

**Articulation Agreement
Between
The George Washington University, through its College of Professional Studies
and
Northern Virginia Community College
for the
Bachelor of Professional Studies in Integrated Information, Science and Technology**

I. PURPOSE

In order to better serve the citizens of Virginia, the Northern Virginia Community College ("NOVA") and The George Washington University ("GW" or "University") agree to collaborate to offer a pathway that will provide students at NOVA access to Bachelor's degree in information systems, biotechnology, or related fields. This articulation agreement ("Agreement") is designed to coordinate transfer policies, enhance advising, and promote the acceptance of equivalent courses/credits between The George Washington University, a congressionally chartered non-profit corporation, through its unincorporated division, The George Washington University College of Professional Studies ("GWPCS") and NOVA, a Northern Virginia educational institution.

GWPCS and NOVA recognize the need and importance of facilitating the transfer of students from one institution to the other as they pursue their educational goals. Therefore, GWPCS and NOVA enter into this agreement for the purpose of articulating policies and procedures governing the matriculation of NOVA graduates holding an Associate of Science ("AS") degree in a science or technology related field (i.e. Science, Engineering, Information Technology or Computer Science) to the Bachelor of Professional Studies in Integrated Information, Science, and Technology program at GWPCS.

II. ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT

A. Admissions Practices

1. GWPCS will accept applications from students who graduate with an AS in a science or technology related field from NOVA for admission to the Bachelor of Professional Studies in Integrated Information, Science, and Technology program ("IIST Program") at GWPCS. GWPCS and NOVA agree to work together to identify the fields of study at NOVA that are a good match for the IIST program with the understanding that GWPCS will make the final decision on the inclusion of an AS degree in the list of qualified degrees for transfer. If there is any disagreement as to whether a student's AS degree qualifies as being in an acceptable science or technology related field, GWPCS shall have the final decision making authority.
2. Completion of a Bachelor's degree in IIST may lead to eligibility for entry into Master's degree programs in Molecular Biotechnology and Information Systems Technology at the University, assuming that the NOVA student meets the criteria for admission to each GW degree program. NOVA applicants must meet the same prerequisites, grade point average ("GPA") and other admissions criteria as other native or transfer students applying to GWPCS.
3. For a specified and agreed upon period of time prior to the start of each cohort group, GWPCS will guarantee admission to the IIST Program to an agreed upon number of qualified NOVA graduates who satisfy the requirements for admission. GW shall have final discretion as to which qualified NOVA graduates shall be offered admission to the IIST Program under the terms of this Agreement.
4. GWPCS and NOVA will jointly market the IIST Program and will jointly approve marketing materials for inclusion in NOVA publications and websites. GWPCS will provide marketing material to NOVA students and prospective students about the IIST

Program and will include information about the AS programs in GWCPS brochures and bulletins.

5. GWCPS will provide information sessions about the IIST Program at least once a semester for prospective NOVA students.

B. Acceptance and Application of Credits

1. In consultation with GWCPS faculty, NOVA will develop an advising sheet for students enrolled or contemplating enrollment in NOVA AS degree programs in science and technology related fields. This advising sheet will recommend a course of study within the AS program, specifying courses that articulate with the GWCPS program and including the prerequisite course content required for admission to the IIST Program.
2. NOVA will permit GWCPS faculty and staff to meet with and advise NOVA students about the IIST Program, including admissions requirements.
3. Students completing the AS in a science or technology related field at NOVA will be considered to have met all lower division general education requirements at GWCPS.
4. Where course equivalencies exist for required courses and/or prerequisites, these courses will apply to GWCPS graduation requirements in the student's stated major field of study. If the courses are taught at the junior or senior levels at GWCPS, students will be required to take courses to earn upper division credit.
5. Credits can only be transferred for courses in which grades of C or higher were earned at NOVA. GWCPS shall have sole discretion as to whether credits earned at NOVA may be accepted for transfer to GWCPS.
6. GWCPS will evaluate courses/credits earned through Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), or other testing programs to determine if such course or credits may be transferred to GWCPS. GWCPS also will evaluate courses/credits earned at other regionally accredited institutions for transfer applicability. GWCPS shall have sole discretion as to the acceptability of any courses or credits for transfer.
7. GWCPS will maintain course equivalency information and make this information readily available to NOVA.
8. Students transferring to GWCPS from NOVA will be required to complete a minimum of 60 credit hours of GWCPS coursework to be eligible for earning a Bachelor's degree from GWCPS. This requirement assumes that NOVA students will have at least 60 transferable credit hours, with grades of C or higher, upon the completion of their AS degree.

C. Update/Report/Relationship

GWCPS and NOVA agree to review this Agreement and any related transfer course equivalencies annually. NOVA will designate an individual to serve as liaison for the purposes of monitoring this Agreement and who will work with a coordinator from GWCPS. Each institution will provide updated catalogs to the other immediately upon their availability. GWCPS agrees to provide NOVA reports of enrolled NOVA transfer students, their majors and academic performance to the extent permitted in accordance to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines when 10 or more NOVA transfer students are enrolled in any given year.

D. Amendments and Term of Effect

1. The transfer advising sheets in effect at the time a student first enrolls at NOVA will be honored by GWCPS if the student completes an AS degree and successfully transfers to GWCPS within four (4) years of that first enrollment at NOVA.

2. This Agreement may be amended in writing as needed upon the mutual agreement of the parties, provided however that any modification, amendment or supplement to this Agreement will only be considered binding where it is signed by a duly authorized representative of GW and NOVA. All course-by-course transfer sheets may be amended as needed.
3. This Agreement will commence as of January 1, 2011 and continue in effect for a period of ten (10) years and may be renewed for additional five (5) year periods upon written mutual agreement of the parties. Either party may terminate this Agreement upon written notice to other party of an intention to terminate for any or no reason. Such notice will be effective only if given sixty (60) days prior to the intended date of termination. In the event that this Agreement is terminated prior to the expiration date of this Agreement, GWCPs and NOVA agree to reasonably cooperate in good faith to honor commitments to NOVA students accepted under this Agreement as of the date of termination.
4. Notices: All notices, demands or other writings to be given, made or sent under this Agreement shall be deemed to have been fully given, made or sent when made in writing and deposited in the United States mail or transmitted by commercial expedited delivery service, registered and postage prepaid, and addressed to the relevant Party at the address set forth below.

To GWU: Dr. Ali Eskandarian
Senior Associate Dean
College of Professional Studies
The George Washington University
805 21st Street NW, Suite 301
Washington, D.C. 20052

To NOVA: Dr. Sharon Robertson
Associate Vice President for Academic Services
Northern Virginia Community College
4001 Wakefield Chapel Road
Annandale, VA 22003
5. Monies: There will be no exchange of monies for any of the collaborative efforts that are the subject of this Agreement.

E. Miscellaneous

1. Assignment. This Agreement is not assignable or transferable by any party without the prior written consent of the other party.
2. Non-Discrimination. The parties hereto shall abide by all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and University policies or statements prohibiting discrimination.
3. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable under present or future law as effective during the term hereof, such provision shall be fully severable. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable provision had never been a part of the Agreement, and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect unaffected by such severance, provided that the severed provision(s) are not material to the overall purpose and operation of the Agreement.
4. Waiver. Waiver by any party of any breach of any provision of this Agreement or warranty or representation herein set forth shall not be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any other provision. The failure to exercise any right here upon shall not operate as a waiver of such right. All rights and remedies provided for herein are cumulative.

5. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the Parties regarding the subject matter of the Agreement and supersede any prior agreements, releases, or stipulations, oral or written, and all other communications between the Parties relating to such subject matter.
6. Amendment. This Agreement may be amended by the written mutual agreement of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their respective duly authorized representatives as of the date first below written.

By: Kathleen M. Burke
Name: Kathleen Burke, PhD
Dean, College of Professional Studies
The George Washington University

Date: 3-30-2011

By: Steven Lerman
Name: Steven Lerman, PhD
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
The George Washington University

Date: 4-1-2011

By: John V. Dever
Name: John V. Dever, PhD
Executive Vice President
Northern Virginia Community College

Date: 3-24-2011

By: Robert G. Templin, Jr.
Name: Robert G. Templin, Jr., EdD
President
Northern Virginia Community College

Date: 3-24-11