



UNIVERSITY OF
TEXAS
ARLINGTON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 22, 2016

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

Dear Dr. Wheelan,

The purpose of this letter is to request approval for The University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) to begin offering 50% or more of the credit hours for the Ph.D. program in Physics and Applied Physics at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV). We expect to offer at least 50% of the doctoral program instruction at this site by the **fall semester 2017**.

The continuing cooperative agreement between UTA and UTRGV is designed to expand the Ph.D. program at UTA and to provide enhanced research and educational opportunities both for students at UTA and for UTA doctoral students in the UTRGV geographical area. For our students receiving instruction on this site, their degree will be granted by UTA. Faculty members teaching the courses at this site are considered adjunct faculty for UTA and meet the standards of the Physics Department Graduate Studies Committee. Adjunct faculty have the credentials (terminal Ph.D.) in the subject area in which they teach.

As requested in your letter on April 29, 2016, a SACSCOC Prospectus for Substantive Change is enclosed for review and approval.

The address of the off-campus instructional site is:

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
One West University Blvd.
Brownsville, Texas 78520

Should the Substantive Change Office require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Loraine Phillips at lorainep@uta.edu or call (817) 272-3365.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Karbhari'.

Vistasp M. Karbhari
President

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Ronald Elsenbaumer, Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dr. Loraine Phillips, Assistant Vice Provost and SACSCOC Liaison for UT Arlington
Dr. Steven Sheeley, SACSCOC Vice President