
Docket Item:

8.2 Transfer Pathways Update

Summary:

House Bill 2998

HB 2998 (2017) directs the HECC and Oregon's community college and public universities to work together to improve transfer pathways among Oregon's community colleges and public universities. Specifically, it mandates development of:

- 1) 'Foundational Curricula': Sets of general education courses totaling at least 30 credits that may be completed at any community college and transfer and count toward degree requirements at any public university.
- 2) 'Unified Statewide Transfer Agreements': Major-specific sets of courses that ensure transfer students have equivalent standing in the major as native university students upon transfer.

Rebranding Oregon's Transfer Tools

Based on feedback from the HB 2998 Transfer Workgroup and other key stakeholder groups, the HECC decided to rebrand Oregon's transfer tools, including the Foundational Curricula and Unified Statewide Transfer Agreements. The agency contracted with the marketing firm Quinn Thomas to create a brand for Oregon's statewide transfer tools.

After receiving input from the Transfer Workgroup and community college students, Quinn Thomas proposed and the agency adopted the Oregon Transfer Compass as the overarching name for Oregon's suite of transfer tools. The Foundational Curricula and Unified Statewide Transfer Agreements were renamed Core Transfer Maps and Major Transfer Maps, respectively. Quinn Thomas also developed a logo, color scheme, font, and document and presentation templates. Furthermore, the agency updated its transfer-related webpages to reflect this new brand.

Progress on Core and Major Transfer Maps

Since the last transfer update provided at the Commission's May meeting, significant progress has been made toward implementing the Core Transfer Maps on community college campuses. Community college registrars plan to fully implement notation of the Core Transfer Maps on official student transcripts by the end of this year. The first Major Transfer Map Workgroups – in Biology, Business, Elementary Education and English Literature – began work in April. Each has met several times and presented to the HB 2998 Transfer Workgroup and Joint Transfer and Articulation Committee (JTAC) in August. The legislation requires that one Major Transfer Map be completed by December 1, 2018, and the agency remains confident that this mandate will be met.

Oregon Transfer and Articulation Committee

The agency convened the HB 2998 Transfer Workgroup to establish the Core Transfer Maps, determine the first disciplines for which Major Transfer Maps would be developed, and advise the agency on other matters of HB 2998. However, as the scope of the Transfer Workgroup's charge remained focused on implementation of HB 2998, JTAC continued in its role as an advisory body to the HECC on issues of transfer and articulation. Once the Transfer Workgroup executed its charge, however, it became unclear which group would continue to guide and advise on Oregon's statewide transfer work.

JTAC and the Transfer Workgroup agreed to merge and reorganize to create the Oregon Transfer and Articulation Committee (OTAC). OTAC's charge includes maintaining the alignment of statewide transfer tools and degrees; communication, coordination, and guidance related to implementation of HB 2998; mediation of student complaints related to transfer, and policy consultation on student transfer.

OTAC's first meeting will be held on October 29th, where the group will 1) develop guidance for Major Transfer Map Workgroups on key questions regarding the development of Major Transfer Maps, 2) discuss how accelerated learning credit, AP/IB credit, credit for prior learning, etc. will be treated in the Core and Major Transfer Maps, and 3) review preliminary Major Transfer Maps.

Docket Material:

Attachment: HB 2998 Transfer Update to the HECC

Staff Recommendation:

Information item only.