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March 13, 2023

Framroze Virjee, JD
President
California State University, Fullerton
Office of the President
presidentvirjee@fullerton.edu

RE: *Reaffirm with a Progress Report*
California State University, Fullerton (STATE)
Master's Social Work Program (MSW)
2015 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS)

Dear President Virjee:

At its February 2023 meeting, the Commission on Accreditation (COA) reviewed the *Reaffirmation* application for the master's social work program. The COA voted to reaffirm the program's accreditation for eight years, ending in February 2031 with a *Progress Report* to be reviewed by the COA.

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

Accreditation Standard 1.0.1 *The program submits its mission statement and explains how it is consistent with the profession's purpose and values.*

The program submitted its mission statement and a narrative explaining the connection between the program's mission and some elements of profession's purpose and values. However, the program did not explain specifically *how* the mission statement is consistent with all elements of the profession's purpose and values.

The program is asked to explain how its mission statement is consistent with each element of the profession's purpose and values.

Accreditation Standard M2.0.2: *The program provides a rationale for its formal curriculum design for generalist practice demonstrating how it is used to develop a coherent and integrated curriculum for both classroom and field.*

The program provided a rationale for its formal curriculum design for generalist practice. The program also discussed practice and human behavior courses how this content could be applied in field. However, it was unclear how the program's curriculum design is used to develop a coherent and integrated curriculum for both classroom and field.

The program is asked to demonstrate how the curriculum design for generalist practice it is used to develop a coherent and integrated curriculum for classroom and field.

Accreditation Standard M2.0.3: *The program provides a matrix that illustrates how its generalist practice content implements the nine required social work competencies and any additional competencies added by the program.*

The program provided an updated curriculum matrix for competencies 6-9 and a narrative explaining how its generalist practice content implements the nine required generalist competencies. However, it was unclear how some of the course content covered all system levels (e.g., individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities) for competencies 6-9. In addition, the matrix did not include page number references to syllabi and only one updated course syllabus was provided.

The program is asked to provide a modified curriculum matrix illustrating how its generalist practice content implements competencies 6-9.. The program is also asked to provide updated syllabi for all courses content identified on the curriculum matrix to verify consistency.

Accreditation Standard 3.0.2 *The program explains how these efforts provide a supportive and inclusive learning environment.*

The program provided a narrative that discussed its inclusion and retention efforts. However, the program did not explain how its efforts described in response to **Accreditation Standard 3.0.1** provide a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

The program is asked to describe how its efforts described in response to **Accreditation Standard 3.0.1** provide a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

Accreditation Standard M3.1.1: *The program identifies the criteria it uses for admission to the social work program. The criteria for admission to the master's program must include an earned baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by a recognized regional accrediting association. Baccalaureate social work graduates entering master's social work programs are not to repeat what has been achieved in their baccalaureate social work programs.*

The program explained that it does not offer advanced standing for baccalaureate social work graduates but is preparing to create this pathway, and it reported that baccalaureate social work graduates can test out of three courses. However, the program did not explain how baccalaureate social work graduates entering the master's social work program do not repeat what has been achieved in their baccalaureate social work programs.

The program is asked to explain how baccalaureate social work graduates entering the master's social work program does not repeat what has been achieved in their baccalaureate social work programs.

Accreditation Standard 3.1.9: *The program describes its policies and procedures specifying students' rights and responsibilities to participate in formulating and modifying policies affecting academic and student affairs.*

The program described procedures specifying students' rights and responsibilities to participate in formulating and modifying policies affecting academic and student affairs. However, the program did not provide specific written policies specifying students' rights and responsibilities to participate in formulating and modifying policies affecting academic and student affairs.

The program is asked to describe its written policies specifying students' rights and responsibilities to participate in formulating and modifying policies affecting academic and student affairs

COA reaffirmation decision types are described in section 2.6 *COA Reaffirmation Determination and Decisions* in the [EPAS Handbook](#).

The program is asked to submit one (1) electronic copy of the report, no later than [December 1, 2023](#) for review during its February 2024 meeting. The report must align with the formatting and submission requirements detailed in section 1.2.11. *Document Submission Policy* in the [EPAS Handbook](#).

The accreditation status obtained at *Reaffirmation* only covers the components that were reviewed in the self-study at the time of the COA review. Changes may take place within the program prior to its next scheduled accreditation review; however, some program changes impact compliance with EPAS and require reporting to the COA or DOSWA per section 1.2.4 *Program Changes* in the [EPAS Handbook](#). Accreditation is an elective, program-driven, and self-managed peer-review process. Programs are solely responsible for implementing, demonstrating, and maintaining compliance with the EPAS during and in-between review cycles.

Please be in touch with Karen Chapman, MSW, MPA, Accreditation Specialist in the Department of Social Work Accreditation, if there are any questions about this letter or the procedures and actions of the Commission on Accreditation.

Sincerely,



Chair, Commission on Accreditation
Deana F. Morrow, PhD, LICSW, ACSW
Chair, Commission on Accreditation

DFM/KYC

Cc: Mikyong Kim-Goh, PhD, LCSW
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