FIGURE 10.15. In an electrostatically stabilized colloid, the concentration of electrolyte will greatly affect the stability of the system: (a) with low electrolyte concentration, a relatively high energy barrier will impart stability; (b) as electrolyte is added, the stabilizing barrier will be reduced, but reasonable stability may be maintained (depending on the valency of the added electrolyte); (c) at a critical electrolyte concentration the energy barrier will effectively disappear and rapid flocculation will occur.