BCCAT SPRING UPDATE 2020

TRANSFER & ARTICULATION-RELATED ACTIVITIES

JAM 2020
This year's Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) will be held at the **Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel in Vancouver on Friday, November 6, 2020.** Registration will commence in early September.

Last year's presentations and video can be viewed on the BCCAT JAM webpage.

2020 BCCAT Transfer Awards
Calls for nominations are requested for the **2020 BCCAT Transfer Awards** which will be presented at the JAM to honour key contributors to the success of the BC Transfer System. Nomination forms will be available in late spring.

Flexible Pre-Majors in the BC Transfer System
At its last meeting, BCCAT's Transfer and Articulation Committee (TAC) passed a motion that BCCAT will no longer support flexible pre-major (FPM) transfer agreements in the BC Transfer Guide. After August 1, 2020, the FPM information on the BCTG site will be labeled "for reference only".

Individual post-secondary institutions or programs may continue to honour FPM agreements with other institutions or programs. However, these agreements will not be updated on the BCTG.

If articulation committees or institutions wish to replace FPM agreements with other types of transfer, BCCAT will assist.

ARTICULATION COMMITTEE PROJECTS (ACP)

Articulation Committee Project (ACP) Funding Replaces Transfer Innovations (TI) Funding
Under the newly-named program, a Call for Proposals was issued in February. Project proposals are to be submitted by August 21, 2020, for evaluation by BCCAT's Transfer and Admissions Committee (TAC) at its September 2020 meeting.

The funding is now called the Articulation Committee Project (ACP) funding program. It will support research by articulation committees into transfer-related issues as well as research leading to new forms of transfer agreements. The application process has also been redesigned to be more rigorous.

Modern Languages (SCOLA) Core Competencies and Test Banks:
This project was the final Transfer Innovations project and was approved for publication in January 2020. The documents lists core competencies in beginner-level Chinese, Spanish, Italian and French are now posted on the SCOLA committee webpage.

TRANSFER & ARTICULATION PROJECTS

Stepping Out - Mid-Program
This project explores students' practice of "stepping out" to earn transfer credits at a second or additional institution, while continuing in a program at their first institution. The report describes the trends and patterns of "stepping out" by program, credential, institution and transfer credit volume.

Stale-Dated Credit
This study examines policies related to stale-dated credit at the thirty-nine BC Transfer System member institutions and provides recommendations on policies for post-secondary institutions.

Examining the Extent of Unarticulated Courses
This study examined the extent of un-articulated courses available within the BC Transfer System, and courses that are articulated at different year levels. In total, approximately 46% of courses offered are not articulated. In addition, approx. 23% of courses articulate across year levels.

NEW BCCAT PUBLICATIONS

BCCAT Publications are available on our website at BCCAT.CA

Block Transfer Agreement Implementation and Communication
This project was published in November, 2019. The aim of the report is to assess institutional practices of defining, implementing and communicating block transfer agreements at BC Transfer System member institutions.

Applying Credit to Multiple Credentials
This report examined the extent and options in which BC post-secondary institutions allow students to use credit that that had already been applied towards earning one credential as credit towards another credential at the same or lower level. The project described issues arising from the this practice. The report was published early this year.

ONGOING PROJECTS OF INTEREST

BC Transfer Students Profile and Performance Report

BCCAT has produced Transfer Student Profile and Performance reports for over 25 years. The reports compare the demographics and the performance of transfer and direct entry students at large receiving universities within the BC Transfer System.

This current report, covering years 2013/14 to 2017/18, is expected in spring 2020.

Credits to Graduation

This project provides a measure of transfer system efficiency by comparing the number of credits required to complete a degree by students who transfer, and those who do not. It revisits previous research using new data sources. The report will be published in April 2020.

Surveying Mobile Students in BC

Institutional data extracts for the 2019 BCCAT Survey of Mobile Students were made available to Institutional Research offices at each of the BC public post-secondary institutions. These files were produced in response to requests for data to supplement the previously released institutional reports, and to support further analysis at institutions.

More than 4,500 students answered questions about their experience of transferring between post-secondary institutions. The complete, system-wide report is due to be released in Fall 2020.

Dual Credit PSE Performance

Utilizing survey data, performance data at four BC institutions, and interviews with staff at school districts and post-secondary institutions, this project describes the experiences and performance of students completing at least one dual credit course in an academic area and transitioning to post-secondary studies. The report will be published in the spring of 2020.

Trends in Competency-Based Credentials within the Admissions Process

This project seeks to summarize current and emerging trends in the incorporation of competency-based credentials in the post-secondary admissions process in BC and elsewhere, and to identify areas for future research to support the development of policy and practices at BC Transfer System Institutions. Look for this report in summer 2020.

TCS & BCCAT WEBSITES

The TCS Suite

Following the pilot study with UBC to onboard their agreements outside of the BC Transfer System to the Transfer Credit System (TCS), external course equivalencies in the TCS continue to expand. Douglas College, UNBC, and OC have onboarded, with several other institutions currently in progress.

Discussions are ongoing with provincial counterparts, in particular ACAT, to share and leverage the work taking place in that jurisdiction. Work is continuing on a new version of the TCS, aptly named the "Atomic" TCS, which will improve data management and highlight greater articulation opportunities.

Articulation Maintenance

As the result of a Transfer Credit System (TCS) course audit in 2019, it has become evident that the maintenance of articulation agreements has become a challenge for many BC Transfer System members.

BCCAT will be working with the articulation committees and their institutions to identify agreements that have not been reviewed in ten or more years, with a goal of increasing the currency of articulations within the BC Transfer Guide.

If your articulations have not been reviewed in ten or more years, you can submit your courses for re-evaluation through the TCS. This helps ensure students receive the appropriate credit when they transfer.

BCTransferGuide.ca

Following a useability report conducted in 2019, BCCAT will be continuing its work on enhancements to the BC Transfer Guide, with more significant changes and a re-design planned for later this year.

BCCAT.ca

BCCAT's new website incorporates refreshed graphics, and enhanced search functionality for publications.

The articulation section of the site includes a new alphabetical listing of articulation committees and an articulation committee meeting calendar as an aid to scheduling.