

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

SUBJECT: Approval to Establish an Academic Department  
ACTION REQUESTED: Establishment of the Physician Assistant Department  
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) on the University of Michigan-Flint campus is launching a Master of Science, Physician Assistant (MSPA) program in June 2020. The MSPA program will enroll forty-fifty students per cohort in the twenty-seven month, one hundred three credit hour program. This program will be the first physician assistant program in the University of Michigan system and will require a total of 7.5 full-time equivalent faculty. This will be achieved by hiring six full-time faculty, one full-time Department/Program Director (.2 faculty/.8 administrative), and one .5 full-time equivalent medical director.

The CHS plans to add post-graduate residency programs once the MSPA program is well established and joint programs with the Master of Business Administration and the Master of Public Health. The CHS also plans to include physician assistant participation in a joint Ph.D. program that will be proposed within the next few years with other departments within the CHS. Additional faculty will be added to the department as these programs are developed.

The MSPA program proposal has been approved through all university approval processes including committee approval from the Graduate Board, Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, and the Academic Assessment Committee. It has also been approved by the Michigan Association of State Universities. The Higher Learning Commission has been notified of the addition of the MSPA to the University of Michigan-Flint degree offerings. When the MSPA program proposal was approved by the CHS, the faculty also unanimously approved the establishment of a Physician Assistant Department within the CHS to house the MSPA program and other future programs in physician assistant studies.

With the support of the chancellor, I request approval to establish a Physician Assistant Department within the College of Health Sciences, effective October 1, 2018.

RECOMMENDED BY:



Susan E. Alcock, Interim Provost and  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:



Susan E. Borrego, Chancellor  
University of Michigan-Flint

September 2018