



September 25, 2019

Jeffrey L. Kirk, Ph.D.  
Associate Provost and Associate  
Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Texas A&M University-Central Texas  
1001 Leadership Place  
Killeen, TX 76549

Dear Dr. Kirk:

In our letter of February 15, 2019, there was an error. The zip code for the off-campus instructional site was listed as 78807. It should have been 77807. The rest of the letter that follows is the same as the earlier letter, with the exception of the invoice. Our records have been corrected. We regret the error.

Thank you for your letter of July 5, 2018, transmitting a prospectus for a new off-campus site where the existing Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Business Management will be offered, effective August 15, 2019. Additional information concerning physical facilities at the site was provided by email attachment on January 21, 2019.

The location of the off-campus site is as follows:

RELLIS Academic Alliance  
3100 Texas 47  
Bryan, TX 77807

Institutions which will offer instruction at the site will be institutions and agencies within the Texas A&M University System and Blinn College. Offering the program at the site is consistent with the mission of the University. The delivery will consist of face-to-face instruction with optional online courses available. The primary target audience will be transfer students in Brazos Valley, East Texas, and Central Texas with an Applied Arts and Sciences degree or other technical training. The site will allow students to complete business coursework through a partnership with Blinn College offering core and lower division business courses. Thus, students enrolled in the program at the site will benefit from the comprehensive engagement with Blinn College and other partner institutions with a shortened time to completion and lower cost of attendance. To determine need for the program at the site, the Texas A&M University System and Blinn College engaged a firm to conduct a workforce needs assessment in the eight-county region centered on Brazos County. The assessment explored the current and future labor market demand and identified crucial skill gaps in the area from the perspective of employers. Appropriate planning preceded the decision concerning the off-campus site. Evidence of approval by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board was provided.

The curriculum for the existing program to be offered at the site and program learning outcomes and assessment measures for each outcome were provided. The program is identical to the program offered at the main campus of the University with no differences in admission, graduation requirements, grading, transcripts, or transfer policies. The program offers graduates with the knowledge needed to manage and



Jeffrey L. Kirk, Ph.D.

September 25, 2019

Page 2

lead in a variety of organizations. Qualifications of faculty members scheduled to teach in the program at the site appear appropriate.

The program at the RELLIS site will be managed by the College of Business Administration dean's office, the Management and Marketing Department Chair, and a faculty coordinator. The Director of the RELLIS Academic Alliance, University deans, department chairs, and faculty coordinators, and the RELLIS Academic Steering Committee will evaluate the effectiveness of the services and campus operations.

The University Library provides access to 519,265 books and approximately 145,700 journals, with 46,983 business and economics related books, and 9,101 business journals. Eighty-four percent of the books and more than 99% of the journals are electronic. Journals are found in one of the 227 databases, and include important refereed journals, such as the Academy of Management Review, the Journal of Management, and Administrative Science Quarterly. Databases related to business that are available online through the University library include ABI/INFORM Complete and Business Search Complete. Subject guides are available. Students may also check out books from the Texas A&M University in College Station, which is close by. Reference services are provided online through a library chat and an extensive suite of research guides using LibGuides. The entire digital library is available 24/7, including web chat. The library chat is staffed by an OCLC QuestionPoint cooperative consortium when a physical library location is not open.

The same student support services as those for students on the main campus are provided and designed and administered under the leadership of the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs. These services include academic advising, tutoring, academic workshops and presentations, study abroad scholarships, career services, counseling services, disability services, testing services, financial assistance, technology support services, and veterans' affairs services. The Division of Technology-Enhanced Learning plans and coordinates distributed learning, provides support for instructional equipment in the classroom, creates professional development opportunities, and facilitates technology integration into on-campus and distance courses. The Help Desk Central provides assistance with technology to students, faculty, and staff on a 24/7 basis regardless of location.

The Texas A&M System academic complex is being constructed as part of the RELLIS Academic Alliance and is scheduled for completion by June 2019. The educational and administrative spaces in Phase I will contain 41,037 square feet of assignable space. There will be 40 faculty offices, ten classrooms, group learning and collaboration spaces, modern allied health teaching laboratories and upper-division science laboratories to accommodate 2500 students. A second phase will contain 26,439 square feet. There will be small, medium, and large lecture classrooms, biology and computer technology labs, and space for study groups. The Blinn College building on the site has been completed and is close to the A&M System's academic complex and the training campus for workforce development. Financial resources appear adequate to support the initiative.



Jeffrey L. Kirk, Ph.D.  
September 25, 2019  
Page 3

**The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the RELIS Academic Alliance site where 50% or more of the B.A.A.S. in Business Management degree program will be offered. It was the decision of the Board to approve the site and include it in the scope of the current accreditation.**

**Because the institution currently has fewer than three approved off-campus sites, I am authorizing a Substantive Change Committee which will visit the above site within six months after its implementation to determine continued compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*. Your staff representative, Dr. Crystal A. Baird, will assist you with preparations for the visit. You may contact her by telephone at 404-679-4501, ext. 4586, or by email at [cbaird@sacscoc.org](mailto:cbaird@sacscoc.org). Afterward, the site will be reviewed again, which may include a site visit, as part of the institution's fifth-year or decennial review.**

At its meeting in June 2018, the SACSCOC Board of Trustees approved modification of the "*Substantive Change Policy for SACSCOC Accredited Institutions Policy Statement*," for any type of substantive change requiring approval. If an approved substantive change has not been implemented within two years of action by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, the institution must submit a new prospectus for the change or application for a level change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW/ABC:lp

cc: Dr. Marc A. Nigliazzo, President  
Dr. Crystal A. Baird