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THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA (CUEA)

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REGINA PACIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE A CONSTITUENT COLLEGE

CUEA/RPU

APP/PROG 2009

PROPOSED CURRICULUM FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

CUEA

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER
EDUCATION
DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

SUBMITTED TO
THE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

DECEMBER, 2009

3.0 BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING CURRICULUM

3.1 Introduction

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) Programme is aimed at preparing a nurse who, is self directing with appropriate knowledge, skills and values to provide leadership in Clinical Nursing practice, Management, Education, Research and Community Service. The graduate should be able to function effectively in a variety of settings, preventing sickness, caring for the sick and assisting individuals, families and communities to promote and maintain their health in the most appropriate and affordable way. He/She will also fulfil the requirements for the prescribed scope of practice for the graduate nurse and also the scheme of service for nurses prepared at the degree level.

Graduates from the programme are prepared to be able to lead a productive life, as individuals, strive to be persons of integrity and moral uprightness in their professions and in their personal lives. They should be eligible for post-graduate work at any recognised university and also be registrable with the Nursing Council of Kenya.

3.2 Justification

- i) There is a high demand for nursing care services in Kenya and in our neighbouring countries. However, few of the students who choose nursing as a first option are admitted to the programme in our public universities due to limited vacancy. By offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, RPUC will contribute to addressing this gap.
- ii) There is need to create a pool of quality, committed and professional nurses who are oriented towards academic and community service. The sponsors have in particular identified the need for nursing service in the hospitals and rural areas where they are serving. Women and children in communities suffer the most in these area. These women are left to care for the children and act as nurses for the family and midwives for fellow women, as well as care givers for those who are chronically ill (Assumption Sisters of Nairobi -ASN (Sponsor of RPUC), *Annual General Meeting Report- Reflection on ASN Mission 2006*). RPUC is committed to create a pool of nurses imbued with our Christian mission of service to the needy. Given that Kenyan Public Universities and Colleges that offer Nursing Degrees and Diplomas have had to limit their intakes due to limited facilities; RPUC will be one way in which qualified and interested students can access these courses.
- iii) There is a severe shortage of nurse-tutors, lecturers and/or professors who can competently prepare nurses in Kenya both for nursing services as well as for research and academic

advancement. As more nurses graduate from the Diploma programmes there is need provide opportunities for them to further their academic pursuit and to fill the gap that exists in the Nursing academic field.

iv) The Nursing Degree is also the fulfilment of the mission of the Catholic Church in the Kenya as was articulated by late Cardinal Maurice O'tunga Archbishop of Nairobi. The intention was for Catholic University of Eastern Africa to launch science oriented programmes and in particular to initiate a medical programme. He was also responding to a challenge from the Commission for Higher Education. The Nursing programme is contributing to the fulfilment of this dream.

3.3 Outcomes

3.3.1 Broad Outcomes

To produce an effective, self directed nurse leader, with a commitment to nursing and community service, who will demonstrate an understanding of the physical, social and psychological factors inherent in illness and their effect on the patient and the community.

3.3.2 Programme Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of the programme the graduate should be able to:

- i). Demonstrate scientific knowledge, skills and attitudes in the administration of nursing related disciplines
- ii). Assess and critically analyse problems and issues affecting the individual patient, the family and the community and make appropriate decisions.
- iii). Demonstrate creativity and initiative in leadership of health systems
- iv). Apply skills in teaching and training of nurses
- v). Collaborate constructively with multidisciplinary and intersectoral team members in the provision of health services
- vi). Participate in policy making in health delivery system

3.4 ACADEMIC REGULATIONS FOR THE PROGRAMME

3.4.1 Admission Requirements

Candidates for admission to the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing must obtain the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Regina Pacis College and the Nursing Council's prescribed:

- a. Minimum aggregate grade C+ in KCSE and a minimum grade of C+ in Biology, Chemistry, Physics/ Mathematics and English

OR the following: biological sciences, physical sciences, mathematics and English.

- b. Candidates from outside Kenya should have "A" levels results with 2 Principals and 1 subsidiary pass in science subjects and submit a conversion certificate from KNEC.
- c. Admission may be granted to outstanding diploma holders (with distinction or credit) from approved nursing colleges.

NOTE: Admission may be granted to outstanding diploma holders (with distinction or credit) from approved colleges. The diploma holder must have a minimum grade of C plain in Biology, Chemistry, Physics/ Mathematics and English **OR** the following: biological sciences, physical sciences, mathematics and English (At 'O' Level) and OR 1 principal and subsidiary pass, in science subjects, in 'A' levels of education **OR** Div 11 in KCE with credits in two science subjects and English."