

 **DRAFT**

August 1, 2011

Dr. Cathy Butler
Senior Director of Academic Affairs and Vice Chancellor of State Colleges
West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Suite 700
1018 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25301-2827

Dear Dr. Butler:

I am requesting approval of an amended Intent to Plan for a Master of Social Work Collaborative Program with Concord University and West Virginia State University. This amended request is a follow-up of our meeting with you on August 1, 2011.

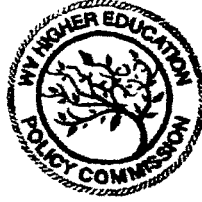
The original Intent to Plan was approved by Chancellor Noland on June 2, 2009 for an MSW at West Virginia State University (See attached letter). Officials from Concord and West Virginia State have been meeting and feel the proposed collaborative model would be more efficient and provide greater graduate education opportunities for social workers, working in Southern West Virginia.

Thank you for all your support with this endeavor.

Sincerely,

R. Charles Byers
Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

David R. Tyson
Chair



Brian Noland
Chancellor

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
1018 Kanawha Boulevard East, Suite 700
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 558-0699
www.hepc.wvnet.edu

June 2, 2009

Dr. Hazo Carter
President
West Virginia State University
P.O. Box 1000
Campus Box 399
Institute, WV 25112

Dear Dr. Carter:

I approve the intent to plan requests from West Virginia State University submitted on May 28, 2009 to develop proposals for new master's level programs as follows:

M.Ed. Multicultural Instructional Leadership
MSW Social Work

The proposals should be submitted in accordance with provisions in Series 11, *Submission of Proposals for New Academic Programs and the Discontinuance of Existing Programs*.

If you have any questions on submission of the proposals, please contact me or Dr. Bruce Flack in the Academic Affairs Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Noland", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Noland
Chancellor

c: R. Charles Byers ✓
Bruce Flack

**West Virginia State University Board of Governors Meeting
November 13, 2008**

ITEM: Approval of an Intent to Plan a Masters in Social Work Degree (MSW) with concentrations in Health Services and Child Welfare.

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA: Academic Affairs

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Board of Governors approve the Intent to Plan.

PRESENTERS: Dr. R. Charles Byers
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Robert L. Harrison, Jr., Dean
College of Professional Studies

Dr. Brenda Wamsley, Chair
Social Work Department

BACKGROUND:

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (WVHEPC) Procedural Rule-Series 11, Submission of Proposals for New Academic Programs and the Discontinuance of Existing Programs requires that all state supported institutions submit the Intent to Plan to the Chancellor when the institution is proposing a new degree program. The proposed, new Masters in Social Work has had all University required approvals prior to the submission of the Intent to Plan to the West Virginia State University Board of Governors.

The proposed degree is unique in West Virginia because it will contain concentrations in Health Services and Child Welfare which are currently not offered in the other MSW degree program at West Virginia University. **Therefore, the degree is non-duplicative.** The program is consistent with WVSU's Mission Statement and will serve the employment needs of social service agencies, the medical community and Veterans Affairs Offices and Hospitals in the region, which require the MSW degree as a basis for employment. Once the Intent to Plan is approved by the Chancellor of the WVHEPC, the complete degree program will be submitted for final approval in Spring Semester 2011.

ATTACHMENT

The Masters in Social Work Intent to Plan Document is submitted to the Board of Governors in the WVHEPC required format, contained in WVHEPC Series 11.

Name of Institution: WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Date: NOVEMBER 13, 2008

Category of Action Required: APPROVAL OF THE INTENT TO PLAN

Title of Degree: A MASTERS IN SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

WITH CONCENTRATIONS IN

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES AND HEALTH CARE

Location: INSTITUTE, WEST VIRGINIA

Effective Date of Proposed Action: TO BEGIN IN THE SPRING SEMESTER OF 2011

BRIEF SUMMARY STATEMENT

West Virginia State University (WVSU) is seeking approval from the Chancellor of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission for the Intent to Plan for a proposed, new Masters in Social Work Degree (MSW) with concentrations in Child Welfare Services and Health Care. Currently, no other higher education institutions in West Virginia offer the MSW with concentrations in Child Welfare Services and Health Care. West Virginia University offers the MSW but with two different concentration areas in social work practice. Therefore, the proposed program is non-duplicative. The proposed program is responsive to requests from the social service agencies, hospitals and veterans affairs programs in the Greater Kanawha Valley of West Virginia to prepare qualified professionals with MSW level preparation to meet employment needs and federal/state regulations, regarding qualifications of social workers to deliver services in child welfare agencies, health care facilities, and veterans affairs offices. The proposed program is consistent with the West Virginia State University Mission Statement.

The West Virginia State University Board of Governors approved the Intent to Plan at the November 13, 2008 meeting. Pending additional approval from the West Virginia Board of Governors, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Council for Social Work Education, and Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association, the Social Work Department would like to advertise and begin admitting candidates to the program in Spring Semester of 2011. Classes toward the degree would begin in the Fall Semester of 2011.

The program will be designed using a modified cohort model with an emphasis placed Web delivery. The program will require the completion of 60 semester hours which is required for approval of all MSW programs by the Council for Social Work Education (CSWE). To meet the additional CSWE requirements for the MSW, two additional tenure track faculty will need to be hired to deliver the proposed program.