Ad hoc Transfer Student Committee  
9-15-16 Minutes

Present: Liz Keenan, Chair; Barbara Cook, Heidi Lockwood, Kalie, Menders, Wes O’Brien, Carol Stewart, Vern Williams

Absent: Randye Spina [note: she has a special appointment and will contribute to project work.]

1. Reviewed the committee charge from the UCF Steering Committee.

2. Liz provided updates on what is being put into place that is relevant to the charge. The most relevant updates include:

   • TAP pathways go into effect this fall for 11 majors with others still being worked out. A central website is in place for students, faculty, and advisors to use to know what students would take at the community colleges and Southern: [http://www.ct.edu/transfer](http://www.ct.edu/transfer)

   • Articulation agreements have been signed for students who obtain an LAS degree from Gateway CC and Housatonic CC. LAS degrees to not have a specific pathway to a major and thus need an articulation agreement outside of the TAP policy. This will clarify what credits students will be awarded when they transfer to Southern.

   • Campus Advising Team is working to craft and implement university-wide technology, policy, and advising models this academic year. Already unrolled are updates to EAB, now SSC Campus and Degree Works, replacing the Degree Evaluation. Advising models and draft policies will be vetted by the university in Spring, 2017. Transfer students are being included in these plans.

   • Southern has a license for the Transfer Evaluation System (TES) that advisors use to evaluate transfer transcripts, but it is unclear how many departments use it. In addition, Southern has not put in our courses, so prospective students cannot use it to evaluate their transcripts prior to applying to Southern.

   • Starting this fall, Terri Bennett has been appointed as the Academic Transfer Coordinator and will address LEP waiver requests, resolve their placement and credit transfer issues and facilitate their transition to a major advisor.

   • Dr. Michael Ben-Avie, Office of Assessment, plans to administer another survey to current students who transferred to Southern to find out how those students experienced efforts to support transfer students over the past four years.
• The Online Policy was approved by the Graduate Council and UCF in Spring, 2016 and is waiting for implementation by Academic Affairs

• UCF approved a 3 credit reduction to the LEP in Spring, 2016, scheduled to go into effect in AY 2017-2018. Students can take advantage of this retroactively, so faculty and advisors can be including this during advisement this year for current students (excluding seniors). The approved reduction is: Students Choose 6 of 7 Tier 2 Areas of Knowledge: American Experience, Creative Drive, Cultural Expression, Global Awareness, Mind and Body, Social Structure, Conflict and Consensus, Time and Place

3. Discussion of the numerous concerns associated with transferring to Southern. Specific problems mentioned include:
   a. transfer students register last and thus cannot get the courses they need (and classes get cancelled before some transfer students register)
   b. students report that Southern “doesn’t take all my credits,” meaning that they fulfill electives but not other requirements, adding time to degree completion
   c. students report that there are numerous LEP courses still required, especially the Multilingual Communication requirement
   d. only some LEP courses are offered in the evening and on weekends (or online), making it challenging for transfer students who work during the day to complete their degree

4. Discussed priority items for a fall agenda
   a. Explore possible articulation agreements with Norwalk CC, Naugatuck Valley CC, Manchester CC, and Middlesex CC. Suggest prioritizing by who has the largest number of students who come to Southern.
   b. Identify specific actions for this committee to take in coordination with the above-named work already being done.

5. Next Steps
   a. Liz will meet with Terri Bennett (since she has class during the committee time) to find out the scope of her work as Academic Transfer Coordinator.
   b. Liz will invite Dr. Terricita Sass to attend a meeting to get more in-depth understanding of Enrollment Management’s goals and initiatives for transfer students.
   c. Liz will invite Dr. Michael Ben-Avie to attend a meeting to discuss specific transfer student survey questions and the survey plan.
   d. Committee will split meeting time between analysis of community college curriculum and internal issues to move both agendas forward simultaneously.

6. Next Meeting: Thursday September 29th, ASC 201