Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC) Quarterly Meeting

September 21, 2022 Minutes

The quarterly meeting of the Pennsylvania Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee (TAOC) met on September 21, 2022, via MS Teams videoconference.

Ms. Lynette Kuhn, Chief, Division of Higher Education, Access, and Equity welcomed TAOC members to the meeting.

I. Act 76 of 2019 Reporting. Ms. Lynette Kuhn provided the following reminders:

The deadline for Act 76 reporting is September 30. Ms. Kuhn thanked all members for their diligence in ensuring timely submission. In addition, notice of all new articulation agreements must be submitted to the Division within 30 days of signing. The updates should be sent to Michelle Simmons, Administrative Assistant, at michellsim@pa.gov.

II. P2P Agreements Phase One. Ms. Kuhn welcomed the newest member of the Division, David Stewart, Higher Education Associate II, who will be taking over most TAOC-related responsibilities. She outlined his extensive admissions and transfer experience during his tenure at Elizabethtown College and Harrisburg Area Community College. Mr. Stewart introduced himself, noting that members already have heard from him in September regarding feedback on P2P Agreements Phase One. He reminded members that feedback was due by October 31 and to contact him with any questions.

Ms. Kuhn responded to a chat question from Dr. Libby Yeager that emails to regarding the P2P Agreements feedback by the chief academic officers (CAOs) were sent to the P2P faculty subcommittee members only for their review. The subcommittee members have until October 31 to compile all the feedback and respond to questions. The plan is to circulate the final draft versions for public comment among the full TAOC membership for Phase One in November.

She added the reminder that Phase One Agreements were in Education, Computer Science, Business, Psychology, Biology, and Social Work. Currently Biology and Education are still with CAOs due to technical issues related to document sharing. As soon as those responses are received, they will go to the faculty subcommittees.

III. Framework Course Subcommittees. Ms. Kuhn noted that there are several Framework Courses that will require review and the Division is in the process of establishing faculty subcommittees. She requested nominations from the TAOC members. She contacted faculty from the original subcommittees in May, and Mr. Stewart will be following up with them as well.

IV. Credit for Prior Learning.

A. Math DSST Standards. Ms. Gina Wetten reported that not much has changed since the June meeting. For Wave 3 of Math DSST standards, the subcommittee is awaiting some additional information before moving forward, but all other Wave 3 standards have been completed.

B. Equivalency Updates in PATRAC.

1. College Board – AP Exams. Ms. Kuhn began the discussion by providing background. PDE was contacted by the College Board, and Ms. Kuhn brought to the attention of the Steering

Committee that two new AP exams would be coming out. The first is in pre-calculus (AY 2023-24), and the second is in African-American Studies (AY 2024-25). She raised two specific questions for the TAOC:

First, how do we handle new exams in our current queue? Second, how do we determine what exams are going to be the most important for our focus to ensure that students are receiving updated information? For example, do we do an annual review, a quarterly review?

Ms. Kuhn asked for some brainstorming during the meeting that could be developed into policy.

Diane Jacobs of the Community College of Allegheny County commented that annual review should be sufficient. Will Bajor at PASSHE agreed, as long as volume is not overwhelming. The consensus is annual. Ms. Kuhn responded that she would formulate some language for a policy that she would share with TAOC members for review. Noting that PDE would need to facilitate these subcommittees, she would reach out to the faculty from the most recent cycle (2019) while recognizing that there may have been some turnover.

She asked if TAOC agreed that pre-calculus would be the first in the queue, considering approximately 11 months to complete the review. She has contacted the College Board for additional resources. The consensus is to move forward with pre-calculus.

Danielle Rapp of Millersville University shared that she recently saw a number of AB/BC scores from incoming students, and while evaluating for content for overlap. She is interested in seeing what the pre-calculus AP exam will offer beyond AB/BC scores.

Ms. Kuhn will follow up to see what the feedback looks like for the pilot African-American Studies AP exam and will begin convening a subcommittee in AY 2023-24.

2. Cambridge Exams. The next issue was the introduction of Cambridge exams. These are widely prevalent internationally, and Florida already uses them in its high schools. PDE met with Cambridge International two weeks ago and is working with PDE K-12 to bring them to Pennsylvania. There currently are no high schools in Pennsylvania using Cambridge exams; however, she noted that there are intermittent submissions of the exams from international students and that they most likely will be offered in Pennsylvania high schools soon.

There currently are two levels offered: AS level (one year of study) and A level (two years of study). In our conversation with Cambridge, they recommended that we begin with AS level of subjects. If there are more students with A level testing, they already will have completed AS level work, so it made sense to focus on AS level first. There are five exams reviewed by the American Council on Education: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Psychology, and Thinking Skills. She is awaiting more information on the Thinking Skills exam. She recommends that TAOC begin with Biology in the first half of the year and move on to Chemistry in the second half of the year. She does not want to overwhelm faculty reviewers, as TAOC already has P2P Agreements being updated right now and is now taking on AP pre-calculus. P2P Phase Two may begin next year, as well as the reestablishment of Framework Subcommittees. Ms. Kuhn suggested that working through one subject matter area at a time would be the best way to fulfill statutory requirements while not overwhelming faculty members. She proposed beginning with Biology, followed by Chemistry.

Libby Yeager suggested that Mathematics might be better, as the Biology Subcommittee is working through P2P. Ms. Kuhn suggested going with Chemistry, since Mathematics is still working on DSST.

A question was raised whether faculty could work on Chemistry P2P and Cambridge simultaneously, and the consensus is to move forward with Chemistry. Courses will be reviewed on a three-year basis.

V. 2023 Meeting Dates. Proposed meeting dates for 2023 are as follows: March 15, June 14, September 20, December 13.

PennWest will present at the December 14 meeting—where they are with curriculum alignment and course changes, how they're going through the process. The meeting also will go over Act 76 reporting and some of the faculty work.

Ms. Kuhn provided a quick summary of the meeting before moving to open discussion: PDE looks forward to receiving faculty nominations for the Framework Subcommittee and the Chemistry Subcomittee for both P2P and Cambridge equivalencies. The work most likely would begin in November-December timeframe, and Ms. Kuhn will work with the Steering Committee to establish some deadlines.

Regarding the Steering Committee, Ms. Kuhn, noting that the Steering Committee was completing its year's work and that no policy was in place for length of service, suggested one of two options for 2023: Current committee members can continue for a second year, or anyone interested in serving can nominate themselves or a colleague. Another email will be sent to TAOC members requesting nominations. The current members are Marian McGorry, Michael Lawlor, and William Bajor.

IV. Open Discussion

Danielle Rapp had a question regarding the transfer policy that PASSHE is enacting in relation to a student who earned an AA in Early Childhood Education/Pre-K-6 in 2004 and is seeking a BSE in PreK-4. As curriculum has changed at both the community college and at Millersville, she is seeking any guidance for the student moving forward. Will Bajor asked if the primary issue is the age of the AA; the issue is more about the substantive changes in the curriculum since 2004. Karen Todd at PATRAC noted that early P2Ps specified date of graduation for the AA or AAS degree and the competencies from the community college. The original P2P agreements noted the approved competencies did not go back as far as 2004. Dr. Bajor then provided his email address (wbajor@passhe.edu) for internal conversations within PASSHE institutions regarding P2P and PASSHE transfer policy. He also extended invitations to community colleges as well to ensure a smooth and consistent transfer process.

The meeting ended at 10:49 a.m.

The next quarterly meeting is December 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

Attachment Attendees – September 21, 2022

Staff

Kuhn, Lynette Chief, Division of Higher Education, Access, and Equity
Stewart, David Higher Education Associate II, Division of Higher Education,

Access, and Equity

Wetten, Gina Higher Education Associate II, Division of Higher Education,

Access, and Equity

Attendees

Todd, Karen AcademyOne

Bergen, Debora **Bucks County Community College** Owens, Natacia **Butler County Community College Butler County Community College** Pignatore, Amy **Butler County Community College** Mack, Sherri Stevens, Stephanie Cheyney University of Pennsylvania McDermit, Meisha Commonwealth University - Lock Haven Community College of Allegheny County Flis, Kelly Jacobs. Diane M. Community College of Allegheny County Thomas, Katie Community College of Beaver County Gonzalez-Torres, Sandra Community College of Philadelphia Baker, Dana **Delaware County Community College**

Gruneiro-Roadcap, Nieves East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania

Boon, Leslie Harrisburg Area Community College Griswold, Alfred Harrisburg Area Community College Reilly, Edel Indiana University of Pennsylvania Ayrton, James Lehigh Carbon Community College

Rhoton, Laura Lincoln University
Rutledge, Catherine Lincoln University
Smith, Nancy Lincoln University

Yeager, Libby Luzerne County Community College
Rapp, Dannielle Millersville University of Pennsylvania
Hartman, Lianne Montgomery County Community College

Henry, Mark Northampton Community College

Bajor, William PASSHE System Office Riccardi, Richard PASSHE System Office

Bolden, Elizabeth Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges

Adams, Jeff Pennsylvania State University
Bolt, Lindsay Pennsylvania State University
Johnson, Melissa Pennsylvania State University
Rice, Michelle Pennsylvania State University

Shultz, Kara
Pennsylvania Western University - Bloomsburg
Gmutza, Kaylee
Pennsylvania Western University - California
McCarthy, Sheila
Pennsylvania Western University - Edinboro
Zeglen, Eric
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Payne, Ursula
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

Lawlor, Michael Auld, Josh Yannick, Lisa Bishop, Kristy Loffredo, Maria Temple University
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Westmoreland County Community College
Westmoreland County Community College