



June 7, 2018

Dr. Margaret Amstutz
Interim President
College of Coastal Georgia
One College Drive
Brunswick, GA 31520-3614

Dear Dr. Amstutz:

Thank you for your letter of December 6, 2017, transmitting a prospectus for the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degree program to be offered, effective fall 2018.

The College submitted notification in a letter dated February 6, 2017, that it planned to offer the program in fall 2017. However, approval by the University of Georgia Board of Regents was not received until October 2017, thus moving the implementation date to fall 2018.

The program, which is consistent with the mission of the College and will build on existing programs in Biological Sciences and American Studies, is designed to prepare students for advanced graduate study and/or careers in a variety of areas such as natural resource management, public policy, and private consulting. Housed in the School of Arts and Sciences, the program will fill a need to train professionals who can identify challenges, develop science-based solutions, and lead public and private actions to protect, manage, and sustain the environment for future generations. The interdisciplinary degree program will contribute to the responsible management of the Georgia coast. The degree was created by a committee of faculty members from the Departments of Natural Sciences and Social Sciences and the School of Business and Public Management. Appropriate planning and approvals were documented to include approval by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.

The curriculum, course descriptions, projected schedule of course offerings, program goals, and student learning outcomes were provided. Each program develops a plan detailing how the assessment of student learning outcomes will be implemented and identifies methods and criteria for measuring attainment of the outcomes. School Deans and faculty members evaluate the assessment results and prepare an annual report. Amount and level of credits for courses was explained and a table provided indicating specific credit/contact hours for all Health Science courses. Day-to-day operations for the Environmental Science program are coordinated through the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Chairs of the Departments of Natural Sciences and Social Sciences. Qualifications of faculty members scheduled to teach in the program appear appropriate.

Libraries are located on the main campus in Brunswick, Georgia, and at the approved Camden Center site. The library's website integrates the library online catalog, databases, and websites and resources lists for various subject areas taught at the College. Students also have access and borrowing privileges to the collections of any other University System of Georgia institution through GALILEO Interconnected Libraries Express. Interlibrary loan services are also available. The Library offers both general and discipline-specific research training sessions for students, faculty, and staff in order to familiarize them



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with resources and provide an introduction to basic research techniques. Discipline-specific resources are available through both ownership and access and include environmental science databases such as Academic Search Complete, Academic Search Ultimate, eBook Academic Collection, Environment Complete, Environmental Science Collection (ProQuest), National Science Digital Library, Biology Database, and Science and Technology Collection.

Student support services include Center for Academic Advising services, Academic Tutoring and Instruction Center services, the Writing Center, admission and registration services, testing services, career services, disability services, student organizations, financial aid, and counseling services. Orientation is provided to all new students. Health services are also provided. Student support service areas participate in the annual unit planning assessment process which includes the assessment of expected outcomes.

Physical facilities are adequate to support the program. The program will use primarily classrooms and laboratory space designated for the School of Arts and Sciences. Classroom and lab space is also available at the approved Camden Center. Financial resources appear adequate. Expenditures and revenues were projected to include start-up costs and operating costs.

The Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges reviewed the materials seeking approval of the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degree program. It was the decision of the Board to approve the program and include it in the scope of the current accreditation.

Enclosed is an invoice for \$500 to defray the cost of review of the prospectus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW/ABC:iy

Enclosure

Cc: Dr. Jim Lynch, Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Dr. Nuria M. Cuevas