August 9, 2013

Dr. Linda Ann Patriarca  
College of Education  
East Carolina University  
154 Speight Building  
Greenville, North Carolina 27858

Dear Dr. Patriarca:

The Committee on Transformation Initiatives reviewed the Transformation Initiative proposal from East Carolina University and was very impressed with your proposal to develop a model to engage faculty in practice-based research on preparing novice teachers and improving candidate readiness to have a positive impact on P-12 student achievement. This proposal aligns strongly with the goals of the Transformation Initiative (TI) pathway to provide research on teacher education and elements of teacher education programs that lead to the preparation of effective teachers who help students learn. Your initiative demonstrates how to engage faculty in strategic research on practice to improve teacher preparation by working collaboratively with partners and stakeholders. The approach is responsive to demands for accountability while addressing immediate and systemic challenges.

The proposal for the transformation initiative clearly strongly describes the significance and project design. However, the Committee has some comments and raised some questions for you to consider as you implement the proposed initiative:

1. Provide more specificity about the research design for each goal and component.
2. Continue to find ways to involve and engage school district partners in the project.
3. Provide more evidence of faculty research support across the School of Education.

As you refine your research and collaboration with the state, please incorporate these suggestions.

During the TI visit to East Carolina, the visit team will provide feedback to the institution on its progress. Institutions that host TI visits will submit annual reports of their progress implementing the TI as part of the regular Part C: Annual Report process.
Please also submit an electronic copy of an Executive Summary of the initiative to Nate Thomas, Accreditation Associate at nate.thomas@caepnet.org which can be shared on our website with other providers interested in TI. The Executive Summary should be 1-3 pages in length.

Attached to this letter, please find the rubrics and aggregate feedback from the Committee on Transformation Initiatives. We look forward to working with you and the faculty, administrators, and collaborative partners at East Carolina University.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Deborah Eldridge, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President

Cc:  James G. Cibulka, Ph.D.