



June 10, 2016

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President  
Commission on Colleges  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
1866 Southern Lane  
Decatur, Georgia 30033

Dear Dr. Wheelan,

Texas A&M University-Commerce (A&M-Commerce) is requesting approval to create a new graduate level program, Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). We understand this will be a substantive change and we respectfully submit a prospectus with this letter. The program has already received approval from the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The submission to the Board of Nursing is being prepared and will be submitted within the next month. A&M-Commerce currently offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

We intend to offer the MSN on the main campus of A&M-Commerce to begin in January 2017. This will be a full-time program using a combination of face-to-face instruction and web-enhanced courses. The clinical learning portion will be conducted via a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory, as well as the traditional, hands-on instructor-supervised practice to be held in a variety of rural Northeast Texas clinical settings.

Initially, approximately 20 students will be admitted to this program. Having a graduate nursing program in Northeast Texas will encourage more BSN nurses to continue their education and be potential faculty members.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance as we begin this program.

Sincerely,

Ray M. Keck, III, Ph.D.  
Interim President

Encls.

cc: Dr. Mary P. Kirk, Vice President, SACSCOC  
Dr. Adolfo Benavides, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dr. Betty Block, Associate Provost  
Dr. Madeline Justice, Assistant Provost for Special Projects  
Dr. Marila Palmer, SACSCOC Accreditation Liaison  
Dr. Shonda Gibson, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research  
Dr. Barbara Tucker, Director, School of Nursing  
Dr. Timothy Letzring, Dean, College of Education & Human Services

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