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Office of the Provost

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August 28, 2003

Phoebe Lindsey Barton, Ph.D. President Council on Education for Public Health 800 Eye Street, NW, Suite 202 Washington, DC 2000

Dear Dr. Barton:

I am writing to request reactivation of the University of Kentucky's request for an accreditation site visit for our "College of Public Health." As you know, the University of Kentucky is currently in CEPH Applicant Status and requested postponement of a fall 2003 site visit, in order to address issues concerning CEPH Criterion II.a., Organizational Setting. Following my request to postpone the site visit, the University has completed the process of transition to a provost model of academic organization including the Colleges of the Medical Center. In March 2003, I appointed a Workgroup/Task Force to examine possible organizational frameworks for public health education. On August 25th, I was pleased to report to the students, faculty, and staff of the School of Public Health that I have accepted the report of the Workgroup/Task Force, specifically its recommendation that the University of Kentucky proceed with the process necessary to establish an accreditable College of Public Health.

I have requested that Professor Thomas Samuel, Interim Director of the School of Public Health proceed with the assembly of necessary documentation to achieve college status for submission to the University Senate, no later than January 2004. Concomitantly he is to organize the faculty to continue work on the CEPH self-study. I have also authorized the initiation of searches to fill an additional four permanent faculty lines in the School, and will release additional lines in the next fiscal to bring the faculty complement to a level required for accreditation. I believe that our plan will be consistent with a request for a site visit for full accreditation in early spring of 2005 and the Director will be in contact with the CEPH staff to schedule the specifics of a site visit.

We thank you for your many consultations as we have moved forward in this process. On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff of the School of Public Health, we look forward to joining the Council and accredited schools and colleges of public health in enhancing the health of human populations.

Please feel free to contact Professor Samuel, Associate Provost David Watt, or me if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely Yours,

Michael T. Nietzel

Provost

jlf

cc: Thomas Samuel, Interim Director of the School of Public Health

David Watt, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

Lee T. Todd, Jr., President