

Interstate Passport Initiative

Focusing on Outcomes to Streamline
Transfer Pathways to Graduation

WICHE Programs and Services
Committee Meeting

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Pat Shea, Director
WICHE ICE, Forum, and Alliance

INTERSTATE

PASSPORT

A WICHE States' Initiative

About the Passport Initiative

- A grass-roots originated effort by academic leaders in the WICHE states to advance friction-free transfer for students in the region
- Envisioned as a series of related projects over an approximate 5-year span
- Participation is voluntary in all projects



Why?

On average ...

- 40 percent of all transfer students cross state lines
- Transfer students who earn a B.A. take 1.2 years longer to do it (U.S. Dept. of Education, 2010)
- The extra time costs a student over \$9,000 for tuition and fees alone (WICHE, 2010)
- Unnecessary duplication of courses costs time and money for students, institutions, states, the federal government, and taxpayers



Vision

New agreements and policies will allow transfer students to carry with them an Interstate Passport, signaling their completion of the general education core based on LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes, that will help streamline their pathway to graduation.



LEAP Outcomes

- Developed by Association of American Colleges and Universities
(<http://www.aacu.org/leap/vision.cfm>)
 - Multi-year process
 - Faculty at hundreds of institutions involved
 - Input from business community and reports
 - Analysis of accreditation requirements
- Liberal Education and America's Promise—students should prepare for 21st century challenges by gaining...
 - Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World
 - Intellectual and Practical Skills
 - Personal and Social Responsibility
 - Integrative and Applied Learning



First Project

- Funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York: \$550,000 over two years
- Two-year project: Oct. 1, 2011-Sept. 30, 2012
- Participants: 28 two-year & four-year institutions
- Scope: Lower division general education core
- Co-Chairs:



Dr. Michel Hillman, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, North Dakota University System



Dr. Peter Quigley, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs for the University of Hawaii System

Project goals

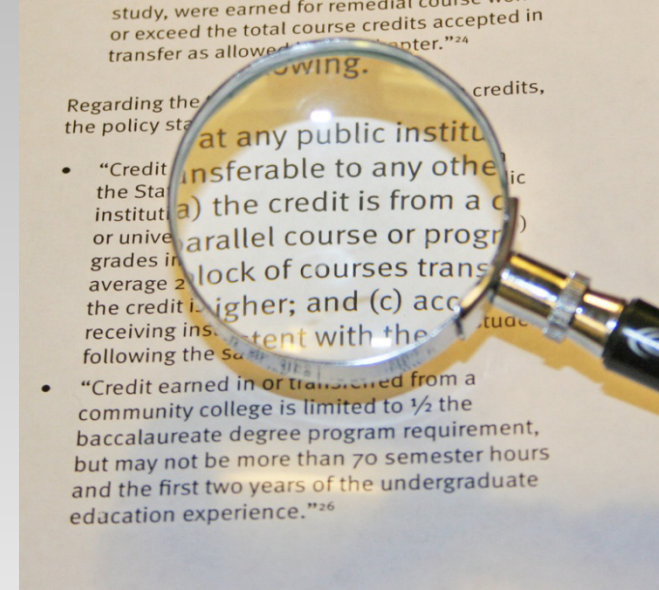
Three major components:

- Research status of general education core in the WICHE states & relationship to transfer
- Conduct a pilot project to establish block transfer agreements based on outcomes
- Identify implications for institutional and state policy for a transfer framework based on outcomes



Research Component

- Develop understanding of definition of general education core in WICHE states
- Determine the role of outcomes in defining the core
- Identify existing block transfer agreements for general education core and publish on web
- Determine how many students transfer among the WICHE states
- Explore the relationship between state policy and transfer patterns



Pilot Component

Work with representatives of institutions in five WICHE states to achieve “Passport Status”

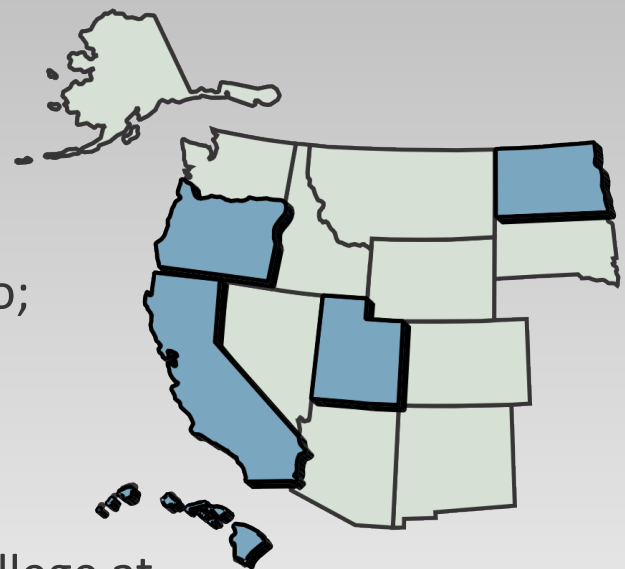
- Assemble state teams of faculty and administrators to participate in project
 - Integrate LEAP outcomes into lower division general education core
 - Determine how students will demonstrate they have met ELOs
 - Compare and negotiate a regional transfer agreement
 - Sign “Passport Status Agreement” among participants
- Provide participants an “Interstate Passport” stamp to be used on transcripts of eligible students



Implications Component

- Identify implications for institutional and state policy for a transfer framework based on learning outcomes
 - Compile a list of challenges and opportunities resulting from the pilot
 - Determine which ones merit further research
 - Seek funding to conduct research and/or expand the project





Pilot Participants

- **California:** California State University, Sacramento; Cosumnes River College
- **Hawaii:** Leeward Community College; University of Hawaii West Oahu
- **North Dakota:** Bismarck State College; Dakota College at Bottineau; Dickinson State University; Lake Region State College; Mayville State University; Minot State University; North Dakota State University; North Dakota State College of Science; University of North Dakota; Valley City State University; and Williston State College
- **Oregon:** Eastern Oregon University; Columbia Gorge Community College; University of Oregon; and Lane Community College
- **Utah:** Dixie State College of Utah; Salt Lake Community College; Snow College; Southern Utah University; The University of Utah; Utah State University; Utah Valley University; and Weber State University

Advisory Board



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State Facilitators



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Dr. Phyllis "Teddi" Safman, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs
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Project Staff and Evaluator



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Questions

Thank you!



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