July 11, 2016

Michael Fiorentino, EdD
President
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Office of the President
Lock Haven, PA 17745

Dear President Fiorentino:

At its June 2016 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) reviewed the self-study, the COA Letter of Instruction, the Site Visit Report, and the program’s response to the report as the Reaffirmation application for the baccalaureate social work program. The COA voted to reaffirm the accreditation of the program for eight years, ending in June 2024, with a Progress Report to be reviewed by the program’s accreditation specialist.

In taking this action, the Commission identified the following area of concern:

Accreditation Standard 3.3.2: The program discusses how faculty size is commensurate with the number and type of curricular offerings in class and field; class size; number of students; and the faculty’s teaching, scholarly, and service responsibilities. To carry out the ongoing functions of the program, the full-time equivalent faculty-to-student ratio is usually 1:25 for baccalaureate programs and 1:12 for master’s programs.

The revised data presents a faculty-to-student ratio that is higher than the recommended ratio.

The site visitor is asked to have the program provide any steps it has made to reduce the faculty-to-student ratio. The site visitor is also asked to review with the program how faculty size is commensurate with the number and type of curricular offerings in class and field; class size; number of students; and the faculty’s teaching, scholarly, and service responsibilities to carry out the ongoing functions of the program.

Please be in touch with Mary Kurfess, Accreditation Specialist in the Department of Social Work Accreditation, with any questions about this letter or the procedures and actions of the Commission on Accreditation.

Sincerely,

Andrew W. Safyer, PhD, MSW
Chair, Commission on Accreditation

AWS/mdk

Cc: Lynette M. Reitz, PhD, MA
BSW Program Director