



Academic Affairs News

Volume 2: October 2015

Greetings,

As you may have heard, Commissioner David R. Russell announced in June his intention to retire as commissioner of higher education, effective January 1, 2016. Dr. Russell has been Missouri's commissioner of higher education since June 2010. The Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) has launched a search for his successor, and hopes to have the new commissioner on board by the end of the year.

The state of Missouri has over the past five and one-half years seen unparalleled collaboration within the state's system of higher education. Missouri also is recognized by national organizations as a leader in higher education reform. Both achievements I believe are testament to David Russell's leadership as commissioner. He has, more than anything else, imbued the department's work with openness and integrity and has gained the full trust and confidence of our partners in K-12, business and industry, government and politics, and, of course, higher education. He is a genuinely decent man: caring, compassionate, and committed to justice. I am grateful to have worked with him, sad to see him leave, but excited as he and his wife, Lee, embark on new adventures and challenges. I am guessing we haven't heard or seen the last of a true champion of higher education in Missouri. Let's hope not.

Please join with the Academic Affairs staff in thanking David Russell for his service, and best wishes for good health and safe travels.

With best regards,

Rusty

If you have comments or questions, or you would like to subscribe to this newsletter, please contact the newsletter's editor Greta Westerwald, greta.westerwald@dhe.mo.gov.

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CBHE Coordinated Plan Public Hearings

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education is in the final stage of developing a new coordinated plan for higher education in Missouri. Last year the CBHE assembled a steering committee comprised of leaders from business, industry, education, government, the professions, and the General Assembly. The steering committee held nine hearings around the state to gather ideas and information for the new plan. Since June, the steering committee and the MDHE have been reviewing the testimony from the hearings for common themes and goals.

In September, the steering committee met to define the primary goals of the plan and to refine its work into a first draft. MDHE staff is now revising the first draft. The revised draft will be posted for public comment. The final draft of the new coordinated plan will be presented to the CBHE at its December meeting. The department will send notification once the draft plan is available for public review and comment.

Corequisite at Scale Initiative

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs

Missouri is one of six states selected for the Winter 2016 cohort for the National Scaling Corequisite Initiative. The initiative is led by Complete College America. As a participant in the initiative, Missouri has committed to scale corequisite academic support statewide, with a goal of serving the vast majority of students who would otherwise be placed in traditional remedial education by Spring 2018.

Missouri will meet with the other participating states at the National Academy on Scaling Corequisite in next March. The academy is a two-day convening that will enable a team of seven state, system and institutional leaders to work with professional facilitators and national content experts to develop a state plan for the scaling of corequisite support. Missouri's seven-person team is:

Rusty Monhollon	Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs	Missouri Department of Higher Education
Rob Dixon	Executive Director	Missouri Community College Association
Tammy Randolph	Chair, Department of Mathematics	Southeast Missouri State University
Jean McCann	Vice President for Instruction	East Central College
Dwyane Smith	Vice President for Academic Affairs	Harris-Stowe State University
Jacqueline Gray	Professor of English, Faculty Association President	St. Charles Community College
Ann McCoy	Professor of Mathematics	University of Central Missouri

In addition to the national academy, CCA will provide national content experts and assistance for a statewide institute and additional technical assistance to assist institutions in their efforts to develop and implement scaled corequisite support models. For more information contact Rusty Monhollon, Rusty.Monhollon@dhe.mo.gov

Program Inventory for Independent Institutions

Angelette Prichett, Coordinator

Independent institutions are required, by Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) policy, to submit proposals for review in the context of the statewide system of higher education. New program proposals include much of the same information as that submitted by public institutions such as: rationale for the program; student enrollment projections; evidence of market demand and duplication; program characteristics and performance goals; and institutional characteristics that demonstrate why the institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program. Financial projections are not collected from independent institutions. However, as the CBHE retains authority to only review and comment on program proposals by independent institutions, and due to its inability to require institutions to submit programs for review, many institutions opted not to continue submitting new program proposals—often going years without submitting proposals. As a result, the program inventory, which includes programs offered by both public and independent institutions and is the official record of programs being offered by higher education institutions across the state, is woefully out-of-date.

This last year has seen a number of changes in accountability processes across the state and the country. Legislation signed in 2014 authorized Missouri to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), which created an interstate system of reciprocity for the oversight of distance education programs. This allows higher education institutions (public, independent and proprietary) to provide a more efficient, effective, uniform and quality system for the delivery of distance education. To participate in SARA, institutions must be willing to adopt specific guidelines to ensure quality programming, with the MDHE, in essence, vouching for the viability of the institution and its programs. Accrediting agencies and federal and statewide agencies have begun using the MDHE program inventory to substantiate or validate an institution's program offerings.

To maintain an understanding and appreciation of the contributions made by the independent sector, the MDHE will work with independent institutions and sector representatives to determine the best way to efficiently and effectively update the program inventory without placing undue hardship on the institutions. For questions regarding updating the program inventory, contact Angelette Prichett, director of Missouri Academic Program Review, at angelette.prichett@dhe.mo.gov or (573) 522-2150.

Provisional Program Review for Public Institutions

Angelette Prichett, Coordinator

Effective July 1, 2011, the CBHE began issuing provisional approval to new academic programs proposed by public institutions of higher education. The MDHE will review the program five years from the date of its provisional approval. If this review indicates that the program is not performing as expected, the CBHE may recommend the termination of the program, unless there are compelling justifications (i.e., central to institutional mission; supports other programs; meets statewide needs) for continuing the program.

For the five-year review, the MDHE will request that an institution provide enrollment, graduation and staffing data for the program, as well as a brief summary of program performance. If the program is performing as well as or better than the projections in the original program proposal, the MDHE will recommend that the CBHE approve the program without conditions.

The first set of programs designated for review were approved in September 2011. The MDHE will begin working with chief academic officers to establish the criteria for the review and develop a process and procedure for implementing the review.

For questions regarding provisional program review, contact Angelette Prichett, director of Missouri Academic Program Review, at angelette.prichett@dhe.mo.gov or (573) 522-2150.

MDHE to Hold Second Mathematics Summit

Jennifer Plemons, Coordinator

With support from Complete College America, the Council on Public Higher Education and the Missouri Community College Association, MDHE will hold its second Mathematics Summit on Friday, Oct. 30, 2015, at the Harry S Truman State Office Building at 301 West High Street, Jefferson City. The 2015 Summit will explore and discuss the recent report of the Missouri Mathematics Pathways Taskforce and work toward the implementation of new mathematics pathways for students. The 2015 summit will provide attendees with opportunities to network, hear informative presentations and share best practices in postsecondary mathematics reform.

The department has secured several leading mathematics scholars, both in-state and out-of-state, to serve as speakers and breakout session leaders at this event. Speakers will include Ms. Amy Getz, strategic implementation lead for higher education at the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas, Austin.

Getz's work focuses on mathematics education reform. She has extensive knowledge on the creation and implementation of alternative mathematics pathways.

The summit program will include plenary, breakout and panel sessions on the topics of alternative math pathways and course redesign. A final copy of the program will be available on the Math Summit website in the next few weeks.

For more information about the summit, or to register for this event, visit the [Math Summit's website](#) or contact Jennifer Plemons at jennifer.plemons@dhe.mo.gov or (573) 522-2385.

MDHE Applies for “Pathways to Completion” Initiative

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education

The Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas-Austin has invited Missouri to apply for participation in “Mathematics Pathways to Completion,” a three-year initiative that builds on the center’s work with the New Mathways Project. If Missouri is selected, the Dana Center will work with MDHE to mobilize faculty to build urgency and momentum and create structures to support scaling and implementation at the institutional level. The ultimate goal of the project is to make math pathways the normative practice in each state in the project.

Dr. Uri Treisman, director of the Dana Center, said that Missouri was invited to apply because excellent work has been done in the state to lay the foundation for meaningful system change around math pathways. “We see an opportunity to collaborate with you to build upon this momentum and support to make math pathways a reality for all students,” Treisman said.

The Dana Center will announce the participating states by Oct. 15, 2015.

MDHE Announces Annual Transfer Conference

Amy Werner, Coordinator

MDHE is pleased to announce that the annual Committee of Transfer and Articulation (COTA) Conference will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City Feb. 18-19, 2016. To submit a proposal to present at the conference or make other inquiries, contact Amy Werner, MDHE staff liaison to COTA, at Amy.Werner@dhe.mo.gov. For more information visit COTA’s website at <http://dhe.mo.gov/cota/>.



COTA Seeks New Member

Amy Werner, Coordinator

COTA has an opening for a four-year public institution representative. All members serve three-year, rotating terms. COTA seeks someone interested in fostering the seamless movement of students among Missouri institutions as efficiently as possible and who has the knowledge and working experience to provide advice and recommendations. Applications will be accepted until Oct. 30, 2015. To apply or nominate someone for the COTA position, contact Amy Werner (Amy.Werner@dhe.mo.gov) or (573-522-1377).

Dual Credit Update: ECAB and Faculty Qualifications

Dr. Rusty Monhollon, Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education

In June, the CBHE approved a revised Policy on Dual Credit Delivery. Two key pieces of the new policy are the Early College Advisory Board (ECAB) and new requirements for dual credit instructor qualifications.

Early College Advisory Board

The ECAB consists of representatives from two-year and four-year public institutions, independent institutions, the K-12 sector, and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The complete roster is listed below.

Julie Downs	Coordinator - Career and Technical Education Division	Mineral Area College
Tarana Chapple	Associate Dean MCC-Penn Valle	Metropolitan Community College
Amanda Stoecklein	Director of Admissions/Outreach	State Fair Community College
Kathleen Burns	Director of Advanced Credit Program	University of Missouri-St. Louis
Carla Mebane	Director of UMKC Dual Credit Partnerships	University of Missouri-Kansas City
Kevin Miller	Asst. Director of Dual Credit	Southeast Missouri State University
Jim Masters	Superintendent	Monroe City R-1
Connie Morris	Principal	Knob Noster High School
David Pyle	Principal	Carl Junction High School
Sandra Wald	Assistant Dean	Central Methodist University
Mary Ellen Fuquay	Director of Excel	Missouri Baptist University
Bretton DeLaria	Interim Director of 1818 Advanced College Credit Program	St. Louis University
	TBD	DESE
Rusty Monhollon	Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs	MDHE
Liz Valentine	Senior Associate-Academic Affairs	MDHE

The ECAB will advise the commissioner of higher education and the Coordinating Board for Higher Education on matters relating to early college programs in Missouri. It will assist MDHE in monitoring dual credit providers and assuring the quality and integrity of dual credit programs, mediating disputes over dual credit delivery, assessing annual reports submitted dual credit providers, and determining which providers are complying with the CBHE Policy on Dual Credit Delivery, including the designation of institutions as “approved” dual credit providers. The ECAB also will recommend revisions to CBHE policies as necessary and appropriate, including the development of a comprehensive policy on early college programs.

The first meeting of the ECAB is scheduled for late October 2015.

Faculty Qualifications

The CBHE Policy on Dual Credit Delivery revised the qualifications for dual credit instructors. The change was made to align CBHE policy with that of the Higher Learning Commission. To be approved to teach dual credit, instructors must have a master’s level degree (except in programs for terminal degrees for which they must possess the same level of degree) in the discipline he or she is teaching. Instructors with a master’s level degree in a discipline or subfield other than that in which he or she is teaching must have completed a minimum of 18 graduate credit hours in the discipline in which he or she is teaching. The CBHE Policy on Dual

Credit Delivery is effective Jan. 1, 2016. Dual credit instructors employed in the Fall 2015 semester under the old guidelines may teach in the Spring 2016 semester. Thereafter, however, all dual credit instructors must meet the new requirements for faculty qualifications.

Missouri Reverse Transfer

Amy Werner, Coordinator

Missouri Reverse Transfer allows students who have earned credit at two-year and four-year institutions to transfer the credit from the four-year institution back to the two-year institution to earn an associate degree. Missourians who receive an associate degree while finishing work on their baccalaureate degrees improve their chances for better job opportunities and higher earnings. So far, more than 250 associate degrees have been awarded to Missouri students through the Reverse Transfer Program.

The program is now being expanded to reach out to Missouri residents who have earned college credit but currently are not enrolled in higher education. Dr. David R. Russell, commissioner of higher education, sent a letter to all legislators asking them to spread the word to constituents through newsletters, newspaper columns and other outlets. Missouri Reverse Transfer coordinators are also looking for opportunities to spread the word through public radio, University of Missouri Extension Offices, and other areas. Please disseminate this information to your colleagues. Thank you for your support of higher education in Missouri.

You can learn more about the program at <http://dhe.mo.gov/MOREverseTransfer.php>. For additional information, contact Reverse Transfer Coordinator Amy Werner at Amy.Werner@dhe.mo.gov or (573-522-1377).

Missouri Improving Teacher Quality Grant

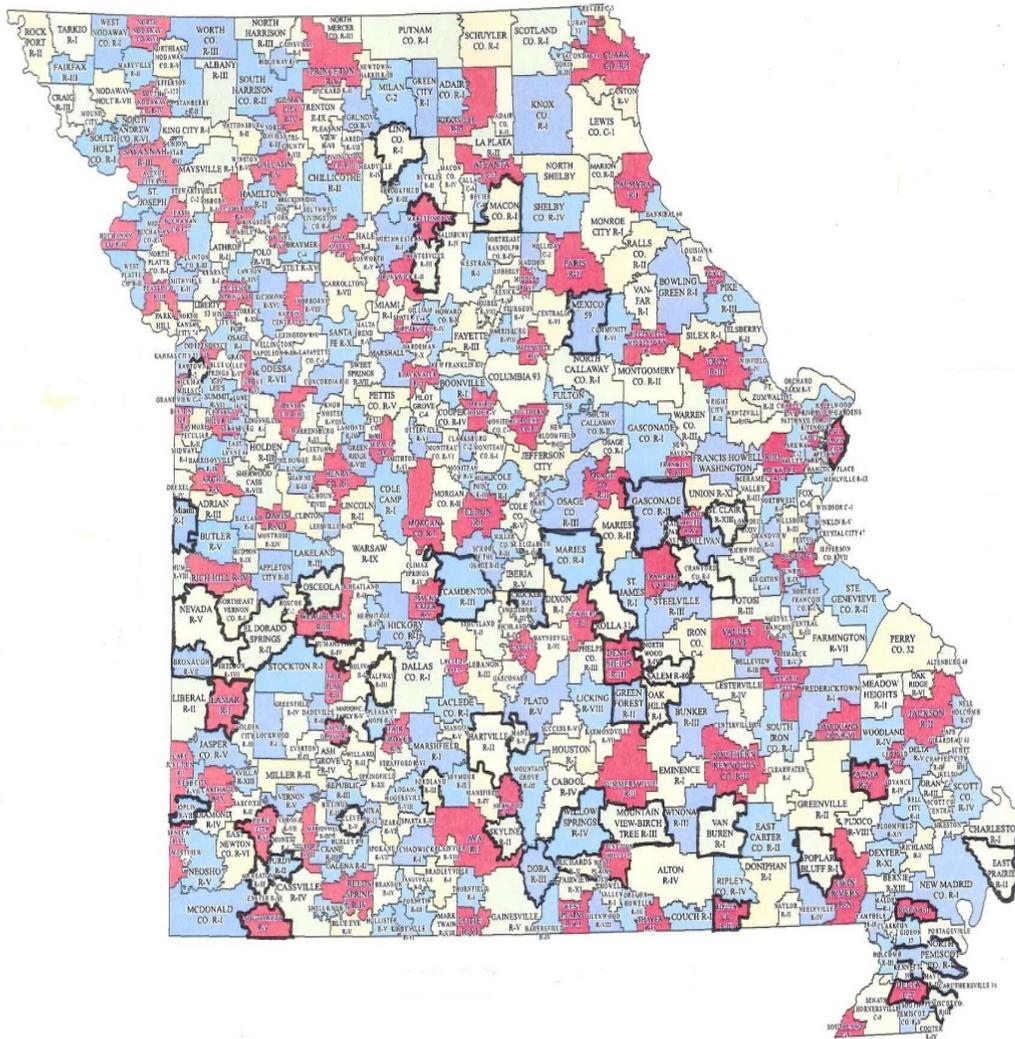
Dr. Liz Valentine, Director

Each year the MDHE receives approximately \$1.2 million in federal funds through Title II, Part A, of the No Child Left Behind Act. Missouri uses these funds to administer a competitive grant program for mandatory partnerships between high-need K-12 school districts and higher education institutions to provide professional development for teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and pre-service teachers in core academic subjects. Partnerships are encouraged to extend to charter schools, non-high needs school districts, as well as community organizations and businesses and required to invite private K-12 schools to participate.

MDHE provides oversight of the grants, technical assistance throughout the projects' award periods, workshops to prepare prospective project directors for proposal writing and external evaluation compliance, and a final cycle summit to disseminate information on the effectiveness of projects.

During the past 13 cycles, 98 projects have been offered in over 250 districts across Missouri. More than 2,000 Missouri teachers and administrators have participated in at least one of these projects, and these teachers have impacted more than 140,000 students.

The 60 districts outlined on the map below all have participants in the ITQG program for Cycle 13. A total of 151 participants are receiving professional development in math and science content and pedagogical practices in math, science and literacy.



A highlight of Cycle 13 was a new emphasis on state-level multi-collaborative projects involving at least three institutions of higher education and at least three or more geographical regions within Missouri. All projects were encouraged to find community partners. One multi-collaborative project was funded and four other projects were awarded in the non-multi-collaborative category. The following chart outlines the projects for Cycle 13.

Institution	Title	Grade Levels	Focus	Years	Region	Project Director
Missouri State University, West Plains	<i>Science and Technology for Elementary Educators: A Literacy, Engineering and Environmental Approach</i>	K-5	Science integrated with Literacy	1 of 3	South Central, Southwest, and Southeast Missouri	Dr. Alice A. (Jill) Black
Missouri State University	<i>Getting it W.R.I.T.E. (Writing, Reading, Inquiry, Technology & Engagement) in Mathematics,</i>	8-12	Math Integrated with Literacy	1 of 3	Southwest and West Central Missouri	Dr. Diana Piccolo
Southeast Missouri State University	<i>Making Mathematics: Learning to Think and Apply</i>	K-6	Integrated Math & Science	3 of 3	Southeast Missouri	Rita Fisher
Missouri University of Science & Technology	<i>Science Education and Quantitative Literacy: An Inquiry-based Approach</i>	3-5	Math & Science Integrated with literacy	2 of 3	Northeast, Southeast, South Central, and Southwest Missouri	Dr. V.A. Samaranayake
University of Missouri, Columbia	<i>STEM-Based Literacy: A Statewide Initiative,</i>	7-12	Math and Science integrated with literacy	1 of 3	Northeast, Northwest, Central, East Central, West Central, & Southwest	Dr. Amy Lannin

The multi-collaborative project, led by Amy Lannin of the University of Missouri, is in a pilot phase for Cycle 13. During the pilot, the project is covering limited districts and has recruited 20 participants. However, in Cycle 14 the project will increase its coverage and the number of participants to 60. The project has a team of expert mathematicians, scientists, and literacy personnel as well as individuals experienced in the nuances of the Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program.

MDHE conducts an external evaluation of each project through external evaluators chosen through a competitive RFP process. All projects are expected to create an internal evaluation plan to document progress of the projects' timeline and milestones as well as the content knowledge and pedagogical growth of the participants and the participants' students' content knowledge.

ITQG also requires that projects work to improve math and science teacher education. Some involve pre-service teachers as a way of improving their immediate teacher education, some provide information on the project and

outcomes to their respective colleges of education, and others help in the revision of courses within their college of education.

For more information about the Missouri Improving Teacher Quality Grant, contact Dr. Liz Valentine at (Elizabeth.Valentine@dhe.mo.gov).

Upcoming Dates of Note

October 2015

- Oct. 12 Columbus Day (State offices closed)
- Oct. 14 CCAO Meeting in Jefferson City
- Oct. 16 COTA Meeting and CCA Meeting in Jefferson City

November 2015

- Nov. 11 Veterans Day (State offices closed)
- Nov. 16 MABEP Meeting in Jefferson City
- Nov. 20 TCCR Meeting in Columbia
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving (State offices closed)

December 2015

- Dec. 9 CBHE Meeting in Jefferson City
- Dec. 25 Christmas (State offices closed)