

ASSIST Transfer Channel

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On Campus

Jane Leaphart has twice been the Articulation Officer in the Office of Academic Records at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, once from October 1995 to May 2000 and again from July 2004 to the present. During the past 19 years, she has held several other positions at Cal Poly SLO, all in the Office of Academic Records: University Athletics Evaluator, Assistant Director of the Records Unit, Degree Audit Coordinator and Evaluator.

Greetings from Cal Poly! California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo is back in the articulation business with current articulation published on ASSIST. During the past year, the articulation staff (now two of us, including Patsy Sanders, Articulation Specialist) have been working on updating our articulation agreements. Last year, we updated all 109 California Community Colleges (CCC) to 2005-06 with "By Department" and "By Major" agreements for all of our majors, and we are working on the 22 CSU and nine UC campuses right now. We are almost ready to start the 2006-07 articulation agreements. We plan to move forward with updating our CCC agreements annually and the four-years as time allows.

With a five-year backlog in articulation, we wondered, where should we start? ASSIST to the rescue! In one short year, Cal Poly SLO with one new and energetic staff member, Patsy Sanders, and one part-time articulation officer, updated all of our two-year agreements with the California Community Colleges and are part way done with updating our four-year agreements. I take personal pride in "messing up all of the ASSIST stats" to quote Eric Taggart at the last annual ASSIST Statewide Conference. Way to go SLO!

We now speak the language of ASSIST-eaze. We "merge," instead of roll-over our agreements from year to year. When a course is no longer taught, it is "terminated" the term after it was last taught. When we want to know what happened to a course over the past five years, we check out "Course Versions." I could go on and on but those of you who use ASSIST know what I mean, and those who don't don't need to know. The amount of data at our

fingertips in ASSIST and the accuracy of the data is amazing. With your help and your timely curriculum updates, we were able to track courses and keep much of our articulation in place without having to start from scratch. Thank you!

We know the community college counselors and transfer centers use the articulation agreements to aid students in determining how credit will be applied for a specific course or major. So, we have an additional resource for you to bookmark and use. Our Admissions Office has developed a Web site which should be used in conjunction with the published articulation agreements. It contains detailed information about impact criteria and preparation for transferring to Cal Poly SLO. It is available at: http://www.ess.calpoly.edu/_admiss/undergrad/prospective_transfer.htm (that's an underscore after .edu/_ and after prospective_). This website is the ultimate guide for transfer criteria and preparation. Use these pages with the articulation agreements to help students be as competitive as possible for admission. While you are there, check out the admissions Web site that has more useful information: <http://www.calpoly.edu/student/prospective.html>.

We are anxious to see the upcoming enhancements to ASSIST with the LDTP information. LDTP will provide an additional avenue for students to prepare to transfer to the CSU with fewer excess units and clear direction on coursework needed for specific majors. However, we will continue to provide full "By Department" and "By Major" agreements for the students not following the LDTP path to admissions.

This is a perfect opportunity to publicly thank you, the articulation community, which includes articulation officers and staff across the state and the ASSIST Coordination Site, for your patience and assistance. The collegial and professional support offered by our community encouraged us each step of the way.

I am thrilled to be part of the articulation community, again. I know that our common interest in aiding students to transfer with the degree credit they expect and deserve is our primary concern. We will continue to ASSIST them with the valuable data in the future.

Cheers,
Jane Leaphart