June 21, 2011

To CCC senate presidents, curriculum chairs, and articulation officers:

This memo will address articulation of CCC courses with CSU and UC and the nature of information that can help CSU/UC faculty make these determinations.

CSU/UC faculty need enough information about a CCC course to determine whether a student who has completed that course will succeed if placed into a more advanced course at CSU/UC. Making this determination often requires information about the size and nature of the assignments, or more broadly, details about the CCC course's objectives.

Occasionally CSU/UC faculty request course syllabi rather than the generally applicable course outline of record. While these requests are not ideal, since syllabus information applies only to a single offering of a course, they reflect a desire for greater detail than was available on the course outline and a willingness on the part of the CSU/UC faculty to make an individual determination for a single student.

As the C-ID project progresses, with course descriptions that include more detailed course objectives, we hope that these objectives will be stated in enough detail to enable the CSU/UC faculty to make a judgment about the student's likely success. They should follow the usual best practices in writing objectives, with concrete actions rather than the more general "understand" or "know" and with information about the typical nature and size of the major assignments.

The current budget climate presents challenges to promoting clearer communication between the CCCs and CSU/UC, and we expect that efforts currently underway to communicate the content of CCC courses will improve the educational experience of transfer students.

Respectfully,

Jane Patton
ICAS Chair
President, Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

Daniel Simmons
Chair, Academic Senate UC

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