

May 10, 2013

Dr. Luther F. Carter
President
Francis Marion University
4822 East Palmetto Street
P.O. Box 100547
Florence, SC 29506

Dear Dr. Carter:

I am pleased to inform you that the Unit Accreditation Board (UAB), at its April 21-24, 2013 meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, decided to continue the accreditation of the School of Education at Francis Marion 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. A certificate that acknowledges the unit's accomplishment is enclosed with the copy of this letter that has been sent to the head of your professional education unit. The UAB also made a distinct decision to recognize that the unit is at target on Standard 4.

Special congratulations are in order because the UAB cited no areas for improvement relative to any of the standards. You are welcome to use the information provided in the Board of Examiners' report as you see fit.

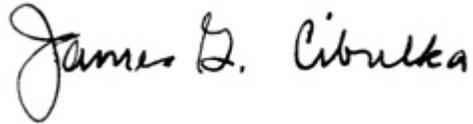
The next accreditation visit – held under the auspices of the new accrediting body, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) – is scheduled for **Fall 2019**. As the transition to CAEP progresses, you will receive more information. In the meantime, institutions are asked to complete the NCATE annual report each year during the accreditation period. We ask that you provide us with information on your unit's efforts to assure that you continue to meet expectations of the unit standards.

Also for your information 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. This document also indicates organizations that 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 online through NCATE's Accreditation Information Management System (AIMS).

To celebrate your accreditation, I encourage you to use the online resources available at <http://goo.gl/9nym3>. The press packet includes a sample press release announcing an educator preparation provider'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.

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 Patty Garvin, Director of Accreditation for Continuous Improvement and Transformation Initiatives at patty@ncate.org.

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. J. Ron Faulkenberry, School of Education
Dr. K. Wayne Pruitt, School of Education
Dr. Donald E. Stowe, South Carolina Department of Education
Board of Examiners Team