BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Otterbein College
Doctor of Nursing Practice

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

Otterbein College meets minimum Ohio Board of Regents' standards for doctoral degree programs. There were concerns raised in the review resulting in a recommendation for provisional authorization through December 2011, with annual progress reports due December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2011 to determine continued authorization.

Profile and Mission: Otterbein College was founded in 1847 as the Otterbein University of Ohio by the church of the United Brethren in Christ. After several church mergers, the university became affiliated with the United Methodist Church and in 1917 changed its name to Otterbein College. Since its inception, the college has maintained its location in Westerville, Ohio.

The mission of Otterbein College is:

> *to educate the whole person in a context that fosters the development of humane values. Otterbein College is a private, church-related, coeducational college that sponsors traditional and continuing education programs of liberal arts and professional education at Baccalaureate and Master's levels. Our commitment is to the liberal arts as the broad base of all learning.*

Accreditation/Authorization: Otterbein College is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and possesses specialized accreditation for its baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The Ohio Board of Regents has continuously authorized the college since 1969; its current authorization expires December 2016.

Program Information: This is the first doctoral degree request from Otterbein College. The Doctor Of Nursing Practice (DNP) program was developed in response from a recommendation by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)that the DNP degree be the entry-level program for advanced nursing practitioners by 2015. The program, composed of 44 credit hours (post-master's) and 400 clinical hours (post-master's), was developed in alignment with AACN's Essentials for DNP programs. The DNP is designed for students who possess master's degrees in nursing from institutions accredited by CCNE and/or NLNAC and the college anticipates enrollments of up to fifteen students each of the first three-years of operation.

Students will have the option to enroll in the program on a full- or part-time basis (two- and three-years to complete, respectively).

Review Results: Among the strengths noted in the review, the team was impressed with the college's commitment to providing nursing education; the alignment of the proposed DNP program to the college's mission and AACN standards; the collaboration between the college and experienced academicians and practitioners in the development of the program; the process by which clinical and preceptor sites are identified; and the preparedness of the faculty to undertake doctoral instruction.

The team also noted several concerns in the review, most notably in the areas of transfer credit policies for the program; the program's conceptual framework and end of program objectives; syllabi models and curricular development; potential preceptor sites; and faculty workloads. The college responded appropriately to the suggestions and recommendations of the team's report and will provide updates to the team and staff through the submission of annual progress reports.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Otterbein College meets minimum Ohio Board of Regents' standards for doctoral degree programs. There were concerns raised in the review resulting in a recommendation for provisional authorization through December 2011, with annual progress reports due December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2011 to determine continued authorization.

End of Comment Period: June 18, 2008
Comments Received in Support, Recommend Approval

Approved:

6/30/08

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor **Date**