

Report to the Board of Trustees

**SUNY Orange's
Status Regarding
SUNY Seamless Transfer Initiative
(SSTI)**

by Interim VPAA Stacey Moegenburg
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**SUNY Seamless Transfer Initiative
Requirements:**

- All degrees must have a maximum of 64 credits (a waiver process exists to exceed the credit maximum)
- All transfer degrees (i.e. AA and AS) are designed so that students take (30) credits of General Education coursework with (7) of the (10) General Education categories (including Basic Communication) met
- Where applicable by discipline, required course sequences must align with courses defined by SUNY Transfer Paths (to ensure junior status upon transfer after degree)

Status

- Chancellor Zimphor has announced that SUNY Seamless Transfer is in place as of Fall 2015.
- We are at approximately 80% compliance and reported accordingly on October 15, 2015
- Of our 34 active degrees, 22 reduced the number of required credits (there are 12 curricular changes that still have to be finalized)
- The most common curricular action taken was the removal of two credits of PE from curricula. Eight degrees removed credit courses beyond PE.
- In theory the reduction in FTEs (i.e. required credit reductions) will be offset by faster time to degree and corresponding increase in retention rates.

Positive Outcomes

- Opportunity exists now to use SSTI as a marketing strategy that will appeal to students and their parents
<http://www.suny.edu/attend/get-started/transfer-students/suny-transfer-paths/>
- The SSTI has opened up some communication channels within the SUNY system to promote dialogue and collaboration
- Development of Registered Tracks (tied directly to Transfer Paths) within the AA and AS degrees will jumpstart cohort building
- Timing coincided well with the assessment work that we had to do
- Seamless and predictable transfer within the system is the right idea.....

Negative Outcomes

-but the execution was difficult
- The rushed and frantic nature of the project roll out set a poor tone from the beginning
 - The project assumes college readiness from day one; that is not a reality at a community college
 - A conflict has been set up between proven student success strategies (e.g. First Year Experience course) and mandate to not exceed credit limit
 - Does "systemness" really exist? Fears exist that the four-year SUNY schools will not unconditionally accept students with junior status, as promised by SUNY & SSTI....time will tell

Questions / Comments
