



OPAS Pathways Workgroup

Goals & Accomplishments

June 13, 2007

The Oregon Pre-Engineering and Applied Sciences (OPAS) Initiative was kick-started at a strategic planning summit in September 2005. The OPAS Vision for the year 2020 is that *“All Oregonians have the opportunity to explore, choose, and successfully pursue engineering or applied science as their field of study and career, thereby helping Oregon’s industries contribute to state economic needs, and innovate and prosper in the global economy.”* OPAS history, current work, and resources are documented at <http://opas.ous.edu/>.

The Pathways group originally convened at that summit, and has been working since to articulate and implement the group’s focal strategy to *create, develop, and maintain engineering and applied science pathways so that more students successfully transition among education institutions and into the workforce.* Much of the work is coordinating and communicating work already being done at community colleges, the Oregon University System, high schools across the state, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Community Colleges and Workforce Development Department (CCWD).

Pathways Workgroup members shepherded a comprehensive articulation agreement for the Manufacturing Engineering Technology Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Oregon Institute of Technology. This information was presented to counselors and administrators at the Oregon Association of Career and Technical Education (OACTE) Conference in April, 2007. Presentation materials are available at http://opas.ous.edu//Workgroups2007/Pathways/OACTE_Presentation_Apr07.html. Future articulation agreements may use this template for:

- Conversations about articulation as more than common course numbers or names;
- Conversations about educational outcomes and prerequisites;
- Articulation to known curricula such as Project Lead the Way (PLTW);
- Articulation agreement language;
- Structure for periodic review;
- Format for documenting articulation cross-walks;
- Publicity and presentation materials, such as
 - Powerpoint presentations,
 - Descriptions of employment expectations for educational level,
 - Articulation Crosswalks,
 - Informational announcements,
 - Occupational Outlook information,
 - Graphical presentation – poster/brochure
 - Webpage.

The Pathways Workgroup is continuing work on pathways articulation, documentation, and communication - <http://opas.ous.edu//Workgroups2007/Pathways.html>.