

HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSFER OF CREDIT MATRIX COMMITTEE

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FOR

Tuesday, May 13, 2008
Buena Vista Conference Center

Attendance: Jean Allen, SBE; Judi Coffield, SBE; Laretta Cooper, DTCC; Mary Jo Mankin, UD; Peter Medwick, Wesley; Genevieve Tighe, DSU; and Jim Wilson, Wilmington University

Mrs. Jean Allen, President of the Delaware State Board of Education and co-chair of the P-20 Council, welcomed the group and asked for introductions. The previous meeting highlights were reviewed and the third paragraph amended. The information regarding the Wesley data was corrected to more accurately portray the use of the data from their new student information system with the information from their former student information system contained in the binder.

Mrs. Allen shared with the group that the two subcommittee members from the Delaware Higher Education Commission were unable to attend due to work related travel. The information regarding the electronic review and approval process that Alan Phillips was going to prepare will be presented at the next meeting. Mrs. Allen said that she felt optimistic that the committee could put into place a web-based system. Based upon the amount of work that needed to be done for the development of an online system, she recommended that the next meeting of the committee should be scheduled in August.

Mrs. Allen asked each representative from the higher education institutions present to share the data that they gathered regarding the courses that high school students are taking for dual credit.

Alison White had a conflict and could not attend the meeting; however, she sent information for Goldey-Beacom College. Goldey-Beacom periodically extends dual enrollment opportunities to students in the Christina and Vo-Tech Districts in Delaware. They hope to expand the program to include students in the Red Clay School District as well. Their program requires a minimum GPA of 3.0 and a teacher/guidance counselor recommendation. There is a \$90 fee charged per student. Students are lent textbooks for the course. The students are integrated into courses with traditional college students. Courses that have been offered include Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Sociology, Humanities I and Marketing.

Delaware State University (DSU) provided a count of students enrolled in dual enrollment courses over a three-year time span beginning in 2006. All courses are taken on the DSU campus and are a part of their Early Bird Program. The districts that have been involved in their programs are: Caesar Rodney, Smyrna, Capital, Lake Forest, Poly Tech and the Charter School of Wilmington. In addition, there have been home schooled students who have participated in dual enrollment courses. Based upon the data presented, the DSU program was at its 3-year high in 2006 with a total of 58 high school students in dual enrollment courses. There was a significant decline in enrollment in 2007 with a total of only 20 students dually enrolled.

The numbers rose again in 2008 with a total of 50 students dually enrolled. The total number of students who participated in dual enrollment courses from 2006-2008 was 128. (*Note: some students are counted twice as they were enrolled in more than one course.*) There were a total of 64 different courses taken for college credit over the three-year period. The most frequently taken course was English Composition I with 22 students enrolled. This was followed by College Algebra with 8 students enrolled, General and Elementary Analytical Chemistry I and Introduction to General Psychology I both with 6 students enrolled. The students enrolled at DSU took a wide variety of courses which were extremely diverse. They ranged from art and music courses to world languages, from advanced mathematics and sciences to technology courses.

Wilmington University shared that there were 25 students dually enrolled between the Fall of 2006 and the Spring of 2008. All courses were taken after school. Four of the seven courses offered were arranged through an agreement with Middletown High School and were offered in the school district. The courses taken were Introduction to Psychology (10), Introduction to Criminal Justice (4), Introduction to Design (4), English Composition I (3), College Math I (2), Introduction to Sociology (1) and English Essentials (1- *note: remedial*).

The University of Delaware provided a matrix that indicated the courses most often taken by high school students since the Fall of 2004 and their equivalents at other Delaware institutions. The courses that topped 100 students were Critical Reading and Writing (521), Introduction to Poetry (132), Skilmod: Academic Self Management (120), General Psychology (110), and Introduction to Drama (104). Three advance mathematics courses followed closely behind: Analytical Geometry and Calculus B (94), Analytical Geometry and Calculus A (91), and Analytical Geometry and Calculus C (88). These were followed by Introduction to Short Story (87), Introduction to Statistical Methods (87), Ordinary Differential Equations (81) and Pre-calculus (73). The general course taking trend appeared to be focused in the areas of English, Mathematics and Science courses.

Wesley College operates dual enrollment through a program call the Ann Burton Scholarship Program (formerly known as the Kent Scholars Program). Students may take two courses per year tuition free. Students are only required to pay for registration fees, lab fees, and text books. They currently have a relationship with Campus Community High School. The courses most frequently taken by high school students are General Psychology, College Writing, World Civilizations, Math (Pre-calculus and Calculus), Foreign Languages and Histories.

Lauretta Cooper shared information for Delaware Technical and Community College (DTCC). She stated that the most frequently taken courses by high school students at DTCC are related to college going/college life: Mastering College Life and Becoming a Peer Counselor. Other frequently taken courses are Composition, Pre-calculus, General Psychology, Review of Math Fundamentals and Critical Reading & Thinking. There are also a large number of students enrolled in the Academic Challenge Program at the Owens Campus who were not included in her data. This program is a collaborative effort between DTCC, UD, Sussex County school districts and the DDOE. The program began in 1987 and allows students to complete English and Mathematics courses on an accelerated basis by attending class at DTCC one day per week. Students begin the program in grade 8 and may earn 12 college credits in English and 15 college credits in mathematics for a total of 27 college credits. This program serves approximately 450-600 students.

The possibility of offering dual credit courses online was discussed. DTCC offers several courses online. Wesley does not offer any online courses. The University of Delaware

restricts the number of online courses a regular college student may take and the representative did not think that high school students would be permitted to take online courses. Wilmington University had a positive outlook on the potential role online courses could play for high school students dually enrolled.

Next Steps:

1. Compile course data from all institutions (Higher eds will e-mail the data to Judi Coffield)
2. Gather information re: Tech Prep and how it fits (Ex: How are the courses transcribed?)
3. Review the information about the possibility and costs of moving the review and approval process to an online format (Alan Phillips)
4. Work on finding a funding source for the web-based system

The next meeting of the Transfer of Credit Matrix Committee will be held in early August (2nd week) at a date and time to be determined later.