DATE: February 23, 2016

TO: Karen L. Butler-Purry, Ph.D.,
Associate Provost for Graduate Studies Office of Graduate and Professional Studies

THROUGH: Vernon Tesh, Ph.D.,
Vice President of Academic Affairs, HSC

THROUGH: Paul Ogden, M.D.
Interim Dean, College of Medicine

THROUGH: Van G. Wilson, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Medicine

THROUGH: Regina Bentley, Ed.D.
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and EDHP Director, College of Medicine

SUBJECT: Final exam exemption for non-thesis (project) students

The College of Medicine (COM) is requesting a programmatic exemption for the final examination requirement for current and future students in the Education for Healthcare Professionals (EDHP) M.S. program for the non-thesis (project) track. The final project replaces the final exam requirement for all non-thesis EDHP students. All non-thesis students must complete a final project. The project will require the student to conduct a pedagogy-related clinical, educational or research project reflective of the course of study in the EDHP degree plan and practice effective scholarship as a collaborative, mentored experience. Projects must be approved by the student's graduate advisory committee and will include written as well as a final oral presentation.

Thank you for your consideration. If further information is desired, please feel free to contact me.

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Non-Thesis Option

For the non-thesis option, a thesis is not required. All non-thesis students must complete a final project. The project will require the student to conduct a pedagogy-related research project reflective of the course of study in the EDHP degree plan, and practice effective research strategies as a collaborative, mentored experience. Projects must be approved by the student’s graduate advisory committee and will include written as well as a final oral presentation. A final comprehensive examination is required for all non-thesis Master of Science programs except the Master of Science programs offered by the Mays Business School, the Master of Science in Economics with a concentration in financial economics or financial econometrics, the Master of Science with a major in Educational Human Resource Development, HRD option, and the Master of Science in Nursing with a major in Nursing Education. No exemptions are allowed. The requirements as to level-of-courses and examinations are the same as for the thesis option Master of Science degree. The final examination cannot be held prior to the mid-point of the final semester if questions on the examination are based on courses in which the student is currently enrolled.

A student pursuing the non-thesis option is not allowed to enroll in a 691 research course for any reason and 691 may not be used for credit toward a non-thesis option Master of Science degree. A maximum of 3 credit hours of 685 Directed Studies course may be used toward the non-thesis option Master of Science degree. In addition, any combination of 684, 685, 690 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan. All requirements for the non-thesis option Master of Science degree other than those specified above are the same as for the thesis option degree.