

The 23rd Annual Faculty-to-Faculty Conference

History

In 1985, House Bill 1187 called for a common curriculum among community colleges and four-year institutions (C.R.S.23-1-108 [7]). Faculty representing 15 disciplines from all of Colorado's community colleges convened to determine the issues to be covered by the future policies.

In 1987, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education established the annual Faculty-to-Faculty Conference as part of a responsive policy and general procedure enhancing transfer and articulation between all state-supported institutions of higher education. The first Faculty-to-Faculty Conference was held in May 1987. Its primary outcome was the building of trust between the faculty from two- and four-year institutions. The principle issue was to agree upon course content. The goals of the first two years were to ensure quality, provide consistency in course numbering, and secure continuity. Preliminary work had been completed in an effort to facilitate the creation of articulation agreements.

Since 1987, faculty have convened under the authority of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and in cooperation with the governing boards, to discuss articulation issues and competency standards.

Purpose of the Annual Faculty-to-Faculty Conference

The purpose of the annual faculty-to-faculty conference is to provide a forum for post-secondary education faculty in Colorado to explore academic concerns affecting curriculum, articulation and student transfer. In addition, the conference provides an opportunity for faculty to recommend solutions to specific articulation and transfer problems. A secondary purpose of the conference is to provide an opportunity to build trust among faculty as well as to provide a forum for collective information sharing and decision-making concerning legislative mandates and compliance.

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This year, the 23rd Annual Faculty-to-Faculty Conference will be held on Friday October 9, 2009, and split between two venues: the Sheraton Denver Tech Center (DTC), Denver, Colorado; and Arapahoe Community College (ACC), Littleton, CO. One hundred and fifty eight (158) faculty members are scheduled to attend this year's conference; 63 at the ACC venue and 95 at the DTC location.

This year, the conference will provide an opportunity for faculty from two- and four-year public higher education institutions in Colorado to come together to discuss student transfer issues in specific course disciplines. The focus and purpose of this year's conference agenda will be to review course content and program of study and major information in several specified disciplines. The primary focus of the discussions will be twofold: to review program information at the state's public, post-secondary institutions in order to determine the feasibility of establishing 5-8 statewide 60+60 agreements and also to review the statewide Colorado Major

matrix in order to ensure its accuracy. A secondary purpose of this year's faculty-to-faculty conference is to review three of the four current statewide articulation agreements in an effort to determine their effectiveness in transferring students from one institution to another and also to determine if the current agreements contain timely accurate information and are serving their intended purpose or if they are in need of re-calibration. The discipline content areas included in this year's conference discussions are: Biology, Economics, History, Mathematics, Psychology, Spanish and Criminal Justice (please note: Criminal Justice faculty will convene at their Fall Meeting, to be held on Friday October 23, 2009). The following Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreements will be discussed: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education and Business, (the Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement for Engineering was successfully re-calibrated last fall, finalized in December 2008 and posted at the Department of Higher Education website in February of 2009).