Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, NEASC and Daniel Webster College Statement Regarding the Accreditation of Daniel Webster College

Daniel Webster College (the College), located in Nashua, New Hampshire is accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (the Commission) of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Granted candidacy in 1968, the College has been continuously accredited since 1972.

On August 30, 2016, the Executive Committee of the Commission (the Committee), acting on behalf of the Commission, voted to ask Daniel Webster College to show cause at the Commission's September 2016 meeting why the College should not have its accreditation withdrawn or be placed on probation. The Committee took this action because it has reason to believe that the College may no longer be in compliance with the Commission's standards on *Organization and Governance* and *Institutional Resources*. As part of this process, the College is asked to submit a report in advance of the meeting and to meet with the Commission to discuss the concerns identified by the Committee.

At issue are the extraordinary demands made by the U.S. Department of Education of the College's parent organization, ITT-ESI, and the ITT Technical Institutes, as outlined in an August 25, 2016 letter from Ron Bennett, Director, School Eligibility Group, U.S. Department of Education to Kevin Modany, CEO of ITT-ESI. The letter outlines a series of requirements placed on ITT-ESI and ITT Technical Institutes that include increasing the letter of surety ITT-ESI must post to \$247 million, of which \$153 million must be posted within 30 days of the August 25, 2016 letter. The Department's action also placed the ITT Technical Institutes on Heightened Cash Monitoring 2 (HCM2) while, at the same time, not allowing new students at the ITT Technical Institutes to participate in Title IV federal financial aid programs. The Department was clear that the Title IV restriction for newly enrolled students does not apply to students at Daniel Webster College. However, the Executive Committee is concerned that if ITT-ESI, the parent corporation for Daniel Webster College, cannot meet the Department's requirements for surety, or is otherwise destabilized by not being able to award Title IV funds to new students, the result may put the finances and indeed the continuation of Daniel Webster College at risk. Thus, the request for the College to show cause arises from the Committee's concern over the fate of the parent corporation and possible negative effects on the College.

Daniel Webster College is scheduled for a comprehensive evaluation visit in November 2016, as part of the normal 10-year cycle of accreditation.

September 2, 2016