Columbus State, OSU make transfers easier

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Staff Reporter

After a brief engagement, Columbus State Community College and The Ohio State University are ready to tie the knot.

Today, the presidents of the two schools will sign an agreement that will make it easier for students enrolled in Columbus State's two-year associate degree programs to transfer into bachelor's degree programs at OSU.

"Essentially, we are formalizing what has been in operation for two years," said Brian Seeger, coordinator of the Advising-Center for Transfer Programs at Columbus State.

Three years ago, the faculty of both schools set out to identify courses at Columbus State that would receive transfer credit in fulfilling general education requirements at OSU.

By June 1988, a handbook was compiled that did just that. Columbus State students planning to transfer to OSU have been consulting the handbook to find the courses that will go toward bachelor's degrees at OSU.

"If you can answer that question in advance, it guides the student's decision on what to take at Columbus State," said Thomas J. Schriner, associate director of admissions at OSU. "That's what the handbook does."

The handbook has been updated in the past year to include about 255 transfer credit equivalencies. The book also shows how the transfer credit courses apply to OSU's degrees in business, education, engineering, social work, architecture, and arts and sciences.

"This makes it easier for students to understand the degree requirements here at Columbus State and at Ohio State and to see how the two merge," said Shirley Palumbo, vice president of academic affairs at Columbus State.

Columbus State has similar agreements with Franklin University, Ohio Dominican College, Capital University, Otterbein College, University of Rio Grande and Urbana University.

But most Columbus State students who plan to transfer end up at OSU. About 520 students enrolled in two-year associate degree programs at the school plan to transfer to the state's land grant university.

The Columbus State pipeline has been good to OSU. From summer 1987 to spring 1988, OSU received 193 transfer students from Columbus State, more than any other school.

OSU receives about 3,000 transfer students a year. About 50 percent of the students come to OSU from two- and four-year Ohio public institutions.
OHIO STATE AND COLUMBUS STATE SIGN TRANSFER AGREEMENT

COLUMBUS -- The presidents of The Ohio State University and Columbus State Community College signed a transfer articulation agreement Wednesday (9/27) in ceremonies at the Columbus State campus.

The signing by Edward H. Jennings, president of Ohio State, and Harold M. Nestor, president of Columbus State, formalizes many months of work by the faculties of both institutions to determine which courses at each school meet similar educational objectives.

The agreement makes it easier for students in Columbus State's Transfer Programs to make the transition into bachelor's degree programs at Ohio State by spelling out which courses at the community college will be accepted for credit and applied to degree requirements at Ohio State.

The agreement does not affect students in Columbus State's technical programs, which provide training for direct entrance to careers. The technical courses generally are not compatible with baccalaureate degree requirements.

"Columbus State Community College accepts, as part of its mission, the responsibility for providing access to higher education for central Ohio residents," Nestor said. "This
articulation agreement improves student access. We see this agreement as meeting the needs of the students and the community."

Calling the agreement "a mutually beneficial partnership between The Ohio State University and Columbus State Community College," Jennings said the work of the two faculties "reflects shared commitment to providing varied opportunities for the people of central Ohio."

"The great strength of our educational system is the variety of opportunities and programs from which students may choose," he said. "The true beneficiaries of today's agreement are the students."

As an integral part of the agreement, a handbook has been prepared for academic counselors at Columbus State to use in advising students about course selection. It lists some 255 equivalencies between Columbus State and Ohio State courses and allows students to make informed choices, knowing in advance which Columbus State classes will be accepted for credit at Ohio State. It also contains course selection guides which relate equivalent Columbus State courses to bachelor's degree requirements in Ohio State's colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering, and Social Work, and the School of Architecture. The handbook will be updated continuously as the two institutions revise their curricula and degree requirements.

"The compelling and guiding force for us in developing this model articulation agreement has always been meeting transfer student needs," said Joan Leitzel, Ohio State associate provost. "This agreement is designed to give students accurate course equivalency information so that they can make informed course selection decisions today and enrollment plans for the future."

Last year, 193 Columbus State students transferred to Ohio State.

Shirley Palumbo, vice president for academic affairs at Columbus State, summarized the project: "This project is the culmination of three years of work by faculty members and administrators from both institutions. It provides a clear educational path for students and demonstrates both institutions' commitment to inter-institutional cooperation."

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Agreement set to aid transfers

By Trish Borne
Lantern campus reporter

A commitment to a mutual, ongoing relationship in dealing with transfer admissions programs was the basis for an agreement signed yesterday between Ohio State and Columbus State Community College.

The transfer articulation agreement was signed by OSU President Edward H. Jennings and Columbus State President Harold M. Nestor.

Jennings said it was the formal recognition of an entire transfer transition project.

The agreement is designed to assist students from Columbus State in making a smooth transition into a bachelor's degree program at Ohio State, Ruth Gerstner of University Communications said.

Tom Schriner, associate director of admissions for Ohio State, said the agreement deals directly with the transfer programs for the associate of arts and associate of science degrees offered at Columbus State.

The agreement will not affect the technical programs, Schriner said. "The requirements for a bachelor's degree are usually not compatible with the technical courses," he said.

The transfer admissions project began in 1985, when Jennings recognized a need to form a partnership with Columbus State so they could expand the educational opportunities for Central Ohio residents, Schriner said.

Joan Leitzel, associate provost for academic affairs at Ohio State, said over a hundred members of faculty and staff from both institutions have been working together for three years to develop the transfer project.

These people have teamed their efforts and designed a course selection handbook, which is used in advising students, Leitzel said.

The handbook is divided into three sections, Schriner said.

The first section lists all of the course equivalencies between the two schools. Currently 255 courses have equivalents at the alternate school, he said.

He said this section of the handbook is designed to help students find out in advance which courses will be accepted at Ohio State.

The second section gives course selection guidelines. This part of the book will show students which courses will meet the requirements for obtaining a bachelor's degree in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education, Business, Engineering, Social Work and Architecture.

The third section focuses on answering general questions that students usually have about transferring to another institution, Schriner said.

Leitzel said the purpose of the agreement was to document that both schools are dedicated to the full-time job of keeping the handbook accurate.

The handbook will be updated continually to provide students with the most accurate information on courses, she said.
Columbus State can be start for OSU students

By Rebecca L. Skeeles
Lantern staff writer

With small classes and lower tuition than Ohio State, more students are taking advantage of Columbus State Community College to complete the first two years of a bachelor's degree.

Columbus State had 7,751 students in 1987 and 16,510 in 1992, leading Ohio in enrollment increases for the last five years, said David Patton, director of public relations for the college.

Enrollment is expected to increase to about 30,000 students by the year 2000, Patton said.

Part of the reason for Columbus State's rapid gain in enrollment is the successful transfer program the school offers. Students can attend Columbus State for two years and complete a program designed to take care of all the basic education requirements at Ohio State.

"We have a great relationship with OSU," Patton said. "The majority of our students completing a bachelor's degree transfer there."

Thirty percent of OSU students who graduate with a bachelor's degree began their studies as a transfer student, said Thomas Schriner, associate director of Transfer Admissions for the Ohio State Admissions Office.

"Columbus State sends us more transfer students than all of the community colleges in Ohio combined. Over the course of the last year, 563 students have transferred to Ohio State from Columbus State," Schriner said.

Credits are transferred to Ohio State on a pass-fail basis, and transfer students begin with a clean slate as far as grade point average. A student must receive a passing grade to get credit for the course.

Schriner said Columbus State tries to relate its courses to Ohio State requirements, and students who transfer to Ohio State from Columbus State tend to do very well. He said they have grades and retention rates similar to students who have attended Ohio State from the beginning of their college careers.

OSU students have positive things to say about transferring from the downtown college.

"Columbus State is a lot cheaper than Ohio State and I got a better education there," said Todd Van Meter, an OSU senior majoring in management information service. "I would still be there if they had my major."

Van Meter said he received a better education at Columbus State because the teachers are highly qualified. He said he was never taught by a teaching associate.

Columbus State might also be a better bargain than Ohio State. For an Ohio resident, the tuition at Columbus State for 12-18 credit hours is $588 per quarter. At Ohio State tuition is $933 per quarter for 12 or more credit hours.

"I like the small classes and personal attention," said Linda Reed, a student majoring in secretarial science and planning to transfer to Ohio State for a four year degree. "They also offer convenient hours so I can go to school full time, even though I work," she said.

Patton said the average class size at Columbus State is 30-35 students.

"We have prided ourselves in providing access to students who want to learn in a smaller atmosphere with personal help," he said.

"The Ohio State University is our partner in higher education and we work with them to meet the needs of this community," said Dr. Shirley Palumbo, vice president of academic affairs for Columbus State.
NEWS ADVISORY:

OHIO STATE TO COMPLETE TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

E. Gordon Gee, president of The Ohio State University, and Valeriana Moeller, president of Columbus State Community College, will sign a transfer articulation agreement in a ceremony at Columbus State on Wednesday, Jan. 22. The new agreement replaces and enhances a 1989 agreement.

The articulation agreement concludes more than a year of work at both institutions. The agreements spell out which courses at Columbus State will be accepted for credit and will apply to degree requirements at Ohio State.

The enhanced agreement offers two new options that empower students who are transferring: an admissions guarantee and a dual degree provision. Nearly 3,000 Columbus State students have transferred to Ohio State since the 1989 agreement was enacted.

The agreement is based on the principles of the Ohio Articulation and Transfer Policy adopted by the Ohio Board of Regents. That policy encourages cooperation among state supported universities and colleges and supports policies to ease the student transfer process.

The agreement will be signed at a ceremony from 1:30-3:00 p.m., in room 118, the Board of Trustees Room, Franklin Hall, Columbus State Community College. Refer to map on back of this advisory. Participants will be available for questions following the ceremony.

For more information on the ceremony, contact Amy Murray, Office of University Communications, 292-8385.
Credit hour transfer agreement

By Tony Gottschlich
Lantern staff writer

Transferring to Ohio State just got easier for Columbus State Community College students.

In a ceremony at Columbus State on Wednesday, OSU President E. Gordon Gee signed an improved transfer agreement with Columbus State President M. Valeriana Moeller. This will make the transfer process to OSU easier and more accessible for Columbus State students.

The two presidents stressed the importance of OSU and Columbus State working together to ensure the quality and accessibility of higher education for central Ohio students.

"These two institutions have different missions, but both are committed to the educational opportunities of central Ohioans," Moeller said.

Gee mentioned the significance of the cooperative partnership between the two schools.

"This is not just a signing ceremony for a transfer agreement," Gee said. "This is in recognition of the maturity of our institutions and the maturity of our relationships."

Transfer agreements determine which community college courses will be accepted for credit and will apply to degree requirements at universities.

The transfer agreement reached between OSU and Columbus State improves and replaces an agreement signed in 1989 by the two schools.

Passage of time made it necessary to examine the progress of the agreement and to make needed adjustments and improvements, Gee said.

"We felt that it was important for us to upgrade that agreement, so that we now have a seamless transfer agreement," Gee said.

The agreement contains two new provisions that make transferring to OSU less difficult for Columbus State students.

One provision assures admission to OSU for all Columbus State students who have earned an associate of arts or associate of science degree.

A dual degree provision allows transfer students who have not completed their associate degree requirements at Columbus State to earn that degree by using OSU course credit.

Tom Schriner, associate director of admissions at OSU, worked for more than a year with counterparts at Columbus State to develop the transfer agreement, according to information provided by OSU News Services.

"The dual degree provision provides multiple options for degree completion at Columbus State, Ohio State, or both. While the admissions guarantee encourages associate degree completion, the dual degree provision responds with options students can use if their circumstances or goals change," Schriner said.

OSU currently has an enrollment of about 3000 transfer students, with roughly 400 of those students coming from Columbus State, Gee said.

"We want more transfers," Gee said. "The most valuable player of the Rose Bowl, Joe Germaine, was a transfer student."

During a gift exchange, Gee and Moeller traded OSU and Columbus State hats. Gee drew laughter from the audience with a remark about state budget cuts suffered by institutes of higher education.

"Given what's happened to our budget, we should exchange helmets," he said.
February 10, 2011

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New Ohio State and Columbus State collaboration increases opportunities for students

The Ohio State University and Columbus State Community College are about to build on their long history of collaboration.

Beginning in Autumn 2011, selected Ohio State courses will be offered by Ohio State faculty at Columbus State’s Delaware campus, which opened in Autumn 2010. These courses will include a range of classes in such areas as business, psychology, communication, sociology, and English. Many of the new offerings will be intermediate and upper-level classes, building on Columbus State’s existing curriculum to provide its students with a seamless bridge to an Ohio State baccalaureate degree.

Other forms of cooperation are also being explored by the two schools, including joint academic advising.

Ohio State’s presence on Columbus State’s Delaware Campus will coincide with the closure of its Delaware Center, currently operated by Ohio State Marion. The center, established in 2001 and now located in close proximity to Columbus State in Delaware, offers a full schedule of general education courses to some 400 students. Initially, two-thirds of the courses offered at the Delaware Center will migrate to Columbus State in Delaware.

“The last decade of increasing enrollments at the Delaware Center has demonstrated Delaware’s desirability as an entry point to higher education for students in northern Franklin and Delaware counties,” said Gregory S. Rose, Ohio State Marion dean and director. “The Ohio State-Columbus State collaboration in Delaware will serve this growing student base, while providing efficiencies for both institutions.”

“We are delighted to welcome our friends from Ohio State to our growing campus,” said Jan Rogers, vice president of student affairs at Columbus State and dean of the Delaware Campus. “This is an ideal partnership for college students in and around Delaware County, and an effective use of state-funded resources.”

The Columbus State Delaware campus currently enrolls about 800 students.

“This new collaboration shows our mutual commitment to expanded access and enhanced student attainment,” said Michael J. Boehm, Ohio State vice provost for academic planning. “It will establish a new model for institutional cooperation, with our institutions setting the pace in fulfilling Ohio’s expectations of higher education.”

State goals call for increasing college enrollment by 230,000 and boosting the rate of graduation by 20 percent by 2017.

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Landmark Ohio State and Columbus State partnership will guarantee access to the bachelor’s degree

The presidents of Columbus State Community College and The Ohio State University today unveiled the Preferred Pathway Program, a collaboration that will provide qualified Columbus State students with a guaranteed, guided route to an Ohio State baccalaureate degree.

In ceremonies at Columbus State, David T. Harrison, president of the college, and Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee introduced the new joint initiative, hailing it as a symbol of their institutions’ commitment to access, student-success, and Ohio’s economic advancement.

“This partnership builds on Columbus State’s open-door admissions and services to diverse students,” said President Harrison. “More selective admissions at public and private universities and pressures on affordability have limited access to the bachelor’s degree for many Ohioans. This partnership guarantees the opportunity for local students to pursue their dream of a bachelor’s degree close to home.”

Through the Preferred Pathway Program, set to launch in autumn 2011, Ohio State and Columbus State will facilitate the transition of Columbus State students into the Ohio State experience and then foster the success of those students.
The resolution formalizing the agreement, to be presented to the boards of trustees of both institutions, says that Columbus State students who have earned an associate’s degree will be guaranteed admission to Ohio State, consistent with university policy. To support those students, the resolution also provides that faculty from the two schools will work together to broaden the Columbus State curriculum so that students have the academic foundation to succeed in a range of Ohio State baccalaureate degree programs. In addition, Ohio State and Columbus State advisors will collaborate in advising students well before they transfer. Participants in the Preferred Pathway Program will also be provided with an enhanced orientation program at Ohio State, and will benefit from early participation in the university’s nationally recognized First Year Experience and other acclimation programs.

Connecting the two institutions through the Preferred Pathway Program will help eliminate uncertainties for central Ohio students and families, promote the higher education goals of the state, increase Ohio’s pool of talented workers, and boost its economic development and diversification.

President Gee recognized the Preferred Pathway Program as a landmark. “Our institutions have long enjoyed a strong working relationship. Today, Ohio State and Columbus State extend that partnership and establish a new model for seamless coordination between two- and four-year institutions. In so doing, we help to both assure that students realize their dreams and strengthen the economic foundations of our community.

“This is a rare win-win-win situation,” President Gee added. “This agreement benefits Ohio State, Columbus State, and most importantly, our students.”

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A new Ohio State collaboration with Columbus State Community College will facilitate the transition of Columbus state students into the Ohio State experience and then foster the success of those students.

Set to launch in autumn, 2011, the “Preferred Pathway” program will provide qualified Columbus State students with a guided route to an Ohio State baccalaureate degree.

The OSU Libraries will be participating in this new initiative, starting with the upcoming fall quarter. Columbus State students enrolled in the Preferred Pathways Program will have the following library privileges at OSU:

- Access to databases and e-journals: Preferred Pathways students already have access to OhioLINK electronic resources through their home institution. With a guest pass in Thompson Library, SEL, or departmental libraries, they will have access to all databases (OhioLINK, OSU-only, or others) on the library premises. They will not have remote access (access at home or elsewhere) to any databases licensed or purchased ONLY for OSU students and faculty.
- Checkout of books: Preferred Pathways students can check out books from OSU Libraries for 21 days, with 4 renewals possible. They already have this book-borrowing privileges as students at an OhioLINK library.
- Borrowing of books from other libraries: Preferred Pathways students will continue to have the same ability to borrow books from other OhioLINK libraries that they already have, but they can designate Thompson Library as a pickup point for books borrowed from other OhioLINK libraries.
- Access to facilities: Preferred Pathways students will have access to all OSU library facilities, but for late evening access (after 11:30 p.m.) access to SEL (Science/Engineering Library), their Columbus State Student card will need to be encoded with student identification data that can be read by the Lenel card system. Also, their Columbus State card will need to have a special sticker showing their Preferred Pathways status to security guards who check student IDs in SEL after 11:30pm.

The program represents a landmark collaboration between Columbus State Community College and The Ohio State University, providing a guaranteed, guided route to an Ohio State baccalaureate degree for program participants. Participating students pursue curricular “pathways” designed jointly by faculty from both campuses. Benefits for participants include:

- joint academic advising coordinated by advisors on both campuses
- an enhanced orientation to Ohio State
- early participation in Ohio State’s First Year Experience and other transition programs

View article...
Columbus State and Ohio State have a proposition for state budget-makers: If state funding for colleges and universities is tied to performance, how about allowing high-performing schools raise their tuition?

The problem is that Gov. John Kasich's state budget proposal calls for tuition to stay frozen, as it has for the past two years. A proposal brought forward by the two colleges would allow tuition increases of up to 3 percent in each of the next two years, provided the institution spells out how it would use the money to promote so-called two-plus-two programs.
The programs guarantee students who earn associate's degrees at community colleges, and meet certain criteria, acceptance at a four-year institution to finish bachelor's degrees.

The idea, which Columbus State President David Harrison presented to the House Higher Education Subcommittee on Tuesday, would let willing schools raise their tuitions and earmark the money to pay for the increased student advising, technology and administrators needed to support such agreements. Four-year institutions that want to participate could not limit the number of two-plus-two transfers.

National statistics show that students who start at community colleges, then transfer to four-year schools, are more likely to earn degrees than those who start at the four-year schools. The success rate is higher still for those who earn associate's degrees before transferring. Moreover, the lower cost of community college could shave tens of thousands of dollars off the cost of a bachelor's degree and reduce student debt.

"We feel like there's good momentum in the state" in closing achievement gaps between subgroups of students and operating more efficiently, Harrison said. He credits state-budget initiatives, such as performance-based funding and requiring colleges to report on efficiency efforts, for that improvement, but he thinks Ohio could do more.

"A great next step would be really embracing two-plus-two" programs, he said. The same incentive that prodded colleges to improve to earn more basic state aid could work again, Ohio State spokesman Chris Davey said.

"The thinking here is if we apply the same approach to tuition, we would see the same success," he said.

Columbus State has negotiated "Preferred Pathways" agreements with Ohio State, Ohio University, Miami, Capital, Franklin, Ohio Dominican, Ohio Wesleyan and Otterbein.

Rep. Mike Duffey, a Republican from Worthington and a member of the subcommittee, favors the idea — for Columbus State and OSU, if not statewide. "I'm not a fan of a one-size-fits-all, statewide solution," he said. "I prefer to see a laboratory of ideas."
He believes the central Ohio institutions deserve a chance to use increased tuition revenue to boost the Columbus State Pathways agreement, because of their good track record of cooperation and because both have refrained from increasing tuition even in years when the legislature allowed it. "They are the two in the whole state of Ohio who left the most on the table by not going to the max (in tuition increases) every time," Duffey said.

In his testimony, Harrison said that Columbus State hasn't raised tuition for more than six years and that, if it had imposed the allowable increase each time, students would have paid nearly $30 million more in tuition.

Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Rick Perales, R-Beavercreek, said the idea is interesting and that Columbus State and Ohio State have set "a great example" for the rest of the state, but said the issue needs more study. "I like Dr. Harrison's out-of-the-box thinking on this issue, but now we have to do our due diligence on that proposal and see what will be best for all of Ohio's students."