March 30, 2017

DIRECTORS OF ADMISSIONS
DIRECTORS OF OUTREACH
REGISTRARS
ARTICULATION OFFICERS

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce the go-live schedule for the re-envisioned ASSIST information system and website. The schedule is as follows:

- **Stage 1**: Early release to Articulation Officers who participated as early system testers, CSU and UC system office staff, and CSU GE, AI, and IGETC reviewers
  Rollout Date: Monday, April 3, 2017

- **Stage 2**: Wide-scale release to all Articulation Officers
  Rollout Date: Monday, April 10, 2017

- **Stage 3**: Public launch of the new ASSIST
  Launch Date: Wednesday, July 5, 2017

The ASSIST.org website is opening next week so that the Articulation community can begin the critical work of building articulation agreements in the new system and preparing for its full launch to the public in July. We greatly appreciate your patience as the ASSIST Coordination Site (ACS) staff, under Holly Demé's steady leadership, worked closely with the system vendor to ensure the most essential features and functions were in place before we invited Articulation Officers to access the new ASSIST.

The rollout of the first two stages will include core functionality grounded in a modernized technology platform. As the project moves toward stage three, you can expect to see the results of ongoing, high-priority development that will not only create additional efficiencies for the articulation process, but also further optimize system functioning. The ACS team will track and manage other development items to be addressed after the initial public launch of ASSIST. If you need to report concerns that go beyond ACS staff's scope of service, please reach out directly to your respective segment's representative on the ASSIST Executive Management Oversight Committee.

Given that the project is in its final stages, we are looking ahead to the post-launch period and planning accordingly. An ASSIST Request for Proposals was released last week to a designated list of vendors, with the aim to identify in early July 2017 the best vendor to provide technical support and maintenance for the newly developed ASSIST application. Additionally, the vendor awarded the new contract will continue to work on delivering many of the enhancements to the new system that were requested by our Articulation Officers, system offices, and other ASSIST users.

Finally, we want to recognize the entire ASSIST Coordination Site staff; Holly Demé, ASSIST Program Manager; and Lenny Robison, Project Consultant, for their commitment and tremendous efforts toward helping us reach this point of success. The ACS staff stand ready to support you as you navigate the new articulation system and continue your curriculum alignment work.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

ASSIST Executive Management Oversight Committee
   Monica Lin, University of California Office of the President
   Margaret Ortega, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
   Karen Simpson-Alisca, California State University Office of the Chancellor