



Council for the Accreditation of Emergency Management Education

www.caeme.education

Larry A. Porter, Ph.D., CEM®,
President
1589 Skeet Club Road
Suite 102-109
High Point, NC 27265

22 July 2019

Sandy Smith, R.N., Ph.D.
Arkansas Tech University
Department of Emergency Management
SSmith107@atu.edu
Dean Hall, Room 110
402 West O Street
Russellville, AR 72801

Sandy,

It is with pleasure that I forward to you the final Ten-Year Accreditation Report, conducted in April by an assessment team from the Council for The Accreditation of Emergency Management Education (CAEME). The assessment team fully appreciated the scope of work that went into your self-study. It is obvious that MANY hours went into the process of preparing for the visit.

The recommendation by the team, found in the Conclusion, on page 10 of the report, for a ten-year accreditation (a second five-year assessment for reaccreditation), was approved by the CAEME Board of Directors. Your program fully meets the standards developed by the CAEME, with the support of, and validation by the emergency management higher education community, as detailed on pages 8–9 and 15–24 of the report. Please also note the list of Observations and Recommendations following the Conclusion.

Speaking on behalf of the assessment team, I will readily say that we enjoyed the reception, and the interaction with the department staff and faculty, the students, and the administration. It was very apparent that the department is well-respected within the university, that the faculty enjoys their teaching assignments, and that the students felt well supported in their pursuit of an emergency management (and homeland security) degree. We hope that all levels of the program and the university we interacted with, enjoyed the visitation process and the discussions that took place, as much as we did. We felt welcome and valued, and we appreciated the support provided to team members before and during the visit.

While there were a couple of somewhat contentious issues, heavily discussed during and after the on-site assessment, the assessment team feels strongly that your emergency management program, at the baccalaureate and graduate degree level, is well run, and is producing well-qualified and educated graduates in the emergency management field. Your long-standing emergency management program remains highly respected within the higher education community.

Next steps:

1) CAEME policy requires that you pay Accredited Program dues/fees, each year, of \$600 (\$500 + \$100 for the additional [graduate] program), except for this next academic year, AY2019–2020, as it was

included in the assessment fee. Your next dues should be paid during July 2020, for AY2020–2021. Let me know if an invoice will be required. (You may opt to pay multiple years, by arrangement.)

2) The requirement that you report, at the five-year mark—spring 2024—about any significant changes that have occurred within the program that would affect continued accreditation. This process does not have to be a full self-study, but should review the components of the assessment (adjudged fully compliant with CAEME standards) that enabled your accreditation. Significant change, as determined by the CAEME review of your report at that time, could affect continuation of your accredited status at that time.

This report is not a public document, unless you wish it, and will remain internal to the CAEME. As a protected document, any requests for copies will be referred to you. A hardcopy of this letter, and a printed final report is available at your request.

Thank you for allowing the CAEME to review and assess your program. All the best for continued stability and success.

/ s /

Larry A. Porter, Ph.D., CEM®
CAEME President (and Team Lead)
High Point, NC

ATTACHED: ATU Final Report_2nd Re-Accreditation_10Jul19.pdf