



June 12, 2017

Terry Piatz  
Rising Scholars Program  
Northern State University  
1200 S. Jay Street  
Aberdeen, SD 80011

Terry:

Congratulations! **Rising Scholars Program at Northern State University** has been awarded National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) Accreditation.

We are pleased to inform you that the NACEP Accreditation Commission voted on April 8, 2017 to accredit the **Rising Scholars Program at Northern State University**. Accreditation decisions are reached after a comprehensive peer review by a team of experienced representatives of NACEP-accredited concurrent enrollment partnerships. The Accreditation Commission discussed the team's findings and determined that the evidence submitted demonstrated that the **Rising Scholars Program** meets all of NACEP's national standards for concurrent enrollment partnerships. Enclosed is a Certificate of Accreditation.

NACEP accreditation status is conferred for seven years; **Northern State University's Program** should plan to reapply in 2023 in order to complete the re-accreditation process before the current accreditation term expires at the end of the academic year 2023-24.

In order to preserve NACEP accreditation, **Northern State University** is responsible for maintaining NACEP Postsecondary Institutional membership and for continuing implementation of all practices identified in NACEP's standards. Please review the *Maintenance of NACEP Accreditation* section of the Commission's *Policies and Procedures Manual* (available at [www.nacep.org/accreditation/accreditation-commission](http://www.nacep.org/accreditation/accreditation-commission)). Among other requirements, the Accreditation Commission requires all accredited programs to complete an Annual Report of activities, which will be sent to you each year.

Please note that the Commission periodically proposes revisions to the National Standards to reflect emerging best practices, and the **Rising Scholars Program** will be expected to adhere to any revised standards once they are in effect. NACEP-accredited programs will be consulted during the consideration of any changes and will vote on any changes proposed by the Commission.

If your program should undergo any substantial changes in policy or practice before the end of the accreditation term, please notify the Accreditation Commission Chair.

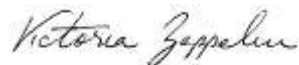
As a Postsecondary Institutional member of NACEP with an accredited program, the following benefits and privileges are available to **Northern State University**:

- Use of NACEP's name and logo in promotional materials for the concurrent enrollment program (details, including a "NACEP accredited program" graphic are available on the Member Resources section of the NACEP website);
- An opportunity for representatives to serve on the Board of Directors and the Accreditation Commission as elected officers or standing committee chairs;
- A vote in elections for NACEP officers and institutional representatives on the Board and Accreditation Commission; and
- A vote on matters brought before the membership in business meetings.

We hope that you will choose to serve the profession by becoming actively involved in NACEP volunteer activities and leadership positions, including as an accreditation peer reviewer. I have found working with enthusiastic and dedicated NACEP members to be a rewarding experience.

NACEP Accreditation distinguishes the **Rising Scholars Program** as one of the nation's leading concurrent enrollment programs. Congratulations on your successful accreditation and dedication to quality concurrent enrollment partnership programming.

Sincerely,



Victoria Zeppelin

Chair, NACEP Accreditation Commission

CC: Mr. Ronald Brownie, Director, Online & Continuing Education  
Dr. Alan LaFave, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs