Dear Ms. Dones,

These are very exciting news and I would like first of all to congratulate the West Los Angeles College (WLAC) for being in the forefront of dental hygiene education and being selected for this pilot program. It is my opinion that such a degree offer was way overdue. This is a crucial step to further increase the number and quality of dental hygiene program applicants. It shall also serve as a pipeline for dental hygiene graduates to pursue post-baccalaureate degrees, which is essential for the new generation of dental hygiene educators and researchers.

To my knowledge, the University of California system, including UCLA, does not offer any program leading to and RDH degree or a BS degree in dental hygiene. Additionally, and as far as I have knowledge, it is not in the plans of the UCLA School of Dentistry to create such programs or anything similar. Hence, your new program would not in any way duplicate any program currently offered by the UCLA School of Dentistry. The creation of a such program would indeed enhance the well established affiliation of the WLAC and the UCLA School of Dentistry, which is based in the academic and clinic interaction between dental hygiene students and dental student/residents.

If you need any further information, feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,
On 12/11/14 12:05 PM, "Dones, Carmen M." <DonesCM@wlac.edu> wrote:

Hello Dr. Camargo,
This email is to inform you of the selection of West LA College Dental Hygiene program being chosen by the LACCD Academic Senate and Chancellor, Francisco Rodriguez as the program to move forward to compete as a pilot program to offer a bachelor degree.
As part of the application process, WLAC needs to consult with the UC's and confirm the following:
1. Is there a Dental Hygiene program being offered at a UC?
2. Would a bachelor in dental hygiene duplicate a program currently offered at UCLA School of Dentistry?
Can you please confirm that the WLAC bachelor program does not duplicate any programs at the UCLA school of Dentistry.

Thank you,
Carmen Dones, RDH, MS
Director, Dental Hygiene
Chair, Allied Health

Sent from my iPhone