




UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
AT BALTIMORE

OFFICE OF CLINICAL PRACTICE AND SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Barbara Heller  
Dean, School of Nursing

From: Dr. Ann Mech   
Coordinator, Legal Services

Date: January 28, 1997

Re: Maryland Board of Nursing: ACNP Program

Drs. Patricia Morton and Ann O'Mara successfully presented the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program with specialty focus in either trauma/ critical care or oncology to the Maryland Board of Nursing today.

We had learned the Joint Practice Committee of the Board had recommended that clinical hours in the program be increased to more than 600, despite the fact that only 500 hours were required by the certifying organization (our program plans 570 hours). Georgetown's School of Nursing had recently acquiesced to our Board's pressure to increase clinical hours to a minimum of 600, thus setting an undesirable precedent. Drs. Morton and O'Mara were able to ward off the Board's challenge by emphasizing the previous acute care experience new students have when entering the program. The Board agreed to approve the program without increasing the overall number of clinical hours or credits with the stipulation that only students with at least 24 months of acute care experience in the applicable specialty areas be admitted. This stipulation seemed preferable to the alternative of increasing program length. Students can still take courses while they accumulate prerequisite clinical experience.

The Family Nurse Practitioner Program is scheduled to go before the Board in February. Dr. Regina Cusson will present the program at the Board's meeting on February 25th.

cc: Dr. Anne Belcher  
Dr. Patricia Morton  
Dr. Ann O'Mara