



COLLEGE OF HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION & PUBLIC POLICY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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To: Leslie Cooksy, Ph.D.

From: Michael Gamel-McCormick

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alison Hall West".

Re: Proposed Master of Science Program in Evaluation

Date: August 22, 2008

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposal of a Master of Science degree in evaluation. After reviewing the proposal and talking with faculty from the academic units in the college, I am happy to state my strong support for the program described in the proposal. The program, as described, will complement, and in many cases, enhance the existing graduate programs in the college. This is particularly true for many of the doctoral programs where this will allow students the option to create a minor or concentration in evaluation. For those in the community, this program will demonstrate the college and university commitment to evaluating practices in the arenas of education, health, environment, social services, and other public sector services and supports and will fulfill a need for evaluators with rigorous training during a time when policy and budgetary decisions will need to be made using sound evidence.

Within the context of the college's strategic plan, this proposed program will support the efforts of the proposed education and public policy institutes as well as efficiently use the ample resources to support the program. This program will also be an interdisciplinary model similar to the Biomechanics and Movement Science (BIOMS) graduate program. Programs such as these enhance student and faculty ability to address the problems and challenges of a complex society.

I am in full support of having this program administered centrally, out of the dean's office, with a faculty advisory committee consisting of the core faculty of the program.

I look forward to hearing of the program's success in the approval process and to seeing it grow in reputation and enrollment.