

B

3 April 2007

Phillip Cottingham
Principal
Wellpark College of Natural Therapies
PO Box 78 229
Grey Lynn
AUCKLAND 1245

Dear Phillip

Following our telephone conversation an hour or so ago and subsequent to your letter of 14 March 2007, I would like to summarise some of the points made.

While you have requested clarification through examples, I explained that fixing a few learning outcomes would not remedy the programme, but if you, a group of educators and professional practitioners, were to re-think the College's aim and rationale for this course, examine its philosophy deeply and carefully work out the overall course outcome (graduate profile), the learning outcomes, levels, credits and assessments should begin to fall into place.

It is sometimes difficult for a provider who has been successful with diplomas to move up to degree level and there is a temptation to build the degree programme on the diploma programme. This model rarely works because the aims of these two types of programmes are different. A diploma is primarily aimed at training students to do something within a given field. A degree programme is higher level study, which provides a philosophical, theoretical and conceptual base to a discipline and may or may not contain elements of training. The latter depends on the kind of graduate that the College, the industry and educators expect. Your course development group needs to decide on how much training or clinical practice will be included and how that will relate to the theoretical/philosophical side. That in turns depends on the aim of your course, the College's philosophy and the course outcome.

Diplomates should be effective practitioners, whereas graduates from a degree programme should have philosophical and theoretical basis from which to advance the discipline and to eventually become effective practitioners.

The course development group needs to debate all of the issues above. Along with members of the profession, the course development group should include educators who are experienced in the development of degree programmes and aware of the levels required.

I hope that this may help you to find a way ahead for the re-development of your proposed degree programme.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Edgeley-Page
Advisor - Course Approvals
Approvals, Accreditation and Audit

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Create Date:27/06/2007 9:37:09a.m.

Sender:"Lesley Edgeley-Page" <LesleyE.NZQAWPO.NZQADOM>

Sent_To:Principal1 <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xx.xx.xxxx.NZQADOM>

Sent_CC:

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Subject:Re: Degree Progress from Wellpark

Dear Philip

Thank you for your email and your update. I was very pleased to hear from you and even more pleased to hear about the actions you have taken. You sound to be on course and I look forward to receiving your revised application when you feel confident that you are ready.

Kind regards

Lesley

>>> "Principal1" <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xx.xx> 27/06/2007 7:55 a.m. >>>

Dear Lesley,

I wanted to keep you up to date with developments. We have appointed an academic advisor to the programme, Dr. Pauline McCabe, a qualified naturopath, nurse, and educator, who works for RMIT in Melbourne. I have attached her CV for you to peruse. We are working through the curriculum and the other requirements and hope to have a revised application back to you by mid July.

Thanking you for your patience.

Phillip Cottingham ND BHSc. Grad.Dip. (Herbal Medicine)

Principal

Wellpark College of Natural Therapies

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Dear Philip

I have been away on another degree panel, so I am just picking up your messages now. Sorry about that.

I am pleased to hear about the work that you and your team are doing on the degree application. The time frame is yours and as I have always said, take your time and get it right. I was also pleased to hear that you are working on the MOU with AUT.

I hope that your time away goes well - and is relaxing!

Thank you for your update.

Kind regards

Lesley

>>> "Principal1" <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xx.xx> 5/07/2007 9:18 a.m. >>>

Dear Lesley,

I left a message on your answerphone the other day and am just following up with an email. The task is proving to be greater than I envisaged and I will not be able to guarantee sending this in before the end of September now. In part this is because I am away for 6 weeks from the 18th July, and in part because we need to do this thoroughly and well and that will take time. Pauline is still engaged in the process and will assist us until the end of the process. She has completed a draft report and her final report should be ready for me to send to you, along with an action plan, by next week. Meantime we are working hard on the curriculum issues, as well as developing a business and staffing plan to address the resource issues. We are also engaged in discussions with AUT re an MOU that will address those concerns of the panel as well. An MOU has been drafted for discussion. This has been done in accordance with NZQA requirements, as per the document I received some months ago.

Hope this keeps you updated. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are any questions around this.

Thanking you for your patience. I know this is taking some time, but we wish to get it right and that requires ensuring that we have covered all the bases.

Yours,

Phillip Cottingham ND BHSc. Grad.Dip. (Herbal Medicine)

Principal

Wellpark College of Natural Therapies

Po Box 78-229

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Hello Phillip

Good to hear from you and to receive an update on progress. Pity about AUT but I hope that you are able to finalise the arrangement with Unitec satisfactorily.

No, you do not need to send financial projections to all panel members - just to Candis and me will be fine. The panel will seek general assurance however that you are able to sustain the programme.

You will need to send copies to all panel members eventually, but just send one to me and to Candis first. Candis and I will confer about the process (probably a night and one full day). I'll then check that the panel is all available (and find a replacement for Simeon if he is no longer here - you may wish to think about that). After that I will then ask you to send the copies to the rest of the panel, but we'll talk with you before that. Just send copies to Candis and me in the first instance.

Kind regards

Lesley

>>> "Principal1" <xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxx.xx.xx> 2/11/2007 12:12 p.m. >>>
Hi Lesley

This application almost ready for resubmission. Part of the delay has been because of the different landscape in terms of AUT now having a funding cap, which has meant that they have not been able to accommodate a collaboration in terms of our students attending courses with them. This has led to the College pursuing other options, which narrowed down to working with the Osteopathic Section of the School of Health Studies at Unitec. Whilst I am still continuing my discussions with Unitec, it looks promising. We will probably have a subcontracting type of arrangement with a fall back position to delivering those selected components ourselves, as we are more than capable of doing, but would prefer to collaborate if possible. I hope to be able to finalise the major part of the documents by the end of next week and have them to the panel early the week after (around the 19th - 20th November). I do have a question though, do we need to send copies of the Financial Projections to all the panel members? I would prefer not to, as this is commercially sensitive material and I think that Candis Craven is the person most likely to assess that part. We are happy to send that part to Candis and yourself for the records.

Also, do you require us to send copies to all the panel members? I know that Simeon is no longer in the country. Some direction on this would be good.

Thanking you.

Phillip Cottingham ND BHSc. Grad.Dip. (Herbal Medicine)

Principal

Wellpark College of Natural Therapies

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Create Date:5/11/2007 2:13:14p.m.

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Subject:FW: SUBCONTRACTING

Hi,

Just wanted to know if you would be able to help us with any information on subcontracting.

We are planning to introduce a degree programme next year. Portions of the course will be provided by another education institution. What formalities are involved in order for us to achieve this.

Your guidance will be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks.

Vinay Shah
Accountant

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