AGSC and STARS
Gregg M. Janowski, Associate Provost
OUTLINE

▪ How did we get AGSC/STARS and what are they?
▪ What is the General Studies Curriculum?
▪ What are the processes for AGSC?
▪ What do we have to do to be compliant?
▪ What are the misconceptions?
Legislative Origin:

- Universities were seen as being capricious and unfair with transfer credit from community colleges – loss of credit, time, and money.

Created two things that are often used interchangeably.

- AGSC: Articulation and General Studies Committee
- STARS: Statewide Transfer and Articulation Reporting System
THE ACT:

- Set-up structure so that students at a two year institution can enter into an agreement so that credits transferred from a two-year institution to a four-year institution shall fulfill degree requirements at the four-year institution as if they were earned at the four-year institution. These templates (1) are major-specific, (2) consist of 50% of the credits, and (3) contain much of the traditional general education content.

- Required a statewide articulation agreement so that all applicable credits transferred from a two-year institution to a four-year institution shall fulfill degree requirements at the four-year institution as if they were earned at the four-year institution.
GENERAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

- **Area I - Written Composition, 6 credits**
- **Area II - Humanities and Fine Arts, 12 credits**
  - 3 credits of literature
  - 3 credits of arts
- **Area III - Natural Sciences and Mathematics, 11 credits**
  - 3 semester hours in mathematics at the precalculus algebra level or higher (some degrees may allow Finite Mathematics)
  - 8 semester hours in the natural sciences which must include laboratory experiences
- **Area IV - History, Social and Behavioral Sciences, 12 credits**
  - 3 hours in history
  - At least 6 semester hours from among disciplines other than history
- **Area V - major and school specific**
  - Engineering requires 9 hours in Areas II and IV
  - 6 hour sequence either in literature or in history
PROCESSES

- Templates
  - Developed by programs
  - Includes Pre-Professional Academic Committee
  - Negotiate areas I-IV for similar programs based on CIP codes
  - Approved by AGSC

- Courses
  - Approved by discipline committees
  - Ratified by AGSC

- Website: [http://stars.troy.edu/home.html](http://stars.troy.edu/home.html)

- Some fascinating reading of minutes and exclusions
Area I – English Composition I and II

Area II – 6 semester hours in a foreign language

Area III – No specific requirements

Area IV

6 Semester hour sequence - HIS 101 and HIS 102
6 Semester hours chosen from the following courses: ANT 200, ANT 210, ANT 220, ANT 226, ECO 231, ECO 232, GEO 100, GEO 201, PSY 200, SOC 200, SOC 210

Area V

3 Semester hour introductory course in international relations (POL 236) or one additional 3 SH course from Area IV.
9 Semester hours to be completed with courses approved for Areas II - IV.
The remaining hours (7-11 SH) in Area V must be fulfilled by the requirements of the institution to which the student plans to transfer. Please refer to the institutional home page or catalogue for a major in International Studies.
WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO?

- We must apply specific community college credits to the degree, which is higher standard than accepting credit.
  - Note that some majors have specified core courses in the templates.
  - We cannot question the quality of instruction or academic rigor.
MISCONCEPTIONS

- We are required to accept transfer credit of AGSC-designated courses from other four-year institutions. (This is under discussion.) That said, we generally do.

- Anything we have in the core curriculum must be approved by the AGSC.

- All institutions implement the AGSC requirements for their native students in the same way.