

April 21, 2022
Quarterly COTA Meeting
MACC Columbia, MO

Present: Katelyn Wilson, Roger McMillian, David Jones, Roberto Koch, Helen Hale, Gavin O'Connor, Kara Cahill, Ross Hawkins, Mary Beth Ottinger, Terri Montgomery

Get to know you activity, Human Bingo

Approval of Dec 21 Meeting minutes – approved by Gavin, 2nd by Katelyn Wilson

We will move to WebEx meetings starting in June for virtual meetings. May 23rd virtual Zoom.

Discussion about traveling around the state for quarterly meetings instead of always Jeff City. Terri has volunteered UMSL, summer meeting in July. October in southwest Missouri. Still have WebEx virtual options for those who cannot make it for the quarterly meetings. Virtual meetings on Mondays 2-3:30.

Scheduling remainder of meetings:

- May 23rd
- June – off month
- July 21, in person, UMSL (Terri hosting), 10am-2pm
- August 15 virtual
- September 19 virtual
- October 12 in person, Southwest MO (Gavin, Helen, Ross hosting) 10-2
- November 21 virtual
- December 12 virtual
- January 23 virtual
- February TBA – conference?
- March 20 virtual
- April 20 in person, Westminster, Fulton, MO (David hosting) 10-2
- May 15 virtual
- June – off month

Kara will schedule webex and send out calendar invites for all meetings.

COTA Conference 2023 Planning Session discussion

- Reviewed results of COTA 2023 Planning survey that was sent out and the comments and totals are mixed. In Person are 25, Virtual 9, Hybrid 12, Any 1. Ross mentioned that since the lowest number was completely virtual, we offer a hybrid option to meet the requests of those who wanted In Person or hybrid. Roberto and Mary Beth agreed. Discussion was held to discuss the feasibility of hybrid conferencing and making it cost effective for those who are in person versus hybrid. Proposal to move forward with an in-person conference experience with MDHEWD's assistance with recording and technology support to offer the content virtually two weeks later. Discussion was had about where to host and cost involved. Market as an in-person conference instead of 'hybrid' model, and then a virtual option later. Discussion about having one-day in person conference. Start at 8:30am or 9:00 and end around 3pm. Survey results also indicate that respondents would favor (36) rotating conference around versus central Missouri (13). Suggestion to have this first one back in person in a Central Missouri location. Kara will do some research on conference site possibilities and provide a cost breakdown for our next meeting. Will compare last Thursday/Friday in February and first Thursday/Friday in March.

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- Kara presented discussion about high school counselors being invited to the COTA conference to help them understand some of the nuances their students face with transferring. Mary Beth agreed this could bring in a whole new audience. Roger provided information that RootED counselor positions may be another audience interested in COTA. If we do have high school counselors, Ross mentioned it would be nice to have a special session for high schools. Also, Helen mentioned have a transfer student panel.

Discussion was had about the challenge of communicating regarding COTA because we do not have a membership. Gavin mentioned having a list-serv or a way to subscribe and stay up to date with COTA news. Kara mentioned Constant Contact may be a way for us to set up a subscription service. Mailchimp was also mentioned as a free email platform. Members should have the option to unsubscribe to whatever option we choose. Mentioned that conference save the dates should be sent out to MRT Coordinators, Transfer/Articulation meetings, CAO's. May have some save the date flyers or banner apps for other state conferences like MCCA, MACADA, MACRAO. Roberto mentioned the possibility of piggy-backing off another conference like MACRAO.

Ross discussed the transfer application and adding the language about opting into the Missouri Reverse Transfer at the 4-year university. MSU is willing to add the language to their transfer admission application. The language needs to be clear so that students need to understand what they are opting into. MDHEWD provided the legal statement.

- "Missouri Reverse Transfer allows individuals who completed the required number of credits for an associate degree at a four-year institution to receive an associate's degree from the appropriate community college, even if the student transferred to a four-year college or university.
- If you qualify, the four-year institution will share your transcript with the community college(s) for consideration of eligibility and awarding of an associate degree. By selecting "yes", you consent to the sharing of your transcript for this purpose. For additional information, please visit <https://journeystocollege.mo.gov/finish/transfer-credit/reverse-transfer-program/>
- Y/N"

Ross recommends that the statement comes from the commissioner to the CAO's. Discussion was had that there should be language in the email to CAO's that this statement has been vetted through general counsel and is the recommendation of COTA that all the four-year institutions add this statement to their transfer application. Having an explanation behind the common verbiage will be important in the message to the CAO's.

Motion to approve language as is, Gavin moves, Katelyn seconds. Motion carries. Ross will draft email to Kara to send to MDHEWD for approval to be disseminated to CAO group.

Ideas for transfer topics to bring to the table for the next year:

Non-credit to credit, credit for prior learning, work-experience etc. Workforce development is a big topic for community colleges. Also an issue at the four-year level.

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Adult learners who have older credits sometimes face trouble with degree completion. What schools in Missouri have time limits on allowing students to use older credits toward degree completion?

Discussion was asked about ACE for credit earning.

Discussion about the Associate of Applied Science to transfer for bachelor's degrees, mentioned that AAS degrees can go toward Bachelor of Applied Science degrees. Question about general education completion since AAS has limited general education. WGU utilizes competency based learning models and accepts AAS degrees as a block.

Potential sub-group focusing on Adult Learners. Non-traditional transfer.

Helen provided Core-42 update from the Core-42 Advisory Council meeting regarding the discussion of elective categories. Proposal for making a recommendation to the state to study the results of Core 42 implementation. Discussion was held that most community colleges adopted the Core 42 as their institutional requirements, while the 4-year institutions may not have adopted Core 42 as their institutional requirements. What do institutions think about Core 42? How is it working? How to students opt-in at the 4-year?

Sub-group focusing on Core 42 policy.

Sub-group focusing on the conference.

Discussion about HLC becoming an institutional accreditor with national jurisdiction versus regional accreditor. Recommended that COTA has a discussion and create language to send out to the CAO's. Tabled for the next meeting. Roberto will provide Kara information about the change, Kara will send out to COTA.

Regarding AAT, MDHEWD deferred back to COTA if we want to develop anything. COTA had some discussion regarding AAT. Looked at the DESE website to look at the verbiage listed under AAT as a beginning teacher prep. Kara offered to invite Dr. Paul Katnick with DESE to our next monthly meeting to discuss our concerns.

Roger moved to adjourn meeting, Katelyn seconds. Motion carries.