



Texas Transfer Alliance Project

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Background:

The Texas Transfer Alliance (Alliance) is a one-year, state-wide project that brings together a select group of two- and four-year institutions to lead the State in substantially improving transfer student success outcomes. ACC is one of only 15 Texas community colleges selected to participate, and is paired with Texas State University, ACC's largest transfer partner. We are leveraging our longstanding and successful partnership and our combined transfer expertise, experiences and relationships.

Team Members:

ACC – Dr. Charles Cook, Dr. Gaye Lynn Scott, Dr. Gretchen Riehl, Dr. Susy Thomason, Dr. Willie Martinez, Dr. Ruth Reinhart, Dr. Shasta Buchanan, Dr. MaryJane McReynolds, Renee Esparza, Dr. Jenna Cullinane Hege

Texas State – Dr. Mary Ellen Cavitt, Gary Ray, Dr. Dann Brown, and Stephanie Anderson

The University of Texas at Austin, The Charles A. Dana Center – Dr. Jo-Carol Fabianke, Project Facilitator

Accomplishments to Date (2019-2020):

ACC convened with all Texas participants on Jan. 30, 2020 at our Eastview Campus. We brainstormed with Texas State colleagues, led by our Alliance coach, Dr. Jo-Carol Fabianke, and selected specific actions that would significantly improve the state of transfer between our two schools, and which could be completed in a 90-day cycle. The resulting 90-Day Cycle Action Planning Worksheet identifies specific tasks, person(s) responsible and deadlines with a status check meeting every 30 days to ensure successful outcomes. ACC and Texas State will participate in two 90-Day cycle planning cycles.

First 90-Day Cycle Action Items

- 1) aligning math requirements for top 12 transfer majors
- 2) conducting a student transfer intent survey

Aligning Math Requirements - Our differing math requirements is a persistent source of confusion for students and it causes delays in degree completion. Our action plan calls for aligning the math requirements for the top 12 transfer majors at Texas State since those majors impact the largest number of ACC transfer students.

The top 12 transfer majors are: Interdisciplinary Studies-Curriculum & Instruction (Education), Business, Psychology, Nursing, Computer Science, Mass Communications, Exercise and Sports

Science, Criminal Justice, Biology, Applied Arts and Sciences, Social Work and Electrical Engineering.

An additional transfer major, Health Science (Bachelor of Science in Health Science), was added to the project during our June 24th meeting.

A Math Requirement Chart for the 12 largest transfer majors was developed and shared with deans and department chairs at both schools for review. We planned to host a University Partnership Summit: Faculty Conversations event on April 17th to bring together ACC and Texas State deans and department chairs from each of these 12 transfer majors to dialogue about the math requirements and build relationships between the academic leadership and these degree programs. However, this event was postponed due to the covid-19 crisis. A virtual Summit is proposed for later this year.

Student Transfer Intent Survey - The second task for the first 90 Day cycle focused on the early identification of ACC students' transfer goals and major so more accurate advising can be delivered. ACC developed a transfer intent survey and administered it to 17,375 students enrolled in gateway courses April 30-May 10. A total of 2,138 (12.2%) students responded. Noteworthy results include that Texas State is one of the top two schools identified as the intended transfer destination; students are interested in completing the associate degree prior to transfer; and, students need more support in the transfer application process for competitive, program-specific degree programs.

Second 90-Day Cycle Action Items

- 1) confirmation and publication of math requirement alignment in top 12 majors
- 2) development of a Transfer 101 Blackboard Extension for students planning to transfer to Texas State and other high rate transfer institutions
- 3) discuss if a math college prep course will be shared by ACC and TXST
- 4) begin process development for degree plan mapping for all requirements of top 12 transfer majors and begin mapping of associate to bachelor's degree pathways