



May 11, 2009

Julia L. George, RN, MSN, FRE
Executive Director
NC Board of Nursing
P. O. Box 2129
Raleigh, NC 27602

Dear Ms. George:

After careful review of the performance indicators and much consideration of the future impact, I have concluded that dramatic changes in the FSU nursing program are required at this time. As chief executive officer of the university, I am ordering the suspension of admissions to the Fayetteville State University Pre-licensure Nursing Program. Beginning immediately, admissions to the Pre-licensure Nursing Program will be suspended. No new cohorts will be admitted until all currently-enrolled students have graduated and the curriculum has been redesigned and assessed by the nursing faculty and selected outside reviewers as reasonable for the preparation of nursing at the general nursing level.

For the foreseeable future, the FSU Nursing faculty will focus on three important aspects. First, the faculty will refocus on the development and expansion of the RN to BSN Nursing Education Program. This refocusing will include special attention to the potential for furthering the education of practicing RN nurses from the military as well as graduates of community college nursing programs. Second, the nursing faculty will develop a plan for allowing the currently-enrolled junior and senior classes to complete their Pre-licensure nursing education at FSU; support students who choose to transfer to other Pre-licensure nursing programs in the area; and provide those students successfully completing their pre-licensure nursing education at FSU or elsewhere with the documentation necessary to sit for the NCLEX. Finally, the nursing faculty will focus intensely on professional and curriculum development so that a strong RN to BSN program is developed and the Pre-licensure Nursing Program is redesigned such that when approval is obtained to restart the program the likelihood of successful implementation will be judged as very high.

Every effort will be made to facilitate a fair review and completion of the program by students currently enrolled at the junior and senior levels. As these students move toward graduation and resources are freed up, those resources will be reallocated to the development of the RN to BSN program, faculty development, and other College of Arts and Sciences/university priorities.

This has been a difficult decision but if we are to honor our promise to make analysis-based decisions in the best interest of FSU, it is the decision that I had to make at this time. I recognize that the nursing faculty under the leadership of the department chair have made great strides in committing to a positive direction for the program. However, much work needs to be done to solidify the internal dynamics of the program and to restore public confidence. Via this correspondence, I am charging the provost, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the nursing department with the implementation of this suspension of the Pre-licensure Nursing Program and subsequent actions herein outlined.

Sincerely,



James A. Anderson
Chancellor

c: Ms. Barbara Knopp
Dr. Harold Martin
Dr. Alan Mabe
The Honorable Anthony Rand