



The University of North Carolina

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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October 30, 2006

TO: Chancellor Steven Ballard
Provost James Smith

FROM: Alan Mabe

SUBJECT: Proposal to Establish a Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree Program

Your proposal to establish a Doctor of Dental Surgery Program will be presented to the Graduate Council on November 2, 2006. It has received both internal and external review. An external review of the proposal was provided and is included with this letter. In addition a Review Team of Dentistry administrations visited ECU as part of an overall assessment of the Plan for Dentistry for North Carolina.

I think both the reviewer of the proposal to establish and the Review Team provide a very positive assessment of the proposal by ECU to establish a Doctor of Dental Surgery Program. The external reviewer raised the following issues:

There has been a shortage of faculty for dental schools which will be a consideration for ECU since it will need to hire a large number of faculty over a short period of time, though there is some indication that the faculty situation in dentistry is improving.

While the model for the fourth year experience is endorsed there was a question about how all the students would be rotated through the clinics and whether there would be the full range of experiences needed in clinical dental education would be available.

The external reviewer raised a concern about the financial dimension of the education and service clinics and whether the positive educational benefits had a solid financial basis.

The reviewer also encouraged more attention to recruiting underrepresented minorities.

Nonetheless this reviewer was very supportive of the proposal as well thought out and innovative.

The Review Team took a broader view since they were both to assess the overall Plan for Dentistry in North Carolina and a specific part of that plan which is the proposal for a DDS degree program at ECU. They had access to the review

identified above and two other consultants' reports on finances and Medicaid reimbursement.

This was a distinguished team which included the Dean of Dentistry from a school that has focused on community-based services, the Executive Director of the American Dental Education Association, the principal national organization of dental schools, and the Associate Executive Director of the American Dental Association, the principal national organization of practicing dentists.

The Review Team strongly endorsed the Plan for Dentistry for North Carolina and the proposal by ECU to establish a DDS degree program. They see the overall plan which involves both UNCCCH and ECU as a potential national model for addressing the range of dental issues facing not only North Carolina but the Nation. Based on review and discussion they also endorsed the financial model on which the service learning clinics are based.

The Review Team applauded the plan for cooperation between the two universities and urged its continuation and further development.

The proposal will be provided to the Graduate Council along with a copy of this letter, the external review, and the Review Team's assessment of the Plan for Dentistry. We invite you to address the concerns in this letter and any other matters that you may have considered subsequent to submitting the proposal. If you do so prior to the meeting of the Graduate Council we will provide copies to members.

We look forward to the presentation of this proposal by representatives of the university at the meeting of the Graduate Council on November 2, 2006 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Your graduate dean should arrange for representatives of the program to make the presentation.

In the meantime if we can be of assistance or respond to any concerns please let us know.

Cc: Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Harold Martin
Dean Patrick Pellican

Enclosures