

January 31, 2001

Office of the Dean
103 Dickey Hall
Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0017
606-257-2813
FAX: 606-323-1046Ms. Denise Thomas
National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education
2010 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20036-1023

Dear Ms. Thomas:

This letter is to officially notify you that we have received and reviewed the BOE report for the University of Kentucky continuing accreditation visit. While we agree with the findings of the team and therefore do not intend to submit a formal rejoinder, we do have some editorial concerns that were not addressed during the drafting of the final report as well as a factual error.


On page 13, in the second paragraph the following statement is made: "Praxis scores were not available for individual institutions." This statement was not included in the draft report we reviewed. The Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board provides us these scores each year. These reports were on file in our Teacher Certification office. However, no one requested the information. We did provide the University of Kentucky scores on our web site.

The second paragraph on page 27 that starts "Assessments of candidate proficiencies..." has an extra sentence resulting in contradictory statements. It was our understanding that the sentence "Because the opportunities for diverse settings are limited, not every candidate can exhibit specific indicators of what it means to teach effectively in culturally and racially diverse settings." would be removed and the following sentences would be inserted (which they were): "There is evidence that the candidates are provided with sufficient experiences to allow them to work with culturally/racially diverse populations of students. This was verified through interviews and observations." We therefore request that the former sentence be removed from the report.

We agree with the recommendations related to diversity outlined on page 28. In fact, these issues provided the impetus for the establishment of the Inclusiveness Task Force in 1995. This task force has been charged with developing means to explore critical issues related to diversity within the college community. We continue to stress the importance of these issues. Our next step is to assess the effectiveness of the task force in addressing its important mission.

Preparing for the visit was a good experience for us. The BOE members were well prepared and did a thorough job of reviewing our documents, conducting the interviews, and visiting our classes and school sites. They were extremely professional, cordial, and conscientious as they went about their work. We greatly appreciate everyone's effort in this endeavor. We look forward to receiving the official results of our accreditation visit from the Unit Accrediting Board in the spring.

Sincerely,



Shirley C. Raines
Professor and Dean
College of Education