

Council on Education for Public Health

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June 27, 2016

Pascal James Imperato, MD, MPH & TM Dean SUNY - Downstate Medical Center School of Public Health 450 Clarkson Avenue Box 43 Brooklyn, NY 11203-2098

Dear Dean Imperato:

On behalf of the Council on Education for Public Health, I am pleased to advise you that the CEPH Board of Councilors acted at its June 15-18, 2016 meeting to accredit the School of Public Health at SUNY - Downstate Medical Center for a seven-year term, extending to July 1, 2023 with an interim report to be submitted in spring 2017. The interim report must address the criteria for which there was a "partially met" assessment.

Specifically, the interim report due in spring 2017 should provide evidence that the school has:

- a) Implemented a tool to assess and evaluate employer feedback on graduate competency attainment and performance in the workforce. The report should include preliminary data. (Criterion 2.7)
- b) Implemented a tool to assess and evaluate alumni feedback on level of competence attainment and performance in the workforce. The report should include preliminary data. (Criterion 2.7)
- c) Implemented a formal evaluation of student satisfaction in regard to career counseling and advisement. The report should include preliminary data. (Criterion 4.4)

The report will be due on May 10, 2017. Please be aware that failure to come into compliance with all accreditation criteria must trigger specific actions on CEPH's part. These actions, mandated in federal regulations governing accrediting agencies that are recognized by the US Department of Education, include initiating adverse action or, if good cause is demonstrated, extending by one year the period during which the program or school may come into compliance with the remaining criteria, after which CEPH must take adverse action. CEPH is required to deny or revoke accreditation when a school or program fails to demonstrate that it has come into compliance. Thus, interim reports have serious consequences. Additional information about preparing interim reports is available on the <u>CEPH website</u>.

We are enclosing a copy of the Council's final accreditation report. The report is also being transmitted to the chief executive officer of your university as the Council's official report. This differs from the team's report that you received prior to our meeting in several areas.

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- The Council changed the finding for Criterion 1.2 (Evaluation) from partially met to met and updated language in the report. This change was based on the Council's assessment of information in the site visit team's report and the school's response to the site visit team's report.
- The Council updated language in Criterion 1.8 (Diversity) to reflect information in the school's response.
- The Council changed the finding for Criterion 3.2 (Service) from met to met with commentary and updated language in the report. This change was based on the Council's assessment of information in the site visit team's report.
- The Council updated language in Criterion 4.4 (Advising & Career Counseling) to reflect information in the school's response.

I would call your attention to the disclosure provisions in our adopted procedures. The school is expected to make its official accreditation report available to the public on request 60 days following the accreditation decision. *The school may make the report and final self-study available in full on its website, or it must clearly indicate on the website how to request a copy of either document.* See p. 29 of the <u>Accreditation Procedures, amended September</u> <u>2014</u> for additional information.

You may append a written response whenever you distribute the report. The official report also will be available on request from CEPH after 60 days, but it is our intent to refer all initial requests to you. If you provide this office with a copy of a written response by August 1, 2016, we will be pleased to append it whenever we respond to a request for the report. Please note that this response is optional.

We would also like to remind you that whenever an accredited school or program undergoes a substantive change, it is obligated to provide written notification to CEPH of the intended change. Substantive changes are defined in the procedures manual, but generally include offering a new degree, adding or discontinuing an area of specialization, offering a degree program in a different format or at a distant site and making major revisions to the curricular requirements. Additional information about substantive changes is available on our <u>website</u>.

We appreciated the many courtesies and helpfulness extended to the site visit team.

Sincerely,

Donna J. Petersen, MHS, ScD, CPH President

Enclosure

cc: CEPH Councilors