

**TOPIC: UPDATE ON GE COUNCIL**

**PREPARED BY: DR. CHERYL LOVELL**

**I. SUMMARY**

On January 7, 2011 the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) directed staff to prepare an update on the work of the GE Council and to specifically indicate progress on the development of statewide articulation agreements.

**II. BACKGROUND**

C.R.S. 23-1-108.5 (3) (a) requires that the Commission convene a council consisting of representatives from public institutions to recommend to the commission a statewide articulation matrix and a list of general education courses. The council, referred to as the “GE Council” was established in statute in 2001. The GE Council is convened on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month and meets at the DHE office. The initial work of the Council has been to identify gtPathways courses that are considered transferable among institutions in Colorado. Further, beginning on July 1, 2010, as noted in C.R.S. 23-1-108 (7) (a) the Commission shall establish and enforce statewide articulation agreements between two-year and four-year state institutions. Moreover, 23-1-108 (c) (I) mandates that the Council, established in 108.5(3) (a) be utilized to negotiate statewide transfer agreements. The specific requirement indicates that at least four agreements be in place by July 1, 2012 and that no later than July 1, 2016, at least a total of fourteen be established.

**III. STAFF ANALYSIS**

GE Council Protocol and Statewide Articulation Agreement Matrix are attached.

**IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

This report is a discussion item only; no formal action is required by the Commission.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

**C.R.S. §23-1-108.5 (3) (a)**

On or before July 1, 2001, the commission shall convene a council consisting of representatives from each of the higher education governing boards, each of the four-year higher education institutions, and a representative sample of the two-year higher education institutions; a representative of students enrolled in state-supported state colleges, a representative of students

enrolled in state-supported community colleges, and a representative of students enrolled in state-supported universities; and a representative of the commission.

**C.R.S. §23-1-108 (7) (a)**

The commission shall establish, after consultation with the governing boards of institutions, and enforce statewide degree transfer agreements between two-year and four-year state institutions of higher education and among four-year state institutions of higher education. Governing boards and state institutions of higher education shall implement the statewide degree transfer agreements and the commission policies relating to the statewide degree transfer agreements. The statewide degree transfer agreements shall include provisions under which state institutions of higher education shall accept all credit hours of acceptable course work for automatic transfer from an associate of arts or associate of science degree program in another state institution of higher education in Colorado. The commission shall have final authority in resolving transfer disputes