



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS
AT ARLINGTON

Office of the President

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May 7, 2009

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President
Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

I am writing to notify the Commission that The University of Texas at Arlington (UT Arlington) plans to offer two degrees via the internet, in partnership with Higher Education Holdings (HEH), a company located at 2200 Ross Ave, #3800, Dallas, Texas, 75201. UT Arlington has offered each of these degrees on campus and in other distance education venues for a number of years.

The first degree is the Master of Education in Leadership and Policy Studies (M Ed). The intended launch date for the first cohort of students is September 2009, with subsequent cohorts to follow every few weeks. The second degree is the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). The intended launch date for the first cohort of students is January 2009, with subsequent cohorts to follow every few weeks.

HEH will assist in the marketing, promotion, and delivery of the courses. Instead of marketing to individual students, as is the traditional practice for institutions of higher education, HEH will market the program to institutions for their employees (school districts and hospitals). Enrollees will access the courses individually via the internet. HEH will also provide technical support for the courses delivered via their courseware and academic support via academic coaches hired to help facilitate student navigation of the course.

This distribution and learning model mirrors that of two other degrees, offered via a partnership between UT Arlington and HEH, which have recently been approved by the Commission (i.e., the RN to BSN and the M Ed in Curriculum and Instruction). In all cases, the course content, course structure, and final course grades are the sole responsibility of the University of Texas at Arlington.

Please let me know if the Commission requires additional information.

Sincerely,



James D. Spaniolo
President

c: Steven M. Sheeley
Donald R. Bobbitt
Michael Moore
Jeanne Gerlach
Pam Haws