

**NAECTE Regional Reports**  
**January 2009**

**Region 1**

Patricia Cantor

**Massachusetts**

Marge Werner of Wheaton College, the secretary/treasurer of the Massachusetts affiliate, reports that she and president David Fernie of Wheelock are trying to increase enrollment in the group through mailings and e-mails. Massachusetts has many early childhood teacher preparation programs, and they are hoping their efforts will bring in more members. In 2009, the Massachusetts affiliate will co-sponsor two conferences with MACTE and COMTEC, as it has for the past two years. MAECTE also co-sponsors a conference at Wheelock College. The affiliate sends representatives to Boston to talk with legislators about issues such as full-day kindergarten, mandatory preschool, and changes in licensing requirements for centers and teachers. (Marge Werner, Wheaton)

UMass Boston has a new undergraduate major, Early Education and Care in Inclusive Settings, in addition to its teacher licensure program. The new major has passed through all governance levels. It has concentrations in five areas: Preschool; Infant/Toddler and Early Intervention; Administration; Family Support; and Youth. The degree is designed to facilitate transfer credits and support people in community college programs who want to earn bachelor's degrees in early childhood. (Mary Lu Love, U Mass Boston)

**New Hampshire**

NAECTE members Dottie Bauer (Keene State College), Leslie Couse (University of New Hampshire), and Pat Cantor (Plymouth State University) served on a state-wide committee to revise the standards for early childhood teacher preparation programs. The new standards, which were adopted in October 2008, encompass pre-kindergarten through third grade and are more closely aligned to the NAEYC Standards for professional preparation. (Pat Cantor, Plymouth State)

**Region 8**

Pat Adams, an NAECTE member from Montana is facilitating an on-line article discussion using JECTE articles.

**North Dakota**

“There are a number of activities in North Dakota. The North Dakota Early Childhood Education Consortium is finalizing the articulation agreements between all two year, four year, public, private and tribal colleges and universities. This includes common course numbers, titles and competencies. The teacher educators in the group are forming an NAECTE chapter in the next few months. The state will also be establishing a North Dakota Early Learning Council next spring. At least one member of the council will be an ECE faculty member from one of the Higher Education institutions in the state of ND.” (Glenn Olsen)

**Utah**

“The major issue in higher education is changing the 1-6 license to K-6 due to the shortage of K teachers. Each university can develop their own program. While other universities are including ECE courses, Weber State is only offering an optional concentration. Very frustrating.” (Roz Charlesworth)

### **Colorado**

“Denver has just completed its first year of Universal Preschool.. There was some money from the Mayor’s office to pay child care workers to attend 2 and 4 year institutions in early childhood education. There is a concerted effort to improve quality of child care centers through professional development for teachers. The governor has established Early Childhood Councils throughout the state to promote the coordination of early childhood services. I have called a meeting of all four and two year college early childhood teacher educators at the CAEYC Conference on October 11 to discuss issues in Early Childhood Teacher Education.” (Mary Jo Pollman)

### **Montana**

The early childhood higher education consortium met to discuss early childhood certification. Currently, Montana has an early childhood endorsement that is added onto an elementary education teaching certificate.

Montana is using their early childhood block grant dollars to provide scholarships for those attending higher education. Grants to higher education units to expand higher education opportunities are also available through this grant. (Julie Bullard)