



November 5, 2015

Dr. Shawn Gerstenberger, Dean
School of Community Health Sciences
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 3023
Las Vegas, NV 89154-3023

Re: UNLV Proposal for Executive MHA

Dear Dean Gerstenberger:

I am very happy to support your school's proposal to create an Executive Master of Health Care Administration program at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. We have worked closely with your school and the Department of Health Care Administration over the years to develop professionals in the health care arena. We see this new degree, with an emphasis on meeting the needs of professionals in health care who work full-time, to provide a tremendous opportunity for our employees. Because most traditional educational environments limit the number of courses our employees can take, the Executive MHA program will give them more flexibility and enable them to complete their degree sooner.

As the Nevada Regent for the American College of Healthcare Executives, I support this new program for our members as well as for the organizations our members represent including hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, outpatient clinics, and many other junior professionals in the health care field.

One of the major benefits this program will have pertains to our rural hospital employees. Given the remoteness of many of our rural communities, I see the program as opening up opportunities to employees in Nevada's rural hospitals. That such a program would be available at one of Nevada's public higher education institutions will be of tremendous benefit to those hospitals. Since on campus visits are limited and planned well in advance, the proximity to Las Vegas is not out of the question for their participation. Tailoring a program for professionals with health care administration experience will enable our employees to contribute to the knowledge of the industry as well as learn from their peers as to what other organizations face in the health care market.

Our organization will certainly make information about this new program available to our employees. It will give them a valuable opportunity to expand their career.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Johnson", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Cindy Johnson, MHA FACHE
Chief Executive Officer
Rural Physicians Group
cjohnson@rpgdocs.com
ACHE Regent - Nevada