



STATEWIDE ARTICULATION AND TRANSFER COUNCIL

6th Floor BoR Conference Rm • Claiborne Building • Baton Rouge, LA
Wednesday, 16 November 2011 • 9:05am – 12:20pm

Minutes

Council Members: Mike Gargano (LSU, Chair); Debbie Schum (LDoE); Derrick Manns for Monty Sullivan (LCTCS).

General Education Committee: Kevin Cope (LSU A&M, Chair); Steve Guempel (LSUE); Lisa Mims-Devezin (SUNO, by telephone); Tim Stamm (for Debbie Lea, Delgado, by telephone); Barbara Poole for Lesa Taylor-Dupree (BPCC, by video); Jeffrey Temple (SLU); Galen Turner (LTU);

Absent: Margaret Ambrose (SUS); Mary Ann Coleman (LAICU); Brad O'Hara (ULS); Jacqueline Howard-Matthews, SUBR;

Board of Regents Staff: Karen Denby, Kathy Hoyt, Jeannine Kahn.

Welcome and Chairman's Remarks

Chair Mike Gargano convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. A fourth SATC member expected to arrive late, but as he did not make it, there was not a quorum of SATC members. The 4 October minutes were approved by those present, with one correction noted.

Updates on Statewide Concentrations

Engineering. Galen Turner described the work of the engineering group and distributed copies of the proposed ASLT/Engineering Concentration template and a companion *Framework for Quality in ASLT/Engineering* document. He then distributed copies of a recommended sequence plan for completing the degree in two years, with samples of how the template might be applied to LA Tech courses for a prospective major in mechanical engineering. Mike Gargano was troubled by the template's requirement for "an overall cumulative GPA of 2.5 as computed by the transfer institution" and asked Galen to work with the group to determine one standard that would be applied statewide to transfer and 'native' students seeking to enter the college/major with 60 hours, i.e., that the admission requirement should be the same for all students.

Criminal Justice. Derrick Manns distributed a sample template for a statewide concentration in Criminal Justice. Karen Denby asked that the committee review it to list all lower level, preparatory courses held in common (e.g., foreign languages), especially those outside of Criminal Justice field, that students should complete before transfer. There was concern that students would not be interested in seeking the LT degree if it doesn't include enough classes in the prospective major, to which she replied that the LT is not about the major, but preparing to *transfer* into the major; it is not a substitute for more targeted associate degrees.

Appeal Process

Mike Gargano noted that the appeal process (required by Act 356) should be a campus/system function, but further discussion on the topic was postponed until Monty Sullivan could attend.

Templates, Advising, Etc

Karen Denby asked members to ensure that campus directions to students reflect the nature of the LT degrees, e.g., that the ASLT has extensive math and science requirements, and the AALT does not. She demonstrated discrepancies by visiting several campus LT web sites that were misapplying the degree designation to show instances of AS to BS progression when the actual path should be AA to BS.

Karen distributed copies of the 2011-12 templates and asked members to make any recommendations for changes soon, so that campuses could update their advising materials in a timely manner for 2012-13. She also asked for member assistance in developing advising practices that do not entail sending students to another institution for a signature on a degree plan.

Mike Gargano said that the BoR should charge the System Presidents and Campus Chancellors to standardize the first two years of instruction in every major so that there could be absolute alignment in LT and other transfer pathways.

Articulation Matrix Update

Karen briefly described the efforts to update the articulation matrix and establish common course content as a preliminary to common course numbering, including a scheduled meeting of math faculty on Monday to establish state descriptions and learning objectives, as needed, in general education math courses. Mike Gargano disagreed with the approach and asked that it be noted in the minutes that this approach is not what he would recommend or pursue; the success or failure of this approach is in the BoR's hands. Karen replied as the SATC had not formally accepted or endorsed any approach to achieving Common Course Numbering, the BoR staff accepted the responsibility for coordinating the work and pursuing the process underway.

Other Business/Discussion

Karen distributed a sample transcript of an AAS graduate seeking to proceed to a BS and asked if there should be any differentiation between "applied" (AAS) and "academic" AA/AS courses so that students would know which are intended for transfer/foundation and which are designed to train for immediate application/employment, especially when the names are identical. Tim Stamm noted that SACS requires that those distinctions be noted, e.g., for courses of a clearly technical nature, but the group agreed that, in the end, it is up to the institution to decide which courses are accepted for degree credit in transfer.

Galen Turner, Steve Guempel, and Derrick Manns reminded the group that this whole transfer and articulation effort is all about breaking down barriers, and that it is important, especially among the SATC and General Education representatives, that members seek ways to listen, discuss, and work together toward that end.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held after the upcoming holidays; the schedule will be determined via email.

The meeting concluded at 12:20 pm.