

Functional Requirements

ASSIST Enhancements to Implement the Model Articulation Format

March 18, 2002

The following definition of functional requirements represents the second phase in the software development process for the “Model Articulation Format” project. This project calls for the enhancement of existing ASSIST software to support the Model Articulation Format.

The items listed here are directly related to features described in the “CIAC Model Articulation Format Document” (October 2001) that are handled by the ASSIST software. These items are described here as changes to the current ASSIST software. When all of the Model Articulation Format features that are handled by the ASSIST software are implemented, they will apply to all articulation in ASSIST and individual universities will not be able to override them. It should be noted that many of the changes that may be required to bring a university’s articulation into compliance with the Model Articulation Format must be handled by the university staff who do data entry into ASSIST. Such changes are recommended but are not mandatory.

Functional Requirements:

- 1) Suppress the display of “Sign Off Dates” in final displays (HTML and PDF) of articulation agreements in both Web ASSIST and the ASSIST Articulation Maintenance Reports. “Sign Off Dates” are still to show in draft displays.
- 2) Eliminate the display of IGETC and CSU GE Certification codes in all articulation agreement displays (draft and final, HTML and PDF).
- 3) Display a modified heading for draft articulation agreement displays and indicate when individual instances are in draft mode (HTML and PDF as described in the CIAC Model Articulation Format Appendix 2).
- 4) Always display course titles and unit values in articulation agreement displays (draft and final, HTML and PDF). Currently individual universities can choose whether or not to display course titles and unit values for individual articulation agreements using the ASSIST Articulation Maintenance data entry system.
- 5) Automatically display a “Same As” course comment for any cross listed courses in articulation agreements (draft and final, HTML and PDF). The ASSIST curriculum data will be the only source for cross listing information.

- 6) Always display the receiving institution information on the left-hand side of the report and the sending institution information on the right-hand side of the report regardless of which institution was chosen first (draft and final, HTML and PDF). Currently the information for the first institution selected during prompting is displayed on the left and the other institution is displayed on the right.
- 7) In the ASSIST Articulation Maintenance Reports web site prompting pages for articulation agreements, remove the prompt for which institution to display on the left side.
- 8) On the Web ASSIST prompting page where the user can select the department to display, provide one set of choices for the receiving institution's departments and a separate set of choices for the sending institution's departments. Currently the user is only provided a choice of departments for the first institution selected during prompting.
- 9) On the ASSIST Articulation Maintenance Reports web site prompting page where the user can select the department to display, provide one set of choices for the receiving institution's departments and a separate set of choices for the sending institution's departments. Currently the user is only provided a choice of departments for the institution specified in the prior prompting page.
- 10) In articulation agreement displays by department, always sort instances by the receiving institution courses.
- 11) In articulation agreement displays by department, add a final line of text at the end of a department that reads "END OF DEPARTMENT".
- 12) In articulation agreement displays by major, add a final line of text at the end of a major that reads "END OF MAJOR".
- 13) ASSIST Coordination Site staff work with universities to ensure that major long names that have a BA/BS designations include that designation at the end of the long name so that the list of majors sorts in a more useful manner.
- 14) In Web ASSIST articulation agreement reports (and TCA reports) make the special "Print" button more prominent. Consider including it at the beginning of each HTML report as is done in the ASSIST Articulation Maintenance Reports web site.
- 15) Consider adding the ability for universities to specify multiple long names for a major so that a single major can be "cross listed" under more common names to make it easier for students to identify a desired major. When one of these "alias" long names for a major is chosen, the user will be provided with a report for the real name of the major. These aliases could also be a standard set of major names so that students could more easily compare articulation between universities.

- 16) In Web ASSIST, add more information to the Major/Department prompt page that recommends the student use Major Preparation articulation when both departmental and major preparation are available.
- 17) In Web ASSIST, add more information to the Major/Department prompt page that tells a student how departmental articulation can be used in conjunction with a university general catalog when the university does not provide Major Preparation articulation agreements.
- 18) Remove the “Transfer Policies” button and the accompanying information from HTML articulation agreement displays.
- 19) Add “www.assist.org” to the top line of every page in PDF reports for articulation agreements and TCA information.

Resources:

The implementation of this project is expected to be conducted by existing ASSIST Coordination Site staff. No additional resources are anticipated in order to conduct the implementation of this project.

However, one of the programmers who will be working on this project will be retiring in June 2002 and will be available to work on an hourly basis while in retirement. Limitations on retired workers defined in University of California personnel policies may cause delays in the development and testing of this project.

Schedule:

This project is expected to be completed by December 2002.