



July 25, 2016

John W. Kelly, Ph.D.
Office of the President
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, Room 339
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Dear Dr. Kelly:

The Board of Directors of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) met July 7-9, 2016, for the purpose of making accreditation decisions. At this meeting, the Board reviewed the application submitted by the Department of Counselor Education at Florida Atlantic University to convert the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling (M.Ed. degree) program to a program holding joint accreditation by CACREP and the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) under the respective Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Standards. Following its review of the application against the requirements for Clinical Mental Health Counseling programs outlined in the policy for *Converting a CORE-Accredited Rehabilitation Counseling Program to a Dually Accredited Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling and Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program*, the CACREP Board approved the conversion. The CACREP Board's decision was made subsequent to the correlative recommendation by the CORE Board in relation to the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Standards. As agreed upon by both organizations, the program is now accredited as follows:

Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling (M.Ed. degree)
Accredited through October 31, 2023

Prior to this decision the program held sole accreditation through CORE as a Rehabilitation Counseling program. This program now joins a handful of other higher education programs across the United States in successfully completing the joint review process offered as part of the 2013 affiliation agreement between CACREP and CORE. Congratulations! This is indeed a worthy accomplishment.

The approval for conversion and dual accreditation is notable for an additional reason beyond this program being one of the earliest programs in the country to achieve it. Through holding this dual accreditation, program graduates, including those who graduated up to 18 months prior to this decision date and who completed the curricular and clinical requirements included in this review, will be eligible for hiring in key federal programs, including the U.S. Department of

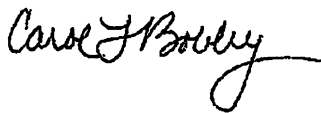
Veterans Affairs and TRICARE, which have stipulated graduation from a CACREP-accredited program as an employment criterion.

While approving the conversion, the CACREP Board noted and reiterated the comments included in the review letter dated February 24, 2016. The program faculty are encouraged to continue in their efforts to close the program evaluation feedback loop, tying program modifications to evaluation results and developing a comprehensive outcomes report representative of the full range of program evaluation activities. Additionally, the program faculty are reminded of the following recommendation that was included in the review completed by the CORE reviewers: "Although course work for crisis, disaster, and trauma planning and suicide and risk assessment, and prevention are contained in the curriculum, it is recommended that specific courses be developed rather than be embedded in the curriculum (II.G.1.c, II.G.5.g)." Please note that the development of new courses is one way to ensure adequate coverage of these curricular requirements; however, the program may also opt to more fully cover these topics through greater infusion into currently offered curricular requirements.

On behalf of the CACREP and CORE Boards, we would like to extend our thanks to you and your administration for the support provided to this program. Such support is considered vital to assuring continued quality in higher education programs. A certificate of accreditation will be enclosed with Dr. Bristor's copy of this letter. Once again, congratulations are extended to all of those involved in making this a successful accreditation review process.

In closing, please note that the next full accreditation review of the program will occur when the program applies for reaccreditation through CACREP near the end of the current accreditation cycle. This is because the current accreditation end date is scheduled to occur following the merger of CACREP and CORE into a single organization, which will become effective on July 1, 2017. We encourage the faculty to contact us if they have any questions regarding how the merger will affect the program's accreditation status.

Sincerely,



Carol L. Bobby, Ph.D.
President and CEO, CACREP



Frank Lane, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer, CORE

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Valerie J. Bristor, Dean of the College of Education
Dr. Paul R. Peluso, Chair, Department of Counselor Education
Dr. Michael Frain, CACREP Liaison