THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE

December 11, 2015

Dr. Belle Wheelan
President, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

RE: Substantive Change: Closure of University Research Administration Graduate Certificate, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

Please consider this letter notification from the University of Tennessee of a substantive change per the guidelines as stated in the Substantive Change for Accredited Institutions of the Commission on Colleges - Policy Statement and Procedures document.

Closure of Graduate Certificate in University Research Administration, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences

In September 2015, the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies voted to discontinue the University Research Administration Graduate Certificate program for three reasons:

1. There is no demand for the program. No students have ever enrolled in the program.
2. The department determined there were not adequate resources to continue the program.
3. The University of Tennessee Office of Research and Engagement requested the program. With changes in ORE personnel, since the original request, there is no longer any support or interest in promoting the program within the unit or elsewhere.

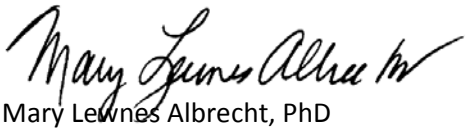
The College faculty approved the closure and will forward to the UT Graduate Council's Curriculum Committee for their consideration at their January 2016 meeting. We are confident the decision to close will not be overturned by the Committee and the full Graduate Council (our campus procedures do not consider the decision to close a program made until after all bodies have the opportunity to review curriculum proposals which originate within our colleges). Therefore, we are notifying you now of the impending final vote to close this program.

No students, faculty or staff will be impacted by the closure and no teach-out plan is needed. The program will be removed from our inventory with the 2015-2016 academic year graduate catalog.

Office of Accreditation
527 Andy Holt Tower Knoxville, TN 37996-0152
865-974-3635 865-974-4811 fax malbrech@utk.edu

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Mary Lewnes Albrecht, PhD
Associate Vice Provost for Accreditation and
SACS COC Liaison

C: Dr. Jimmy G. Cheek, Chancellor
Dr. Susan D. Martin, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
Dr. Carolyn Hodges, Vice Provost and Dean for Graduate Studies
Dr. R.J. Hinde, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Dr. Robert Rider, Dean, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
Dr. Dixie Lee Thompson, Associate Dean, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences
Dr. Norma T. Mertz, Head, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
Dr. Steven M. Sheeley, Vice President, SACS COC