

DATE: January 23, 2019

TO: Articulation Officers, Transfer Center Directors,
Counselors and Advisors,
Directors of Admissions, Directors of Outreach,
Registrars, and Evaluators

RE: ASSIST Progress Update

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to 2019! It should come as no surprise that one New Year's resolution on our list, and an important one at that, is to release the new ASSIST public website this May. As the New Year begins, we want to update you on various ASSIST activities that have recently occurred, as well as key activities planned for the upcoming months.

Recent Accomplishments – The [Course Transferability Tool](#) was released as planned on December 19, along with an [FAQ and Tutorial](#) available on the [ASSIST Resource Center](#).

ASSIST Stakeholder Involvement – The first ASSIST Articulation Officer Workgroup meeting occurred in December 2018 and will continue on an ongoing basis with the objective to meet 1-2 times each month. In addition, segment-specific representatives for the new ASSIST Policy Advisory Committee have been appointed, and we are currently polling for an initial meeting date. Membership rosters for both of these stakeholder groups will be posted on the [ASSIST Resource Center](#) by the end of this month.

Public Site Rollout – The first phase of the new ASSIST public site is scheduled for release May 2019. Below is a high-level summary of each key area.

Articulation – Considered one of the most complex areas of the system, articulation functionality is currently the primary focus of development efforts.

Curriculum – Improvements in the area of cross-listing, course reactivation, and course history management have been scheduled.

Workflow – Specific areas will be addressed related to the review of courses for transferability and for articulation.

Public Page Views – Modernized design, user experience, and accessibility will be essential elements of the upcoming public site work.

Reports – Work in this area has been identified for the most critical curriculum and articulation reports.

Development Resources – We have been very pleased with the performance, work product, and project management efforts of our vendor, Fairway Technologies. We are confident they will successfully navigate the more challenging areas of development work in the coming year.

Testing – Fairway Technologies has brought skilled testing resources to this project, including automating for efficiency and a growing regression testing suite to ensure new development does not affect previous fixes. As we approach the release of the new ASSIST public site, the focus will be on load testing to ensure the volume of users will not impede system speed and functionality, as well as acceptance testing with regard to system content.

We encourage you to keep current on ASSIST News by signing up for [ASSIST Resource Center updates](#), and be sure to visit the site frequently to take advantage of additional resources available.

Please direct any additional questions you may have to help@assist.org.

Thank you,

Holly Demé, ASSIST Program Manager

ASSIST Executive Management & Oversight Committee
Monica Lin, University of California Office of the President
Karen Simpson-Alisca, California State University Office of the Chancellor
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