



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

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GOVERNOR

JAMES E. RIER, JR.
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #VI.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: James E. Rier Jr., Commissioner*

DATE: November 12, 2014

SUBJECT: Receipt of the Review Team Report of Findings Concerning the Unity College Application for Additional Degree-Granting Authority

BACKGROUND: Unity College is a fully accredited higher education institution located in Unity, Maine. It is currently authorized to confer four academic degrees: the Bachelor of Arts; the Bachelor of Science; the Associate of Arts; and the Associate of Science. The College applied for additional degree-granting authority to offer a graduate degree, the Master of Professional Science, in the fall of 2015. On September 24, 2014, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, the State Board approved Review Team met with Unity College administration and academic representatives in the offices of the Maine Department of Education. During this meeting the Review Team conducted its evaluation of the College's application focusing upon whether the applicant's proposal meets the Board's degree-granting standards, as found in Title 21-A, Chapter 170.

Following this meeting the Review Team developed its Report of Findings. Attached please find the Review Team's report; a copy of the Unity College additional degree-granting application; a copy of the College's most recent audited financial statement; and a copy of the College's five-year financial plan for implementation of the proposed graduate degree program.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education receive the Unity College Review Team's Report of Findings along with accompanying documentation. The Unity College request for additional degree-granting authority will appear as an action agenda item during the Board's December 10, 2014 meeting.

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