MEMORANDUM

Date: December 22, 2011

To: Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs

From: Christine Mallon, State University Dean, Academic Programs and Policy

Subject: Systemwide Nursing Prerequisites for All CSU Pre-Licensure Nursing Degree Programs and Post-Licensure RN-to-BSN and RN-to-MSN Degree Programs

Education Code section 66055.5 (added by Statutes 2002) requires that by no later than September 1, 2005 the California State University shall standardize prerequisites for CSU nursing education programs, systemwide. In conjunction with efforts to comply with the nursing education pathways law, Education Code 89267.5 (commonly called “AB 1295”), faculty have reviewed the original systemwide CSU nursing prerequisites and have created a slightly refined list of the same basic eight prerequisites. Statistics is now specified for the math/quantitative reasoning course; and students are required to complete a college chemistry course, with integrated chemistry or organic chemistry recommended. It is hoped that the revision will meet the dual objectives of providing more campus flexibility and helping students to develop skills that will facilitate their success in CSU nursing education programs.

Effective fall 2012, admission to all California State University CSU pre-licensure (12031) “generic” or “basic” bachelor’s and “entry-level” master’s nursing degree programs, and admission to post-licensure (12032) RN-to-BSN and RN-to-MSN degree programs shall require completion of these eight prerequisites, and campuses shall not add further prerequisites:

1. human anatomy (with required lab)
2. human physiology
3. microbiology
4. chemistry (integrated chemistry or organic chemistry are recommended)
5. written communication
6. oral communication
7. statistics
8. critical thinking

Community college transfer students shall not be held to completion of further laboratory courses.

c: Dr. Ephraim P. Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Ron Vogel, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
Mr. Eric G. Forbes, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Academic Support
Associate Provosts/Associate Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs
Campus Deans of Health and Human Services
Directors of CSU Nursing Programs