

November 5, 2010

Dr. Deborah Bushway  
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost  
Capella University  
225 South Sixth Street  
9th Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear Dr. Bushway:

At its October 19-22, 2010 meeting in Bethesda, Maryland, the Unit Accreditation Board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) considered the request for accreditation of the School of Education as the unit that oversees the professional education offerings at Capella University. I am pleased to inform you of the Unit Accreditation Board's decision to grant accreditation to the School of Education at Capella University at the advanced preparation level. This accreditation decision indicates that the unit and its programs meet rigorous standards set forth by the professional education community. 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 in this report 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 accreditation action report.

The next NCATE visit is scheduled for **Spring 2017**. 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 the AACTE/NCATE annual report each year during the accreditation period. You are required to report specifically on progress toward correcting any areas for improvement cited in the action report. During the accreditation period, you will be expected to report evaluations and changes related to each of the six standards.

The recent meeting of NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board culminates several years of preparation and deliberation on the part of both the institution seeking accreditation and NCATE. Beginning with the institutional self-study and ending with the deliberations of the Unit Accreditation Board, a great deal of thought and effort went into the accreditation process. NCATE places great faith in its Board of Examiners members and the Unit Accreditation Board, and we want you to know that your unit was examined carefully throughout each stage of the accreditation process. Moreover, we have been most pleased with the cooperation received from the faculty, staff, and administration at your institution. Please let us know if there is anything we might do to explain the findings of the Board or to assist you in determining any future courses of action.

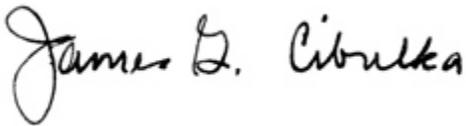
Enclosed is a copy of NCATE's Policies on Dissemination of Information, which describe the terms and dates by which your current accreditation action becomes a matter of public record and lists other parties who will be notified of accreditation action. If your state has a partnership agreement with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

agency with program approval authority has access to these documents in NCATE's Accreditation Information Management System (AIMS).

To celebrate your accreditation, I encourage you to use the online press packet on NCATE's website. From the homepage, click on "Institutions," then "Resources," then "Press Packet" under the subhead, "Celebrating Accreditation." The packet includes a sample press release announcing a school of education's accreditation status to the media, as well as samples of announcements that can be sent to P-12 schools, foundations, businesses, policymakers, and other stakeholders in your area. Other strategies are also included for garnering media attention throughout the year. In addition, because your education unit is professionally accredited, we encourage you to use the NCATE logo on print materials such as brochures and catalogs, as well as on your unit's website. The logo can be found at the link just above "Press Packet" under the subhead "Celebrating Accreditation" as noted above. The logo is a distinctive mark that demonstrates that you have met demanding national professional standards for educator preparation.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James G. Cibulka". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'J'.

James G. Cibulka  
President

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Jim Wold, School of Education  
Andrea Dow, School of Education  
Dr. Karen Balmer, Minnesota Board of Teaching  
Ms. JoAnn Van Aernum, Minnesota Board of Teaching  
Board of Examiners Team