

15 February 2017

Dr Kathleen McNutt, Executive Director  
Dr Jeremy Rayner, Director  
Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

Dear Drs McNutt and Rayner,

I am writing following my recent receipt of your 5 August 2016 response to the external reviewers' report on JSGSPP following its Academic Unit Review last year. I will begin my response by congratulating the School on a fine review that, as you note, highlights the School's many successes while providing recommendations on directions the School might take at this "inflexion point" in its history.

Of the many elements of your response to the reviewers' recommendations, I will touch on these:

- Joint degrees: fully supported and under way
- Single admissions process: fully supported
- Establishment of advisory council: supported and done
- Formal mentorship of junior faculty: supported
- Provision of online MCerts: fully supported for the reasons you adduce
- Emphasis on quality rather than quantity in internships: fully supported
- Address research imbalance between campuses: as you note, this is in large part a result of faculty demographics; your intention to develop a faculty renewal plan is supported
- Increased recruitment and retention of Indigenous students: very strongly supported
- Rejection of recommendation to consolidate programming by campus: fully supported
- Social license cluster and partnership with sister school: reservations noted and supported

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to you both, and to the entire faculty and staff of Johnson-Shoyama, for the work you do to advance students' interests, public policy research, and outreach to the wider community. In its relatively brief history the School has become a very significant feature of the Saskatchewan and indeed Canadian postsecondary landscape, and clear testimony of what can be achieved when highly skilled scholars and practitioners come together collaboratively to advance their discipline in the service of society.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas Chase  
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Copy: Dr A Herman, Chair, CCAM