

COTA Monthly Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Present: Brooke Lockhart, Gavin O'Connor, Ryan Myzak, Helen Hale, Katelyn Wilson, Roger , Christy Seawall, Ross Hawkins, Alicia Erickson, Erik Anderson, Sam Bezjak, Sarah Salmons

1. Conference planning:

a. Date and time

Feb 17, 2022: COTA date

NISTS: Feb. 2-4 2022.

In 2023, maybe move to first week of March.

b. Keynote options

Ross attended the NACADA (Global Community for Academic Advising) conference in Cincinnati, OH. During the conference, he had the opportunity to chat with Dr. Tom Grites and Emily Kittrell. Dr. Grites has recently retired from Stockton University as an Assistant Provost. He is extremely knowledgeable and well-regarded in all the work he has done throughout his career to advocate for transfer students. Ross recommended Dr. Grites as a great keynote speaker for the conference. Ross also thinks he could do a concurrent session after the keynote for those attending who wish to have additional conversation with him.

Ross also shared he may also be able to recruit a mental health clinician at MSU to do a session on avoiding compassion fatigue. He is hosting a session later this month on the topic for MSU advisors, and if it goes well, it may be nice to have that session available for COTA attendees.

Emily Kittrell is the Assistant Director for the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. As a reminder, NISTS will be held in St. Louis at the Hyatt on Feb. 2-4, 2022. Emily and Ross had a good discussion on transfer and COTA. She is willing to give us space if we would like to have a COTA meeting at the Hyatt in St. Louis either before or after the conference. Perhaps, this could replace our in-person in Jefferson City and allow us to make final preparations for the virtual COTA conference. Dr. Grites will also be in St. Louis for the conference and is willing to meet with the committee. Emily and her staff are also willing to meet with us to learn more about what is happening in Missouri and how the National Institute could partner with us.

Ross shared some articles written by Dr. Grites:

<https://www.aacrao.org/resources/newsletters-blogs/aacrao-connect/article/field-notes---barriers-and-blunders-in-the-transfer-process>

<https://www.aacrao.org/resources/newsletters-blogs/aacrao-connect/article/field-notes---remedies-for-the-transfer-process>

<https://www.nists.org/post/transfer-seminar-courses-tom-grites>

Dr. Grites: more policy focused. Very data driven.

Avoiding Compassion Fatigue: Ross said MSU is hosting a session on this; could offer as a breakout at the COTA conference.

NISTS: Would there be any value having an in-person COTA meeting at NISTS in St. Louis instead of in Jefferson City. Have our Feb. meeting at NISTS in STL instead of in Jefferson City.

Christy said she'd be willing to go to STL.
Brooke, possibly Helen, Christy.

Maybe ask them to give a shoutout at NISTS to announce the COTA conference.

Could we have a closing speaker as well? Maybe a student speaker who has done the journey. Can put out a call to students or alumni who have transferred.

- c. Fee or free:
Free for 2022; consider a fee for 2023's in person conference. Ask department if it can be funded and free and open to the public. Alicia noted that if a fee is prohibitive, it might make sense to advocate for a free event that the department pays for. We could also seek underwriters.
- d. Theme
Sarah asked the committee to brainstorm some theme ideas and the theme will be a topic of the November 15 COTA meeting.
Some themes suggested in the chat:
Transfer Matters
Making Transfer Count
Accountability
One Step Closer
- e. Seek conference proposals
The committee recommended Sarah send out an RFP in October so people will have time to put a proposal together. Sarah will try to get one out in the next couple of days. They will be due Dec. 1. COTA will select the proposals at the Dec. 9 meeting.
- f. Communication-Save the date
A Save the Date will be sent out in October as well.
- g. Financials of COTA
Sarah and Alicia reported that the COTA fund had to be spent down by MDHEWD or it would have been swept by the state treasurer. But COTA will have the resources to fund

the conferences. Alicia recommended making a budget request for future conferences, especially once we return to in-person convening. The cost of an in-person conference is usually \$10,000.

- h. Sarah showed off the new conference landing website that will be available for COTA's conference. It is currently being used for the upcoming Equity Summit. [DHEWD Summit – Equity – Missouri Higher Education \(mo.gov\)](#)

2. AAT: Erik Anderson

Leaning toward forming a taskforce. There were a few who were interested from COTA. Sue Bateman, Ross Hawkins, and Brooke Lockhart, Katelyn Wilson. Christy Seawall said she will check to see if someone from WGU Missouri Academics could join.

Ed prep folks said it's not really a 2+2. More like 2+1 ½ because students do student teaching. Discussions around developing an AA that is focused on ed prep.

Working closely with DESE on fixing this pipeline. Also doing Grow your own programs. Still in exploratory phase. Hope the taskforce will begin in 2022. Goal is to get more students and more diverse students in the pipeline.

Helen: Thanks for the update -- but I do agree it needs revamped, especially now with Core 42

Christy Shared: We just redesigned our teacher prep core:
<https://www.wgu.edu/blog/tclc/reinventing-professional-core2109.html#close>

- 3. CORE 42 updates -- Alicia
Meeting tomorrow. Also deadline for new courses. Reminder that the deadline is tomorrow. Review period is Oct. 18-Nov. 15. Received 100 course submissions so far. Also working on developing SLOs for each MOTR. Establishing outcomes as an ongoing project. MACRO subcommittee came up with a process document. It has guidelines for how the committee will operate. Will help for future.

4. Other announcements

WGU events:

www.wgu.edu/ntsw

<https://www.wgu.edu/lp/webinar/future-ready-workforce.html>

Equity in Missouri Higher Education Summit
[DHEWD Summit – Equity – Missouri Higher Education \(mo.gov\)](#)

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30.

Upcoming meetings:

Nov. 15, 2-3:30 p.m. (virtual)

Dec. 9, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Jefferson City)

Jan. 24, 2-3:30 p.m. (virtual)

Feb. 2-4 TBD Meet at NISTS?

Feb. 10, TBD (virtual; COTA Conference Rehearsal)

Feb. 17, TBD COTA Conference