

Docket Item:

Willamette Promise Update

Summary:

This update provides the information requested at the January 2018 Commission meeting on the shared work between OSU and WOU faculty and academic leaders. Ahead of the detailed report on the discussions between OSU and WOU, a summary of HECC's role in high school based college credit partnership standards and peer review process is shared. The details of each campus' work on alignment and articulation to improve the process of transfer follows, including:

- OSU outreach to OSU students who participated in the Willamette Promise previously;
- Academic leaders' discussions of course alignment in Writing 121-122 and Biology 101-102;
- Western Oregon/Willamette Promise's Self-Study submitted for Peer Review.

Since January 2018, WOU and OSU academic leaders have convened writing and biology faculty from both institutions to ensure the alignment of WOU credits earned by high school students through the Willamette Promise. HECC staff recognize the leadership of Provost Stephen Scheck, Associate Provost for Academic Effectiveness Sue Monahan, and Director of the Center for Academic Innovation Dan Clark from WOU, together with Provost Ed Feser, Senior Vice Provost Susan Capalbo, and Professor of Statistics Alix Gitelman from OSU.

HECC's Role in High School Based College Credit Standards

The HECC adopted standards for Dual Credit, Sponsored Dual Credit, and Assessment Based Learning, collectively known as High School Based College Credit Partnerships. To uphold these standards, HECC staff partners with the Oregon Department of Education to administer a statewide peer review of all public postsecondary institutions. This review ensures quality and rigor in partnership courses by requiring specific evidence of alignment in broad categories such as Curriculum, Faculty, Student Supports, Assessment, etc. HECC's role in the process is to encourage and support continuous improvement among partnerships. HECC publishes a guide which serves to organize the self-study and peer review and supports campuses in preparing the self-studies every six years. For the peer review, HECC and the department of education recruit and provide orientation and training for peer reviewers from around

the state. An advisory group comprised of faculty and other academic leaders from higher education institutions, the Oversight Committee for High School Based College Credit Partnerships, recommends updates to the guide, votes on the results of each review, and advises on evaluation and revision of the partnership standards.

OSU Outreach to OSU Students who brought in WP credit

Jesse Nelson, OSU Associate Provost for Student Affairs, has worked with 16 students, all of whom inquired about articulating Willamette Promise credits as something other than lower division elective credits for either WR 121, COMM 111, or PSYCH 201. Most of these students made direct contact with the Associate Provost following a January 24 email message that was sent to all OSU students with Willamette Promise credits (unless the student had already resolved their articulation questions) by Rebecca Mathern, Associate Provost and University Registrar. A few students were referred to the Associate Provost by other OSU offices.

The following provides a status update for the 16 students:

- 1 has successfully waived the relevant Baccalaureate Core requirement
- 1 was denied a waiver request
- 5 are in waiver/appeal process
- 9 have not sought a waiver/appeal

Additionally, writing and biology faculty from WOU and OSU were convened to discuss transferability of Willamette Promise Assessment-Based Learning courses. These faculties were identified by WOU for further conversation because information from OSU received in summer 2017 indicated content alignment questions for these courses.

Other faculties did not convene. OSU faculty did not indicate concerns about content of WOU's Assessment-Based Learning courses in areas outside of writing and biology. Instead, they indicated concerns about delivery of those courses. Delivery of those courses is subject to HECC approved state standards for high school based college credit partnerships and will be reviewed in summer 2018 for WOU/ Willamette Promise.

In addition to the efforts summarized above, a work group of OSU faculty will make broad recommendations regarding how best to assist students who arrive at OSU with WP courses or with courses from any other ABL program.

Writing

On February 5, Dr. Tim Jensen, Director of Writing, and Kristy Kelly, Writing Instructor, met with two representatives from WOU's writing faculty, Dr. Cornelia Paraskevas and Dr. Leigh Graziano, as well as Dan Clark, Director of the Center for Academic Innovation at WOU. These conversations have been productive.

Biology

Dr. Lori Kayes from OSU's Integrative Biology Program, attended one of the WP Biology Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and had extensive conversations with Dr. Erin Baumgartner, course coordinator of BI101 and BI102 at WOU and faculty lead of Willamette Promise for the Biology PLC. Based on Dr. Kayes's evaluation and minor adjustments by WOU, OSU has agreed to accept BI101 and BI102 as Lower Division (LD1) Baccalaureate Core Biological Sciences credits, as per WOU's request.

Self-Study Cycle Underway for 2018

Western Oregon University has completed the High School Based College Credit Partnership Self-Study, and submitted it for statewide Peer Review on May 1, 2018. Results will be reported in early fall 2018.

Staff Recommendation:

Information provided for commission consideration. HECC staff and institutional representatives will be present for discussion and questions.