

BOWDOIN COLLEGE

October 1, 2014

Dear Mr. Loreda,

I am writing to request a delay in the state review of the Bowdoin College Education Department's teacher education program until Fall 2016. Our program is currently slated for review in Winter 2016. Unfortunately, the 2015-16 academic year presents the perfect storm of faculty transitions for us at Bowdoin and we are concerned that a review in Winter 2016 will provide an incomplete picture of our department and the work we are doing to ensure our students meet state standards for beginning teachers.

The Bowdoin College Education Department teaching staff is comprised of three tenure-track faculty. Our most senior member, Nancy Jennings, will retire at the end of this academic year. In response to Professor Jennings's retirement, the department hired a new tenure-track assistant professor, Alison Miller, who will begin teaching full time in the department in the spring of 2015.

Doris Santoro, a tenured professor, will be on sabbatical next year. This was an unanticipated development. Professor Santoro had initially planned on playing an active role in the Winter 2016 state review. However, an unexpected resignation of a long-term visiting faculty member this past June led us to scramble to staff courses for which students had already enrolled. Professor Santoro graciously agreed to delay her scheduled 2014-2015 sabbatical in order to fill the sudden opening. Consequently, she will be on leave during the 2015-2016 academic year.

Next winter, then, the department will be staffed by myself as the only tenured faculty member, Alison Miller, who will have taught full time for only two semesters, and an as-yet-to-be-hired sabbatic leave replacement. Alternatively, during the fall of 2016 the department will be fully staffed with two tenured faculty members as well as Assistant Professor Miller, who will have had an opportunity to establish herself in the department and at Bowdoin.

We appreciate your understanding of our unanticipated staffing situation and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Charles Dorn
Associate Professor and Chair

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION