

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

SUBJECT: Department of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval to Establish the School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 1, 2016

During its 45-year history, the Department of Nursing has experienced steady, sustained enrollment growth, resulting in the addition of nearly 3,000 nurses and nurse practitioners to the healthcare workforce. New programs and partnerships with more than 700 community organizations, agencies, and medical practices where students actively engage in service-learning and research, the Department of Nursing has improved the health and well-being of individuals, families, in the Flint community and beyond.

Nursing is currently one of the fastest growing occupations in the state and nation and there will be an anticipated 1.2 million vacant positions for registered nurses between 2014 and 2024. The University of Michigan-Flint is the only public university in Michigan with BSN and higher degree programs not structured within a school or college of nursing. Transitioning from a department to a school will enable the University of Michigan-Flint to keep pace with rapid changes in science, technology, health care, and education and position its considerable assets for future growth and enhanced academic achievements, including the ability to recruit and retain an outstanding faculty. A school structure will elevate the University's visibility and reputation as an innovative leader in nursing and healthcare education.

The School of Nursing would be led by a dean, responsible to the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, and three directors. Nursing faculty members will include tenured, tenure track, clinical track, and lecturer appointments, along with part-time adjunct faculty appointed each term to commensurately support enrollment growth and the need for faculty with expertise in key specialties. This structure is supported by 12 experienced nursing staff, and five federal grant funded staff appointed to faculty-directed sponsored projects for the education of veterans and advanced practice nurses.

The School of Nursing structure will provide increased opportunities for shared faculty governance and consistent with Regents Bylaws Section 5.06, the dean of the School of Nursing will be assisted by an Executive Committee that includes the dean and six members elected by the governing faculty, approved by the Board of Regents on the recommendation of the chancellor.

The proposal for a School of Nursing was vetted in a three-year process that included input from the Graduate Board, Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Budget and Strategic Planning, Faculty Council, and a series of university-wide open forums. The culmination of this process was the approval of the governing faculty of the School of Health Professions and Studies and the university-wide governing faculty, and the Presidents Council of

Approval of this new school would necessitate changes to the Regents' Bylaws Section 6.02 and Section 11.00.

With the support of the chancellor, I request approval to establish a School of Nursing, effective November 1, 2016.

RECOMMENDED BY:



Douglas G. Knerr, Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:



Susan E. Borrego, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

October 2016