**Topic:** Transfer Articulation Portal (GATRACS)

**Background:**

The Georgia Transfer Articulation Cooperative Services (GATRACS) is a partnership between the University System of Georgia, Technical College System of Georgia, Department of Education, and the Georgia Student Finance Commission. The GATRACS portal will provide information on articulation opportunities and course transferability in the State of Georgia. This portal will be a one stop information site where students can find information on how to transfer to a post-secondary institution within the state of Georgia.

The transfer articulation portal is being built in phases over a three year period. Phase One goals include the ability of students to log into the portal, self report what courses they have taken, and be able to find out which post-secondary institutions will accept any or all of their courses. During Phase Two, a degree audit function will be added that will be integrated with the institutions’ DegreeWorks. Students will be able to “ask” what courses they would need to take to complete a particular degree and do it institution by institution comparisons. The capability to print generated displays and reports will be available. A workflow for dual enrollment course approval will also be implemented. By the end of Phase Three, electronic student transcripts will be available.

The transfer articulation portal will make transfer articulation information transparent from high school to TCSG or USG, from USG to USG, from TCSG to TCSG, from TCSG to USG, and from USG to TCSG. The portal will access the information institutions have about which courses articulate between institutions and make that information transparent to students. GATRACS will not be a part of the decision process for what articulates between institutions.

**Important to note:** The portal will be only as good as the information the institutions have in their transfer articulation modules in Banner. In the USG, all approved core courses will transfer between USG institutions. Each USG institution determines what TCSG courses articulate beyond the 10 mini-core courses that articulate from TCSG to all USG institutions. Each institution must have this information in their transfer articulation module in Banner in order for students to see it when they log into the portal and request transfer information.

**Current Status:**

Each institution has identified people to serve as the functional and technical contacts for the portal project. A kick-off meeting with the vendor, Decision Academic was held at the beginning of June. The

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project director, Daphene Blackmon, has been working with USG and TCSG institutions to make certain they know how the portal will work and to help them with setting up the transfer articulation module in Banner, if needed. An extractor is being developed at this time to pull the information needed to populate the portal with information from the transfer articulation modules in Banner. The estimated “go-live” time for the portal is early December, 2011.

Action Needed:

Communication among various offices at each institution is vital.

- Core revision decisions are crucial
- Transfer articulation modules in Banner – fully developed and make certain all information is correct
- Institutional decisions about which TCSG courses beyond the 10 mini-core courses need to be made and information stored in the transfer articulation module of Banner.

Questions:

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