



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Item 5.3.2

PRESENT TO BOARD: MARCH 27, 2019

TO: SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: THOMAS C. LEITZEL 

SUBJECT: ARTICULATION AGREEMENT – FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

Approval is requested to enter into a **new** articulation agreement between Florida A&M University and South Florida State College for the purpose of allowing guaranteed admission for Associate of Arts (AA) graduates and select Associate of Science (AS) program graduates. The contract renews annually.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Move to approve the contract agreement between Florida A&M University and South Florida State College as presented.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
AND
SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the Florida A&M University Board of Trustees, herein referred to as "Florida A&M University" or "FAMU", and South Florida State College, herein referred to as "South Florida State College" or "SFSC".

Purpose

The intent of this MOU is to facilitate the development of processes and policies that will assist the articulation of SFSC graduates into agreed upon degree programs at FAMU.

WHEREAS, FAMU and SFSC have agreed to establish an articulation agreement committed to a strategy to expand access, to meet extraordinary demands for growth and to provide for a competitive workforce; and

WHEREAS, this agreement could be employed to create a significant pool of highly skilled and educated technicians, scientists, health care professionals, and managers creating a competitive advantage in economic development and diversification; and

WHEREAS, the parties believe the two-plus-two system can be further expanded to meet the demands described above;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY and SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE THAT:

I. As a part of this agreement, both institutions commit to a proactive strategy of cooperation to

facilitate:

- A. Substantial, measurable increases in access to public higher education and degree production at the associate's, bachelor's, and graduate degree levels;
- B. Better preparation of students at every level for further study; production at the associate's, bachelor's, and graduate degree levels;
- C. Increased transfers from South Florida State College to Florida A&M University;
- D. Reduced time to degree for both associate's and bachelor's degree students;
- E. Other measures of strategic importance to the state of Florida's educational and economic progress.

II. FAMU and SFSC agree to collaborate in innovative ways to promote expanded access for Florida students, to create and adopt specific 2+2 articulation pathways including:

- A. Guaranteed admission for SFSC Associate of Arts (AA) graduates and selected Associate of Science (AS) graduates to agreed upon Florida A&M University baccalaureate programs consistent with university policy;
- B. Possible modifications of transfer admission criteria, for graduates of SFSC, where appropriate, to develop a true 2+2 pathway model;
- C. A sense of concurrent enrollment status for SFSC students enrolled in identified transfer plans to include university advisors assigned to these students;
- D. Expansion of FAMU financial aid resources to SFSC students to support two-plus-two articulation agreements.
- E. Exploring joint staffing opportunities for faculty, student services, and other key personnel for the benefit of the agreement, including identifying transitional advisors

from FAMU to work closely with SFSC advisors and their students throughout their AA/AS progress toward admission to FAMU (i.e., visits to SFSC on a regular basis to meet with advisors and students, arrange trips to FAMU for campus tours, and other special arrangements).

- F. In the case that a student does not complete an AA from SFSC prior to enrolling at FAMU, a reverse graduation policy will be established to transfer coursework back from FAMU to fulfill requirements to be granted the AA from SFSC.

III. FAMU and SFSC will create a specific operating plan to guide the framework of this agreement to provide a climate for planning, innovation, and capturing best practices. Routine collaboration among the institutions will include collaboratively establishing, publishing and annually reviewing specific inter-institutional admission processes, arrangements, transfer pathways, communications, operations and staffing.

IV. As part of the operating plan, FAMU and SFSC will establish an interdependent arrangement for data sharing that enables deeper alignment of systems, policies, and procedures ensuring seamless and concurrent transitions for students, and advance public accountability for the results including:

- A. Working toward an information sharing system that will allow prospective transfer students from SFSC to access FAMU's degree audit system for a clear understanding of actual progress toward baccalaureate degrees.
- B. Data sharing from FAMU to SFSC regarding transfer student success by academic major to identify potential issues for course articulation (content and standards).

- C. Sharing of information for purposes of reverse transfer from FAMU institutions to SFSC degree programs.

V. FERPA:

Both institutions agree to share and utilize student educational records for the purpose of facilitating articulation, reverse transfer, and other educational purposes as anticipated under this MOU, in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

VI. TERMS OF THIS MOU

- A. This MOU shall take effect upon signing and remain in place for one year. It shall be automatically renewed on an annual basis unless any party provides the others written notice no later than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of the preceding term that it wishes to terminate this MOU. If any party fails to follow the terms and conditions of the MOU, as set forth herein, the other party has the right to terminate this MOU immediately upon written notice to the others. If this MOU is terminated, the status of students matriculated, enrolled and/or accepted in programs contemplated under this agreement shall not be affected.
- B. Upon the creation of the intended Articulation Agreement for specific 2+2 pathways, this MOU will become incorporated into the new Agreement.
- C. This MOU is subject to each party's continued compliance with the established standards and requirements of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) and other accrediting bodies.

- Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU)**

Date _____

South Florida State College (SFSC)

Date _____

4-17-19

Printed Name