

EXHIBIT: IV.C.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner*

DATE: December 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Receipt of Documentation Concerning the Status of National Accreditation for the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)

BACKGROUND: A joint State and National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) program approval/accreditation visit to the University of Maine was conducted November 4-9, 2005, for the purpose of reviewing the professional educator preparation programs of offered by the College of Education and Human Development..

Following the on-site visit a State team report was prepared which included team findings resulting from the application of both State and NCATE standards, commendations, recommendations, and a recommendation for State program approval status. The report was distributed to the State Board during its February 15, 2006, meeting with a note that action would be called for following notification of NCATE's accreditation decision. The NCATE Unit Accrediting Board met in April, 2006 and rendered its accreditation decision in which it was determined that the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development met all NCATE standards except Standard 4 - Diversity. This resulted in the designation of Continuing Accreditation with Conditions. College administration has filed an appeal of this decision with NCATE which will not be acted upon until mid-April 2007.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the State Board of Education receive documentation from both the College and NCATE regarding the College's accreditation issues. When the appeal process has been concluded the Board will be asked to re-visit this matter in order to establish the College's State approval status.

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