

MINUTES
ARTICULATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING
February 25, 2009

<p>A meeting of the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at the Turlington Building in Tallahassee, Florida. At 1:00 p.m., Chairman, Dr. Edwin Massey, called the meeting to order.</p>	
Members Present	<p>Dr. Judith Bilsky, Division of Community Colleges Dr. Walter Christy, Brevard Public Schools Dr. Charles Dassance, Central Florida Community Colleges Dr. Bruce Janasiewicz, Florida State University Loretta Costin for Ms. Lucy Hadi, Division of Workforce Education Dr. Edwin Massey, Indian River State College (Chair) Dr. Terry McMahan, Hodges University Dr. Dottie Minear, State University System, Board of Governors Dr. Robert Sullins, University of South Florida Dr. Heather Sherry, Office of Articulation (staff) Dr. Jill White, Northwest Florida State College Dept. Superintendent Page for Michael Grego, Osceola County Schools</p>
Members Absent	<p>Mrs. Carlene Anderson, Walton County Public Schools Dr. Stephen Calabro, Southwest Florida College Dr. Christine Cothron, First Coast Technical College Ms. Brenda Dickenson, nonpublic secondary education Dr. Frances Haithcock, Division of Public Schools Mr. Christopher Krampert, Florida Student Association Dr. Gita Pitter, Florida A&M University</p>
1. Chairperson's Comments	<p>Dr. Ed Massey welcomed the committee members and the audience and initiated introductions.</p>
Approval:	
2. Approval: Minutes from October 22, 2008 Meeting	<p>Dr. Massey asked for a motion for approval of the minutes of the October 2008, meeting of the ACC. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.</p>
3. Approval: Common Prerequisites	<p>Ms. Lynda Page informed the committee that the project has been ongoing for about a year, starting with a survey of baccalaureate degree programs offered by institutions within the State University System and Florida College system. She defined common prerequisites as courses that are required for admission into upper division baccalaureate programs. Ms. Page explained that this process included meeting with appropriate faculty representatives to determine common prerequisites for each program; and subsequently, recommendations were made to the Oversight Committee.</p> <p>The Oversight Committee included representatives from state universities, the Florida College System, and Department of Education and Florida Board of Governors staff. The Oversight Committee reviewed the common prerequisite recommendations for a set of programs to ensure that multiple tracks within each program have been reduced; the required common prerequisite courses are offered by more than one institution within Florida's state university and college systems; and courses that are no longer active on the Statewide Course Numbering System are eliminated.</p> <p>The Oversight Committee met twice prior to this meeting, and moved for consideration by the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) common</p>

	<p>prerequisites for 88 different degree programs. At the last ACC meeting, common prerequisites for 41 baccalaureate degree programs were approved. Approval of common prerequisites for 88 degree programs increased the total number of baccalaureate degree programs that went through the approval process to 129. The remaining 99 baccalaureate degree programs will be presented to the Oversight Committee before the May 2009 ACC meeting.</p> <p>Recommendations from the January and February 2009 Oversight Committee meetings were broken into three areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Degree programs that did not warrant any changes; 2. Degree programs where technical changes were made such as tracks or degrees that have been deleted or alternative course have been added to offer more choice to students without adding to the curriculum; and 3. Degree programs that required action. After an extensive review by the Oversight Committee, two programs were sent back to institutions for re-tooling and changes suggested by the committee. <p>All of the changes listed within each category were approved by the ACC. The changes will be reflected in the Fall 2009 common prerequisite manual, and will be applied to entering Fall 2009 freshmen. The ACC members emphasized the need to clearly communicate the changes to each institution; and reinforce that existing students be held “harmless” relative to the new changes made to the common prerequisite manual.</p>
<p>4. Approval: University of Florida Statewide AS to BS Agreement – Fire Science</p>	<p>Ms. Lynda Page discussed the University of Florida’s proposal for an AS to BS articulation agreement for Fire Science. Mr. Charles Smeby provided a brief overview of the university’s proposal. Presently, the University of Florida is the only institution that offers this program. Mr. Smeby explained that it is a distance learning program involving Junior- and Senior-level coursework for a Bachelor of Science in Fire Alert Services. Research has shown that community college students face difficulty in transferring into the baccalaureate program in Fire Alert Services after completing their associate degree programs.</p> <p>Mr. Smeby said that he researched statewide articulation agreements to design the AS to BS articulation agreement for Fire Science. Essentially, the agreement proposes to align the program closely to the Fire Science program offered at Florida College System institutions and split the coursework between colleges that offer the Fire Science program and the University of Florida. Presently, 23 Florida College System institutions in Florida offer an Associate degree in Fire Science. Mr. Smeby explained that the University of Florida would like students with an Associate degree in Fire Science to have completed at least 30 credit hours in Fire Science before transferring to the university.</p> <p>Ms. Page added that subsequent to several conference calls with institutions within the Florida College System that offer the A.S. degree program in Fire Science, the University of Florida modified its initial proposal from requiring students to complete specific courses in Fire Science to offering much more flexibility for students.</p> <p>The statewide AS to BS articulation agreement was approved by the ACC.</p>
<p>5. Approval: Residency rule revisions</p>	<p>Dr. Heather Sherry discussed a proposed technical revision to the existing residency rule. The Residency Committee reviewed the residency statute, rule, and guidelines and requested input from immigration experts on visa classifications that are currently listed in rule. Ms. Vicky Shirley, General</p>

	<p>Counsel for the Florida Board of Governors solicited input from the Fragomen law firm to review international student visa categories. The former Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS) that is now called U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has changed the visa classifications over time.</p> <p>The Residency Committee reviewed and approved the updates to the international student visa classifications to ensure that they reflect the changes that have been made by USCIS over time. These technical changes were approved by the ACC. Next, these changes will be submitted to the State Board of Education and the Florida Board of Governors for approval of revisions to exiting rule and resolution/regulation.</p>
<p>Discussion:</p>	
<p>6. Update: American Diploma Project and CPT procurement process</p>	<p>Dr. Judy Bilsky informed the committee that presently cross-sector teams within the Florida Department of Education (DOE) are working to align curriculum between the K-12 Sunshine State Standards and the postsecondary readiness benchmarks identified by the American Diploma Project. These benchmarks have been provided to postsecondary faculty, and representatives from business and industry to determine the competencies that are critical for students to enter college credit-bearing courses without requiring remediation. In addition, a crosswalk has been established between these benchmarks and the Sunshine State Standards.</p> <p>The intent is to inform teachers and students in Florida about what “college and career readiness” means, and ensure that students attain those competencies while they are still in the public secondary school system. This will consequently reduce the need for remediation as they graduate from high school and enroll in the postsecondary system.</p> <p>The Department is working with consultants from the American Diploma Project on this exercise. The current focus of this project is developing Math and Language Arts competencies. The crosswalks are expected to be completed within approximately six weeks. One of the things that this information will be used for is the procurement of the next placement assessment contract for the State of Florida. For several years, Florida has had the contract for preferred pricing with College Board. The CPT ACCUPLACER has been the primary instrument that colleges have used for the placement of students in either developmental education or college credit courses. This contract expires in May 2009. The Department has received an extension so that the preferred pricing will be in effect through November 2009. During this period of time, the Department will issue an ITN-Intent to Negotiate to potential vendors and provide them with some examples and information about what Florida educators would like to see included in the next assessment. Vendors will receive information from the crosswalk exercise to ensure that the competencies tested in the next assessment are aligned with both what is taught in our public high schools and the expectations of our public postsecondary institutions.</p> <p>This process has involved participation and collaboration from teams of educators representing the K-12 public school system, the Florida College System and the State University System. The Department is on track to have the contract for the new assessment in place by Summer 2010.</p>
<p>7. Status: High school grading policy</p>	<p>Mr. Juan Copa provided a recap of changes that were put in place during the last legislative session (Senate Bill 1908) regarding high school grading. The bill requires that fifty percent of a high school grade be based on the following factors:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High school graduation rate; 2. Graduation rate of at-risk students; 3. Participation and performance of students in accelerated coursework including Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), Dual Enrollment, and Industry Certification; and 4. Postsecondary readiness of students as measured by SAT, ACT, or the CPT. <p>Mr. Copa informed the committee that the Department’s proposal for factoring-in students’ performance in accelerated coursework will use the Articulation Coordinating Committee Credit-by-Exam Equivalencies explicitly to determine postsecondary credit eligibility based on students’ performance in accelerated programs in high school. Mr. Copa said that the schedule for implementation to conduct rule development workshops across the state has been changed from February 2009 to May 2009 following the legislative session; and action on the new rule for high school grades by the State Board of Education is planned for no later than July 2009. This timeline will allow for the high school grading policy to be in place for the 2009-10 school year.</p>
<p>8. Update: Interinstitutional Articulation Agreement (IAA) electronic submission system and submission of IAA addenda associated with SB1908</p>	<p>Dr. Shruti Graf presented an overview of the current collection and review process associated with interinstitutional articulation agreements (IAAs). Presently, school districts and colleges submit a copy of their IAA(s) to the Office of Articulation, Florida Department of Education. While some school districts and colleges mail hardcopies of their agreement(s), others provide electronic copies. The review process is time-consuming because information is not currently collected in a standardized manner.</p> <p>Citing the existing problems discussed above, Dr. Graf informed the ACC members and participants about the Department’s efforts in creating an electronic submission format for IAAs. The electronic format is intended to standardize the information gathering process by requiring that colleges, in cooperation with the school districts they serve, submit the IAAs electronically. The format will be designed such that all questions must be answered, and a signature page (reflecting signatures of representatives from school districts and colleges) must be uploaded before the document can be submitted electronically. The questions that will need to be answered will essentially mirror the items that are listed on the existing template for IAAs.</p> <p>Once IAAs are submitted online, districts and colleges will need only to update it from year to year without resubmitting the whole document. This process is expected to allow for the efficient collection of appropriate information and the timely review of IAAs by staff within the Department. It will also help the Department staff analyze whether the current statutory provisions are still relevant. Finally, the electronic format will also allow for public access to the agreements, both for viewing and downloading. Districts and colleges will be able to access other IAAs and identify best practices for local program improvement.</p> <p>Ms. Julie Alexander discussed the requirements for remediation efforts associated with Senate Bill 1908. Ms. Alexander reminded school districts and colleges to submit their IAA addenda detailing Senate Bill 1908 implementation efforts regarding the expanded testing of 11th graders and remediation opportunities for those students whose test scores indicate a need for additional preparation.</p>

9. Update: Statewide Articulation Manual	Dr. Heather Sherry provided an overview of ongoing changes that are being made to the Statewide Articulation Manual. She informed the committee that the manual is intended to be a comprehensive online resource for K-20 articulation issues.
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The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Announcements: The next ACC meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2009.