

April 23, 2001

Jonathan Brown
President
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
1100 Eleventh Street, Suite 315
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear President Brown,

The ASSIST Board of Directors has been working with Juan Yniguez since 1997 to investigate possibilities for including course articulation between AICCU member institutions and California Community Colleges in the ASSIST database. The ASSIST Coordination Site has received numerous requests from both AICCU member institutions and California Community Colleges to include this valuable information in ASSIST. However, since ASSIST is publicly funded the Coordination Site has not been authorized by the ASSIST Board to proceed until a funding mechanism and appropriate policies could be established.

In 1998 ASSIST Director, Eric Taggart, wrote to Juan on behalf of the ASSIST Board reiterating our interest in establishing policies to include articulation with AICCU member institutions in ASSIST. The last time we heard from Juan on this topic he was preparing a survey to help determine how many AICCU members were interested in participating in ASSIST. Although we have not officially heard the results of this survey, in other venues we have heard that preliminary results indicated moderate levels of interest and that cost was a significant issue.

The ASSIST Board has already adopted policies that would support the inclusion of articulation with AICCU member institutions in ASSIST and we have had numerous discussions regarding annual costs. Director Taggart has informally shared with Juan the issues the Board faces with these policies and costs.

On March 27, 2001 I learned that AICCU has elected to purchase a system from a Canadian vendor to place all of their course articulation on the Internet. While I am disappointed to learn this, I understand that you have other priorities and need to move forward. I believe it is still important to continue discussing how we can facilitate student access to articulation information for both private and public institutions.

Perhaps when your new system is on-line we can discuss how we might improve student access to articulation information in these two systems.

Sincerely,

Carla Ferri
Chair, ASSIST Board of Directors

cc: ASSIST Board of Directors