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NORTH·SHORE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A PUBLIC REGIONAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS

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April 6, 2009

Mr. Adam Kissel
Foundation for Individual Rights in Education
601 Walnut Street, Suite 510
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Mr. Kissel:

Your letter to President Wayne Burton, dated March 27, 2009, has been referred to me for response.

As you might not be aware, North Shore Community Colleges provides educational opportunity to over 7,500 full and part time students. These students represent every racial, ethnic and economic classification in our society. For this reason, the College places a high premium on job applicants with an understanding of and ability to work with diverse student populations.

For that reason, the College does not share FIRE's view that requiring job applicants to demonstrate an appreciation for multiculturalism amounts to the imposition of a "political litmus test" or interferes with the concept of academic freedom. That being said, the College appreciates how this requirement could be misconstrued in its interpretation. Therefore, the College has determined that it will remove the referenced requirement from the current postings and will no longer include it in its future job announcements.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the College's attention.

Very sincerely,

Madeline Wallis

Madeline Wallis
Vice President for Human Resource Development

Cc: Wayne Burton, President, North Shore Community College