



March 5, 2014

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

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

In April 2013, Lanier Technical College submitted to the Commission a prospectus for a proposed Physical Therapist Assistant AAS degree program; the Commission responded in September 2013, approving the program.

In the prospectus narrative, section 5, pp. 7-8, we stated that additional full-time faculty teaching in the program, exclusive of the Program Director, would hold a "Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant license and have two years' experience in the field" (in order to sit for the Physical Therapist Assistant exam, one must hold at least a PTA Associate degree). This is the level of credentials we intended for the faculty to hold. However, in Appendix H, Faculty Roster, we had a line for this faculty position with the instructor name listed as "TBD". In the roster we mistakenly listed "Master's Degree" in the faculty credential position. The Commission's response to the College, approving the program, states "additional qualified faculty (minimum of a master's degree) will be employed following program approval."

Because this instructor will be teaching in an Associate-level program and because his or her license and experience demonstrates expertise in the subject matter we believe that the appropriate credentials for this position should be a PTA Associate degree, a valid PT or PTA license, plus two years' experience. I am writing today to clarify Lanier Technical College's intention when submitting the prospectus and to ask the Commission to send us a letter indicating that the program is approved with the understanding that the required credentials for faculty teaching in the program (exclusive of the Program Director) are:

- Physical Therapist Associate's Degree
- Valid Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant License
- Two years' experience in field

Dr. Belle Wheelan

Page 2

March 5, 2014

If you have any questions, please contact our COC liaison, Dr. Joanne Tolleson, at jtolleso@laniertech.edu or 770.781.6950.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ray Perren, President
Lanier Technical College

Enclosures:

1. PTA Prospectus
2. Appendix H Original
3. Appendix H Revised
4. COC PTA Approval Letter

cc: Dr. Steven Sheeley
Dr. Sara Armstrong
Dr. Joanne Tolleson