



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010

### **Commission Slated to Hear NCATE National Strategy to Prepare Effective Teachers**

SACRAMENTO—Shari Francis, Vice President for State Relations, National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) will present findings from the NCATE Blue Ribbon Panel Report: *Transforming Teacher Education Through Clinical Practice: A National Strategy to Prepare Effective Teachers*, to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) at their January 27, 2010 meeting. The NCATE report argues that the education of teachers in the United States needs to be turned upside down and that teacher preparation must move to programs that are fully grounded in clinical practice, interwoven with academic content and professional courses.

The Panel set forth “Ten Design Principles for Clinically Based Preparation” to accomplish these purposes that include:

1. Student learning is the focus.
2. Clinical Preparation is integrated throughout every facet of teacher education in a dynamic way.
3. A candidate’s progress and the elements of a preparation program are continuously judged on the basis of data.
4. Programs prepare teachers who are expert in content and how to teach it and are also innovators, collaborators, and problem solvers.
5. Candidates learn in an interactive professional community.
6. Clinical educators and coaches are rigorously selected and prepared and drawn from both higher education and the P-12 sectors.
7. Specific sites are designated and funded to support embedded clinical preparation.
8. Technology applications foster high impact preparation.
9. A powerful R&D agenda and systemic gathering and use of data support continuous improvement in teacher preparation.
10. Strategic partnerships are imperative for powerful clinical preparation.

Education representatives in California, Colorado, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Oregon, and Tennessee have already agreed to implement the panel's recommendations.

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) is a national accrediting body for schools, colleges, and departments of education authorized by the U.S. Department of Education. NCATE determines which schools, colleges, and departments of education meet rigorous national standards in preparing teachers and other school specialists for the classroom.