GP Working Group Conclusion

Alignment and Completion of math and English (ACME)

The Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Alignment and Completion of math and English (ACME) working group was charged by Dr. Jane Gates, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) Provost and Senior VP Academic & Student Affairs, on March 18, 2019. The group was led by Heidi Zenie, Francine Rosselli-Navarra, and Michael Stefanowicz, and included co-chair Kim Sorrentino, along with dozens of faculty, staff, and administrators from across CSCU. Additionally, ACME membership included math and English faculty from UConn. The group reported to the Guided Pathways Task Force.

ACME Charge

To use Guided Pathways design principles and existing expertise in the CSCU community colleges to develop and recommend policies and practices that facilitate student completion of college level math and English within the first year. The group will facilitate the alignment of the appropriate math and English requirements with programmatic, transfer, and workforce needs.

ACME ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- investigated national best practices to improve math/English alignment and completion, with particular attention to practices for placement, models of remediation, appropriate gateway courses, math transfer pathways, and K-12 and CT employer partnerships
- identified specific barriers to math/English alignment and completion within CSCU using our own system data
- used national research on best practices to identify effective solutions to the problems and challenges students face in attempting to complete transferable math and English
- developed evidence-based recommendations to address barriers and improve math/English alignment and completion

Recommendations from the ACME workgroups provide the foundation for placement, remediation, and transfer and applicability policy currently under development by the Provost and her staff. This policy will be designed to complement existing student-centered and equity-focused reforms for CT State Community College. Because of the unwavering commitment of faculty and staff to this work, we are closer to our goal of all students completing the right college-level math and English courses in a timely matter – and we know from the research that successfully completing these courses is a strong predictor of success and completion overall.

CONCLUSION

The Academic and Student Affairs Division of the CSCU System Office is deeply grateful to all leads and members of the Alignment and Completion of math and English team and all other parties involved for dedicating their time and expertise to complete the working group charge and for the achievements listed herein. The efforts of this team will have positive impacts on students across the state of Connecticut.

Working Group concluded by Dr. Jane Gates, CSCU Provost and Senior VP Academic & Student Affairs

Conclusion Date