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September 9, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Provost/Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs &
Vice Presidents for Student Affairs

FROM: Jeri Echeverria 
Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Lower Division Transfer Pattern (LDTP) Project Notification

The Lower Division Transfer Pattern (LDTP) Advisory Board held several meetings this summer with California Community College (CCC) system representatives as well as California State University (CSU) faculty, articulation officers and staff to assess the status and future of the LDTP project. Those discussions and the university's desire to maximize the program's benefit to students, while lowering costs have led to a decision to re-envision the LDTP Project. The vision for the original LDTP project was larger and more expensive than we can currently afford.

The following notification is to inform you of some of the initial plans in refocusing the existing LDTP project. Our overall goals are to preserve the curriculum and articulation work that has already been completed and to find ways to have this work benefit students who seek to transfer to and graduate from campuses of the CSU.

The CSU will continue to maintain LDTP Statewide course patterns at <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadAff/ldtp/agreements.shtml>. After extensive consultation with our California Community College partners, the CSU is analyzing these patterns to determine which are of highest value to students and should be a priority for the project. Criteria being used in this analysis include volume of transfer, availability of viable course descriptors, comparability of transfer and native course requirements. Once this analysis is complete, work on several of the existing patterns and the courses included in them will be put on hiatus.

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Dominguez Hills
East Bay

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Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
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Sonoma
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Also, campus-specific components of all patterns will be maintained at CSU campuses at their discretion, as course to course or program articulations.

The CSU has suspended the receipt from the California Community Colleges of additional course outlines, i.e. potential entries to the LDTP portion of ASSIST. The CSU is working to finalize the review of coursework previously submitted toward the LDTP descriptors. Courses submitted for the patterns which will be put on hiatus will not receive systemwide review. However, this should not prevent campus-to-campus articulation of such courses.

The CSU Chancellor's Office and the CSU Academic Senate, in collaboration with our California Community College partners, will work together to revise the course review process. Coursework approved toward meeting these descriptors and the descriptors themselves will be available at the following website: <http://www.calstate.edu/AcadAff/ldtp/ldtp-CrsDescription.shtml>. It is anticipated that many of the existing course descriptors will be incorporated into the C-ID process, which is currently underway.

The use of LDTP as a pathway for guaranteed admission to the CSU has been suspended indefinitely, although individual CSU campuses remain free to use completion of LDTP patterns as the basis for transfer admission guarantees.

The CSU appreciates the hard work, collaboration and understanding of the CCC and CSU Articulation Community, CCC and CSU Academic Senates, the LDTP Intersegmental Workgroup, CCC Chancellor's Office staff, and CSU campus contacts. My colleagues and I are optimistic that, as we continue to work closely with our others to refocus the LDTP project, the good work that has been accomplished to date will be both helpful for students as they plan to transfer and result in cost savings to the state.

Questions regarding the future development of LDTP may be referred to Jim Blackburn at jblackburn@calstate.edu or Karen Simpson-Alisca at ksimpson-alisca@calstate.edu.

JE/mlh-d

c: Chancellor
CSU Presidents
CSU Academic Senate Chair