



# The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: September 19-20, 2016

SUBJECT: Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) Presentation		Item Number: 4.8	
		Attachment: Yes	
CATEGORY:	Academic Affairs	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Pamela D. Walker, Vice Chancellor	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Erik E. Skinner, Interim Chancellor	Action	
		Information	X

**ISSUE:** The Campaign for College Opportunity will present on their report regarding Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs), entitled “Keeping the Promise – Going the Distance on Transfer Reform.”

**BACKGROUND:** In 2010, the California State Legislature passed SB 1440 (Padilla) the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (STAR) which called for clear transfer pathways for our California Community College (CCC) students to the California State University (CSU). Specifically, the bill required the development of Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) comprised of no more than 60 semester/90 quarters units in a major or area of emphasis which would guarantee CCC transfer students admission into the CSU system with junior standing. In 2013, SB 440 (Padilla) amended the STAR Act to require each CCC to create an ADT for any major offered by that college in a discipline for which CCC and CSU faculty had jointly approved a pattern of courses known as a Transfer Model Curriculum or TMC.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This item is presented to the Board for information.

**ANALYSIS:** Since the passage of the SB 1440 (Padilla, STAR Act) and subsequently SB 440 (Padilla), the California Community Colleges (CCC) and the California State University (CSU) have made great strides in creating and implementing transfer pathways based on the ADT. While still recovering from the economic down turn and adjusting to substantial programmatic reforms stemming from the Student Success Task Force, the CCC system wasted no time in pursuing the STAR Act's vision for improved transfer. This work involved a deep collaboration between the CCC and CSU systems, with a wide range of stakeholders including the two system offices, students, faculty, staff, and administrators. From the earliest stages, the Academic Senates of the two systems provided tremendous leadership and helped to forge a curricular framework that allowed the initiative to succeed. Since that time, the CCC and CSU systems have developed an impressive track record implementing the historic STAR Act. Key accomplishments include:

- Since the passage for SB 1440, faculty from the CCC and the CSU systems have jointly developed Transfer Model Curriculum (TMCs) for ADTs in 32 disciplines.
- Based on these TMCs, the colleges have developed 2,067 ADTs which have been approved by the CCC Chancellor's Office. This impressive volume of degree development exceeded the requirements of the legislative by more than 600 ADTs.
- At this time, only 17 of the system's 113 colleges have five or more undeveloped degrees.
- The number of CCC students pursuing and earning ADTs has grown exponentially, from only 722 in 2011-12, to 5,160 in 2012-13, to 11,448 in 2013-14, to 20,644 in 2014-15
- Of the students who received AA-T/AS-T degrees in 2013-14, 7,301 transferred to CSU before the end of 2014-15.

The CCC and CSU systems remain focused on continuing our progress on the ADTs. In 2016-17, the CCC Board of Governors allocated \$3 million in Student Equity Program funding for an outreach and marketing campaign for the ADT program. From the beginning, the ADT initiative has had meager support for communications and marketing, with no dedicated funding ever being provided by the state. The upcoming communication and outreach efforts are heavily geared toward reaching historically underrepresented students and will leverage improvements to the DegreeWithAGuarantee.com website, including construction of a Spanish-language mirror site. Planned activities also include the formation of outreach teams to attend community events frequented by high school and college students to promote ADTs, a paid social media strategy, a paid radio and digital online media campaign and the development of print products, including in-language materials. We are optimistic that such efforts will result in further significant growth in the numbers of students pursuing these degrees.

For colleges still developing ADTs, the CCC Chancellor's Office Academic Affairs Division continues to provide technical assistance to the colleges in meeting their legislative obligations. Additionally, the CCC Chancellor's Office continues to look for ways in which to improve the ADT verification process.

The CCC Chancellor's Office thanks the Campaign for College Opportunity for the research and analysis contained in their March 2016 report. It is always helpful to receive input from our outside partners. The Campaign's report provides useful insight into the current state of the ADT pathways and provides suggested recommendations to the two systems.