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January 29, 2019

To: UCC Program Committee  
CC: Dr. Sara Helfrich, Chair UCC  
Re: Notification of Satellite BSN program at OUE

This letter serves as notification to the UCC Program Committee of our intent to expand the traditional, pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program to the Eastern Campus of Ohio University as a satellite program of the Athens Campus BSN program. The "satellite" designation allows us to abbreviate the application and approval process with the Ohio Board of Nursing and provides support for the Eastern Campus since pre-licensure nursing has not been offered at Eastern before.

Once this satellite is approved at Ohio University, application would follow to the Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN). The Athens Campus BSN program was just reapproved by OBN spring 2018 with full approval for the maximum five-year period. With full approval and an Athens BSN licensure first-time pass rate of 94.5% for 2017 and 95.35% for 2018, it is anticipated that the minimum 90-day approval would be granted by OBN. Debby has had positive conversations with the OBN Education Regulatory Surveyor assigned to Ohio University pre-licensure nursing programs about the university's desire to open this satellite at the Eastern Campus.

Dean Randy Leite, HSP, is in support of this satellite BSN program being established at OUE with the understanding that the School of Nursing Director will have final approval on the hire of an associate director and faculty for the initial five-year period. This is meant to ensure that the program will be established in accordance with OBN, the accreditation rules of CCNE, the OHIO School's BSN program as it exists now, and that students will have the same quality resources, instruction and clinical experiences as the other four BSN sites. The School of Nursing traditional BSN shares the same curriculum, policies and procedures, selection process, and shared faculty committee structure across all program sites. This will be adopted at OUE with their faculty participating fully with BSN colleagues from the other four BSN sites. This will provide stability and help ensure a smooth opening of the BSN program at OUE.

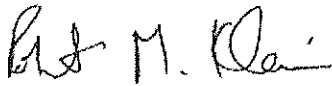
Per the suggestion of Dr. Helfrich, we note that Debby Henderson has conducted an initial analysis of the Belmont County/Upper Ohio River Valley region and noted a community need for a traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. The degree would not compete with existing providers but instead complement offerings (notably Belmont College that offers an associate degree in registered nursing). Moreover, the number of providers in the Greater

Wheeling (WV) area is now considered inadequate to meet the demand for qualified BSN nurses in area healthcare providers.

Already we have interest expressed by area hospitals in partnerships (notably from Barnesville Hospital) so we already have some inroads into establishing clinical sites. Given our significant distance from Athens (2 hours), Zanesville (1 hour), and other Ohio University campuses, the program would not create internal competition for students, instructors, or clinical placement locations. That said, the proximity to Zanesville would create an opportunity for some additional support and potentially shared resources to ensure that the program had the support it needs to begin and to grow.

We anticipate needing to search for a campus nursing associate director immediately and therefore ask for your review and comment as soon as possible. Admissions to the Eastern Campus pre BSN major code program may be possible for fall 2019 with admission to the BSN major anticipated for fall 2020. The primary contacts include School Director Debby Henderson or Interim Dean Bob Klein.

Sincerely,



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