

Docket Item:

Update on Phase II of the Interstate Passport

Summary:

Committee members will hear an update on the Interstate Passport and Oregon's participation in it.

In May of 2015, SSIC was briefed on the Interstate Passport, a WICHE initiative to remake interstate student transfer based on learning outcomes (LO) rather than course to course articulation. Passport's main goal is to reduce unnecessary repetition of coursework by transfer students. Passport is:

- Grassroots, with LOs negotiated by faculty in participating states, and implementation by registrars and advisors at participating institutions
- Based in LEAP learning outcomes and standards
- Voluntary; no institution is required to change anything about its own standards to participate
- Data driven; Passport students are tracked for two terms after transfer to a new institution, and their GPAs compared to direct entry and "traditional" transfer students.

In Oregon, Blue Mountain Community College and Western Oregon University have been enthusiastic participants, along with schools from California, Hawaii, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

Several key developments are worthy of note for Phase II in 2016.

- New participants: Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, with others about to join.
- Quality Assurance: participant outcome data will be tracked by the National Center for Educational Assessment. There will also be a longitudinal study of Passport transfer student outcomes conducted by Rutgers University between 2016-2022.
- A Department of Education First in the World grant for \$2.99M will allow Passport to continue to scale to a national program, and support its ambitious research and data agenda
- New business, communication, and marketing plans are in the works. Passport will be a self-sustaining entity within five years.

Why this is important: Passport is a streamlined transfer and completion project with real academic quality assurance built into its model. Moreover, HB 2525 seeks solutions to create more efficient and effective processes for transfer for Oregon students – and the Passport Learning Outcomes negotiation model may prove instructive as universities and community colleges collaborate in the future on alignment to streamline vertical transfer in specific majors.

Staff Recommendation:

Information only