Oregon State University
Cascades

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10/4/17

Mark Zabriskie, Dean
College of Pharmacy
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331

Dear Dr. Zabriskie,

Nationally, there is a growing need for bachelor's trained nurses in our healthcare workforce. The attached Executive Summary and New Program Proposal provides justification for Oregon's first public RN to BSN nursing program, offered by OSU-Cascades in collaboration with Oregon State University's Ecampus.

OSU-Cascades was approached several years ago by St. Charles Healthcare System, our local hospital in Central Oregon and our local community college, Central Oregon Community College, to develop a program that would provide a pipeline for newly minted RNs as well as working nurses to obtain their bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN). This proposal is in direct response to our local need for highly trained nurses, but the fully online nature of the program will also provide access to all licensed nurses in Oregon with an affordable pathway to advance their careers.

As an OSU College that may have an interest in this program, we are seeking your support for this program. I have included the Executive Summary and the program proposal in it's entirely for your review and response. Your comments can be brief and may be sent to me directly. If you wish to discuss this program further or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at: 541-322-2063 or at kara.witzke@osucascades.edu.

Your response before Wednesday, October 18, if possible, is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kara A. Witzke
Assistant Dean
Oregon State University-Cascades