Pamela,

Our current policy on distance education and experiential learning activities is listed below for your review.

At this time, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education's definition of physical presence does not include distance education or experiential learning activities, such as internships, externships, clinical, or practica within the Commonwealth, unless an institution also engages in one of the following activities requiring Board action:

1. Occupying, regardless of ownership, an actual physical location for instructional purposes, whether synchronous or asynchronous instruction;
2. Maintaining an administrative office to facilitate instruction in the Commonwealth, or for purposes of providing information to prospective students or the general public about the institution, or enrolling students or providing services to enrolled students;
3. Providing office space to instructional or non-instructional staff;
4. Establishing an institutional mailing address, street address or phone number in the Commonwealth.

If your institution is conducting any of these activities in the Commonwealth that do require Board action, please notify me at your earliest convenience. Please be advised that the MA Board of Higher Education is currently in the process of updating its regulations and that the policy outlined above is subject to change. Please complete the out-of-state institution inquiry form available on our website as we will be sending out email notifications once the new regulations are available.

Best,

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that Massachusetts currently does not include field placements within its definition of physical presence. This is contradictory to what we were told by Shelley Tinkham last year (see attached email correspondence). Have Massachusetts state authorization regulations changed? If so, that is good news!

Can you please verify if there is anything California University needs to do at this point?

Thank you,

Pamela Murphy
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