenience caused her by the Fall TAVNET.

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee worked to develop a new process for Vocational Nursing students to receive TAVNE scholarships. The application form was posted on the TAVNE website in August, at which time, all VN schools were sent emails about the new process. After notifying VN programs, three replies included the following concerns:

- Could accumulated grades be acceptable in lieu of official transcripts?
- Students not maintaining a 3.2 GPA but who were outstanding and diligent in other areas would not be eligible for this award.
- Concern that hospital-based programs would not figure grades as GPAs calculated by colleges.
- Students who did not complete HS may not be able to complete an essay that would compare to those who have had HS or college.
- Concern that some students have various obligations to home and family may limit the students' involvement in community activities and may have more limited opportunities if they live in smaller communities.
- Increase point values for references by instructors. Maximum points may not be available to those who are entering school from HS, not having many work

opportunities.

- Concern that application deadlines could affect comparison of students who are newer in some programs than others.

What is interesting is no applications for scholarships for dispersing this fall were submitted to the Scholarship Committee! It is essential for us to address the Scholarship Committee issues with the membership, to have directors be able to access the TAVNE website, and for all directors and instructors to encourage students to complete the application process.

Additionally, applications will be available for program directors to take back to campus and make copies for their students at the TAVNE conference.

Gie Archer  
Chairperson

**JOKE OF THE DAY**

A professor was grading the essay finals he had just given his class and opened the exam book of a failing student to reveal blank pages and a \$100 bill. The only thing written in the book was "\$100 = 100% - I get an A."

A month later, the student approached the professor. "I don't understand," he said. "I failed the course. Didn't you read my final?" The professor handed the student the exam book.

The student opened it to reveal \$50 and the phrase "\$50 = 50% - You fail!"

# TAVNE REFUND POLICY

- All refund requests should be submitted in writing to the Treasurer. The request should include the reason the refund is requested, who to make check payable to (i.e. individual or college), and where the refund check should be mailed.
- No refund checks will be prepared or mailed until all outstanding debts/credits for the meeting have been tabulated. If refunds would result in TAVNE losing money on the function, no refunds would be issued. Members requesting a refund would be notified that no refunds would be forthcoming.
- Refund of registration fees for meetings (spring convention or fall conference) will be provided at 100% only if the member notifies TAVNE five days prior to the meeting date. This notification can be made via telephone.
- Refund of 50% of the registration fee can be made if the member notifies TAVNE less than five days prior to the meeting and no later than five days after the meeting.

- No refund will be made if the above timelines are not met.
- Refund for “Fun Night” will be made only if TAVNE can make the refund and still “break even” on expenses for the event. Since advance reservations are required by most vendors, we are charged for the number of reservations made regardless of the number who actually attend. TAVNE can not lose money on social functions.



A cow gives nearly 200,000 glasses of milk in her lifetime.

What a cow eats affects how much milk she gives.

Cows drink 25-50 gallons of water each day. That's nearly a bathtub full.

A Holstein's spots are like a fingerprint or snowflake. No two cows have exactly the same pattern of spots

A cow stands up and sits down about 14 times a day

Cows can see color

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month

## *Safe Children and Healthy Families are a Shared Responsibility*

### What is the Law

Anyone “having cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has or may be adversely affected by abuse or neglect” must report the case to any state or local law enforcement agency and to the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services. Failure to report suspected child abuse or neglect is punishable by imprisonment of up to 180 days and/or a fine of up to \$1,000. (Texas Family Code, Chapter 34)

Anyone who files a report is immune from civil or criminal liability - if the report is made in “good faith” and “without malice”.

- “Good faith” means the person took reasonable steps to learn the facts that were readily available and at hand.
- “Without Malice” means the person did not intend to injure or violate the rights of another person.

### **Candidate for President-Elect:**

#### **Karen Malloy**

Karen has been a nurse educator for 20 years and is presently Department Chair of a Vocational Nursing Program

#### **Brief Statement of Ideas regarding the role TAVNE should take in the future of Vocational Nursing Education:**

"I believe that TAVNE should and already does play a significant role in the future of vocational nursing education. TAVNE has already been actively involved as evidenced by their participating on advisory committees and maintaining a close working relationship with the Board of Nurse Examiners (BNE). TAVNE's legislative committee keeps members informed of potential legislative issues that may impact vocational nursing education and the curriculum development committee acts as a resource for curriculum design, organization, content and media resources. The mentoring program is another example of how TAVNE is already making an impact on the future of vocational nursing education.

This organization has been effective in reaching vocational nurse educators across the state without regard to the type of controlling agency or size of the program. The fall and spring conferences provide an avenue for TAVNE members to network across the state. In addition, the conferences allow for an open forum for the discussion of current trends and issues facing nursing education today and exploration of possible solutions."

### **Candidate for Vice President:**

#### **Pam Sessums**

Pam has been a LVN instructor at Hill College since 2001.

#### **Brief Statement of Ideas regarding the role TAVNE should take in the future of Vocational Nursing Education:**

"Continue to protect the rights and value of the LVN."

**Candidate for Recording Secretary:**

April Schroer

April has been the Program Director at Texas Careers – San Antonio; a Nursing Instructor at Baptist Hospital School of Nursing; and is currently Regional Program Coordinator-Kaplan, San Antonio, TX.

**Brief Statement of Ideas regarding the role TAVNE should take in the future of Vocational Nursing Education:**

TAVNE is the only organized voice for Vocational Nursing in the state of Texas. We are the voice for Vocational Nurses and Vocational Nurse Educators. It is very important that TAVNE remain active and show a strong representation with the Board of Nurse Examiners and the Texas State Legislature.

## SPRING CURRICULUM SURVEY

1. What teaching methods do your students like best?
2. How do you get students to retain information?
3. What methods do you use to review for exams?
4. Do you have any ideas or suggestions for games or other learning activities/
5. Are you using Virtual Clinical Excursions (VCE's)?
6. Do you have any other comments?
7. What type of Curriculum committee presentations would you like to see?
8. Would you be interested in doing a presentation at Fall Conference?

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking time to fill out this survey.

Valerie Jenkins  
[vjenkins@galened.com](mailto:vjenkins@galened.com)

## **Curriculum Survey RESULTS**

**The following are comments shared from faculty that responded to the survey request at the Fall 2005 TAVNE Conference.**

**1. Does your curriculum contain chemical dependency in the nursing setting and the student setting? Explain.**

1. It includes material pertaining to nurses but very little as it applies to students.
2. Yes. Quarter I: Roles. Detailed extensively in Quarter IV: Advanced Med/Surg
3. Taught within 2 courses.
4. Part of Mental Health Course. 1<sup>st</sup> semester
5. 5. Yes. It is taught in Mental Illness. We do not go to clinical setting. Our sister school in Jacksonville does go to Rusk State.
6. A TPAPN presentation is made by an advocate
7. Yes, in Professional Development
8. This is covered in Mental Illness. Students get 1 day in Behavioral Health.
9. Yes, policies in handbook. Curriculum addresses this
10. Yes, in VNSG 1219—final semester
11. Taught in Mental Illness during last semester.
12. Yes, covered in student handbook policies in 1<sup>st</sup> semester; then again in Professional Development in 3<sup>rd</sup> semester.
14. Drug testing of students before admission and for cause
15. Yes
16. Yes, PMAB and 2 day clinical in a psych/MH setting
17. 16. Yes, we thread the content throughout (as things come up). We directly address it in the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester during Mental Illness.
18. Yes, semester III one post conf. Spent on this topic. We have a film also which is shown
19. Roles III
20. No response

**2. Does your curriculum contain mental illness in the nursing setting and the student setting? Explain.**

1. We address nurses in the work force...not students
2. Yes, Mental Health and in Roles. Also during orientation (Declaratory Order discussed)
3. Yes, however we only have a summer observation for 1 day
4. Yes, mental illness course 3<sup>rd</sup> semester
5. 5. Yes. It is taught in Mental Illness. We do not go to clinical setting. Our sister school in Jacksonville does go to Rusk State.
6. A TPAPN presentation is made by an advocate
7. Yes, in Mental Health.

8. Yes, this is covered in Mental Illness. Students get 1 day in Behavioral Health.
9. 9. Yes, Concepts, Mental Health & Illness, Prof. Devel, (This content is also included in my published textbook: "Introductory Mental Health Nursing" D. Womble 2004
- 10.10. Yes, lecture and 8-10 days of experience in acute care setting. Must do process recordings and a concept map on a single pt.
- 11.No response
- 12.Yes, course Mental Illness in 3<sup>rd</sup> semester. Also addressed in 1<sup>st</sup> semester in student handbook.
- 13.Minimally
- 14.Yes
- 15.Yes, PMAB and 2 days clinical in a psych/MH setting
- 16.Yes, we have Mental Illness as a course but no specific clinical rotation.
- 17.Yes, included in VNSG 1510 Nursing in Health & Illness III. When Mental Illness is covered in the classroom one of our instructor's husband works with the police dept and works with the DEA & FBI also comes in and assists in covering client and nurse as well as the board rules are reinforced. We consider that drug use and mental illness frequently go hand in hand.
- 18.The students sometimes give us mental illness. No, actually we teach mental health / mental illness in the summer.
- 19.Yes, 36 hours clinical and 36 hours theory

### **3. At what level do you introduce this material?**

1. Semester I
2. Mental Health and in Roles. Also during orientation (Declaratory Order discussed)
3. Mental Health –Fall. Mental Illness – Summer
4. First
5. 3<sup>rd</sup> semester (last level)
6. Last semester
7. Level III
8. 8. First level—even in general nursing. Many pts are coming in with multiple problems, including drugs & alcohol; so students need this info early.
9. 1<sup>st</sup> semester
- 10.10. 3<sup>rd</sup> semester out of four. In first semester introduce basic therapeutic communication skills and basic mental concepts.
- 11.11. 1<sup>st</sup> semester introduced in VN concepts and repeated in Professional Develp. And Mental Health / Mental Illness in final semester
- 12.1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> semester
- 13.1<sup>st</sup> semester
- 14.2<sup>nd</sup> semester
- 15.Middles of year to end
- 16.3<sup>rd</sup> semester
- 17.3rd Semester. Classroom & clinical
- 18.3<sup>rd</sup>

19.3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (Mental Health) 4th quarter (Chemical Dependency)

**4. Does your institution have resources available to assist a student that may be having chemical dependency or mental health issues?**

**Explain.**

1. No
2. We can call TPAPN for advice
3. No response
4. Refer thru counseling dept.
5. Yes, send to school counselor
6. No response
7. Yes, Psychologist part of nursing team
8. We have a SNAP – Student Nurse Assistance Program --- which is designed to put a student in recovery.
9. Yes, College Policies
10. Yes, College Counselors
11. No, they are referred to local facility for assistance
12. No, referred to outside resources
13. Counselors
14. Yes, Counseling is available in our Student Services department
15. Policy/Procedure to intervene and monitor if practice impairment noted. Substance Abuse. Resource Center on campus---That director is available for students—assessment, referral, short intervention.
16. We can refer to our counselors, but no specific program to my knowledge
17. Our counseling dept and the Dean of Student Life handle these issues independently from our program—we make a referral and they take it from there. All students are drug tested before entry into our program as our institutions requirement. I am unsure if they can place them in a program as I have not had this issue occur. Our criminal justice dept. does have an instructor who works with the chemical dependency.
18. Sort of, we refer them to agencies
19. Yes, Psychologist / Life Coach on staff

**5. Any comments would be appreciated.**

1. We have incident review committee consisting of one instructor from each campus, the director of criminal justice dept, division director of allied Health that make a formal decision on all behavioral issue including mental health and substance abuse. The Instructor involved with the student is excused but does address the committee first and give the facts as they see it. Then the student addresses the committee then the committee makes the decision.
2. We are currently in the process of changing our curriculum
3. It would be nice if we can have TPAPN for students

4. I believe that students should be screened for any type of drug abuse and clinical mental illness. Primarily because these factors require Declaratory Orders— investigation with clearance before the students is allowed to sit boards.

**6. Number of students enrolled annually:** Only 12 surveys reported

1. 20
2. 100
3. 175+
4. 100
5. 45
7. 80
8. 40
9. 60
10. 60
11. 36
12. 175+
13. 40