

## JOINT PRESS RELEASE

### New England Commission of Higher Education and Goddard College, Plainfield, VT

At its meeting on September 21, 2018, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) voted to place Goddard College on probation for a period not to exceed two years because the Commission found that Goddard College does not now meet the Commission's standards on *Institutional Resources* and *Organization and Governance*. The Commission will monitor the conditions at Goddard College during the period of probation.

While on probation, Goddard College remains accredited and maintains eligibility for federal funding, including student financial aid.

Acting President Dr. Steven James said, "We value NECHE for assuring that member institutions meet standards of institutional effectiveness. For Goddard, this is an opportunity to correct course and secure the financial future of the college. We will also continue to serve our students with transformational, individualized degrees of study."

The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), formerly operating as the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, NEASC, is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a reliable authority as to the quality of education. The Commission accredits 224 degree-granting institutions in the six New England states and ten American-style institutions in other countries.

Goddard was first accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (now NECHE) in 1959 and is a private, independent college. The College is located in Plainfield, Vermont, and has instructional locations in Port Townsend and Seattle, WA. Goddard offers BA, BFA, MA, and MFA degrees through low-residency programs, an innovation it pioneered in 1963.

Further information may be found at:

New England Commission of Higher Education: <http://neche.org>

Goddard College: <http://www.goddard.edu>

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