

**TOPIC:                   ARTICULATION AGREEMENT UPDATE**

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**I.       SUMMARY**

This information item summarizes the status of potential statewide articulation agreements in anticipation of meeting the statutory requirement of fourteen agreements by July 1, 2016.

**II.      BACKGROUND**

The Commission has the authority to establish and enforce statewide degree transfer (articulation) agreements between two-year and four-year state institutions per C.R.S. §23-1-108(7)(a). House Bill 10-1208, signed into law in 2010, requires that at least 14 statewide articulation agreements be established by July 1, 2016.

An articulation agreement is an officially approved agreement that matches coursework between schools. The articulation agreement represents a course of study leading to a degree in an academic major that will allow a student to begin at one institution, typically a community college, and subsequently matriculate into the bachelor's degree granting institution. These agreements are designed to help students make a smooth transition when transferring from a two-year institution to a four-year institution. The operational importance to students is that the agreement assures them of successful completion of the major if they follow the prescribed curriculum. Additionally, the articulation agreements serve as an important academic advising tool for students, faculty, and administrators whereby all involved are aware of the courses that will allow successful completion.

**III.     UPDATE**

The department and General Education (GE) Council are maintaining momentum and are on track to meet the statutory requirement of 14 agreements by July 1, 2016. The current approved agreements include:

1. Business
2. Early Childhood Education (the original 2004 agreement is still in effect but may not make it through the revision slated for 2012)
3. Economics
4. Elementary Education (the original 2004 agreement is still in effect but may not make it through the revision slated for 2012)
5. Engineering (this agreement was in place prior to H.B. 10-1208 and has campus specific requirements so it may not count as satisfying one of the 14)
6. History
7. Mathematics

8. Psychology-B.A.
9. Psychology-B.S.
10. Spanish

The potential agreements that are in *Phase 3: Final Review* and will almost certainly be brought to the Commission for final approval in 2011 include:

11. Political Science
12. Sociology

The potential agreements that are in *Phase 2: Initial Comprehensive Institutional Review* and will probably be brought to the Commission for final approval in late 2011 or early 2012 include:

13. Anthropology
14. Biology (there is extensive discussion between 2- and 4-year faculty and the future of Biology is less certain than that of Anthropology and French)
15. French

The potential agreement that is in *Phase 1: Curriculum Worksheet Creation & Verification* and whose future is uncertain is:

16. Criminal Justice (there is ongoing discussion in GE Council about how highly technical Associate's of Applied Science (A.A.S) degrees like this one can translate into an effective articulation agreement—also applies to Nursing and Early Childhood Education)

The potential agreements that are under consideration by the GE Council include:

17. Art History (going to October 14, 2011 Faculty-to-Faculty Conference)
18. Chemistry (ongoing discussion between 2- and 4-year faculty)
19. English (going to October 14, 2011 Faculty-to-Faculty Conference)
20. Philosophy (going to October 14, 2011 Faculty-to-Faculty Conference)
21. Physics (going to October 14, 2011 Faculty-to-Faculty Conference)
22. Nursing (DHE and GE Council representatives met with state nursing faculty August 24, 2011 and will meet again October 13, 2011 to begin work on Phase 1: Curriculum Worksheet).

#### **IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**This is an information item only. No action is required by the Commission.**

#### **VI. STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

C.R.S. §23-1-108(7)(a). Duties and powers of the commission with regard to system-wide planning.