Memorandum of Understanding between Southeast New Mexico College and Western New Mexico University

*Southeast New Mexico College and Western New Mexico University proudly announce the collaboration of efforts and resources to promote educational and career opportunities for New Mexico students and beyond by creating a **Master Articulation Agreement.***

I. PURPOSE

This memorandum of understanding is designed to encourage student completion of the associate's degree and support transition and completion of the bachelor's degree by agreement to coordinate transfer policies, enhance advising, and promote the acceptance of the programmatic transfer of courses/credits between Southeast New Mexico College (SENMC) and Western New Mexico University (WNMU).

II. ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT

A. Admissions Practices

1. WNMU guarantees admission for students from SENMC upon completion of any associate degree program of study offered at the time of this agreement.

2. SENMC students will have access to advising from WNMU staff before, during, and after the transition to WNMU. SENMC will assist WNMU advising staff in contacting SENMC students in the relevant degree programs to advise them of the transfer degree programs available at WNMU.

3. Dual Enrollment for SENMC students who declare the intention of transferring to WNMU will be offered the following support while completing their SENMC degrees: (a) A WNMU advisor will be assigned to assist in course selection and ensure that the SENMC courses will apply to the student's selected degree program at WNMU; (b) SENMC students may receive access to selected student services and privileges at WNMU while at SENMC, e.g., access to the library, fine arts and cultural events, and admission to sports events; (c) SENMC students will be eligible for transfer student scholarships without further application.

4. SENMC students who accumulate college credits after graduation from SENMC and before admission to WNMU become subject to the following transfer policy: *transfer students whose combined GPA from all transfer institutions falls below WNMU's acceptable standards (as described in the appropriate WNMU catalog), will enter probationary status regardless of his/her status at the institution from which the transfer was made.* Developmental courses do not count toward any degree completion.

B. Acceptance and Application of Credits

1. Upon completion of any associate degree program of study offered by SENMC that meet the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) General Education Program requirements, including those courses on the New Mexico Higher Education Department's General Education transfer matrix, will fulfill WNMU's General Education Program requirements and will transfer as WNMU General Education Program requirements that will apply toward WNMU baccalaureate degree requirements.

2. All the coursework that is required for the associate programs offered by SENMC will be applied toward completing WNMU's baccalaureate degrees. However, prerequisite or other degree-specific courses may be required of WNMU baccalaureate programs.

3. SENMC students who earn an associate degree from SENMC or have completed an internship course of at least one credit hour will have Western New Mexico University's Service Learning course requirements waived.

4. SENMC students who complete the NMHED General Education Program requirements will be given six (6) credits (of the total 12) to meet WNMU's Intensive Writing course requirements.

5. SENMC students who earn an Associate of Applied Science degree will have their general education courses applied to the bachelor's degree general education requirements at WNMU. They may still need to complete additional credits to meet the required general education requirements.

6. A candidate for any WNMU baccalaureate degree must meet the additional and specific requirements indicated for the degree program outlined in the WNMU catalog. Transfer students will follow the degree program requirements of the WNMU catalog for their initial year of enrollment at SENMC. Such a program is an option for six years, or a student may elect to use the requirements described in any subsequent/future catalog.

7. Limit on hours earned through ACT and CLEP examinations, Adult Learning and Education Experiences, AP, and correspondence work (or a combination of the previous) will apply as described in the WNMU catalog.

C. Program Exchange and Specific Articulation Agreements

1. WNMU and SENMC will work together to identify and recruit SENMC and WNMU students from foreign communities and/or indigenous colleges with whom WNMU or SENMC has articulation agreements. SENMC areas of enrollment focus will include the Center for Workforce Development, School of Energy, School of Business Information Technology, and Social Sciences.

2. WNMU and SENMC agree to prioritize the completion of individual articulation agreements in the disciplines of Business Administration, Education and Health Sciences, School of Energy, and Workforce Development Training programs.

D. Other Areas of Collaboration

1. WNMU and SENMC agree to foster a collaborative relationship by offering the other the opportunity to partner in new and emerging academic and non-academic activities and programs. Activities or programs may include but are not limited to (a) research, cultural, and educational exchange activities; (b) grant application for the development of new academic and non-academic programs; (c) development of special, short-term academic programs; (d) participation in seminars and academic research meetings; (e) exchange of academic materials, publications, and other resources.

E. Separate Agreements

1. WNMU and SENMC agree that each school will designate a Liaison Officer to develop and coordinate specific activities or programs before initiating any specific activity or programs.

F. Implementation of the Agreement

1. WNMU and SENMC agree to review this agreement every third year from inception or as needed. SENMC and WNMU will designate an individual to serve as a liaison for monitoring this agreement. Each institution will provide updated catalogs to the other immediately upon their availability. Upon request, WNMU agrees to provide SENMC reports on enrolled SENMC transfer students, their majors, and academic performance to the extent permitted by law. WNMU and SENMC agree to assist each other in promoting this agreement appropriately in their respective promotional materials, events, websites, and reports.

2. All notices to be given shall be delivered in writing as follows:

Dr. Joseph Shepard
President
Western New Mexico University
PO Box 680
Silver City, NM 88602

Dr. Kevin Beardmore
President
Southeast New Mexico College
1500 University Drive,
Carlsbad, NM 88220

3. SENMC and WNMU will cooperate in developing program-specific articulation agreements. These agreements may be developed and amended without affecting this Master Agreement.

4. This agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party on ninety (90) days prior to written notice. In the event of the dissolution of this agreement, the terms contained herein will remain in effect for the maximum transitional period of two (2) years to accommodate students already enrolled under the agreement.
5. Special cases not explicitly or implicitly described in the current MOU will be considered on a case-by-case basis by mutual agreement between SENMC /WNMU representatives.

III. SIGNATURES

Dr. Joseph Shepard
President
Western New Mexico University

Date: 3/6/2024

Dr. Kevin Beardmore
President
Southeast New Mexico College

Date: 4/1/2024

Dr. Mickey Best
V.P. Academic Affairs
Southeast New Mexico College

Date: 04/01/2024