Articulation Strategies for Four-year Pathway Development

Wisconsin Presenters:

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Who are we?
Who are you?

- Post-Secondary?
- Adult Education?
- Workforce?
- K12?
- Employer/Industry?
Articulations within the Pathway

**High School Options**
- High School Diploma
- Dual-Credit
- Youth Apprenticeship
- Dual Enrollment

**Pathway Credentials:**
Credentials* leading to a Parent Credential at WCTC

**Parent Credential:**
The highest credential* within a Pathway at WCTC

**Transfer Opportunities (Articulations)**

**Employment and/or Apprenticeship**

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*Credential: an attestation of competence awarded to a student who has attained measurable technical skills necessary to attain employment or advance in an occupation. (adapted from AQCP's definition of credential)
Intent vs. Reality

- 80% of students intend to earn a bachelor's degree.
- 25% of students transfer to a 4-year college within 5 years.
- 17% of students earn a bachelor's within 6 years of transferring.
“Vertical transfer from community college to four-year institutions therefore offers a critical avenue for **upward mobility for many underserved students**, including low-income, first generation, and racial/ethnic minority students, all of whom are disproportionately represented at community colleges.”

Win-Win-Win-Win-Win!

- Student
- Employer
- Community
- Colleges (both 2 and 4 year)
Articulation Agreement 101

• Faculty engagement is critical – content experts must talk to each other!
• Deans and Administration – “legal” requirements of agreement
• Develop boilerplate template to ensure all desired requirements are addressed (marketing, accreditation, data, cancellation, etc.)
• 1:1 ratio between AAS and BS
• All admission requirements must be documented
• Clearly delineate program vs general education vs elective credits
• Is language clear enough that Student Services staff and students can understand the requirements?
• Include links for additional information
Best Practices for Agreement Development

• Create internal template
• Ensure agreements are available to all staff
• Maintain current versions on website
• Establish common review periods
• Sunset “stale” agreements
• Include courses that DO NOT transfer transparency
• Clearly identify the number of remaining courses a student will need to complete at the receiving institution
Shortcomings

• Lack of clarity in language
• Specific degree programs from one or both institutions not clearly defined
• No signatures
• May reflect course to course transfer, but does not contain the remaining components of an actual articulation agreement
• No specific indication of which courses will be transferred for what requirement
• No URL’s
Strengthening Partnerships

• Create a brand (logos, tag words, etc.)
• Host a signing day with local media coverage and share on social media
• Customized transfer maps
• Provide visibility on website
• Highlight on career pathway maps
• Host transfer fairs
• Coordinate articulation forums
Best Practice: Articulation Forum
Best Practice: Signing Ceremonies
Best Practice: Transfer Fairs and Events
Best Practice: Transfer Fairs and Events

• Provide opportunities for your students to:
  **Complete required financial aid exit counseling**
  **Register for employment resources with Career and Employment Services**
  **Join the Alumni Association**
  **Meet with your college’s advising staff to have their academic planning questions answered**

• Provide students with list of questions to ask college representatives

• Prizes, giveaways, etc. to generate excitement
Best Practice: Website

- Gateway’s Transfer Website tour
Maintenance
Questions???
Resources

Community College Research Center
http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/

Articulation legislative policies by state:

Gateway Technical College transfer website:
https://www.gtc.edu/student-services/registrar/transfer

Waukesha County Technical College’s transfer website:
https://wctc.edu/become-a-student/continuing-education/index.php
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