# Articulation and Transfer Council Winter 2017 Meeting Summary

Renton Technical College, February 9-10, 2017

**Action items**

* **DTA/MRP Technology:** ATC voted to deactivate the DTA/MRP in Technology due to limited student participation and a limited number of colleges offering the degree.
* **Placement reciprocity:** ATC was charged with reviewing and clarifying the [placement reciprocity policy](http://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/programs-services/transfer/placement-reciprocity-policy-and-procedure-spring2013.pdf). A subgroup worked with members of ARC and recommended changing “local skills assessment” terminology to “local placement determination” and clarifying that students placed by directed/guided self-placement at one institution will need a form of verification of the official institutional placement from the original institution. **ATC unanimously approved** [**the policy revisions**](http://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/commissions-councils/atc/placement-reciprocity-policy-and-procedure-atc-arc-edits-1-17-17.pdf) **to move forward to IC, noting there are still unresolved implementation issues.**

**Discussion items**

* **Prior learning assessment:** ATC reviewed the JTC [dual credit workgroup draft](http://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/commissions-councils/atc/jtcacademiccreditforpriorlearningecommendations.docx) updated document on awarding academic credit for prior learning. The document recommends four categories in which the award of academic credit for prior learning should be denoted on a transcript: (1) credit by testing, (2) prior experiential learning, (3) extra-institutional learning, and (4) course challenges. ATC members noted these four categories seemed appropriate, but recommended the removal of language related to student/instructor arrangements which would not be indicated on a transcript.
* **Course repeat policy:** There was discussion about delineating circumstances in which courses may be repeated more than three times for academic credit between situations in which a student repeats a course to improve a grade and situations in which repeated credit is part of the academic plan (e.g., performance, athletics, capstone/thesis courses).
* **Northeastern University proposed articulation agreement:** Northeastern University – Seattle presented a proposed articulation agreement with SBCTC to facilitate transfer between students completing the AAS/DTA, DTA/MRP in business, or DTA/MRP in computer science to newly developed bachelor’s degree programs in management, information technology, finance and accounting management, and leadership. Members provided feedback to share with the instruction commission.
* **Seal of biliteracy:** An OSPI representative presented information on the Washington K-12 seal of biliteracy. An ATC workgroup developed a [work plan](http://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/commissions-councils/atc/atcsealofbiliteracyworkplan.docx) to research the [Seal of Biliteracy](http://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/commissions-councils/atc/2016-fall-sealofbiliteracy.pdf) and make recommendations about the feasibility of offering a similar designation at SBCTC colleges. The workgroup will reconvene this quarter and bring recommendations to the spring quarter meeting.
* **Common courses with different credit values:** There are 67 commonly numbered courses that are offered with different credit values at different institutions. Concerns have been raised about these discrepancies, in part because the majority are STEM courses included in the allocation model. WACTC Educational Services committee asked ATC to look at this issue. ATC will request data on the impact on the allocation model, and members will identify benefits and potential ramifications of standardizing credit values by spring.
* **Student Achievement Initiative:** Elliot Stern reported on the [SAI advisory workgroup progress](http://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/commissions-councils/atc/saiadvisoryworkgroupprogressreportfebruary.docx). The work group is currently looking at benchmark measurements and guiding principles. A focus is being placed on equity, and benchmarks under consideration should correlate strongly to completion. Concerns were raised about successful student transfer not being included in the model.
* **DTAs:** ATC members reported on the implementation status of the DTA/MRPs in computer science and music. For colleges considering the music degree, the lesson fee structures and enrollment/demand for second year theory course were identified as obstacles. For computer science, several colleges are planning to continue using the AS-T; others are determining how to best address the provisos in the degree. Workgroups were also formed to review the Business DTA/MRP and Washington 45 for currency and effectiveness.
* **Math strategic plan and Math Pathways Task Force:** As a component of the SBCTC math strategic plan, final [recommendations](file:///C:\Users\eharri\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\Z05SYGBH\Washington%20Math%20Pathways%20to%20Completion%20Task%20Force%20-%20Final%20Recommendations) from the statewide math pathways to completion task force were shared for review.
* **Reading Apprenticeship:** Michele Lesmeister from Renton Technical College presented a professional development session on Reading Apprenticeship. RTC is hosting an RA conference in March.
* **2017-18 meeting locations:** Centralia (fall), Bellingham Technical College (winter), Walla Walla (spring)