STUDENT MOBILITY AND GRADUATION THROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY REVERSE TRANSFER PARTNERSHIPS

Session: T6.1869
INTRODUCTIONS

• Scott Owczarek, University Registrar, University of Wisconsin - Madison
• Daryle Hendry, Executive Director of Admissions and Registrar, El Paso Community College
• Brenda Selman, University Registrar, University of Missouri
WISCONSIN

• Individual agreements between Institutions

• University of Wisconsin - Madison
  • Madison College (established spring 2013)
  • Nicolet Area Technical College (established fall 2013)

• Working on a DRAFT UW-System Reverse Transfer Agreement
  • 13 4 year
  • 13 2-year campuses

• Interest to create agreements by border schools
2004 – Reverse Degree Partnership between EPCC and UTEP

To date over 4,500 AA reverse degrees awarded

2012 - State legislation required Reverse Transfer

State-wide rules

- Implemented Fall of 2013
- 4-YR schools must send transcripts to a 2-YR schools attended
- Earned 30 hours at the 2-YR school
- Has at least 66 hours from all schools attended
- Attained Student’s permission
MISSOURI

- State legislation requiring us to establish a policy to encourage Reverse Transfer
- Lumina Grant obtained by Mo. Dept. of Higher Ed
- State-wide committee called by Mo. Dept. of Higher Ed
  - Started fall of 2012
  - Set policy
  - Set process based upon survey of eligibility
  - Using NSC for ETX (drop box) files for RT eligible students
  - Workshops and sessions
  - Pilots Fall 2013-Spring 2014
  - Roll out fall 2014 state-wide
BACKGROUND

• AACRAO 2013 several registrars approached NSC
• Seeking to leverage existing network to assist and facilitate reverse transfer
• NSC traditionally doesn’t offer a new service unless:
  • Higher education community needs it and
  • Seeks out NSC
• NSC took under consideration
• Agreed to a three-phase pilot
POLICY OBJECTIVES

• Increase associate degree attainment for students.
• Ensure that all eligible students have the opportunity to be awarded a first associate degree that reflects their educational efforts and allows them to compete more successfully in other academic arenas and the workforce.
• Create a standardized, streamlined, technologically enhanced process that will assist four-year and two-year institutions in transferring student credits more efficiently, securely, and successfully.
• Leverage existing infrastructure with a trusted partner by taking a national approach to facilitate the reverse transfer processes.
DATA EXCHANGE AND USAGE

• Four-year institutions submit to the NSC (which serves as their agent and will be considered a school official under FERPA per signed agreements) academic record data on potential students in accordance with institutional and/or state reverse transfer policies.

• Potential students will be those who have completed the minimum requirements for reverse transfer based upon the state and/or four-year institutional standards as well as those of the regional accrediting agency that governs the two-year institution awarding the degree.

• Potential students must have earned credits from the potential Degree Granting /2 yr. institution, which will be confirmed by the matching of OPEIDs via the NSC.
PROPOSED POLICY CONT.

• Potential DGIs must submit name and other identifying information to the National Student Clearinghouse for confirmation.

• Potential DGIs may not “mine” data on individuals who did not attend and complete course work at their institution.

• Approved DGIs (as per the 4 yr.) may only obtain unit grade and credit information on potential students who have been confirmed as potentially eligible.

• Potential DGIs will be able to obtain the academic record data for only those students previously enrolled at the DGI.
DEGREE AWARDING

- Reverse Transfer eligibility standards are specified by one-to-one agreements between potential DGIs and 4 yr. institutions or by state policy.
- Degrees must be awarded within the accrediting agency standards, state or regional regulations or statues, as well as institutional policies.
RESPONSIBILITIES

• 4 yrs.
  • Identify potentially eligible students who agree to RT
  • Submit data to NSC

• 2 yrs.
  • Collect permission at time of transfer
  • To pull info on former students (no mining data)
  • Communicate with students
  • Award degrees when appropriate
  • Notify NSC and 4 yrs. of degree

• Student:
  • To agree to participate and
  • Opt out if decide to not continue
DATA ELEMENTS TO BE SHARED

• First Name
• Last Name
• Middle Name
• Birth Date
• Matriculation Term to the 4 yr. institution
• Social Security Number
• Course – Term
• Course – Session

• Course – Subject Description
• Course Title
• Course Credits
• Course – Grade
• OPEIDS of 2 yr. institution
• OPEID of 4 yr. institution
• Course Grade Points
• Course – Course Number
PHASE I

• NSC will build the following nationally-scalable functionality for the Reverse Transfer initiative:
  • Course file intake process from the four-year school
  • Reverse Transfer Database
  • Degree Granting Institution (DGI) Request file intake process
  • Matching Processes
  • DGI Response file
  • DGI degree data submission
  • Reporting
  • Auditing
PHASE I CONTINUED

• Proof of Concept:
  • Institutions in Missouri, Texas, and Wisconsin will be the pilot groups to use the system as a proof of concept
  • Other states will be offered opportunity to sign on

• Funding:
  • Currently no commitments of revenue
  • Significant level of interest in philanthropic opportunities
  • Very likely that funding for this project will be found.

• Timeline:
  • Driven by funding
  • NSC has estimated a 5-6 month process for Phase 1
PHASE II

• NSC develop functionality:
  • Allow students to access the records submitted as part of reverse transfer
  • Single sign on - similar to the access students have to view their enrollment/degree certifications
  • Allow the students to check their records and know what institutions had accessed their records.

• Other:
  • Mobile access
  • Academic record data mart for double-checking against existing records to ensure quality
PHASE III

• Cost to Institutions:
  • Using different funding opportunities, NSC is committed to maintaining business model of free service.
  • NSC will administer and maintain the processes for reverse transfer at no additional cost to institutions.

• Future:
  • Hope to program for various reverse transfer agreements and regulations into NSC system.
  • Enable matching of any school’s records in any state to data base and notify the appropriate degree granting institution (DGI) in any state.
MAYBE WE CAN DO THIS, BUT...

• Should we do this? What about...
• Is this FERPA compliant?
• Slippery slope to “nationalizing” the transcript
• How does this benefit the two–year schools?
• How does this benefit the four-year schools?
• Doesn’t this give NSC the corner on the market?
• Won’t institutions “mine” data and give away degrees?
• What about.....?
MORE QUESTIONS

• Why would my institution send my student's grades, courses, and GPA to the "cloud" ..?
QUESTIONS?
Time to speak up!