



July 23, 2012

Dr. Jordan Kellman  
Interim Director, Office of Academic  
Planning and Faculty Development  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
P.O. Box 41812  
Lafayette, LA 70504-5308

Dear Dr. Kellman:

Thank you for your letter of February 27, 2012, transmitting a prospectus for the Doctor of Nursing degree program to be offered, effective August 15, 2012.

The University currently offers the M.S. and B.S. in Nursing degree programs. The Doctor of Nursing degree program is consistent with the mission of the institution. Needs assessment and planning for the program began in 2005, and were described. The program will be offered through distance accessible format. The University is approved to offer programs via distance learning. The Office of Distance Learning provides classes and other resources for faculty and student development in distance learning tools and resources. Access by faculty to technology resource personnel for assistance with computers, software, learning management systems, and web-based information retrieval are also available. Students, once accepted for admission, must complete the Online Student Orientation.

Eight core essential competencies for the program, which will consist of 39 credit hours beyond the master's degree, were listed. The curriculum and course descriptions were provided. Assessment processes were described. The DNP Coordinator will have primary responsibility for oversight of the program.

The faculty roster documented appropriate qualifications for faculty members scheduled to teach in the program. The University is reminded that for faculty members holding master's degrees in nursing and terminal degrees in disciplines other than nursing, it should ensure that documentation of the appropriateness of the terminal degree is kept in credential files and made available to evaluators during any future reviews.

Discipline-specific learning resources to support the program were identified. Physical facilities, to include provisions for online learning, appear adequate to support the program. Financial support appears adequate as well.

**We approve the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program to be offered, effective August 15, 2012, and request no further information.**



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Enclosed is an invoice for \$300 to help defray the cost of reviewing the prospectus.

Best regards,

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

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW/ABC:efk

Enclosure

cc: Dr. E. Joseph Savoie, President  
Ms. Carolyn Bruder, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dr. Nuria M. Cuevas