Maine Department of Education

Paul R. LePage
Governor

Stephen L. Bowen
Commissioner

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Exhibit #VI.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner*

DATE: October 30, 2012

SUBJECT: Approval of the Team to Review the Application for Initial Degree-Granting Authorization as Submitted by the InterCoast Career Institute to Confer Associate of Applied Science Degrees

BACKGROUND: 20-A MRSA, § 10704 provides that any educational institution may confer certain degrees if it has been granted initial authority by an Act of the Legislature. Under Chapter 149 CMR, the Maine State Board of Education is required to make a recommendation for action on any initial degree authorization request to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Officials from the InterCoast Career Institute, located in South Portland, have submitted an application seeking initial degree-granting authority to confer academic degrees at the Associate level. The InterCoast Career Institute has for several years been licensed as a postsecondary, proprietary school by the Department of Education offering diploma and certificate level programming in a number of technical skill areas under the provisions of Title 20-A, Chapter 323, §§9501-9508, *Private Business, Trade and Technical Schools*. The Institute's request for initial degree-granting authority requires that the application be assessed under provisions contained within Title 20-A, Chapter 409, §§ 10701-10714, *Degree-Granting Institutions.* A program approval visit with the applicant is being scheduled.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approve the individuals presented to serve as members of the review team to assist in processing the request from the InterCoast Career Institute.

*Prepared by Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist

Proposed Review Team Membership

The InterCoast Career Institute has requested the review of its application for initial degree-granting authorization. The following, for Board approval, is the proposed review team membership:

Dr. Lynne Coy-Ogan, Chair
Senior Vice President and Provost
Husson University
Bangor, Maine

Dr. Joseph Szakas
Provost
University of Maine in Augusta
Augusta, Maine
Farmington, Maine

Nancy Perkins, Board Observer
Vice Chair
Maine State Board of Education

Harry W. Osgood*
Higher Education Specialist
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*Non-Voting Participants