



September 03, 2019

To: Dr. Liangmin Zhang, Program Coordinator, Physics and Physical Sciences
Dr. Horacio Ferriz, Chairperson, Department of Physics, Physical Sciences and Geology
Program Faculty, Physics and Physical Science

From: Kimberly Greer, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Physics and Physical Sciences Academic Program Review

Thank you for joining me to discuss the Academic Program Review for the Physics and Physical Science program. It was a pleasure to read the self-study and talk with you about the future of your program. I also appreciate your review of, and revisions to, the program's seven-year implementation plan.

I commend you and your department colleagues for your obvious dedication to students and their academic and career success. I appreciated having the opportunity to learn more about the program and your aspirations for the future in the self-study report written by Dr. Susan Mokhtari. It was especially helpful for me to learn more about the need for research-grade equipment (e.g., spectrometer) and challenges students have getting the courses (i.e., Calculus and Chemistry) they need to progress in a timely manner in the program. Those are issues your dean and I will work to address. Lastly, thank you for discussing the prioritization of new tenure-track faculty in your program. My notes indicate there was consensus that a position with a focus on Physics Education might be a desirable new position for the program.

I appreciate Dr. Liangmin (Leon) Zhang meeting with Ms. Erin Littlepage, Assessment Specialist, and Dr. Stuart Wooley, GE Director and Faculty Fellow for Assessment to discuss the program's assessment plan. They both thought Dr. Zhang had made good revisions to the assessment plan developed by Dr. Mokhtari and I concur.

The result of this Academic Program Review is that your Program is approved for continuance. I wish you all well at the start of this new academic year!

Sincerely,

Kimberly Greer
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Office of the Provost

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Cc: David Evans, Dean, College of Science
Katie Olivant, Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Erin Littlepage, Assessment Specialist

Revision: October 14, 2019