

## Memorandum of Understanding Between South Texas College and The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

August 10, 2015

South Texas College (STC) and The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTGRV) are two public institutions with distinct missions, yet shared responsibilities to Texas and the region for student success. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (MOU) is an agreement facilitating student success through seamless transfer. It creates a framework so that students and their advisors know how courses will transfer between the two institutions. STC and UTRGV agree on the following transfer guidelines.

### **Texas Core Completion**

In accordance with rules adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), students who have successfully completed the approved 42 semester credit hour Texas Core Curriculum at STC will have satisfied the Texas Core Curriculum at UTRGV. A student will receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred for each of the courses transferred and will not be required to take additional courses at UTRGV to meet its Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

student who transfers from STC to UTRGV without completing the STC Core Curriculum shall receive credit from UTRGV for each of the STC courses that the student has successfully completed in the STC Core Curriculum.

### **Transfer Admissions**

Students who have successfully completed who have successfully completed 2 semester credit hours and have a 2.0 grade-point average, or who have earned who have earned an academic associate degree (AA, AS, or AAT), will be automatically accepted to UTRGV upon completion of the Apply Texas application and receipt of their official STC official STC transcript(s) by UTRGV. Students, however, are strongly encouraged to complete their associate degree at STC.

### **Texas Academic Course Guide**

UTRGV will accept all STC credits for courses in the THECB's Lower-Division Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM) for the equivalent course at UTRGV. All STC courses in the ACGM will be accepted by UTRGV. When UTRGV does not have an equivalent course, the applicability of a particular STC course to particular UTRGV degree will be determined by UTRGV by UTRGV based on course content and the role of the course within the degree.

**Catalog Date Determining Graduation Requirements**

student who has been continuously enrolled at STC, and has been following the lower-division curriculum in the catalog current at that time for UTB, UTPA, or UTRGV, will have the option to continue to follow that same catalog upon transfer to UTRGV. The student will not be required to move to the catalog associated with the date of transfer, but will have that option if it reduces time to graduation.

**Continued Work on Articulation**

As UTRGV curricula are developed, TRGVUTRGV will work to clearly articulate the courses and learning outcomes expected of students during the first two years. When a curriculum includes courses not in the ACGM, UTRGVUTRGV will work with STC on program specific articulation for seamless transfer. All program specific articulations will be designed to facilitate student transfer, in accordance with THECB rules and rules and guidelines, and following a 2+2 approach as appropriate.

**Reverse Transfer**

The Registrar’s staff at UTRGV and STC will work together to facilitate transfer of credits earned at UTRGV to STC for students who transfer from STC to UTRGV before completing the requirements for an associate degree. This process will occur at UTRGV on a regular basis for all students who provide authorization for reverse transfer via the Entering Freshman or Transfer Apply Texas application and will require no other student action to trigger the transfer of credits. Credits will be reviewed at STC on a regular basis so that associate degrees that have been completed via transfer can be awarded to students.

**Questions Arising from This MOU**

Any questions on how this MOU is to be interpreted or implemented should be addressed by the STC Vice President for Academic Affairs and the UTRGV Provost, or their designees. The two institutions agree to work cooperatively to address such issues.

This MOU is effective as of the last date it is signed by the presidents of the institutions and remains effective until written notice is provided by one institution’s president to the other.

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Dr. Shirley A. Reed, President  
South Texas College

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Date

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Dr. Guy Bailey, President  
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

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Date