



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2120
RICHMOND, VA 23218-2120

February 22, 2006

COPY

Dr. William M Anderson, Jr., President
University of Mary Washington
1301 College Avenue
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

Dear Dr. Anderson:

In Virginia, the responsibility for reviewing and approving programs for the preparation of professional school personnel is shared by the institutions of higher education, school divisions, and the Department of Education, with final approval by the Board of Education. Program review and approval assures the public that teachers and other individuals who complete professional education programs in Virginia are prepared to educate all our students successfully.

The review of the University of Mary Washington's teacher education programs was conducted on March 13-16 2005, in accordance with the standards and procedures outlined in the *Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education*. As stipulated by the **Code of Virginia**, final authority for the approval of teacher preparation programs in Virginia rests with the Board of Education. I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on February 15, 2006, the board acted to uphold the Unit Review team's recommendation to grant continuing program approval to the University of Mary Washington's teacher education programs.

As you may know, the Board of Education is considering revisions to the regulations that govern licensure and approved programs in Virginia. We anticipate that revised regulations will provide new schedules and accountability measures as part of the accreditation and program approval process. Therefore, the University of Mary Washington's teacher education programs will be considered to be approved until the revised regulations take effect; this may be before the end of your current program approval validation period of 2012.

Please convey our congratulations to the faculty, staff, and students in the teacher education program for their achievement. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Thomas A. Elliott, assistant superintendent for teacher education and licensure, at (804) 371-2522 or email: Thomas.Elliott@doe.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Emblidge, President

MEE/TAE/mjb

c: Dr. Patricia I. Wright
Dr. Thomas A. Elliott