



November 4, 2005

Arthur Levine
President
Teachers College Columbia University
525 West 120th Street
New York, NY 10027

Dear President Levine:

At its October 16-23, 2005 meeting in Washington, DC, the Unit Accreditation Board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) considered the application for continuing accreditation of Teachers College Columbia University. I am pleased to inform you of the Unit Accreditation Board's decision to grant accreditation to Teachers College Columbia University at the initial teacher preparation and advanced preparation levels. This accreditation decision indicates that the unit and its programs meet rigorous standards set forth by the professional education community.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate you and your professional education unit for displaying the high quality necessary to be granted national accreditation. I would also like to express appreciation for the cooperation received from the faculty, staff, and administration of your institution. The copy of this letter sent to the head of your professional education unit includes a certificate in acknowledgement of the unit's accomplishment.

Strengths noted in the Board of Examiners report have not been reiterated here, but are certainly considered part of the institution's accreditation visit record. You may use the information provided in the Board of Examiners report at your discretion. Any areas for improvement that have been cited are listed in the enclosed areas for improvement document.

Because the spring 2005 visit was the first accreditation visit for Teachers College Columbia University, the next NCATE visit is scheduled for spring 2010. You will begin to receive materials for that visit approximately two years prior to the visit. (In partnership states, the actual date of the visit must be determined jointly by the state and NCATE.) In addition, your institution will be required to complete a Professional Education Data System instrument each year during the accreditation period. You are not required to report specifically on progress in the areas for improvement cited, but you are encouraged to do so. During the accreditation period, you will be expected to report evaluations and changes in relation to all six standards.

Enclosed is a copy of NCATE's Policies on Dissemination of Information, which describes the terms and dates by which your current accreditation action becomes a matter of public record and lists other parties who will be notified of accreditation action. If your state has a partnership agreement with NCATE, the state agency with program approval authority receives a copy of this letter.

To assist you in letting potential students and the public know the benefits of attending a professionally accredited institution, we have also enclosed an information packet with the copy of this letter sent to the head of the education unit. Please feel free to contact NCATE's Communications Department if you would like further assistance.

Should you have any questions regarding NCATE's action or the items reported herein, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,



Arthur E. Wise

Enclosures

cc: Darlyne Bailey, Vice President for Academic Affairs & Dean, Teachers College
Barbara Meinert, Coordinator, New York State Department of Education
Richard D. Gervais, Associate in Teacher Education, New York State Education
Department
Board of Examiners Team