

Scott McConnell  
107 Bent Tree Lane  
Baldwinsville, New York 13027  
March 14, 2005

Dr. John Smarrelli, Jr., Academic Vice President  
Le Moyne College  
1419 Salt Springs Road  
Syracuse, New York 13214

Dear Dr. Smarrelli,

I am writing to inform you that I wish to appeal the decision to expel me from the Masters of Science for Teaching Program. Both the student handbook and the statements that Le Moyne College has made incline me to believe that in expelling me, Le Moyne College has violated its own mission of academic freedom. Nothing in the handbook, the acceptance letter, or any other information I received from Le Moyne states that my personal beliefs would or could play a part in my ultimate acceptance to or continuing involvement with the program. Indeed, according to a March 10, 2005, article in the *New York Times*, you yourself acknowledged that “Le Moyne had not warned students like [me] that they could be removed for expressing controversial beliefs, nor had the college said that education students must oppose corporal punishment or support multiculturalism.” My summary rejection from the program for violating rules that the college acknowledges that I could not have known about violates the most elementary standards of fairness and could have serious consequences for Le Moyne’s institutional reputation.

I wish to resolve this situation as soon as possible, and I am confident that it would benefit both the college and me to bring this situation to a just and equitable conclusion. I would like to request a hearing regarding my rejection/dismissal from the college. Due to the nature of my situation, I would appreciate a response by no later than Tuesday, March 15, 2005. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Scott McConnell