



VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

June 8, 2009

Arthur F. Richer, CRNA, MS
Interim Program Director
Geisinger Health System/Bloomsburg University
Nurse Anesthesia Program
100 N. Academy Ave.
Danville, PA 17822-2025

Subject: Initial Accreditation

Dear Mr. Richer:

The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) is pleased that accreditation has been awarded to the nurse anesthesia program at Geisinger Health System/Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, Danville, Pennsylvania, effective May 15, 2009. This signifies that all of the procedural steps have been successfully completed up to this point in time. This decision recognizes that the program will provide a graduate level curriculum leading to the award of a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree. A certificate designating this accreditation is enclosed. It is the COA's understanding that the effective starting date of the program is August 2009. Notification must be provided to the COA if the effective date is different or changes.

As the CRNA program director of an accredited nurse anesthesia program, you will be required to complete annual reports each year. The annual report is Web-based and electronically transmitted to the COA.

Additionally, two (2) years after the start of the program's first class of students, the program is to submit confidential and anonymous faculty and student evaluations of the program. Further information regarding the evaluations will be sent to you in **Spring 2011**.

A second on-site visit to the program will be conducted after five (5) years following the start of the program's first class of students. This will allow time for certification examination scores and other measures of student achievement to be assessed by the program and reviewed by an on-site review team prior to consideration for continued accreditation. Accordingly, the program will be scheduled for its next on-site visit in **Fall 2014** followed by the Council's review of the program for continued accreditation in **Spring 2015**.

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Finally, please extend my congratulations to everyone at the Geisinger Health System and Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania for successfully gaining accreditation for the program. It is a major achievement.

Sincerely,



Francis Gerbasi, CRNA, PhD
Executive Director
Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs

c: Brenda A. Wands, CRNA, MBA
M. Christine Alichnie, RN, PhD
Michelle Ficca, RN, DNSc
Karen Plaus, CRNA, PhD, FAAN
Pat Markway, MJ
Linda Vitek
Lucy Wolkober
Denise Martin-Sheridan, CRNA, PhD
Clare Golden, CRNA, MSN



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Subject: Approval of Distance Education

Dear Mr. Richer:

During its May 13-15, 2009 meeting, the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) reviewed the outline for requesting approval of distance education completed by the Geisinger Health System/Bloomsburg University Nurse Anesthesia Program to measure the program's compliance with the COA's *Accreditation Policies and Procedures*, "Distance Education," D9-12. I am pleased to inform you of the COA's decision to approve the program's distance education offering. COA members believe the program's response is in compliance with the Standards and requirements contained in the COA's policy and procedure for evaluating nurse anesthesia programs as authorized in its recognized scope of accreditation authority.

Please remember that it is the responsibility of the program to complete another outline for requesting approval of distance education if the program adds anesthesia courses to its offerings of courses provided at a distance. Also, such education is subject to review and evaluation by on-site reviewers during your next on-site review.

I wish the program continued success in its educational endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Francis Gerbasi'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'F'.

Francis Gerbasi, CRNA, PhD

Executive Director

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs

c: Brenda A. Wands, CRNA, MBA
M. Christine Alichnie, RN, PhD
Michelle Ficca, RN, DNSc

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**COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION OF NURSE
ANESTHESIA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**
Geisinger Health System/ Bloomsburg University
Nurse Anesthesia Program
Danville, PA

HAS MET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION OF
NURSE ANESTHESIA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

[Handwritten Signature]
CHAIR

[Handwritten Signature]
VICE CHAIR

[Handwritten Signature]
SECRETARY

May 15, 2009
EFFECTIVE DATE