

SEARS HOLDINGS

Stan Welch
Director, LP Operations and Safety

Sears Holdings Management Corporation
3333 Beverly Road ALL-346B
Hoffman Estates, IL 60179
(847) 286-5193
Fax (847) 286-9370
Email swelch8@searshc.com

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Dr. Paul Lang
Department Head, Criminal Justice Department
Northern Michigan University
1401 Presque Isle Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855-5535

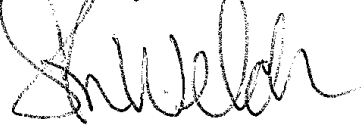
Dear Dr. Lang:

Loss Prevention is a topic that a Criminal Justice student will often take. However, this course is often taught to students primarily focused on becoming police officers and not those who end up with a life long career in Loss Prevention. In my experience, the typical Loss Prevention associate is someone who began their retail career in a store environment. They may have some college education, often in another field of study, but somehow ends up following the Loss Prevention path. As they continue to grow their career they often realize that there is currently no accredited field of study directly relating to Loss Prevention.

As an LP professional and a member of the National Retail Federation, I am excited about and proud of your efforts regarding the introduction of an online LP Bachelor's Degree. There is indeed a need for the LP professional to be able to complete their education in a sometimes "forgotten" field according to most academic institutions.

Society has changed, and many Loss Prevention professionals working for Sears Holdings not only have full time jobs, but they also have families to support. They have little time to attend school full-time and the academic community has been very receptive to online Bachelor's programs. I fully support the creation, implementation and search for quality instructors to facilitate these online programs. I look forward to seeing your success as I'm sure will be witnessed by the numbers of students who sign up for the program!

Sincerely,



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