

TAMS Two-Year College Round Table Report, January 27, 28, 2022

Thursday

There were fifteen representatives from two-year colleges in attendance on Thursday.

The director asked the chair of the Commission on Curriculum, Articulation, and Transfer to discuss what had recently taken place at the TTAC meeting at the THECB. Todd Quinlan spoke about this for 10 to 15 minutes and questions ensued.

It was suggested that we consider contacting legislators regarding the needs of music so that this can be communicated down to THECB.

SB 1531 and HB 25 -

These codes speak to excess hours and at what point community colleges will stop being reimbursed for the credit hour if students have excessive hours (at 75 credit hours community college students will stop being eligible for financial aid and colleges will not be reimbursed for the contact hour).

We all need to be concerned about courses that deviate from our current degree plans. Things like excess ensemble credits, students who need fundamentals rather than theory 1, and students who might choose to take piano lessons rather than piano class cause these excess credits and students need to be informed of the ultimate result of these actions.

Some institutions have begun listing such courses through CE (Continuing Education) so that these do not appear as "for credit" courses.

Other discussion points included:

1. the development of a Fine Arts Council on campuses to discuss and address issues that are specific to the Arts.
2. advocating the Music department to the administration above the department and helpful ways to do that.

Friday

On Friday, the director posed the question: How can TAMS better serve your needs?

Response: Create a searchable catalog of the list - serve on the website which might be stored on a "members only" login page.

A question from the membership was: What barriers do you have in place for applied students?

Answer: The answers varied from "no barrier exam" to formal processes to determine the readiness of students to progress to the next level of study.

One of the members asked to get a list of program learning outcomes of the various institutions.

There was discussion of certificates and AAS development that included discussion of faculty credential requirements and degree plan development.

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What's going on with the FOS 2022 -

The THECB has decided that the FOS are no longer useful and is changing the FoS to a transfer agreement. I don't know why the two are different, but apparently this is supposed to force the universities into accepting the community college students' work. - I doubt that it will.

The current field of study will accept students for the last time in Fall of 2022 and all teach-outs will need to occur prior to August 2025.

Another committee will be selected to begin the construction of the transfer agreement type document for music. What is unknown at this time is whether or not music will remain exempt from the requisite 42 hours of core when this document is reconstructed.

Bob Hanson had spoken with Deputy Commissioner Stacy Silverman, who had assured us that all would be ok back when this first became an issue about a year-and-a-half ago. Dr. Silverman no longer works at the THECB, so we do not know that her assurances will be honored.

My own administration is very concerned about this situation.

Stay tuned.....