



Office of the Vice-President (Academic)

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July 17, 2009

Dr. Alice Gaudine
Acting Director
School of Nursing

Dear Dr. Gaudine:

Alice

Subject: Academic Program Review – Planning and Budget Committee Response

The Planning and Budget Committee (PBC) considered the academic program review of the School of Nursing and wishes to express its appreciation to the School of Nursing for its participation in this process.

The primary purpose of formal academic program reviews is to give units an opportunity to engage in formative self-assessment and to obtain the advantages of commentary and advice from external experts in the discipline under review. An anticipated outcome is planning that clarifies how a unit may best achieve its objectives with its available resources. From the perspective of the University, the process also provides a measure of accountability to the institution and to the public that support us.

The role of PBC is to monitor the review process and therefore develop a body of knowledge to support the strategic and budgetary decisions of the University. As part of this mandate the Committee provides units with feedback on completion of their reviews. Overall, the review for the School of Nursing was well done and the unit has responded with some recommendations for going forward. One issue raised by the Committee was that the School's response to the review panel report and its action plan were compiled as one document. In keeping with the University's procedures for academic program reviews, the Committee recommends that the School of Nursing develop a more explicit action plan as a separate report. It is the understanding of PBC that the permanent Director of the School of Nursing will commence her duties in August 2009. It is our view that the new Director should play an active role in the development of this plan and therefore we are requesting the completion of your action plan by December of this year.

On behalf of PBC, I offer my support and that of the Committee as you plan for the future. We look forward to your action plan in December.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris", written over a horizontal line.

Christopher W. Loomis, Ph.D.
Vice-President (Academic), *Pro Tempore*

- c. Dr. D. Neville
- Ms. K. Myrick