Memorandum of Understanding

Introduction

The Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District – Northeast Lakeview College (NLC), Northwest Vista College (NVC), Palo Alto College (PAC), St. Philip’s College (SPC) and San Antonio College (SAC) hereafter referred to as the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District wish to partner with transfer institutions interested in ensuring students take the maximum courses possible prior to transfer with all college-level courses earned counting toward their intended field of study or major at the four-year college or university. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) formally recognizes that the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District – NLC, NVC, PAC, SPC, and SAC located in San Antonio, Texas and Texas Lutheran University are active educational partners, committed to providing greater educational opportunities and services for students transferring between institutions.

NVC, PAC, SPC, and SAC are each accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and School – Commission on Colleges with NLC currently in candidacy status. Texas Lutheran University, located in Seguin, Texas, is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). This commitment strongly supports the concept of seamless transfer that embraces the principle that transfer students should not be required to repeat courses already successfully completed.

Each institution, furthermore, is dedicated to serving students from all walks of life, regardless of race, color, sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, national origin (including ancestry), citizenship status, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, veteran status (including special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran, or recently separated veteran), predisposing genetic characteristics, domestic violence victim status, any other protected category under applicable local, state or federal law, or persons who have opposed discrimination or participated in any complaint process on campus or before a government agency.

Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to formalize a partnership to assist students to achieve both associate and baccalaureate degree completion. This agreement enables students in the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District who transfer to Texas Lutheran University to have the college-level credits earned apply, to the greatest extent possible, toward their intended field of study or major, resulting in degree completion and successful employment. Transfer articulation is with all of the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District.

Advising Guides

In collaboration with the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District, Texas Lutheran University will provide appropriate advising guides to identify all freshman and sophomore level courses required for specific baccalaureate degrees. This will ensure maximum transferability of courses with the intent that courses taken at the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District will count toward degree requirements. Where applicable, Texas Lutheran University will encourage students to complete an Associate degree at one of the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District before transfer. If the advising guide does not meet Associate Degree requirements, both
partners agree that the student should transfer and achieve the Associate degree through reverse transfer.

Texas Lutheran University will accept a maximum of 68 transfer credits toward a baccalaureate degree. Where advising guides include greater than 60 credit hours, the student is advised to earn the maximum allowable hours before transfer.

Texas Lutheran University will notify Alamo Colleges District annually of any changes in degree requirements.

Bridge to Transfer

By the completion of 30 college-level hours, students in the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District will declare the college/university to which they intend to transfer. Upon receiving notice of intent to transfer, Texas Lutheran University's and the advising/mentoring teams of the Colleges will work together to actively engage the student to support successful completion of the advising guide courses and prepare for transfer.

The Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District and Texas Lutheran University agree to provide direct links between their institutional Web sites indicating the existence of this Agreement. Official lists of advising guides (AA, AAT, AS, and AAS) reviewed by both the faculty of the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District and Texas Lutheran University will be made available at both institutions.

Core Curriculum

Students who have completed the Core Curriculum at one of the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District will satisfy the core general education requirements at TLU with the exception of two required courses, theology (THEO 133, Engaging Faith Traditions, 3 credits) and ethics (one course, 3 credits). If any courses are preferred or required for specific baccalaureate degrees, the courses will be indicated as such in the advising guides.

Transfer Admissions Requirements

Upon completion of an advising guide, students at the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District will go through Texas Lutheran University's transfer process and therefore must meet all applicable requirements and deadlines pertaining to application for admission, orientation and registration, and payment of tuition and fees. They will abide by the policies and procedures, along with any revisions thereof that apply to all students from that institution. Texas Lutheran University will apply the advising guide applicable in the year the student enters a college in the Alamo Colleges District in compliance with Texas Administrative Code Title 19, Part 1, Subchapter B, Rule 4.25.g.

Students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and any additional departmental admission requirements entering under the terms of this agreement are guaranteed admission into the university. Students who have completed the advising guide requirements with the minimum cumulative GPA required for entry into the intended field of study or major plus any other admission requirements will be accepted into the program, subject to capacity availability and/or any other regulatory requirements.

Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree

The Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degree represents the attainment of depth of technical competency in identified occupational areas. Students transferring an AAS degree to Texas
Lutheran University will have achieved competency in many areas generally considered to be upper division. However, some courses in the area of general education may still need to be earned. Texas Lutheran University will provide advising guides that maximize the AAS course requirements and will bridge the two institutions as the student completes the Advising Guide courses and prepares for transfer.

Provision for Student Financial Assistance

The Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District and Texas Lutheran University understand that all rules and regulations regarding the administration of Federal Title IV Student Financial Aid apply to students who may wish to attend both institutions simultaneously. A consortium agreement must be obtained by the student from the Financial Aid Office of their primary “home” institution and submitted to the Financial Aid Office of the “host” institution for completion. All consortium agreements must be approved by the appropriate Alamo Colleges District official.

Provision for Campus Visits/Transfer Fairs

Texas Lutheran University will be offered many options designed to recruit students and alumni. Opportunities include but are not limited to: transfer fairs, campus visits, events posting, and university-specific fairs. Information sessions and Advisors will be available on campus by appointment for transfer planning.

Any marketing or advising materials developed by Texas Lutheran University will adhere to the terms of this MOU.

Exchange of Data

The Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District and Texas Lutheran University agree to exchange data and documents as agreed that will contribute to the maintenance and improvement of these transfer arrangements, and promote effective cooperation between the two institutions.

Any exchange by the parties of student record information protected by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (20 USC § 1232g) and implementing regulations (34 CFR Part 99) shall commit the receiving party to limit the use of such information to the purposes for which the disclosure was made, and to impose such limits on any re-disclosure, and the parties agree to comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions, including, without limitation 34 CFR 99.31, 99.32, 99.33, 99.34 and 99.35.

Texas Lutheran University will provide an annual update at the beginning of each fall semester to the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District on the success of Alamo Colleges District students transferring to Texas Lutheran University.

Which will include:

- Number of transfer students in the past academic year
- Total number of student transfers from each of the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District
- Credits completed at Texas Lutheran University
- Number of drop-outs
- Average GPA
- Average time from admission to completion
Limited Trademark License

The undersigned copyright owners Alamo Community College District, a political subdivision of the State of Texas ("Alamo Colleges") and its articulation agreement ("Agreement") counterparty signatory below (collectively, "Parties"), do hereby enter into this Limited Trademark Cross-License ("License") to one another under the following terms and conditions.

1. **Mark Ownership.** Each Party represents and warrants to the other Party that it has ownership rights in the trade and service marks represented by its logos set forth at its website ("Marks").

2. **Consideration.** This Cross-License is made in consideration of the mutual promises herein, the mutual benefit of the authorized use herein licensed, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

3. **Grant of Cross-License.** The undersigned Parties hereby grant to one another a non-exclusive, fully paid, revocable license to use its Marks for the limited purpose publicizing the existence of the Agreement for so long as the Agreement remains in effect.

4. **No Additional Rights.** The Parties acknowledge that each Party shall have no further interest or rights in the intellectual property of the other Party other than the limited, revocable rights herein granted.

5. **Choice of Law, Jurisdiction & Venue.** This Agreement is made and is to be performed in Bexar County, Texas, and will be interpreted and governed by the Constitution and the internal laws of the State of Texas. Non-exclusive jurisdiction and venue of any court action brought directly or indirectly by reason of this agreement shall be in the state and federal courts of competent jurisdiction of Bexar County, Texas.

Reverse Transfer

"Reverse Transfer" allows students to transfer course work from Texas Lutheran University back to the Colleges in the Alamo Colleges District to complete requirements for the associate degree from one of the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District. This program is specifically designed to allow students to receive the advantages pursuant to completion of the associate degree when they leave prior to degree completion. Texas Lutheran University and the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District will develop a reverse transfer process to provide students with the opportunity to complete the associate's degree while working on their Texas Lutheran University bachelor's degree. Student records will be exchanged between Texas Lutheran University and the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District for this purpose, strictly adhering to all privacy regulations and ensuring compliance with House Bill 3025.

Any student who transfers from a two year degree awarding institution to another Texas public college or university, has completed 25% of the Associate degree (usually 15 college-level credit hours) and has subsequently earned credits at the transfer institution may qualify for an Associate's Degree at the two year institution.

Reverse Transfer Guidelines

1. Transcripts must be identified as a Reverse Transfer. "Reverse Transfer" can be indicated in the address line of the receiving institution (ATTN: Reverse Transcript Office).

2. Student Information
   a. Student’s name
   b. Student’s current address
   c. Student’s current email
   d. Student’s date of birth (DOB)

3. Sending Institution Contact Information
   a. Name (Point of Contact)
   b. Title
   c. Telephone number
   d. Email address

4. Send student information and point of contact information to:
   dst-reveresetransfer@alamo.edu
   Alamo Colleges District Point of Contact
   Myrella Gonzalez
   Associate Director
   Center of Student Information
   Alamo Colleges District
   mgonzales1@alamo.edu
   (210) 486-5041

Longevity of the Agreement

This agreement will commence with the start of the Fall semester 2017 for a period of three years. This agreement will terminate with the start of the Fall semester 2020 unless it is renewed.

The agreement may be terminated by either institution by submitting written notice of the intent to terminate. The termination notice must be submitted at least one year prior to the start of the date the termination is to become effective.

In the event this agreement is terminated, both parties agree to make every effort to protect individual students who are already part of the program.

This framework of cooperation is agreed to between the Colleges of the Alamo Colleges District and Texas Lutheran University.

Contact Information at the Alamo
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