

## Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation Resolution

### Introduction

The Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation has unanimously passed the resolution on transfer. The Committee is composed of 18 people who represent the University Faculty Senate, the Faculty Council of Community Colleges, the SUNY Student Assembly, the University Provost's Office, SUNY Registrars, and SUNY Transfer Officers.

One of the best aspects of the resolution is that it builds upon current SUNY transfer procedures. In most cases, individual faculty will not notice any difference between SUNY transfer before or after the adoption of these policies. However, our transfer students will notice the difference. They will benefit from improved advisement via the website, more credit acceptance within the major, and an improved atmosphere within SUNY toward transfer.

Student success has been a major guideline in the Committee's deliberations. We feel the adoption of the resolution will facilitate transfer, increase transfer efficiency, and improve student success.

## Summary

The resolution contains four major recommendations:

1. Most first-year and second -year courses within the major will transfer and will fulfill requirements for the major.
2. A SUNY System Transfer website will be developed in order to provide general information and transfer advice to our transfer students.  
The website will include:
  - A. Course-to-course equivalencies
  - B. Instructions for transfer
  - C. Link to formally approved articulation agreements
  - D. Link to campus transfer offices
  - E. Background information
3. A Transfer Review Committee will be formed which will resolve issues that prevent a course from transferring. The Committee will consist of four faculty selected from the University Faculty Senate and four faculty from the Faculty Council of Community Colleges. In addition, there will be one non-voting member from the Provost's Office and one student non-voting member.
4. SUNY System Administration should facilitate workshops and conferences within the disciplines throughout the State. The purpose of these discussions is for faculty to have regular conversations about their discipline courses and programs. These conversations will be used to inform the Transfer Review Committee.

## Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation Resolution (7-30-08)

**Whereas** the SUNY Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation agrees with the Commission on Higher Education's recommendation that articulation and transfer policies be strengthened and enforced throughout the system to eliminate all unnecessary impediments;

**Whereas** the SUNY Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation was charged to "explore ways of facilitating the transfer of students from one institution to another within the SUNY system and the articulation of programs that will facilitate the transfer process;"

**Whereas** the SUNY Board of Trustees has asked the Joint Committee to provide recommendations for strengthening transfer and articulation throughout the system; and

**Whereas** current Board policy includes the following statements:

1. New York State residents who are graduates of a State University two-year college, including the community colleges operating within the program of the University, and who possess an A.A. or A.S. degree, shall be guaranteed an opportunity to continue their education on a full-time basis at a baccalaureate campus of the University; and
2. Graduates of two-year colleges within SUNY with an A.A. or A.S. degree, when accepted in parallel programs at baccalaureate campuses of the University, shall be accorded full junior status and be given the opportunity to complete the requirements for a bachelor's degree within four additional semesters of full-time work; and
3. Graduates of two-year colleges within SUNY, when accepted with junior status within parallel programs at baccalaureate campuses of the University, shall be granted full credit for general education courses taken and not be required to repeat successfully completed courses with similar curricular content; and
4. Only those admissions requirements to institutions or to particular programs applicable to continuing and returning students shall be applied to SUNY A.A. and A.S. transfer students; and
5. These transfer students shall be accorded, as far as possible, opportunities in areas such as housing, advisement and registration comparable to those of returning and continuing students; and
6. Baccalaureate campuses of SUNY in their enrollment planning shall give priority to A.A. and A.S. graduates of State University and City University of New York over other transfers; and
7. Academic decisions on admissions for such transfer students shall be based solely on their previous collegiate record; and
8. Baccalaureate campuses in making these admissions' decisions shall pay particular attention to applications from A.A. and A.S. transfer students from their region who cannot relocate to another part of the State; now, therefore be it

**Resolved** that the Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation recommends that the current SUNY Board of Trustees policy regarding system-wide transfer and articulation be enforced, beginning Fall 2008; and, be it further

**Resolved** that

1. current Board policy be strengthened to include students who successfully complete first- and second-year courses generally offered at four-year institutions in a program

- or major at one SUNY institution be able to seamlessly transfer those courses into a parallel major or program at another SUNY institution; and
2. an accessible website be developed in full consultation with the Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation that lists all courses at all campuses with their transfer equivalents throughout the system. The website should include but not be limited to the following:
    - a. Course-to-course equivalencies using existing information
    - b. Instructions for transferring
    - c. Links to lists of formally approved articulation agreements
    - d. Links to lists of campus transfer officers
    - e. Background and Policy Guidelines, such as SUNY Board of Trustees Resolutions on Transfer; and
  3. a standing committee be formed, known as the Transfer Review Committee, which will resolve the transfer status of first- and second-year courses generally offered at four-year institutions and make final recommendations, in consultation with disciplinary groups, to the Provost on the system-wide transferability of a course. Additionally,
    - a. The Transfer Review Committee should consist of four faculty selected by the UFS and four faculty selected by the FCCC. There should also be one ex-officio (non-voting) member appointed by the Provost's office, and one ex-officio (non-voting) student member to be selected by the Student Assembly; and
    - b. The Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation should provide the charge for the Transfer Review Committee; and
    - c. The Transfer Review Committee should develop guidelines and appropriate forms to standardize a course transfer approval process throughout the system when the transfer status of a course is unclear or contested; and
    - d. The Transfer Review Committee should use course titles, course descriptions, prerequisites, and, if necessary, sample course syllabi when determining the transfer status of a course; and, be it further

**Resolved** that the Joint Committee recommends that SUNY System Administration begin facilitating workshops, roundtable discussions, and conferences throughout the state so that faculty from all sectors of the University can have regular conversations with each other about their courses and programs so they may work together to continually improve and align courses and programs throughout the system and serve as a resource to the Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation and the Transfer Review Committee; and be it further

**Resolved** that there should be at least two liaisons from the Joint Committee on Transfer and Articulation (one from the four-year schools and one from the two-year schools) on all committees working to facilitate system-wide transfer.