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May 11, 2015

Dr. James H. Page
Chancellor
University of Maine System
16 Central Street
Bangor, ME 04401-5106

Dear Chancellor Page:

I write to inform you that at its meeting on April 23, 2015, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education considered the letter submitted by the University of Maine System (UMS) regarding its request for a "review process" by which the Commission could offer an advisory opinion to UMS about its intention to restructure the University system. The Commission understands that this restructuring will entail the development of a "multi-campus, mission-differentiated model," reduction and reform of administrative services to create a single administrative function, and the coordination and integration of academic programs across the System.

The Commission would welcome the opportunity to meet with you during our June retreat meeting at the Stage Neck Inn in York Harbor, Maine. We have set aside 1:15 to 2:30 on Monday, June 1, 2015 for this meeting. Directions to the Inn are enclosed.

We appreciate your offer to send a "more detailed presentation" that will assist the Commission in developing its advisory opinion for the System. We ask that the presentation discuss, in broad outline, how the "One University for All of Maine" that will result from the restructuring under development will continue to meet the *Standards for Accreditation* and relevant Commission policies. We note in your letter the expectation that the restructuring will result in the need for a single accreditation for the current seven UMS campuses. As you develop your presentation, we remind you that the Commission accredits institutions, not systems.

Please send four paper copies and an electronic copy (single, searchable pdf file) of your presentation to the Commission offices no later than May 20, 2015.

As you know, the final plans for reconfiguration will need to be submitted to the Commission for review as a substantive change. A copy of our Policy on Substantive Change is enclosed for your information and use.

Dr. James H. Page
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The Commission appreciates the opportunity to review the University of Maine System's preliminary thinking about restructuring. You are encouraged to work closely with Commission staff as you proceed.

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Brittingham, President of the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Maguire Meservey".

Patricia Maguire Meservey

PMM/sjp

Enclosures