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April 7, 2017

Sue Snyder, MSN, RN  
Director of Nursing  
Westmoreland County Community College  
145 Pavilion Lane  
Youngwood, PA 15697-1895

Dear Ms. Snyder:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) at its meeting on March 9-10, 2017. The Board of Commissioners granted continuing accreditation to the associate nursing program and scheduled the next evaluation visit for Fall 2024.

Deliberations centered on the Self-Study Report, the Catalog, the Site Visit Report, and the recommendation for accreditation proposed by the peer evaluators and the Evaluation Review Panel. (See Summary of Deliberations and Recommendation of the Evaluation Review Panel.)

The Board of Commissioners identified the following:

#### **Areas Needing Development**

##### **Standard 2 Faculty and Staff, Criteria 2.7 and 2.9**

- Ensure the number and utilization of support staff for the nursing education unit at all locations are sufficient to achieve the program goals and outcomes.
- Ensure the systematic assessment of part-time faculty performance demonstrates competencies consistent with the program goals and outcomes.

##### **Standard 3 Students, Criterion 3.2**

- Review and revise program documents (paper and electronic) to ensure that information intended to inform the public is accurate, clear, consistent, and accessible.

##### **Standard 4 Curriculum, Criterion 4.8**

- Ensure the total number of credit hours required to complete the defined nursing program of study is congruent with the attainment of the identified end-of-program student learning outcomes and program outcomes.

##### **Standard 5 Resources, Criterion 5.3**


- Ensure all learning resources are current, including those in the library (print books).

**Areas Needing Development (continued)****Standard 6 Outcomes, Criteria 6.1, 6.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, and 6.4.5**

- Ensure the assessment methods are congruent with the expected levels of achievement and result in meaningful data.
- Ensure the evaluation plan contains a minimum of three (3) years of data for each component within the plan.
- Develop and implement strategies to collect and trend data by program option, location, and date of completion prior to aggregation for the program as a whole.
- Ensure program documentation reflects the analysis and use of data by the faculty in program decision-making.
- Develop and implement a consistent documentation process for data collection and trending, faculty review of data, and use of data for decision-making.
- Review and revise the expected level of achievement for the licensure examination pass rate to be congruent with the ACEN Criterion.
- Develop and implement strategies to improve the program completion rate.
- Develop and implement strategies to improve the job placement rate.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement! We look forward to continued successes for your nursing program. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, we thank you and your colleagues for your commitment to quality nursing education. If you have questions about this action or about ACEN policies and procedures, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Marsal P. Stoll, EdD, MSN  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Linda Miles, Peer Evaluator  
Linda North, Peer Evaluator  
Marilyn Stapleton, Peer Evaluator  
Lynn Yamakawa, Peer Evaluator

Enc. Summary of Deliberations of the Evaluation Panel