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Redmond, WA 98052-3981

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July 13, 2017

Ms. Mary A. Chikwinya, Vice President for Student Services
Mr. Bill Ryberg, Vice President for College Advancement
Interim Co-Presidents
Tacoma Community College
6501 South 19th Street
Tacoma, WA 98466-6100

Dear Co-Presidents Chikwinya and Ryberg:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to inform you that at its June 21-23, 2017, meeting, the Board of Commissioners accepted Tacoma Community College's Spring 2017 Ad Hoc Report which provided an update on the implementation of the Bachelor of Applied Sciences degree program in Health Information Management (HIM). The request for this report was the subject of Commission correspondence dated March 10, 2016.

In accepting the report, the Commission granted accreditation to Tacoma Community College at the baccalaureate degree level. Congratulations on receiving this recognition! The effective date of accreditation at the baccalaureate degree level for the Bachelor of Applied Sciences in HIM is September 1, 2016. The updated status will be posted to the Commission's website.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a rewarding 2017-2018 academic year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

cc: Dr. Tod Treat, Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

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August 9, 2017

Dr. Tod Treat
Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Tacoma Community College
6501 South 19th Street
Tacoma, WA 98466-6100

Dear Executive Vice President Treat:

This is in reply to electronic correspondence received in our office on May 25, 2017, requesting approval from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) for Tacoma Community College to add a Bachelor of Applied Science degree program in Community Health with emphases in Community Health Professional, Advanced Respiratory Care, and Paramedicine to its education offerings, effective fall 2018. The Bachelor of Applied Science degree program in Community Health requires 180 credits to completion and will be delivered using a distance education instructional modality. The College Curriculum Committee reviewed and approved the new educational offerings on February 6, 2017, the College Board of Trustees approved the new degree proposal on May 10, 2017, and the Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges authorized the College to offer the new degree program on May 11, 2017.

Building upon existing programs, Tacoma Community College will add three dedicated full-time faculty positions to teach classes, advise students and administer the new program curriculum. The College will increase the budget which supports the existing director position for Bachelor of Applied Science programs. Student support services and information resources in support of instruction and students will be enhanced each year beginning in year one, continuing through year 5 of the program's implementation.

Insofar as the addition of this new degree program is in concert with the Mission and Core Themes of the College, the Commission has approved the abovementioned change as a *minor change* under Commission Policy, *Substantive Change*. Accordingly, the addition of the Bachelor of Applied Science degree program in Community Health with emphases in Community Health Professional, Advanced Respiratory Care, and Paramedicine using a distance education instructional modality is now included under the accreditation of Tacoma Community College.

Thank you for keeping the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities apprised of developments and initiatives at Tacoma Community College. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Valerie W. Martinez
Vice President

c: Ms. Mary A. Chikwinya, Acting Co-President and Vice President for Student Services
Dr. Sandra E. Elman, President, NWCCU