



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT TO THE 2006 LEGISLATURE

Annual Report on
Nursing Scholars Program

Act 116 (SB 116) SLH 2005

November 2005

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The Nursing Scholars Program was established to encourage students to pursue graduate study in master's and doctoral programs which will prepare them for an academic career in nursing. The student is expected to "commence nursing instruction in the State within one year after completion of an approved graduate degree in nursing for a period of one year for each academic year the student received a master's or doctoral degree, for a period of one year for each academic year the student receives a scholarship grant ..." and "...reimburse the State for all amounts received under this chapter and interest thereon, as determined by the department, if the student fails to comply with this subsection." This program is essentially a loan program which requires payback should the student fail to comply with the agreement as mentioned above.

The School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene (SONDH) developed procedures for the administration of the program including: publicizing and advising, application submission and review, awarding and conducting the entrance interview, monitoring student's eligibility and academic progress and successful completion of the degree program. SONDH's experience with the similar Federal Nurse Faculty Loan Program has been helpful to starting this new program, in particular with drafting the student promissory note and related documents. Responsibility for follow up beyond the student's graduation such as

conducting the exit interview, employment verification, and execution and maintenance of the promissory note are to be conducted by offices other than the SONDH.

If the opportunity presents itself, the department suggests that the legislative language be amended to include a student promissory note, a statement of the student's rights and responsibilities, and related Hawaii Administrative rules. Absent this information, program implementation is anticipated for Spring 2006 pending review and advisement from the University's General Accounting Office and General Counsel Office on the required program documents.