

YSU 2020

Cornerstone on Regional Engagement
Executive Summary
September 2014

It was decided that a focus would be placed on exploring barriers to academic partnerships with community colleges since such relationships are an important piece of our enrollment efforts and budgeting. As our recruiting demographic changes, a renewed importance will likely be placed on our positive and mutually beneficial relationships with two-year institutions. A task force has convened to address this challenge and has identified four primary components: 1) Faculty collaboration between the respective institutions is critical; 2) We should conduct a study to assess programs at the partner and host institution for program congruence; 3) We must streamline the transfer and articulation process; and 4) We must broaden and formalize our relationship with Eastern Gateway Community College. We are now reviewing the construct of possible Dual Admission agreements, to begin with Eastern Gateway Community College, as well as master agreements for transfer equates.

The University realized much success in the strengthening of our connectivity to community colleges; specifically, in 2013-2014:

- Number of 2+2 agreements: 18 active agreements and 14 agreements pending signatures
- Number of articulation agreements: 23 total articulation agreements that are active
- Number of partnerships: 10 partnership programs between Lorain and Lakeland
- Progress with Eastern Gateway: 1 agreement already approved and 10 waiting signatures

We are also in the process of starting to work with Cuyahoga County Community College pretty heavily in terms of establishing agreements. We are reviewing a business agreement and the possibility of graphic design in the Department of Art and are pursuing other opportunities. In addition, a business articulation agreement is being presented to Lorain tomorrow for the first time for their review, and musical theatre will be presented to Beaver County Community College in the fall for their review. We are also considering other agreements with EGCC in English as well.

On January 30, 2014, the Task Force for Diversity Programming (TFDP) was convened to review the criteria for the Spring 2014 report. Information from the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 reports have been compiled in a matrix format by Sylvia J. Imler and will be submitted to Mr. Tressel for review when his schedule permits.

Randy Goldberg and Helene Sinnreich (Jewish Studies) are planning a conference on Jewish Music and Identity. They are in the process of booking the ensemble Om Shalom for an evening concert. The group plays a mix of Indian classical and Jewish music.

The finalized season for 2014-2015 includes the YSU Dance Ensemble performance that will represent a broad range of styles of genres. An original script, *Into the Furnace*, examines the integration of Czech immigrants in the U.S., particularly in the steel mill areas.

Dr. Ron Chordas and Ms. Rachel McCartney of the Center for Urban and Regional Studies attended a series of meetings in midtown Detroit regarding anchor institutions and their role in economic and community development. Other attendees included Youngstown Mayor John McNally, Ms. Sarah Lown of the Western Reserve Port Authority, Ms. Sharon Letson and Mr. Scott Schulick of CityScape, and Mr. Dominic Marchionda of the NYO Property Group. A follow-up group was established among the participants to determine which initiatives may be pursued for the city of Youngstown in relationship to the EDA grant.

Metro College and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology collaborated with eight community health care organizations to cosponsor the first annual Health Expo for seniors. The event attracted 41 vendors for the full-day event conducted at Antone's Banquet Centre in Boardman. The event culminated with a dinner and a CEU presentation by Dr. Daniel Van Dussen, Associate Professor, Sociology and Anthropology.