



Best Practices in Statewide Articulation and Transfer Systems

OVERVIEW OF STATE PROMISING PRACTICES

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MAY 17, 2010



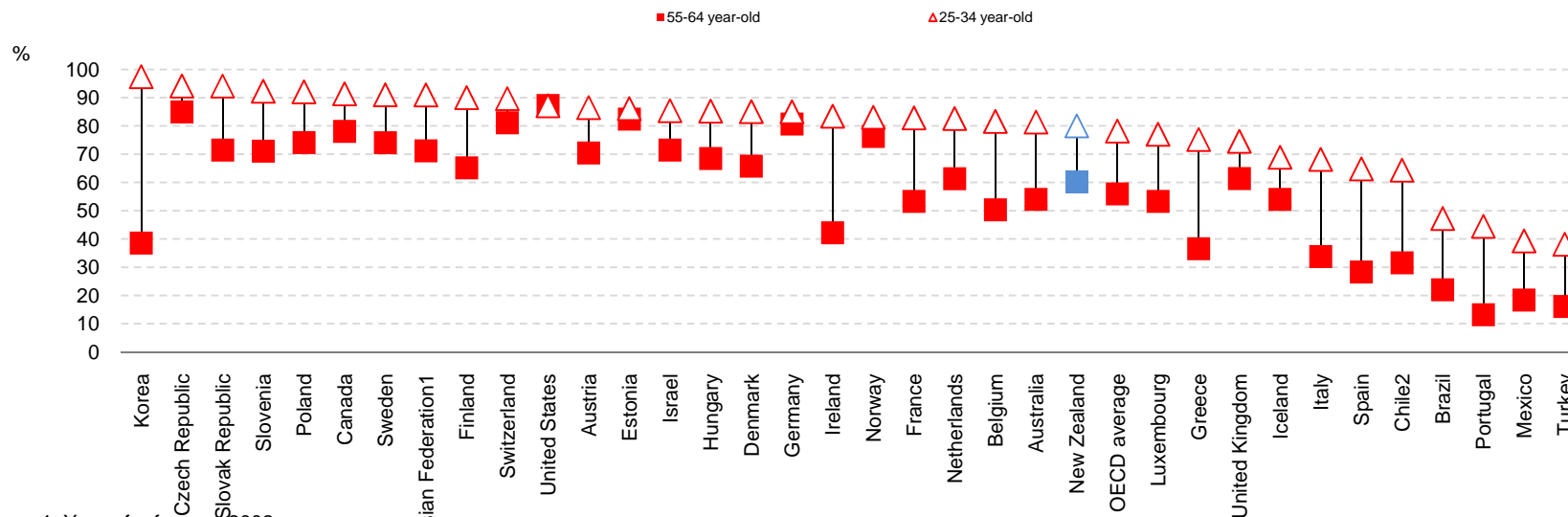
Genesis of the Project

- Lumina Foundation's BIG GOAL:
 - 60% of Americans have quality degrees by 2025
- President Obama:
 - US regains world leadership by 2020 in % of college graduates
- WICHE analysis on articulation & transfer
- Hezel Associates' evaluation of Arizona articulation & transfer (2006)



The Competitive Motivator

Chart A1.2. Population that has attained at least upper secondary education (2007)
Percentage, by age group



1. Year of reference 2002

2. Year of reference 2004

Countries are ranked in descending order of the percentage of the 25-to-34 year-olds who have attained at least upper secondary education.

Source: OECD. Table A1.2a. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag2009).

Statlink



Economical transfers

- Ease of transfer from CC to baccalaureate
 - Momentum
 - Time
 - Cost
 - Esteem
- Arizona: AZtransfer has saved students ever more credits—12.5 credit hours over 5 yrs



Common Elements of A&T Practice

- General education common core
- Statewide common course numbering
- Statewide major articulation
- Block credit transfer
- Transfer associate degrees



The WICHE States

State	General Ed Common Core	Statewide Course Numbering	Statewide Major Articulation	Block Credit Transfer	Transfer Associate Degrees
Alaska*				X	
Arizona	X		X		X
California*					
Colorado			X		
Hawai'i			X	X	X
Idaho					
Montana	X	X		X	
Nevada*	X	X	X		X
New Mexico	X		X	X	X
North Dakota	X	X	X	X	
Oregon	X	X		X	X
South Dakota*					X
Utah*	X	X	X	X	X
Washington	X		X	X	X
Wyoming*					



Promising Practice Areas

- Academic policies & articulation agreements
- Assessment & reporting
- Collaboration
- Communication



Academic Policies & Articulation Agreements

Issues

1. Statewide program-major articulation agreements
2. Transferable general education core requirements
3. Guaranteed admission policies



Articulation Agreements: Provide clear transfer pathways for community college students who have selected a transferable major program

- Alabama:
 - 99% of program majors articulated statewide
- Colorado:
 - several program majors are articulated statewide (60+60 agreements)
 - Course requirements stipulated by an external body



Articulation Agreements

- Nevada:
 - Every baccalaureate degree is fully articulated with every institution in the system
- New Mexico:
 - Transfer Modules in high demand areas
 - Developed by discipline-based faculty work committees and the statewide Articulation Task Force



General Education Core Requirements: Develop a clear pathway for community college students to meet common lower division general education requirements.

- Arkansas statewide minimum general education requirements
 - Distributed requirements
 - Review teams
 - Common elements
 - Arkansas Course Transfer System

- Oregon University System and the State Board of Education
 - General education learning outcomes
 - Associate of Arts/Oregon Transfer Degree
 - The Oregon Transfer Module



General Education Core Requirements

- Utah Regents Task Force on General Education
 - Common competencies/learning goals
 - Tuning



Guaranteed Admissions Policies: Implement guaranteed admission policies for community college students who have met all transfer related benchmarks.

- Florida Statewide Articulation Agreement
 - Every associate in arts graduate
 - Meets all general education requirements
 - Granted upper division admission
 - Few exceptions
- Nevada guarantees admission if transferrable associate's degree is completed
 - Automatically granted junior status
 - All general education requirements met
 - Regardless of grade point average



General Education Core Requirements

- New Hampshire Connections Program
 - Two pathways
 - Individualized transfer counseling
- Washington Proportionality Agreement
 - ~30 percent of new students must be transfer students
 - Priority students
 - Severe capacity pressure



Assessment & Reporting: Expand the reporting of transfer and articulation assessment results

- Florida State Board of Education's Articulation Coordinating Committee
 - Articulation Accountability Report
- Board of Governors of the State University System
 - Accountability Report
- Department of Education
 - Studies and reports
- Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability
 - Reports



Assessment & Reporting

- Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
 - Track individual students within and outside the System
 - The number of credits and the number of students transferring into the system increased
 - Cumulative GPA at graduation, cumulative credits at graduation, persistence rate, three and six year grad rate
- Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
 - Data on student retention and graduation statewide
 - Both community colleges and universities recognized for transfer student performance



Assessment Initiatives: Evaluate and assess transfer and articulation policies and statutes, as well as transfer students' progress

- Arizona evaluation of transfer and articulation policies
 - Data provided by many stakeholders
 - Transfer pathways result in fewer credits taken by transfer students who earn four-year degrees
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
 - Various reports with quantitative and/or qualitative data relevant to transfer and articulation in the state
 - Advisory committees and other statewide groups provide qualitative data



Assessment

- North Dakota Transfer Migration Study
 - ($n=1500$ student transcripts)
 - Three evaluations
 - completion rates of statewide general education program
 - transfer direction



Collaboration: Develop a statewide, standing committee to focus on statewide, multi-institutional transfer and articulation

- Massachusetts Commonwealth Transfer Advisory Group
- Minnesota Transfer Oversight Committee
- Rhode Island Articulation/Transfer Committee



Collaboration: Involve faculty in policy development and implementation

- Arizona Articulation Task Forces
- Hawaii Policies developed by cross-sector faculty



Communication: Establish a state-level office and/or official whose sole or primary purpose is to facilitate a statewide approach to transfer and articulation

- State-level Transfer Office/Official
- Professional Transfer Personnel
- Statewide Transfer Events
- Encouraging Student Feedback
- Electronic Communication Tools



Communication

- Florida Dept. of Education Office of Articulation
- Mississippi Asst. Commissioner for Community and Junior College Relations
- Montana Transferability Initiative



Communication: Designate campus personnel as contact persons about transfer and articulation

- Nevada Articulation coordinators on each campus
- Ohio Ohio Transfer Module Coordinator and Transfer Assurance Guide Coordinator at each campus



Communication: Hold statewide events to communicate about transfer and articulation

- Illinois Articulation Initiative transfer coordinators' meetings
- Texas *Transferpalooza*



Communication: Include student feedback in articulation and transfer practices or policies

- Alaska Anonymous email and “800” phone number
- Kentucky Survey of community college students
- Missouri Policy emphasizes the primacy of student needs



Communication: Build a strong presence for transfer and articulation on the web and through Web 2.0 tools



State Policy Recommendations

1. Governors & legislatures provide general goals & direction in A&T
2. HE systems and SHEEOs should create and execute policy and be held accountable
3. Legislatures should fund A&T as a cost of HE
4. States should conduct evaluation of A&T policies & services



For Further Information:

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