FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CSU’s College of Education recommended for continuous accreditation by National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

March 21, 2012 — Based on its March 18-20 campus visit, the five-member National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Board of Examiners team recommends the Chicago State University College of Education (COE) for continued accreditation, according to Dr. Sylvia Gist, dean.

“As the nation grapples with reforms that will make the promise of education truly accessible to every citizen, let us celebrate that the graduates of the College of Education are uniquely poised to take on these challenges,” Gist said.

During the evaluation period, the COE met all six NCATE standards with no areas for improvement. In addition, the team determined the three areas for improvement identified during the 2003 visit had been sufficiently met. Finally, the team rated the college’s performance on Standard 2 (Assessment) at “target,” NCATE’s highest rating level.

NCATE first accredited in 1954 when it was incorporated as a non-profit accrediting body and began functioning as an independent agency. Before that, accreditation resided within the American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education.

NCATE accredits schools, colleges, and departments of education in U.S. colleges and universities, as well as non-university entities that prepare educators for preschool through high school teaching. The accreditation covers preparation programs for the purpose of preparing and developing professional educators working in all areas, including off-campus programs, distance-learning programs and alternate route programs.

“This recognition speaks to the value of a CSU degree,” said Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, provost and senior vice president of academic affairs. “Graduates of the College of Education, CSU’s second-largest college after the College of Arts and Sciences, can enter the marketplace, ready to mold the next generation.”

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