



MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Mark D. Bradbury
Political Science & Criminal Justice Department
Appalachian State University

CC: Dr. Stanley R. Aeschleman
Office of the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
Appalachian State University

FROM: Michelle Piskulich, Chair
Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation,
National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration

DATE: July 22, 2010

SUBJECT: NASPAA Accreditation Review

On behalf of the Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA), I am pleased to inform you that your Master of Public Administration program has been found to be in conformity with NASPAA Standards, subject to the monitoring provisions outlined below. Your program will be accredited for a period of seven years and included on the Annual Roster of Accredited Programs.

The Commission will be monitoring your progress on the following specific standard(s). This means you are asked to detail your progress on these particular standard(s) explicitly each year in your annual report and to provide the information or data related to the standards that the Commission has noted below. The Commission will be notified each year that your program is being monitored on these standard(s).

□ Standard 3.3 Program Administration

Standard 3.3 states, “Responsibility for program administration is assigned to a dean, chairperson, director, or other single administrator who is appointed after appropriate consultation with the program faculty.”

The program’s updated response to the Site Visit Report (5.28.10) states, “Since the site visit in March and the receipt of the site visit report in April, the long-standing director of the MPA program, Dr. Marvin Hoffman, resigned from that position. Consequently, the program will experience a transition to a new interim director during the summer and fall of 2010. The

interim director, Dr. Mark Bradbury, has served as the coordinator for the undergraduate PA curriculum and has participated actively with the MPA program for the past five years. He has served a variety of committees within both the MPA program and the department, including participating in numerous faculty searches and the department personnel committee. We believe that this new era for the MPA program is, first and foremost, an opportunity rather than a threat to long-term success. We have no intention of changing the direction of our program and remain committed to the education and training of managers for local government in North Carolina.”

Due to the interim nature of Dr. Mark Bradbury’s appointment as director of the program, the Commission requests the program provide updated information in its annual reports as to how “responsibility for program administration is assigned to a dean, chairperson, director, or other single administrator who is appointed after appropriate consultation with the program faculty”.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of the accreditation process. Please note that the Commission will review each of your annual reports to determine ongoing conformity with NASPAA Standards, including progress in the areas noted above, and they will become a permanent part of your folder for your next accreditation review. COPRA’s acceptance of the Program’s annual reports is contingent on receiving satisfactory responses on the issues noted. If the program does not submit the information requested regarding the monitored standards in annual reports, the Commission may require the program to re-enter the accreditation cycle with an updated Self Study Report. Monitoring provisions remain in effect and must be reported on each year until the program is notified by COPRA that the provisions have been removed. We look forward to receiving your annual report in Spring 2011. If you have any questions, please contact me via telephone (248.370.2190) or email at (piskulic@oakland.edu). Questions about next year’s annual report should be directed to COPRA at copra@naspaa.org.