**SON OP 40.425: Consortial Relationships**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the School of Nursing Consortial Relationships policy is to establish the policy and procedure for developing and documenting the consortial relationship agreement. The relationship is documented via creation of a “Memorandum of Understanding” (MOU) between two educational entities. The content of the MOU describes, at least implicitly, the responsibilities of each party to the relationship for provision of an acceptable course of study leading to an earned academic degree for participating students.

**REVIEW:** All policies in the Graduate Program Manual shall be reviewed by the Graduate Program Associate Dean/Department Chairs by December 1 of even numbered years in collaboration with the Graduate Program Council. Final approval of the Graduate Program Manual is by the Dean.

**POLICY/PROCEDURE**

1. **General Definition.** The School of Nursing defines “consortium” with respect to programs/course as a collaborative understanding between two educational entities to provide a course of study leading to an academic degree.

2. **Policy.** The School of Nursing follows Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) rules and the TTUHSC OP 60.11 New Degree Programs, Change in Delivery Format, and Degree Program Termination criteria regarding developing new programs. THECB approval is obtained. After receipt of THECB approval, a Memorandum of Understanding is developed by both educational entities. The content of the Memorandum of Understanding, minimally, provides a clear delineation of the responsibilities of each educational entity, provides details regarding development and revision of the curriculum, lists the degree granting institution, and provides details regarding regularly scheduled collaborative meetings of involved faculty and administrators.

3. **Procedure.** The Memorandum of Understanding is signed by Deans of the Schools of Nursing for each entity and forwarded to the TTUHSC Contracting Office to obtain TTUHSC institutional approval and signatures. The finalized MOU is housed in the TTUHSC Contracting Office. The following institutional policies are adhered to regarding the establishment of the consortial relationship and the Memorandum of Understanding between educational entities:

(a) The Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of the Texas Tech University System 07.12 Contracting Policies and Procedures
(b) TTUHSC OP 54.02 Contracting Procedures
(c) TTUHSC OP 54.01 Contracting and Budgetary Authorities and Policies
(d) TTUHSC OP 10.11 Delegation of Authority by the President
(e) TTUHSC OP 60.11 New Degree Programs, Change in Delivery Format, and Degree Program Termination