

Dual Credit Articulation Committee (DCAC)

DRAFT – Breakout Session Discussion Draft Notes – Oct. 18, 2019

- Focus on issues/items/barriers to dual credit that we (the committee – school authorities (SAs), post-secondary institutions (PSIs), business/industry (Firms)) can address and action items/recommendations that we can complete; how can we best do dual credit
- Seeking working group volunteers from the larger committee to further develop the issues and complete action items
- Examples of issues/items/barriers to dual credit that members of the committee can work together to address
 - **Adding SAs to DC course codes/agreements:**
 - How can we streamline processes to add additional SAs to a PSI DC agreement?
 - Once the approved course codes are able to be publicly shared/openly shared, is it possible to remove the need for the lead SA to broker/email Alberta Education re: the addition of new SA's and instead have them be able to do so directly with the PSI (building efficiencies)?
 - Understood that there would need to be a form of tracking for this, and could have a slightly different mechanism for approval for those who are new to participating in DC and don't have any pre-existing course codes/agreements. Also need to ensure that all SAs have read the DC Framework and know their local context/etc. May also need some updates to the course code application form to address the reality that some SAs and PSIs have developed types of sustainable partnerships already across Alberta and need to acknowledge this. Also need to continue to be aware that some are new and do not have this developed understanding and partnerships.
 - Not all SAs may be equally invested into dual credit so how to promote DC? CASS was suggested for communication. It was also suggested that the ACAT the committee evolve into taking on this role.
 - Some suggested that not all PSIs may be equally interested in DC. There is also some debate regarding if there is a gap regarding where students are geographically in the province and that there still may be a struggle with location, and to what extent the many online opportunities mitigate this gap.
 - **Recognition of DC credit at PSIs:** How can we address/have awareness around some students potentially not receiving credit or not receiving scholarships at some PSIs for students who have taken DC courses at other PSIs?

- Some students also may not be aware of post-secondary institution policies re: high school versus post-secondary student status and when this applies. This is a key item to address between secondary and post-secondary, and can affect if students know how to declare their previous post-secondary studies when applying to post-secondary. This can also create an inconsistency as to how students are being seen coming out of DC and going into post-secondary.
- **How to make DC sustainable at PSIs/For all:**
 - Question re: if funding will make DC a priority
 - Comments that DC is “on fire” in some areas in Alberta with participating SAs and PSIs
- **Communication:**
 - How do we get PSIs/SAs/Firms not at this committee table into the information loop?
 - Committee purpose recommended to shift in structure to have clear action plan direction, working groups (SAs, PSIs, Firms, New to DC, Experienced DC, other?), committee and working group meetings, and clear communication and action items with an information-sharing and networking conference focus
 - How can we more broadly share DC information across our systems?
 - It was suggested onboarding was a weakness of the current ACAT committee structure for dual credit and that a more welcoming structure would be beneficial, especially for newcomers to dual credit.
 - CASS information sharing
 - ACAT Secretariat information sharing, ACAT and Transfer Alberta websites
 - PSI and SA websites
 - Dual credit network of individuals – provincial team of experts willing to share their expertise. This could be a list of contacts from this committee for SAs, PSIs, Business/Industry and could grow.
 - Annual conference/symposium/meeting for dual credit that would include stakeholders within and beyond the committee
 - Comments were also made about the NACEP (National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships) and National Career Pathways Network conferences in the US as being very successful models.
 - Communication developed that can be broadly shared re: updates, suggestions, case studies, etc.

- Develop an action plan for the committee to direct the work and purpose of the committee
 - Develop key task for members and working groups for SAs, PSIs, and Firms
 - Need for data sharing
 - Need for connection to and information sharing with parent associations
 - Need to connect to and information share with student advisors (high school and PSI)
 - Feeling that newsletters or tweets or website flashes will get ignored
 - Used to have ATA representation as did ASBA, and we now have a letter from the ATA that we can get another ATA representative on board if needed
- **Best Practices:**
 - Need to capture DC best practices and share these online/with others
 - Opportunity for orientation for those who are new to DC and to connect
 - Opportunity for experienced DC partners to connect
 - Need a conference format included to link multiple levels of organizations (SAs, PSIs, etc.) (targeting a specific problem we are trying to solve and considering partnering, funding, timing, etc.)
- **Priorities/Next Steps for the Committee:**
 - Identify a **small working group to develop a draft strategic action plan** for the committee (including key goals, outcomes, activities)
 - Volunteers to develop the draft strategic action plan...
 - Aim for May for draft
 - Larger committee to review (can be via email and a teleconference)
 - Conference participants to review
 - Need an action plan and shared messaging to support DC / committee members to build a common understanding re: why, how, feasibility
 - Volunteers to develop the action plan:
 - Identify a **small working group to develop a draft conference plan** for Spring 2020 (May?)
 - Volunteers to develop the draft conference plan...
 - Related Questions: Does this align with Skills Canada Conference May 6/7 and is a good fit instead of a stand alone conference at first/ongoing?
 - Does this align with Labour?
 - Other?
- Next Meeting:

- Email out and virtual meeting for the draft action plan and draft conference plan to the committee by end of February
- Planned conference for May (if/as feasible)