

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Articulation & Instructional Services Agreement

**Closing The Gaps in Participation and Success
Addressing the Shortage of Nursing Professionals**

A Joint Project

May 2004

This agreement describes various aspects of a joint project to be implemented by the contracting participants: Austin Community College, hereinafter referred to as the "College"; and, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the "University." This agreement is entered into by and between the governmental bodies as identified, pursuant to the authority granted and in compliance with the provisions of the *Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code*.

Overall Intent: Whereas the University has baccalaureate programs available in an on-line and other distance learning formats leading to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing; and, whereas the College, which provides certificate as well as two-year instructional programs in Nursing, and serves a specific region of the state where demand for nursing professionals at all levels is high, a collaborative partnership by both institutions will have a two-fold beneficial outcome. By collaborating, the College and University will join forces to address this critical workforce need. They will also deliver educational goals of both participation and success as found in *Closing The Gaps*, the State's plan for higher education as adopted the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Second, by providing additional education to these nursing professionals, the College and the University will enhance effective delivery of their respective missions by serving the heretofore-unmet health care needs of the Central Texas Region potentially involving the ACC seven-county service area including the community of Fredericksburg.

Specifically as a result of discussions with University representatives, the College believes it can actively help promote and support the University's distance learning nursing degree programs to the benefit of prospective students in Travis, Hays, Williamson, Bastrop, Blanco, Gillespie and Caldwell counties. The College's long-standing experience with distance learning delivery systems and pool of prepared transfer students underscores its role as a significant partner in meeting such training needs.

Services and Functions Performed by the University

Whereas the University has the instructional programs that potentially address the instructional baccalaureate needs of students within the College's service area, it therefore agrees to:

- Establish a joint admission process whereby ADN students who in their last semester of course work at the College have a 2.00 cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) and meet all of the University's admission requirements, including the school's general education requirements, will be admitted to the BSN program.

- Accept credit hours earned at the College as described below:

30 SCH general education and receive 38 SCH advanced placement (basic nursing program)

The chart below compares these requirements against ACC nursing degree plans (pp.119-120, ACC Catalog 2003-04) for traditional track students.

Overview of the General Education Requirements for ACC & TTUHSC SON

Type	ACC Mobility Track	ACC Traditional Track	TX Tech RN-BSN	Difference/Disposition Of General Education
General Education	33 SCH ENGL 1301 (3) BIOL 2304 (3) BIO 2101 (1) BIOL 2305 (3) BIOL 2101 (1) BIOL 2420 (4) MATH 1314 (3) PSYC 2301 (3) PSYC 2314 (3) Oral Comm (3) Hum/FArts (3) HPRS 2300 (3)*	33 SCH ENGL 1301 (3) BIOL 2304 (3) BIO 2101 (1) BIOL 2305 (3) BIOL 2101 (1) BIOL 2420 (4) MATH 1314 (3) PSYC 2301 (3) PSYC 2314 (3) Oral Comm (3) Hum/FArts (3) HPRS 2300 (3)*	55-58 SCH English comp (6) BIOL 2401 (4) BIOL 2402 (4) BIOL 2420 (4) Math 1314 (3) Math Statistics (3) PSYC 2301 (3) PSYC 2314 (3) Hum/Speech (3) Hum/FArts (3) Nutrition (3) Chemistry (4) Amer History (6) Polit. Science (6) Sociology (3)	25 SCH English (3) These courses must be Math 1314: College Algebra (3) Math 1342: Statistics (3) Nutrition (waiver, letter) Chemistry w/ Lab (4) American History (6) Political Science (6) Sociology (3)
General Education Requirements	30 SCH	30 SCH	55-58 SCH	

*HPRS 2300 is not a TTUHSC SON pre-requisite course.

- Apply the credits earned by College students who have completed an Associate of Applied Science degree in whole towards the BSN program, upon RN licensure.
- Facilitate access of program and academic advising information to the College's representative to address student questions and enable educational promotion; and, provide distance learning instruction leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing to qualified students transferring from the College.

Services and Functions Performed by the College

Whereas the College has an existing ADN educational program, training facilities, and clinical placements, it agrees to:

- Advertise the articulated nursing programs in appropriate publications such as but not limited to the ACC College Catalog and web page and the Associate Degree Nursing web page.
- Designate an individual within the Health Sciences division to serve as a liaison for students interested in pursuing the Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University.
- Provide library, computer labs, and Internet access to students enrolled in the University nursing program.

Other Provisions

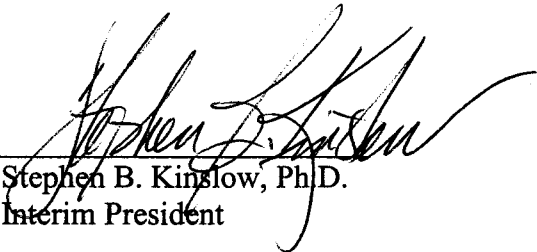
- Both institutions will strive to provide students with “seamless” access to assist them in transferring from the College to the University.
- Advertising the articulated nursing programs in appropriate publications such as but not limited to the TTUHSCSON College Catalog and web page and the School of Nursing web page.
- Each institution will identify an operations contact person to assist in addressing student/advising questions, and help resolve project logistical issues that may develop.
- Representatives from both institutions will confer at least on an annual basis to evaluate the success of this agreement; consider curriculum updates and any other requests for changes or proposed amendments as may be necessary.
- Both institutions agree to share aggregate information on student performance as may be necessary to evaluate the success and quality of the services under this agreement.
- Transition to the RN-BSN Program occurs with completion of the Associate of Applied Science Degree, all general education requirements, and receipt of all previous official transcripts. With the payment of fees and obtainment of the student identification cards, students will have access to various TTUHSC Services.

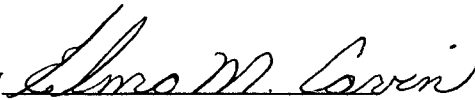
Length of Term of This Agreement:

This agreement shall be in effect for the period of September 1, 2004 through July 31, 2007, and may be extended and amended at any time by written consent of both parties. This agreement may be terminated by one year's advance written notification of such intent by one party to the other. THE UNDERSIGNED CONTRACTING PARTIES do hereby certify that the services specified above are necessary and essential for the activities that are properly within the statutory functions and programs of both Austin Community College and Texas Tech University.

PERFORMING AGENCY
Austin Community College

PERFORMING AGENCY
Texas Tech University Health Sciences
Center School of Nursing

By 
Stephen B. Kinslow, Ph.D.
Interim President

By 
Elmo Cavin
Executive Vice President, Fiscal Affairs

Date Signed: 6/14/04

Date Signed: 5/27/2004