

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION\ACADEMIC AND PERSONNEL

January 14, 2020

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***ACTION:***                                    **Approve Memorandum of Agreement with Western Nebraska Community College for Chadron State College**

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Chadron State respectfully requests approval of the Memorandum of Agreement which supports collaborative opportunities and initiatives between Chadron State College and Western Nebraska Community College.

Board Policy 7015 requires Board action for approval of all academic Agreements.

The System Office and Chadron State College recommend approval of the Memorandum of Agreement with Western Nebraska Community College for Chadron State College.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- CSC WNCC Memorandum of Agreement (PDF)

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**  
**between the**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES**  
**doing business as**  
**CHADRON STATE COLLEGE**  
**and**  
**WESTERN NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Given the rural and remote geographic location of Chadron State College and Western Nebraska Community College and given their shared commitment to increasing opportunities for student access to and success in higher education, this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is designed to foster the creation of undergraduate transfer initiatives between the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges doing business as Chadron State College (CSC) and Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC).

The purpose of this MOA is to enrich lives, invigorate regional communities, and foster the development of engaged leaders and citizens. The strategic plans of CSC and WNCC value collaboration, engaged teaching and learning, diversity and inclusion, innovation, learner-centered experiences, and integrity. Through common values, visions, and geography, the colleges seek to provide seamless academic pathways, accessible and affordable education, and workforce and economic development to keep Nebraska students within Nebraska.

Under the provisions of this MOA, CSC and WNCC agree to the following:

*Program Development*

- 1) CSC and WNCC will collaborate on the development of program articulations and provide the information necessary to successfully promote, develop, and maintain the partnership. *Appendix A describes the collaborative initiatives agreed upon by the parties and is incorporated by reference into this MOA.*
- 2) CSC and WNCC academic personnel will meet each spring to ensure that any changes in curriculum are considered and reflected in the program articulations.

*Transfer of Students*

- 1) All students transferring from WNCC to CSC will be held to the conditions of the Nebraska State College System's Policy 4430: Transfer of Credit and Degrees.
- 2) Students who transfer from WNCC will present credits for transfer evaluation in fulfillment with CSC requirements. The use of courses taken at other institutions toward fulfillment of CSC requirements will be assessed by CSC for equivalency.

*Admissions, Registration, and Advising*

- 1) CSC and WNCC will collaborate on recruiting, advising, and retention efforts to support student success and completion of academic and personal goals. WNCC students are strongly encouraged to work with an academic advisor at CSC and an academic advisor at WNCC. CSC advisors will be available to assist WNCC students with appropriate academic advising related to their intended plans of study to complete a WNCC associate degree prior to transferring to CSC. The names and directory information of WNCC students interested in pursuing a 2+2 program with CSC will be provided to CSC to facilitate the advising and registration process. Additionally, 2+2

program articulation materials will be distributed to students and utilized as advising tools to assist with identifying course-to-course and program transfer equivalencies.

- 2) A WNCC student maintaining continuous enrollment and following the academic pathway in place under the WNCC catalog of record for the year the student begins at WNCC will matriculate to CSC under the same catalog year. A break in enrollment may cause the student to be readmitted under a different catalog year and therefore the requirements set forth in that catalog.
- 3) CSC and WNCC will work to identify reverse transfer opportunities for students.
- 4) CSC will host on-campus visit days at the main WNCC campus as well as at WNCC campuses in Sidney and Alliance for all interested WNCC students and program faculty once per year.
- 5) CSC and WNCC will participate in joint visits to regional high schools to promote educational opportunities.
- 6) Transfer students from WNCC are eligible to be on the CSC Dean's list each semester by obtaining twelve (12) CSC semester-graded hours with a minimum grade point average of 3.5 or above.

#### *Financial Aid*

- 1) All non-resident incoming undergraduate transfer students, regardless of GPA, class rank or test scores, will pay the Eagle Rate, which is in-state tuition costs plus \$1 more per credit hour.
- 2) Transfer students from WNCC will have the opportunity to apply for CSC transfer student scholarships.

#### *Resources*

- 1) CSC and WNCC will explore opportunities for the cross-sourcing of mutually agreed upon resources, including, but not limited to, personnel, information technology, space, equipment, and grant or external funding opportunities, to enhance the teaching and learning experience for students.
- 2) CSC and WNCC will develop a shared marketing plan to promote, throughout the region, program pathways.
- 3) CSC will maintain an office on the Scottsbluff Campus of WNCC to facilitate course offerings and student support functions for courses and programs offered from the CSC campus to students in the Scottsbluff area and beyond. Mutually agreed upon signage will provide directions to the CSC office.
- 4) WNCC will maintain an office on the CSC campus to facilitate course offerings and student support functions for courses and programs offered from the WNCC campus to students in the Chadron area and beyond. Mutually agreed upon signage will provide directions to the WNCC office.
- 5) CSC will, at a minimum, meet annually with WNCC officials to advance collaborative regional efforts.

#### *Conditions*

- 1) This MOA shall commence on January 15, 2020 and will expire June 30, 2023, unless terminated earlier by either Party upon 90 days' written notice to the other Party.

- 2) The MOA can be extended by a written amendment signed by both parties.
- 3) WNCC and CSC will evaluate this MOA annually and provide summary reports to their respective Presidents on ongoing initiatives, timelines, and outcomes.
- 4) Both parties affirm that they will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) for sharing student information.

The designated representatives of the parties for the purposes of monitoring and oversight of this MOA are:

Executive Vice President, Western Nebraska Community College (or designee)  
(308) 635-3606

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Chadron State College (or designee)  
(308) 432-6202

For the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges doing business as Chadron State College:

Dr. Randy Rhine, President, Chadron State College	Date
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Dr. Paul Turman, Chancellor Nebraska State Colleges	Date
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For Western Nebraska Community College:

Dr. John Harms, Interim President Western Nebraska Community College	Date
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Mr. John Marrin, Interim Executive Vice President Western Nebraska Community College	Date
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## APPENDIX A

The following represent the array of collaborative initiatives that will be undertaken by CSC and WNCC, as part of this MOA:

- 1) The adaptation of CSC and WNCC's Business Administration and Elementary Education programs to serve as a pilot in the fall 2020, to include:
  - A curricular pathway (2+2 plan) for each program.
  - An advising model utilizing resources from both colleges to ensure ease of transfer for students.
  - The identification and implementation of a shared marketing/advertising plan and scholarship opportunities.
- 2) Identification of five additional academic program pathways to be launched in fall 2021. Included in this update will be:
  - A curricular pathway (2+2 plan) for each program.
  - An advising model utilizing resources from both colleges to ensure ease of transfer for students. Included will be an exploration of methods/processes for advisor training.
  - The identification and implementation of a shared marketing/advertising plan and scholarship opportunities.
- 3) Identification of an appropriate Career and Technical Education pathway at WNCC to transfer toward the BAS degree at CSC. Included in this update will be:
  - A curricular pathway (2+2 plan) for the program.
  - An advising model utilizing resources from both colleges to ensure ease of transfer for students. Included will be an exploration of methods/processes for advisor training.
  - The identification and implementation of a shared marketing/advertising plan and scholarship opportunities.
- 4) Development of an appropriate narrative for inclusion in the catalogs of each college.
- 5) Creation of an ongoing process for identifying and notifying students of reverse transfer opportunities.
- 6) Examination of ways to improve general student advising and registration processes between the two colleges.
- 7) Identification of points of collaboration with online courses and programs.
- 8) Identification of a list of low or under enrolled courses and next steps for collaboration.
- 9) Exploration of ways to enhance faculty professional development in teaching and learning, including training in online delivery.
- 10) Exploration of possible workforce development initiatives to support learners across the lifespan.

Individual timelines will be developed for implementation of each initiative.