

#NISTS2019 CONFERENCE

WORKING TOGETHER TO SIMPLIFY TRANSFER

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Practitioner Panel: Transfer Credit Articulation and Efficiency

Matriculation Trends & Issues

This dynamic session will briefly consider the complicated 100-year history of articulation and transfer in the U.S. and move quickly to an in-depth discussion of current practices toward streamlining credit articulation processes and maximizing transfer student outcomes, both at the state and institutional levels. Practitioners from Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and North Carolina will discuss the use of technology in making transfer more efficient; the importance of functional inter- and intra-institutional relationships; and consideration of more efficient business processes in streamlining transfer articulation. Participants in this session will be asked to share their own cutting edge practices and forecast the future for transfer articulation alongside the panelists.

Moderator: Katie Giardello, Doctoral Student; Project Consultant, Western Michigan University; Michigan Center for Student Success

Cara LeCureux, Transfer Coordinator, Western Carolina University

Lisa McIntyre, Executive Director, Student Success Innovations, Arizona State University

Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Articulation and Transfer, Ohio Department of Higher Education

Today's panelists

Paula Compton

Associate Vice Chancellor and Executive Director of the OH Articulation & Transfer Network, OH Department of Higher Education

Katie Giardello (Moderator)

Consultant, Michigan Center for Student Success; Doctoral Student, Western Michigan University

Cara LeCureux

Transfer Coordinator, Western Carolina University

Lisa McIntyre

Executive Director, Student Success Innovations, Arizona State University

Discussion Outline

- Introductions
 - Who, what, when
 - What's your bottom line?
- Facilitated Discussion Questions
 - Why is getting transfer articulation right so important – both for students and for institutions? And, the flip side; why can it seem so complicated to get it “right”?
 - What lessons learned from your current initiative have promise for positive impact and scalability to other campuses or environments?
 - What's on the horizon for transfer articulation?
- Open Dialogue



Why does articulation matter?



Credit articulation is the road map for transfer student success.

Articulation in the United States: A Brief History

Katie Giardello

Consultant, Michigan Center for Student Success
Doctoral Student, Western Michigan University



Turn of the 20th Century

- 1851: Tappan's lower division vision
- 1901: Joliet College is founded
- 1907: CA's Upward Extension Law
- 1910 AACRAO forms



1930s-1960s

- 1930: 450 junior colleges in 45 states enrolling nearly 70,000 students nationwide
- 1931: Eels laments the broken junior college pathway
- 1944's GI Bill boosts junior college enrollment and increases transfer
- 1947 Truman Commission Report broadens mission and renames community college sector
- 1950s: States re-developing CC systems



1960s-1990s

- 1960: CA Master Plan reinforces junior college vocational mission
- 1965: HEA impacts student accessibility and leaves transfer students out of data reporting requirements
- 1971: FL mandates first direct statewide articulation policy
- 1990s: comprehensive transfer policies begin to emerge



21st Century

- Early 2000s: performance funding begins to include transfer
- New data emerges!
 - 2011: 80% of CC students aspire to a bachelor's but only 17% received the degree within six years of transferring (Horn & Skomsvold)
 - 2016: Nationally, 33% transfer-out rate, 29% transfer with associate, 42% obtain bachelor's within 6 years (Jenkins & Fink)
 - 2017: NSC reports 49% of bachelor's earners previously attended CC
 - 2017: US GAO finds transfer students lose an estimated 43% of earned credits, averaging 13 credits/student
- Today, states and institutions remain highly focused on transfer and articulation

Articulation is key to American higher education's democratic access mission.

Western Carolina University



- Problem: too many transcripts and not enough staff; all manual processing; ambiguity in determining equivalent courses
- Improvements implemented by focusing on three areas:
 - Automating different aspects of the transfer process
 - Building relationships within our team and with department heads
 - Sharing information
- Current status: processes running smoothly and more efficiently; increased level of trust with each other and our department heads

Arizona State University



- Problem: Opaque process of transfer course equivalency evaluations resulting in inconsistent evaluations, experience for students, and faculty engagement.
- High-level overview:
 - Centralized processing of transfer course evaluation for articulation
 - One-stop online shop for students for all things transfer credit
 - Established business processes that enable quality assurance at scale
- Current status:
 - 590,000+ course equivalencies
 - Major transfer pathway guides at scale

State of Ohio



Department of
Higher Education

- Problem: creating a statewide system for transfer in a state with a coordinating body for higher education
- Improvements: Development of a faculty-driven statewide course equivalency system for general education, pre-major and beginning major, and career-technical courses that guarantees applicability of credit.
- Current status: Building upon those course equivalencies to create program alignments through the Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways

Why is getting transfer articulation right so important – both for students and for institutions? And, the flip side; why can it seem so complicated to get it “right”?

What lessons learned from your current initiative have promise for positive impact and scalability to other campuses or environments?

**"The only
mistake in life
is the lesson
not learned"**



Albert Einstein

What's on the horizon for transfer articulation?

- Automation
- Technology as a tool
- PLA (prior learning assessment)
- CBE (competency based education)
- General Education
- Mathematics as a gatekeeper
- What's on your horizon?

Open Dialogue/Q & A



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