

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### HIRAM COLLEGE,

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

**This program clearly meets Ohio Board of Regents' standards for baccalaureate programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.**

**Profile:** Hiram College was founded on March 1, 1850, in Hiram, Ohio by members of the religious body now known as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) under the name of the Western Reserve Eclectic Institute. On July 13, 1867, by virtue of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, passed on April 8, 1856, the name of the institution was changed to Hiram College. Today, the college is a private, independent coeducational liberal arts institution that offers undergraduate and graduate degrees.

**Mission:** The mission of Hiram College is "to enable students of all ages to develop as intellectually alive, socially responsible, ethical citizens ready for leadership and for continuous personal and professional growth."

**Accreditation/Authorization:** The College has been continuously accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools since 1914, and continuously authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents since 1969.

**Nursing Program Mission:** The mission of the Department of Nursing at Hiram College is "to prepare clinically competent, ethically grounded, socially and culturally responsible professional nurses who are able to think critically and participate as leaders in the delivery of health and nursing care."

**Curriculum:** The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has been developed in alignment with the standards of the Ohio Board of Nursing, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, American Nurses Association, and Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The 131-132 semester hour program is composed of a required core, nursing major, biomedical humanities minor, and clinical component. Upon completion of the program, students will be prepared to take the N-CLEX exam.

**Nursing Clinical/Lab Settings:** The College is building a nursing simulation skills laboratory and a nursing informatics laboratory on campus to accommodate the nursing laboratory courses. For each of the nine clinical nursing courses, there will be a component of 6-12 hours per week of onsite supervised clinical practice in health care agency settings relevant to the specific course content. The types of locations are varied and include acute and critical care, long term care, community health & ambulatory health care settings. Since the clinical lab courses will not be offered until academic year 2008-09, the college has not entered into any formal agreements at this time. However, during the site visit, the review team met with representatives from area health care providers who expressed interest in collaborating with the college. In addition, the college also provided letters of support from nearly twenty area health care providers who were willing to collaborate with the college.

**Faculty:** The College has identified a program director and submitted a faculty staffing model that the team found acceptable. Future appointments must possess the following credentials: a Ph.D. in nursing or related field for a tenure track faculty member or Master of Science in Nursing for a non-tenure track faculty member; an active license as a registered nurse in Ohio; and two years of experience in the practice of nursing.

**Student Support/Financial Resources:** Upon review of the materials and subsequent site visit, the review team determined that the college has the appropriate support and financial resources in place to begin and maintain the program.

**Team Determination:** In its report, the review team listed several suggestions and recommendations to improve course syllabi and library resources. The college, in turn, provided an institutional response, appropriately addressing the team's concerns.

**Recommendation to the Chancellor:** Staff and the review team recommend authorization for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program through December 31, 2011, with annual progress reports to be submitted to the Ohio Board of Regents June 30, 2008, 2009, and 2010.

End of Comment Period: August 22, 2007  
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved		
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	8/27/07	Date