



SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

February 20, 2017

Dr. Ray Keck
Interim President
Texas A&M University-Commerce
P. O. Box 3011
Commerce, TX 75429-3011

Dear Dr. Keck:

Thank you for your letter of November 30, 2016, providing SACSCOC with additional information regarding your intention to offer the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program, effective January 2017. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the new degree program on May 18, 2016. The Texas Board of Nursing gave approval for the new program on October 27, 2016. In a letter dated November 23, 2016, SACSCOC requested the following:

While the following faculty members may be qualified to teach the courses assigned, those qualifications are not clear, and the institution should provide additional explanatory information concerning their qualifications:

- Cheryl McKenna holds the MSN; teaches NURS5303 Pharmacology for Advanced Practice.
- Kimberly Parks holds the MSN; teaches NURS5304 Health Promotion/Population Health.
- Renea Powell holds the MSN and a Post Master's Certificate (PNP); teaches NURS5301 Advanced Health Assessment, NURS5303 Pharmacology for Advanced Practice, NURS5320 Nurse Practitioner Role, and NURS6300 Practice Intervention Project.

Your response provides an updated Faculty Roster Form with the qualifications for faculty members teaching in the MSN degree program. Cheryl McKenna will no longer be assigned to teach NURS5303, Pharmacology for Advanced Practice. Dr. Debra Mahoney, who appears to be qualified to teach the course, will teach NURS5303. Ms. Kimberly Parks has over 24 years of experience as a Certified Nurse Midwife, has eight graduate hours in health promotion and community health, and is a Licensed APRN. Dr. Renea Powell will no longer teach NURS5303, Pharmacology for Advance Practice or NURS6300, Practice Intervention Project, but will teach



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NURS5301 and NURS5320. She has a DNP, MSN, and Post Master's Certificate (PNP). Both Ms. Parks and Dr. Powell appear to be qualified to teach the coursework assigned.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the Master of Science in Nursing degree program. It was the decision of the Board to approve the program and include it in the scope of the current accreditation.

The Commission wishes you success in this endeavor.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW/LCS:iy

cc: Dr. Shonda Gibson, Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness and Research
Dr. Mary P. Kirk