



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

March 10, 2005

Office of the Provost

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Dr. Ernie Yanarella
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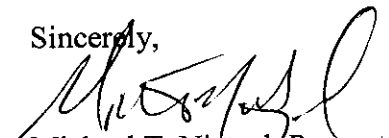
Dear Ernie:

I am writing concerning the feasibility of establishing a Doctor of Physical Therapy program in the College of Health Sciences. I understand the proposal is currently under consideration by the Graduate Council which will forward its recommendation to the Academic Programs Committee of the Faculty Senate.

This new program will consist of 120 semester hours as opposed to the 100 semester hour Master of Science-Bachelor of Health Science program currently completed by our students. Although the additional 20 hours of course work will result in a need for additional faculty, graduate assistant, and staff support, the Physical Therapy faculty believes that the increased personnel costs will be offset by an increase in tuition revenues. Currently, students pay two semesters of undergraduate tuition and six semesters of graduate tuition for an approximate total of \$20,000 per student to complete the program. The new program will require students to pay tuition at the professional doctoral level throughout the entire program for an approximate cost of \$28,900 per student. Enrollment for both the Lexington campus and the Center for Rural Health in Hazard is projected to remain the same at approximately 64 students per year. Allowing for some attrition, the total annual estimated additional tuition generated is \$452,820.

Based upon information presented in the proposal, of the 13 UK benchmark universities that have PT programs, seven have transitioned to the DPT while the other six indicate they are in transition. To keep pace with our benchmarks and the national trend while providing the best quality of education to our students, transition to the DPT is necessary at this time. I am certifying this program as administratively feasible.

Sincerely,



Michael T. Nietzel, Provost

cc: Lori Gonzalez
Phil Kraemer
Connie Ray
David Watt