

Discipline-Based Faculty Group Formation

Context

Washington is recognized as a national leader in transfer. For over 50 years, Washington's public and private, non-profit baccalaureate institutions, and community and technical colleges have developed and implemented policies and processes that reduce barriers for transfer students.

Washington's nationally recognized transfer work is led by institutional leaders engaged in multi-sector groups that collaborate to solve emerging issues and continue advancements for the future.

Critical to this work is engagement of faculty across sectors to share information, build relationships, proactively solve problems, and increase the transparency and efficiency of Washington's statewide transfer degrees, yet opportunities for faculty engagement are limited.

Proposal

To facilitate faculty participation as shapers of Washington state transfer, the Joint Transfer Council (JTC) supports the formation of discipline-based faculty groups who will connect and collaborate with JTC to:

- Contribute to the development or revision of statewide transfer degrees in Washington;
- Improve transfer student achievement; and
- Reduce equity gaps in discipline-specific courses or programs.

These discipline-specific faculty groups may focus solely on transfer-related issues or may include a focus on transfer as part of their overall work.

For discipline-specific faculty groups already formed, the Council seeks to form a working relationship.

The Council will engage with discipline-specific faculty groups to provide information regarding the transfer landscape in Washington and current state-level policies and processes to inform the groups' work and establish a framework of understanding of Washington transfer.

Criteria

The formation of such groups would be guided by the criteria identified below:

- The racially diverse discipline-based faculty group must include representation from Washington's community and technical colleges, and from both public and non-profit, private baccalaureate institutions.
- The group will clearly identify the academic disciplines it represents.
- With majority support of the discipline-based faculty group's members, the group will develop a Charter, to include:
 - Statement of Purpose/Scope of Work
 - Organization
 - Meeting Structure
 - Anticipated duration of group (e.g., indefinite, a specified length of time, or until completion of a specific task)
- The group will identify how its work connects with statewide transfer and will engage with the Joint Transfer Council.