

November 12, 2008

Dr. Raheemah Jabbar-Bey
Assistant Professor, School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy and
Director of Training, Community-Based Development
Center for Community Research and Service
University of Delaware
298 P Graham Hall
Newark, DE 19716

Dear Professor Jabbar-Bey:

I am writing to offer the enthusiastic support of the Office of Admissions for the proposed B.A. in Public Policy.

While the objectives of the Path to Prominence™ were set primarily to enhance the education of our students and the research of our faculty, nearly all of them have the added advantage of making our University more attractive to prospective undergraduates. The Path to Prominence™ goals cited under the “Engaged University” are especially attractive, and the major that you and your colleagues have crafted is one that my staff and I will be eager to use as a compelling example of what we mean when we talk about the “engaged university” to students and parents.

It also helps us in another way. While there are other majors on campus that include courses that expose students to public policy issues and challenges, none is focused so explicitly on the study of public policy, nor are they likely to be as appealing to students who seek a career as policy makers and analysts.

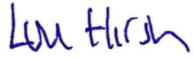
Another advantage is that this major strikes me as a model for interdisciplinary education. I was a member of last year’s Strategic Planning Committee. We spent a lot of time talking about academic “silos” and how to break them down and get students and faculty members talking to each other across disciplines. In my experience, that, too, is something that is very saleable – particularly to very high achieving students (and their parents).

Finally, I believe that this proposed major gains additional strength from being housed in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy. Over the years I’ve worked with several graduate assistants who were enrolled in Masters programs in SUAPP, and I have been impressed by their strong analytical skills and the obvious rigor of their training. I’d love to see our

undergraduates experience some of the same. This program has the potential to be one that my Admissions counselors and I will be eagerly and very proudly promoting at all of our campus presentations.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,



Louis L. Hirsh
Director of Admissions
louhirsh@udel.edu