

May 12, 2011

Audrey Berman, PhD, RN, AOCN
Dean
School of Nursing
Samuel Merritt University
3100 Summit Street, 3rd Floor
Oakland, CA 94609-3108



Commission on
Collegiate Nursing
Education

Serving the
Public Interest
Through Quality
Accreditation

Dear Dr. Berman:

On behalf of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), I am pleased to advise you that the CCNE Board of Commissioners acted at its meeting on April 14-16, 2011, to grant accreditation to the baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing at Samuel Merritt University for the term of 10 years, extending to June 30, 2021. These accreditation actions are effective as of October 11, 2010, which is the first day of the programs' recent CCNE on-site evaluation. You should plan for the next on-site evaluation to take place in the fall of 2020.

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At its meeting, the Board determined that the programs met all four accreditation standards. The Board additionally determined that there are no compliance concerns with respect to the key elements.

As is required for all accredited programs, the Board requested that the programs submit a Continuous Improvement Progress Report (CIPR) at the mid-point of the accreditation term. The CIPR should address the nursing programs' continued compliance with all accreditation standards. The deadline for submitting the progress report to CCNE is June 1, 2016. The Report Review Committee, and then the Board of Commissioners, will review the progress report in the fall of 2016. For more information about CIPRs, please refer to the CCNE *Procedures for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Degree Nursing Programs*, available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Accreditation/pdf/Procedures.pdf>.

Please note that the aforementioned CIPR will need to address the CCNE standards that are in effect at the time of submission. In the reminder letter sent approximately 5 months prior to the CIPR due date, CCNE will inform the program of the specific standards to be used and will provide guidance for the preparation of the report.

A copy of the accreditation report that was sent to you earlier, along with your response to it, is being transmitted to the institution's chief executive officer as the Commission's official report to Samuel Merritt University. We hope that both the results of your self-study process and the accreditation report will be useful to the continued growth and development of the nursing programs. Certificates of accreditation are enclosed.

As a reminder, programs are expected to continue to comply with the CCNE standards and procedures throughout the period of accreditation. This includes advising CCNE in the event of any substantive change in the nursing programs or of any major organizational changes that may affect the programs' administration, scope, or quality. Substantive change notifications must be submitted to CCNE no earlier than 90 days prior to implementation or occurrence of the change, but no

later than 90 days after implementation or occurrence of the change. These reporting requirements are discussed further in the CCNE *Procedures*.

We appreciate the many courtesies and the helpfulness extended to the CCNE evaluation team in the fall of 2010. The Commissioners join me in expressing our best wishes as you proceed with tasks important to the future of your nursing programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jennifer Butlin".

Jennifer Butlin, EdD
Director

cc: President Sharon Diaz
CCNE Board of Commissioners
CCNE Accreditation Review Committee
CCNE Evaluation Team