

Update: SB 1440 Associate Degrees for Transfer

NEW: A blog on SB1440! The Academic Senate has created a new discussion board on SB 1440. We have been fielding hundreds of questions on the implementation of the new degrees. In an effort to reduce our workload and be responsive to your questions, we have developed this discussion board, which will allow us to share questions and answers statewide. Please use the following link to ask any questions you might have about the implementation of 1440 and the newly formed TMCs. Click here <http://www.asccc.org/content/sb-1440-discussion-board>

As you know, the Academic Senate, in conjunction with the Chancellor's Office and the CSU, are developing a statewide response to SB 1440 in the form of a Transfer Model Curriculum (TMC) for each of the most popular majors. The SB 1440 Implementation and Oversight Committee (IOC) met this week and continues to make progress, although there are still some important and significant, issues yet to be resolved. As has been reported in various venues, this is still a work in progress and the fact that all kinks are not yet worked out should not be surprising. The two Chancellor's Offices are working to address the details of several admissions and legal issues – and to ensure that these degrees provide real benefits for our students. We view the status of progress on this effort as one would expect when implementing any major, statewide initiative: some things are working well and some concerns still need to be addressed.

The good news: The CSU reported on Tuesday that the first three TMC (Sociology, Psychology and Communication Studies) were sent to all of their campuses and they were asked 1) if a student arrives with a TMC-aligned degree in these majors, could they graduate the student in 60 additional units, and 2) to identify which majors they consider “similar” to each TMC. In this first round of inquiries, 21 CSU campuses responded.

- In the case of Sociology, 18 campuses responded that they have majors that would accept a TMC-aligned degree.
- In the case of Psychology, 18 campuses responded that they have majors that would accept a TMC-aligned degree.
- In the case of Communication Studies, 16 campuses responded that they have majors that would accept a TMC-aligned degree.

Therefore, at the present time, at least 16 CSU campuses have agreed to the first three TMCs. This is excellent progress.

The less than good news: After the first round of inquiries of the CSU campuses, it was reported that San Diego State University did not deem any of the first three TMC as “similar” to their degrees (this was the only campus that took that stance). Although this was discussed at length by the IOC, it did not reach a resolution during the meeting. However, more discussion on this topic will take place between the two segments in the coming weeks. We understand that this issue raises concerns among the colleges that

feed into SDSU, and we want to assure you that we are making every effort to work out a solution to this concern.

The two Chancellors will be meeting soon to address several implementation issues, including San Diego's decision about the first three TMCs, and ways to give students with the AA-T or AS-T clear advantages over students who do not have the degree, including admission and registration priority. Given that the majority of CSU campuses have agreed to accept all three of the first TMCs, there is reason to be hopeful that the outstanding implementation issues can be resolved.

Also, we want to share with you that the intersegmental faculty dialogs so far have been very cordial and productive. When CCC and CSU faculty have met to discuss their curriculum, the results have been increased understanding and mutual respect, and a clarified curriculum for our students. On February 25, over ten discipline groups met in San Jose and developed approximately 50 draft C-ID descriptors and six new TMCs for degrees. On March 11, a similar meeting will be held in Irvine where intersegmental discipline faculty will build on the work begun in the north. At the same time, several disciplines are finalizing their TMCs and we hope to be able to send out several newly-finalized TMCs in the next few weeks. When they arrive, we encourage colleges to consider developing new degrees that align with these TMCs.

Considering that the intersegmental work on this new transfer effort began less than five months ago, the progress to date has been significant. We would hope that you will remain patient as we continue to work out a few of the more challenging, albeit significant implementation details.

Sincerely,

Jane

President



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