May 17, 2012

Dear Deans of NCATE-accredited Schools and Colleges, Chairs of Departments of Education, and other Unit Heads:

I hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to the celebratory events of the end of the academic year. I congratulate you on another year of preparing educators for our nation’s children and youth!

I am writing to engage your assistance with a matter of national importance. As teacher education and educator preparation in general are increasingly scrutinized and criticized for lacking evidence of preparing effective educators, NCATE and CAEP are committed to becoming more transparent in their public accountability.

NCATE currently publicizes its accreditation decisions on its website. Similarly, we invite you to join us in this commitment to transparency in performance. Please consider prominently posting, on your institutional or SCDE website, any or all of the following items by October 1, 2012:

1. Results of state licensure exams,
2. Results of employer and/or graduate surveys,
3. Average GPAs of program completers,
4. Retention rates in preparation programs and in the teaching field (if available),
5. Job placement rates,
6. Value-added or growth model data on teacher effectiveness,
7. Graduation rates, and/or
8. Other measures as appropriate.

At a minimum I strongly encourage you to post the results of state licensure exams. These annual reports are often the most easily accessible to you and reflect the most recent data on your program completers. If this is something that you already do, please consider providing us with the link so that we can showcase the work that you are already doing. If this is new to you, the NCATE tech team members are happy to facilitate this work in whatever way possible. We are happy to facilitate this work in any way that we can. Please contact techsupport@ncate.org if you have questions or comments about this request.

Respectfully,

James G. Cibulka
President