

Education and Student Affairs Committee Memorandum
Board of Regents, State of Iowa

Subject: Report on the 2 + 2 Council

Prepared by: Diana Gonzalez

Date Submitted: September 1, 2004

**Recommended
Actions:**

1. Receive the report.
2. Commend the Council teams for their work, especially in the development of the “gateway” website and the advancement of the Bachelor of Applied Science.
3. Request that the Board Office review the Council’s recommendations relative to the future direction of the Council and make a recommendation to the Board of Regents.

**Executive
Summary:**

Creation
of Council

The Distributed Learning Priority Study Group of the Board of Regents created the 2 +2 Council in December 2001 to enhance articulation agreements between the Regent universities and Iowa community colleges, and, where feasible, to encourage the development of new agreements; and to make the transition for transferring students and place-bound students more seamless.

Council
Membership

The Council includes the following institutional representatives:

- ◆ University of Iowa – Lola Lopes, Chet Rzonca, Anne Zalenski
- ◆ Iowa State University – Stan Johnson, Bill Tysseling, Kris Phelps
- ◆ University of Northern Iowa – Susan Koch, James Bodensteiner
- ◆ Board Office – Diana Gonzalez
- ◆ Iowa Department of Education – Janice Friedel
- ◆ Iowa Community Colleges – Guy Aylward (Hawkeye), Barb Crittenden (Southwestern), Verlyn Fick (Western Iowa Technical), Kim Linduska (Des Moines Area), Larry Mozack (North Iowa Area), Chris Russell (Iowa Valley), Mick Starcevich (Kirkwood), Rick Underbakke (Iowa Lakes)

Council
Recommendations

The Council developed recommendations in three areas: (1) development of a “gateway” website; (2) future direction of the Council; and (3) investigation of a Bachelor of Applied Science degree.

Background:

The Council proposed the following recommendations:

Gateway
Website

Create a “gateway” website for the Regent universities and Iowa public community colleges whose purpose is to provide easier access to transfer information for all Iowa residents.

- ◆ A draft of the website has been completed. The website is projected to become operational in December 2004.
 - ◆ The University of Iowa has overseen the development of the website and has borne the development costs. The University will serve as the website host.
 - ◆ Major costs incurred in the operation of the website will be shared by the 18 partners.
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Future
Direction
of the 2 + 2
Council

The 2 + 2 Council should continue to exist and work on articulation issues with a defined charter and clear lines of reporting authority so that a recognized “flow” of articulation “needs” can be addressed effectively.

- ◆ In addition to reporting to the Board of Regents, the 2 + 2 Council should report to the Iowa Community College Presidents (IACCP). Communication lines to the Regent Committee on Educational Relations (RCER) and the community college chief academic officers need to be restructured.
 - ◆ The role of the 2 + 2 Council should be as a think tank and ombudsman group to study, gather data, and suggest articulation ideas to other groups. The Council should be a resource to RCER, the Transfer Advisors’ Group, and the community college chief academic officers to solve articulation issues.
 - ◆ The Council membership should be expanded to include at least one member of the Transfer Advisors’ Group and one member of the Liaison Advisory Committee on Transfer Students (LACTS). The Board of Regents and the IACCP should affirm the Council’s membership.
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Investigate
Development
of a Bachelor of
Applied Science
Program

While an articulation agreement exists between the community colleges and the Regents universities for associate of arts (AA) programs, there is no similar agreement to cover all associate of applied science programs.

- ◆ Approximately 30,000 students have graduated from an associate in applied science (AAS) program at one of Iowa's public community colleges during the past 10 years.
 - ◆ A review of existing or similar Bachelor of Applied Science programs revealed that no Big Ten public universities have articulation agreements for AAS degrees. Transfers to Big Ten institutions by students with AAS degrees are evaluated on a course-by-course basis.
 - ◆ Selected schools, such as the University of Maryland, have developed agreements covering specific AAS degrees. In Iowa, there are agreements on specific programs, such as UNI's Industrial Technology Program and SUI's Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Dental Hygiene Baccalaureate programs.
 - ◆ Discussion by the Council suggested that an AAS completion program would be of use to both students and employers.
 - ◆ The University of Iowa expressed interest in providing leadership in this effort and prepared a proposal for submission to the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination (ICEC) and the Iowa Coordinating Council for Post High School Education (ICCPHSE).
 - ◆ If the program is approved by the Board of Regents, the BAS program will begin operating through distance learning as early as Fall 2005.
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