

Barbara E. Brittingham
President, New England Commission of Higher Education
3 Burlington Woods Drive, Suite 100
Burlington, MA 01803-4514

October 31, 2019

Dear President Brittingham:

We thank the Commission for the letters dated July 8, 2019 and September 20, 2019 alerting the campuses of the approval of the online, inter-campus graduate certificate programs as well as the next steps.

After deliberation among our three campuses, we would like to inform you that, for a variety of factors, we have deferred the implementation of this program to a later date. We now hope and plan to launch this program in the Spring semester of 2021. We will confirm with you when the program has launched, and we can then make preparations for the progress report and subsequent site visits, which we expect to take place the semester following the launch.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Tilman Wolf
Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
University of Massachusetts Amherst

John McCarthy
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Cc: Paula Harbecke, NECHE
Sandra Blanchette, UMass President's Office
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