

ACME | ACCREDITATION COMMISSION for MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

8403 Colesville Road Suite 1550 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 www.midwife.org/acme (t) 240.485.1802

Via EMAIL and USPS

February 26, 2020

Steve Dorman, PhD
President
Georgia College and State University
231 W Hancock St
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Dear President Dorman,

The Board of Review (BOR) of the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) met on February 19, 2020. The BOR reviewed the Pre-accreditation Report (PAR), the Site Visit Report (SVR), and the additional material submitted for the Georgia College and State University Master of Science in Nurse-Midwifery program and the post master's certificate.

The decision of the BOR is to grant pre-accreditation to the Georgia College and state University School of Nursing, Nurse-Midwifery program, Master of Science and the post master's certificate. However, specific criteria that are not fully met must be addressed in a Mandatory Progress Report (MPR) by **April 30, 2020. The MPR will be reviewed at the BOR July 2020 meeting.**

The following specific criteria are to be addressed in the report:

Criteria IV. E.1. (NOT MET): The curriculum will be consistent with the ACNM Core Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice.

The table supplied provided mapping of only midwifery courses to the Core Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice. Site Visitors used random verification to determine that Components 1-3 and 5-6 were met. **Component 4 was not met.** Dr. Ketchie told site visitors (SVs) some Midwifery Core Competencies are included in core courses, but evidence was not presented to verify this statement.

The BOR needs a complete mapping of the full curriculum including MSN core courses to the Core Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice. Please provide a Core Competencies Table that shows the entire curriculum, Masters core courses as well as Midwifery courses. Please provide syllabi for the additional courses used in the complete Core Competencies Table.

NRSG 5500 does not seem to address Core Competencies Component II.2 and II.3. Generic course content does not include the Hallmarks of Midwifery or the history of midwifery.

Please show how NRSG 5500 provides content for Midwifery Core Competencies number II.2 and II.3. If the course does not meet these competencies a revised course syllabus is required. Please show where Hallmarks of Midwifery and the history of midwifery content it taught

Criteria IV.E.2 (NOT MET) The curricular content includes the most up-to-date evidence base for midwifery practice and will be congruent with ACNM Standards for the Practice of Midwifery and other practice documents.

Submitted Table IV.E.2 has duplication of Standards 5 through 8 with some different courses in each listing of Standards 5 through 8.

Please provide a revised Table IV.E.2 for clarity which fully demonstrates which courses meet the ACNM Standards, especially Standards 5 through 8 and eliminate duplication.

Criteria V.A.1. (NOT MET) Adequate number of qualified faculty.

Instructions: Describe how the program determines adequacy of faculty number. If the program determines that the number of faculty is lacking, describe plans to address this problem.

The provided explanation does not explain the process for determining adequacy of faculty number nor a plan to address this problem if the number of faculty are found to be lacking. This is a concern especially if there is rapid growth in student enrollment in the program.

Please provide a complete description of how the program will determine adequacy of faculty number and what the process will be to address the problem if the program determines the number of faculty is lacking.

There is confusion about whether midwifery faculty will be teaching in other programs.

Please provide clarification as to whether midwifery faculty will also have course responsibilities in addition to the NMW program.

Criteria V. A.2. (NOT MET) Adequate number of staff for secretarial, technical and student support.

Instructions: Describe how the program determines adequacy for secretarial, technical and student support. If the program determines that number of staff is inadequate, describe plans to address this problem.

The report does not explain the process for determining adequacy of staff and the plan to address if the program should find the number and type of staff are lacking.

Please provide a complete description of how the program will determine adequacy of staff and what the process will be to address the problem if the program determines the number and type of staff is lacking.

Additionally, there were criteria that were met but require attention:

Criteria III. A The institution will have admission criteria and policies, including a nondiscrimination policy, which will be publicly available.

The non-discrimination statement link listed in the PAR was for employees (Section 8 of Policy Manual). The reviewers found the non-discrimination statement regarding students in the Graduate Catalog 2019-2020 at <http://catalog.gcsu.edu/en/2019-2020/Graduate-Catalog/Academic-Policies/Non-Discrimination>. The SON Policy #3001 gives detail of admission, progression and dismissal. It does not have language about non-discrimination.

We highly recommend a handbook for the nurse-midwifery program and post master's certificate. Please include the correct non-discrimination statement in the proposed nurse-midwifery handbook and the MSN handbook including the correct URL. In addition, please note where non-discrimination statements can be found in the SON admission policies.

Criteria III. F. 3. Clearly defined mechanisms for consideration of grievances, complaints or appeals.

The link provided is a Grievance Policy for employees not students. The reviewers found the correct link in the Graduate Catalog 2019-2020 <http://catalog.gcsu.edu/2019-2020/Graduate-Catalog/Academic-Policies/Appeal-Process/Procedures-for-an-Academic-Grievance-Or-Appeal>. Non-academic grievances are here: <http://catalog.gcsu.edu/2018-2019/Graduate-Catalog/Academic-Policies/Non-Academic-Grievances-or-Appeals-Process>

The MSN Handbook states they follow the policy in the Graduate Catalog.

Please include the grievance policies in the proposed nurse-midwifery handbook including the correct URL.

Criteria IV. A. 1. a. The curriculum is based on three distinct statements which provide the foundation for the development, implementation and evaluation of the curriculum. They are 1) a statement of philosophy, 2) a statement of purpose/mission, and 3) a statement of objectives/ outcomes.

Instructions: In the PAR or in the appendices to the PAR, provide each of the three statements of midwifery program philosophy, purpose/mission, and outcomes/objectives.

The PAR provided only the alignment of GC Nurse-Midwifery Program Philosophy and ACNM philosophy in table format.

Please include the nurse-midwifery philosophy on the website, in the proposed Nurse-Midwifery student handbook and in promotional materials for the Nurse-Midwifery program and post master's certificate.

Please consult the ACME *Policies and Procedures Manual*, Section IV.F and Appendix F for information on requirements for the Mandatory Progress Report.

The MPR that addresses the above criteria is due by April 30, 2020. Copies of the progress report should be sent to Gretchen Mettler, PhD, CNM, FACNM, Chair Board of Review at ggm@case.edu and copied to Kristina Anderson, ACME Administrative Assistant at KAnderson@acnm.org and acme@acnm.org.

Education programs that have been pre-accredited by ACME are revisited and reevaluated for initial accreditation within six months of graduation of the first class. Please notify Kristina Anderson, ACME Administrative Assistant, (KAnderson@acnm.org 240-485-1802) to discuss the appropriate time to schedule the required site visit for the initial accreditation review.

Also, attached is the ACME BOR worksheet for your files. The BOR congratulates Dr. MacMillan and Dr. Ketchie for undertaking this educational endeavor to launch a new midwifery program at a highly regarded public institution such as Georgia College and State University. We are extremely excited about the proposal for launching this new nurse-midwifery education program in Georgia. We look forward too many years of nurse-midwifery graduates improving the health and well-being of women and children through the southeastern United States.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Mettler, PhD, CNM, FACNM
Chair, ACME Board of Review
ggm@case.edu

Cc: Costas Spirou, PhD, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Georgia College & State University Costas.spirou@GC.edu

Sandra Gangstead, PhD, Interim Associate Provost and Director of the Graduate School, Georgia College & State University Sandra.gangstead@GC.edu

Sheri Noviello, PhD, RN, Dean & Professor, College of Health Science, Georgia College & State University Sheri.noveillo@GC.edu

Deborah MacMillan, PhD, CNM, RN, Director and Professor School of Nursing Georgia College & State University
Debby.macmillan@GC.edu

Monica Ketchie DNP, CNM, ANP, Assistant Professor of Nursing, Georgia College & State University
monica.ketchie@gcsu.edu

Ann Cockerham, PhD, CNM, WHNP-BC, CNE, ACME Chair, Board of Commissioners
anne.cockerham@frontier.edu

Maryann Long, PhD, CNM, FACNM, Site Visit Coordinator, Board of Commissioners
maryannlong@gmail.com