



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT: #VII.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner*
DATE: September 16, 2009
SUBJECT: Consideration of the University of Southern Maine Educator Preparation Programs for State Program Approval

BACKGROUND: The University of Southern Maine (USM), College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), requested a campus visitation to review, for renewal of State approval, eight initial and continuing educator preparation programs. There are eight (8) initial and continuing educator preparation programs at USM. The four initial teacher preparation programs are located in three colleges: CEHD, the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), and Lewiston-Auburn College (LAC). The four continuing education programs are based in the CEHD.

The Teacher Education Department in the CEHD is responsible for two initial certification delivery systems: Teachers for Elementary And Middle Schools (TEAMS) and the Extended Teacher Education Program (ETEP). Together, these two systems comprise a single program, the Teacher Education Program, and include entry pathways from the CAS departments of Mathematics and Modern and Classical Languages and Literature.

The Teacher Education Program is concurrently seeking national accreditation from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC). In accordance with the state agreement with TEAC, the Teacher Education Program's Inquiry Brief, and associated appendices submitted to TEAC, has served as documentation for State program approval consideration. Only two primary structures: the undergraduate-graduate (TEAMS) program and the post-baccalaureate (ETEP) have been put forward for national accreditation by TEAC.

Other initial teacher preparation programs are Art Education and Music Education, located in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), and the Collaborative Learning and School Success (CLASS) Program, located in Lewiston-Auburn College. Continuing USM professional education programs that lead to state certification are Counselor Education, School Psychology, Literacy, and Educational Leadership.

The eight programs that constitute the USM educator preparation unit are:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Art Education | CLASS (LAC) |
| Counselor Education | Educational Leadership |
| School Psychology | Literacy |
| Music Education | Teacher Education Program |

A joint State and Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) program approval/accreditation visit was conducted from March 8 - 11, 2009. The joint visitation team was co-chaired by Dr. Frank Murray, President of TEAC) and Dr. Kathy Yardley, Dean, College of Education, Health and Rehabilitation, University of Maine at Farmington. The joint visit had two State Board Observers: Board Chair, Ann Weisleder and Board Vice-Chair, James Banks.

Following the on-site visit a State Team Report was prepared for and distributed to members of the State Board during the Board's May 13, 2009 meeting. In the meantime, the TEAC auditors compiled and submitted their Audit Report to both USM and the Department. This report verified the evidence used to support the USM's Teacher Education Program claims that the TEAMS and ETEP programs have met the State Board standards in addition to verifying other evidence that pertains to TEAC's quality principles and standards. The TEAC Audit Report determined that the USM Inquiry Brief received a clean assessment and the USM TEAMS and ETEP programs were recommended for national accreditation based upon TEAC guidelines and standards (see the TEAC Case Analysis Recommendation for USM on the following page. The TEAC accrediting board acted upon the Audit Team's recommendation during its meeting on September 11, 2009. Both USM and the Department were notified by TEAC on September 14, 2009 that the TEAMS and ETEP programs have been granted national accreditation by TEAC.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the State Team's Report of findings as well as the TEAC accrediting board's national accreditation decision and grant State program approval for the following University of Southern Maine educator preparation programs: Art Education; CLASS; Counselor Education; Educational Leadership; Literacy; Music Education; School Psychology; and Teacher Education Programs (TEAMS and ETEP). The period of approval will be from summer 2009 through summer 2014.

*Prepared by Harry Osgood
Higher Education Specialist

THE TEAC CASE ANALYSIS CONCLUSION FOR USM

Suggested Weaknesses and Stipulations
None

Suggested Accreditation Recommendation (shaded)

1.0 (new and old) Candidate Learning	2.0 (new)/3.0 (old) Faculty Learning	3.0 (new)/4.0 (old) Capacity & Commitment	Accreditation status designations
Above standard	Above standard	Above standard	Accreditation (5 years) <i>for an initial Inquiry Brief</i>
Above standard	Above standard	Above standard	Accreditation (10 years) <i>for a successive Inquiry Brief</i>
Above standard	Below standard	Above standard	Accreditation (2 years)
Below standard	Above standard	Above standard	Accreditation (2 years)
Above standard	Above standard	Below standard	Accreditation (2 years)
Below standard	Below standard	Above standard	Deny
Below standard	Above standard	Below standard	Deny