



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS  
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES**

1866 Southern Lane • Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097  
Telephone 404/679-4500 Fax 404/679-4558  
www.sacscoc.org

March 17, 2009

Office of Provost and  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

MAR 20 2009

NC A&T State University  
Greensboro, N. C. 27411

Dr. Alton Thompson  
Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
North Carolina A&T State University  
1601 East Market Street  
Greensboro, NC 27411

Dr. David H. Perrin  
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
University of North Carolina Greensboro  
P. O. Box 26170  
Greensboro, NC 27402-6170

Dear Colleagues:

Please pardon my delay in responding to your letter of November 20, 2008 (received in our offices on December 5, 2008), in which you notified the Commission of your intent to establish the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering (JSNN). In addition to research, you anticipate offering the Professional Master of Science in Nanoscience and the Ph.D. in Nanoscience degree programs. The North Carolina legislature has provided \$50 million to build the JSNN facilities and \$8 million for capital equipment for JSNN as well as recurring funding.

The JSNN degree programs will train scientists in various nanosciences such as nanomaterials, drug design and delivery, genetic screening, biosensors, biotechnology, surface engineering, energy, environmental improvement, agricultural enhancement, and toxicology. The research conducted by faculty affiliated with the School will have high potential for technology transfer to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and nanotechnology companies in North Carolina. **What are the implementation dates and the street address for the facility?**

Your letter asked for guidance as to the next steps for seeking COC authorization for the proposed degree programs (The formation of a School does not require our approval). **Please submit a joint prospectus for the two degree programs as you near the implementation date. Our normal timeline requires a prospectus three months prior to implementation; because of the unusual nature of your undertaking, and to allow time for dialog between Commission staff and your staff, please submit the prospectus at least six months prior to implementation.**

**In addition to a joint prospectus, please submit a joint document demonstrating your compliance with the Commission policy and guidelines, *Joint Curricular Ventures Involving the Award of Credit by Member Institutions*. That document should be submitted at least six months prior to implementation, as well.**



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Dr. Thompson  
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I congratulate you and wish you well as you plan and implement this exciting new venture.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President  
Commission on Colleges

BSW/RER:jdw

Cc: Dr. Stanley F. Battle, Chancellor  
North Carolina A&T University

Dr. Linda P. Brady, Chancellor  
University of North Carolina Greensboro

Dr. Marsal P. Stoll

Dr. Tom E. Benberg