



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

Stephen L. Bowen
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT: #VI.C.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner*

DATE: February 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Approval of the proposed Review Team Members to Assess the Application for Additional Degree-Granting Authority as Submitted by Beal College to Award the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Degree

BACKGROUND: 20-A MRSA, § 10704 provides that any educational institution may confer additional degrees if it has initially been granted authority by an Act of the Legislature. Under Chapter 149 CMR, additional degree-granting authority must be sought from and approval granted by the Maine State Board of Education.

Officials from Beal College have submitted an application seeking additional degree-granting authority to confer the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree with tracks in 1) Law Enforcement, 2) Conservation Law Enforcement and 3) Economic Crime/Fraud Examination. The College's application contains detailed descriptions of the program's tracks and notes that the baccalaureate program will be a natural extension of the current associate level program offerings.

Beal College is a small college located in Bangor, Maine. Founded in 1891, the College was originally named Bangor Business College but was later named after its primary founder, Mary Beal. It was first located in downtown Bangor, before later moving to a larger facility in 1972. Beal moved to a new campus in 2004. The College specializes in associate-level degree programs in business, medical, legal and other high-demand service fields. Beal uses neither a semester system nor a quarter system, but rather the 8-week modular "Mod" system, essentially equal to half-semester. An academic year is thus divided into 6 equal terms, allowing easier entry than traditional semester programs starting only in September and January.

Beal is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS). The Medical Assisting program is further accredited by the American Association of Medical Assistants and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and graduates can receive official certification status.

Accounting degree recipients can qualify for the Accreditation Council for Accountancy and Taxation (ACAT) exams, whence comes the ABA professional designation.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education to approve the roster of proposed Review Team members to assess the application from Beal College for additional degree-granting authority to confer the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree.

*Prepared by Harry Osgood
Higher Education Specialist

Proposed Review Committee Membership

Beal College has requested the review and approval of its application for additional degree-granting authorization. The following, for Board approval, is the proposed list of Maine educators to serve on the Review Team:

Dr. Christopher Quinn (**Team Chair**)
President
Kaplan University
South Portland, Maine

Dr. Lynne Coy-Ogan
Provost
Husson University
Bangor, Maine

Dr. John Zarillo
Vice President and COO
Saint Joseph's College
Standish, Maine

Martha J. Harris, Observer*
Maine State Board of Education

Harry W. Osgood*
Higher Education Specialist
Maine Department of Education

*Non-Voting Participants