

**TAP Framework Implementation Review Committee (FIRC)**  
**Friday, December 11, 2015 - 10:00a.m. – Noon**  
**Conference Room 123**  
**39 Woodland Avenue**  
**Hartford, CT**

**Present:** D. Weiss (co-chair, SCSU), L. Doninger (co-chair, GCC), M. Coach (ACC), F. Coan (TXCC), J. Day (ECSU), N. Esposito (MCC), S. Fagbemi (CCC), S. Gusky (NWCC), K. Gorniak-Kocikowska (COSC), B. Merenstein (CCSU), P. Raymond (MXCC), S. Selke (TRCC), E. Steeves (HCC), B. Tedesco (NVCC)

**Present Non-Voting:** N. Kullberg (WCSU), K. Pittman (TXCC)

**Absent:** R. Gustafson (WCSU), B. Donohue-Lynch (QVCC), S. Montez (NCC)

**Call to Order:** D. Weiss called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Announcements:** None

**Minutes:** The minutes of 11/13/15 were approved with one minor correction.

**Reports**

**TAP Co-Managers (K. Klucznik and C. Barrington)**

- The co-managers distributed copies of a handout listing how each CSU institution has voted (if at all) on each of the eleven pathways the FIRC has reviewed.
- The co-managers have met with transfer advisors and registrars, who have pointed out some difficulties TAP may create both for themselves and for transferring students. Until Banner is programmed to identify, track, and audit TAP students, somebody at each CSU will have to do this work manually. Students who repeat courses with the same or similar name may suffer financial aid penalties. Also, who will inform students about TAP, who will advise them, and how will advisors be trained? How will incoming students be received and oriented at the CSUs? It may behoove each of the four-year institutions to have a dedicated TAP counselor.
- Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP) advisors at UConn have expressed an interest in TAP.
- Some discussions have taken place about TAP scholarships, to be awarded to transferring students. Both full-time and part-time students would be eligible for these scholarships, which may include a waiver of admissions fees and a tuition reduction based on GPA.
- A timeline is being established for marketing TAP on-line and in print. Brochures may be made available for both advisors and students.
- By March 1, some common language on TAP will be completed for possible use on campus websites and in catalogs.
- Most campuses have yet to submit Template 4 (the list of courses vetted for TAP) to the co-managers.
- The co-managers met with President Ojakian, who is “very much behind” TAP.

- The co-managers asked the FIRC members to assist them in attempting to dispel a myth prevalent throughout the CSCU system, namely that the CSU faculty are opposed to TAP and are attempting to obstruct the creation and implementation of the TAP umbrella degree and associated pathways. Those present agreed that some faculty at both the two-year and four-year institutions have indeed expressed opposition to various elements of TAP, but most of this resistance has been aimed at a few of the pathways, not the TAP degree or the overall goal of the initiative.

### **Campus Updates**

**SCSU:** Has endorsed all of the pathways.

**WCSU:** The Senate will vote on the biology and mathematics pathways in January and the other pathways in February. The institution will be embedding requirements for transfer students into “courses students will take” instead of into a mandatory First Year Experience course. It is not clear, however, if all of the requirements will be covered in a single course or if they will be distributed among multiple courses.

**HCC:** Has endorsed all of the pathways. The General Education core needs to be modified to address the needs of TAP students.

**TRCC:** Has endorsed all of the pathways. The History department has endorsed the revised history pathway, which will be considered by the Curriculum Committee in January. It is not clear who will oversee TAP on campus. Vetting is complete for all the TAP designated courses, and the General Education Committee is finalizing a plan for addressing the embedded TAP requirements. This plan should be completed and implemented in Spring 2016.

**CCSU:** Has endorsed the English and political science pathways. The Academic Dean is considering the sociology, chemistry, and mathematics pathways and will be examining the psychology pathway, recently endorsed by the Psychology department. The Curriculum Committee will be voting on the criminology pathway.

**ECSU:** Is still working on creating an approvals process for the TAP umbrella degree and pathways. The Senate will be addressing this matter in February, and the TAP co-managers will be present to answer questions and offer guidance. The History department has endorsed the history pathway

**NVCC:** Has endorsed all of the pathways save criminology, mathematics, and social work, which are being examined at the divisional level. Faculty have assessed two of the TAP competencies and have created a plan of assessment for all of them.

**CCC:** The criminology pathway has been approved at the curriculum level, while the social work pathway has been rejected at the departmental and curricular level and is “most unlikely” to be endorsed. The communications pathway is “stalled,” while the mathematics pathway will be reviewed at the departmental level.

**NWCC:** Will examine the revised history pathway in March.

**TXCC:** The Academic Affairs committee endorsed the criminology, communication, and mathematics pathways, all of which will be voted on at PSO next week. The committee rejected the social work pathway, while the English pathway is in limbo. While the FIRC representative is willing to act as campus TAP overseer, he will not take on additional work and responsibilities unless the college administration grants him release time.

**ACC:** Has almost completed vetting courses for TAP, with history the only discipline not yet completed.

**MCC:** The following pathways have been endorsed: psychology, chemistry, communication, English, political science, and sociology. Hopefully, math, criminology and social work will be coming to Senate in February. MCC's curriculum committee is working on creating a new form and SOP to pass TAP pathways.

**COSC:** Nothing new to report.

**MXCC:** Has endorsed all of the pathways and will complete vetting courses for TAP by December 1. The TAP overseer will include this work as part of her additional responsibilities.

**GCC:** Has endorsed all of the pathways save communication and English, which are stalled. The Liberal Arts and Sciences coordinator will oversee TAP. Template 4 (as much as has been completed) has been submitted to the TAP co-managers.

**QVCC:** No report.

**NCC:** No report.

**History Pathway:** The TAP co-managers briefed those present on the revised history pathway, which includes language clarifying the original document but does not alter the pathway in any way. They asked the faculty of NWCC, TRCC, and NCC, all of which voted against the initial document, to reconsider their votes. The FIRC committee accepted the revised document without any comments or suggestions.

**Other:** The list of General Education I and General Education II courses will be reviewed by the CSU and COSC curriculum committees. A brief discussion took place about how and where information about the TAP degree and pathways should be included and arranged in college catalogs. The TAP co-managers support the drafting of some common language explaining TAP for use on all CSCU campuses. They asked FIRC members to seek feedback from the faculty on their respective institutions on the following explanatory statement:

*The Transfer and Articulation Program (TAP) is a new program for ensuring Connecticut community college students complete degree programs that transfer to Connecticut State Universities and Charter Oak without either losing or generating excess credit.*

**FIRC members should forward feedback to the TAP co-managers by February 12.**

A question was asked about the possible need to create learning outcomes for each of the pathways, as the TAP degree itself includes outcomes for the Framework30 requirements only. Those present agreed that the various pathways groups would have to complete this work, which is not included in the FIRC charge.

**Next Meeting:** February 5, 10:00 a.m. to Noon, 39 Woodland Avenue, Hartford, CT.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francis M. Coan