

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Wharton County Junior College and University of St. Thomas

The University of St. Thomas and Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) wish to facilitate the transfer of students, enhance the number and quality of learning options at the institutions, and provide a seamless transfer process for students. University of St. Thomas and WCJC have entered into this Articulation Agreement (hereinafter “Agreement”) and hereby agree as follows:

1. University of St. Thomas and WCJC are active educational partners in providing educational opportunities for currently enrolled and potential students of both institutions. Each institution will maintain the integrity of their separate programs and enter into this agreement as equal participants.
2. University of St. Thomas understands WCJC’s mission of educating members of its service area and of awarding two-year associate degrees. The purpose of this Agreement is to permit eligible and interested students to transfer certain course work from University of St. Thomas to WCJC to complete requirements for the associate degree. This process is called reverse transfer or reverse articulation.
3. Students enrolled at University of St. Thomas who (i) previously attended WCJC or are currently enrolled at WCJC and (ii) meet Wharton County Junior College’s resident credit requirements will be eligible for reverse transfer credit.
4. Separate academic records for students will be maintained at each institution.
5. Authorized employees of University of St. Thomas and WCJC will have access to personally identifiable information about the students who receive or who are eligible for reverse transfer credit. University of St. Thomas and WCJC agree that their respective authorized employees will have a legitimate educational interest in the records of the students being served. University of St. Thomas and WCJC shall take reasonable steps to ensure that their respective counselors, employees, and administrators maintain the confidentiality of all student information as required by the Family & Educational Rights and Privacy Act. This provision shall survive termination or expiration of this Agreement.
6. For students admitted to and enrolled in University of St. Thomas, University of St. Thomas will review its database and determine (i) whether any of University of St. Thomas’s students previously transferred coursework from WCJC, (ii) whether the students have indicated an interest in the reverse articulation program and (iii) whether the students have satisfied WCJC’s minimum resident credit requirement. University of St. Thomas will transmit official copies of the University of St. Thomas transcripts for these students to WCJC. University of St. Thomas and WCJC agree to exchange transfer student information for the purpose of monitoring and promoting student academic success and degree conferral. The exchange may occur through

paper transcripts or through secure electronic communication. Communication of this student information shall occur each September or at other appropriate intervals agreed upon by the parties.

7. University of St. Thomas shall notify all students who transfer coursework from WCJC to University of St. Thomas of the existence of the purpose of this Agreement between University of St. Thomas and WCJC and of the likelihood that University of St. Thomas will share transcript information with WCJC. This notification to students shall be in writing and shall occur at the time of the student's application to University of St. Thomas.

8. Upon receipt of official University of St. Thomas transcript information, WCJC will conduct a degree audit of each affected student and evaluate all coursework that may assist in the completion of the student's associate degree at WCJC. Students who meet all WCJC degree requirements are eligible to receive a WCJC degree at no cost to the student. WCJC will notify each affected student that he or she is eligible to receive an associate's degree and eligible to participate in WCJC's graduation ceremony.

9. University of St. Thomas and WCJC agree to cooperate in communicating with each other and with their common and respective communities concerning the relationship between the two institutions. University of St. Thomas and WCJC agree to acknowledge and recognize the reverse articulation program on each institution's website and via other marketing and publicity methods.

10. University of St. Thomas and WCJC agree to promptly communicate with each other any future curriculum changes, policy changes, or resident credit requirements that will affect this Agreement.

11. Each institution will designate in writing an employee who will serve as the point of contact for administration of this Agreement. For WCJC, that employee will be the Registrar. For University of St. Thomas, that person will be Dr. Ravi Srinivas, Associate Vice-President, Academic Affairs.

12. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas.

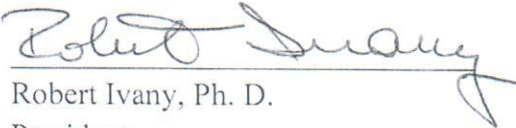
13. Neither WCJC nor University of St. Thomas waives or relinquishes any immunity or defense on behalf of itself, its trustees, regents, officers, employees, volunteers, or agents as a result of the execution of this Agreement or its performance under this Agreement.

14. Renewal or extension of this Agreement will require the written agreement of both institutions. Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the chief administrative officer of the other institution at least 180 days prior to the termination. Expiration or termination of this Agreement means that no new students will be permitted to

participate in the reverse articulation program. Any termination of this Agreement, however, shall not relieve either party from completing obligations in progress prior to the effective date of the termination. Both institutions agree that students who are currently enrolled on the effective date of the termination shall be allowed to continue their programs in accordance with the terms and conditions in effect prior to the termination of the Agreement. WCJC and University of St. Thomas intend and desire a continuing relationship for the purpose of exchanging information contained in the educational records of students who are participating in the program at the time of termination or expiration of the Agreement. The right of either institution to receive educational records terminates once all eligible students have completed their programs or are no longer eligible for the reverse articulation program.

15. This Agreement will become effective upon the execution of signatures by the responsible authority for each institution. Students are eligible to participate if they take University of St. Thomas classes during the semester the agreement becomes effective or any semester occurring during the term of this Agreement.

EXECUTED AS FOLLOWS:



Robert Ivany, Ph. D.
President
University of St. Thomas

11 MAY '16
Date



Betty McCrohan
President
Wharton County Junior College

5-18-16
Date