



# ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE  
BIOTECHNOLOGY

AND

**GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Associate in Science Degree  
BIOLOGY

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THIS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT (hereinafter “Agreement”) is entered into by Ferris State University, a Michigan constitutionally-created public institution of higher education, located in Big Rapids, Michigan 49307 (hereinafter “Ferris”) and Grand Rapids Community College (hereinafter the “GRCC”) on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007.

## *RECITALS*

WHEREAS, Ferris is a Michigan public university with its main campus located in Big Rapids, Michigan, and offers a Bachelors of Science degree in Biotechnology (hereinafter the “Bachelors Program”); and,

WHEREAS, GRCC is a Michigan community college with its main campus in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and offers an Associate in Science degree in Biology (hereinafter the “Associate Program”); and,

WHEREAS, the GRCC Associate Program includes courses that may be applied toward the Ferris Bachelors Program; and,

WHEREAS, Ferris and GRCC desire to collaborate to provide opportunities for continued education to the GRCC graduates of the Associate Program through the Ferris Bachelors Program;

## *AGREEMENT*

NOW THEREFORE, the parties, desiring to articulate the nature of their collaboration, hereby agree to the terms listed below. Further, Ferris is a party to the Michigan

Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO) Transfer Agreement and has general education transfer guidelines as set forth in an Academic Affairs Policy Letter (copy attached and hereinafter “Guidelines”). Except as governed by the MACRAO Agreement or the Guidelines, the following terms shall apply.

1. The GRCC students who graduate from the Associate Program with a cumulative grade point average of not less than a 2.00 on a 4.00 scale (hereinafter the “qualified student”) may apply to the Bachelors Program at Ferris. If the qualified student is admitted to Ferris for the Bachelors Program, Ferris shall permit the qualified student to transfer all credits in the Associate Program towards the Bachelors Program for those courses that the qualified student received a grade of C (or a 2.00 on a 4.00 scale) or higher, and for those courses that the qualified student received a grade of Pass (hereinafter a “Pass”) for a course completed on a Pass or Fail basis, provided, however, that GRCC’s definition of a Pass does not include the equivalent of a grade lower than a grade of C (or a 2.00 on a 4.00 scale). Qualified students who have earned not less than forty-eight (48) credits shall be considered juniors for academic purposes at Ferris, provided, however, that such qualified students received a grade of C (or a 2.00 on a 4.00 scale) or higher, or a Pass, in such transferred credits.

2. Ferris and GRCC establish their own admissions requirements and recognize and respect each other’s autonomy in establishing such requirements. Although qualified students from GRCC may meet the academic admissions requirements for Ferris, such qualified students may not be otherwise eligible for admission to Ferris. Ferris and GRCC recognize that Ferris may refuse admission to any person who does not meet all admissions requirements set by Ferris.

3. Attached hereto, and made a part hereof, is a transfer plan for the Bachelors Program (hereinafter the “Articulation Guide”), setting forth the Bachelors Program prerequisites, including the course equivalencies for the Ferris Bachelors Program and the GRCC Associate Program that are the subject of transfer from GRCC to Ferris by qualified students. The Articulation Guide is subject to programmatic review and periodic change by Ferris and GRCC. Ferris and GRCC will communicate regularly, but not less than once every year, regarding any required programmatic changes, and shall inform each other in writing of the impact of any programmatic changes on the Articulation Guide prior to the implementation of any programmatic changes.

4. This Agreement shall be for an initial term of three (3) years, and shall be automatically renewed for additional one (1) year terms for not more than an additional three (3) years, unless Ferris or GRCC terminate this Agreement in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, or unless either party is in material breach of any term in this Agreement. Ferris or GRCC may terminate this Agreement by providing the other party with written notice, by first class mail, of the termination of the Agreement. The Agreement shall terminate not less than one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of the termination notice, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties.

5. This Agreement is intended solely for the mutual benefit of the parties hereto, and there is no intention, express or otherwise, to create any rights or interests for any party or person other than Ferris and GRCC. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no rights are intended to be created for any student, qualified student, as defined herein, parent or guardian of any student, or employer or prospective employer of any student.

6. No amendment or modification to this Agreement, including any amendment or modification of this paragraph, shall be effective unless the same is in writing and signed by the party to be charged.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the day and year written in the preamble to this Agreement.

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We, the representatives of Ferris State University and Grand Rapids Community College, agree to the terms of this agreement, which will be for a period of six (6) years, effective November 15, 2007, through November 15, 2013.

### Signatures

#### Ferris State University

#### Grand Rapids Community College

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Eisler  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Juan Olivarez  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Oldfield  
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gilda G. Gely  
Provost

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Klein  
Dean  
College of Arts and Sciences

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Olsen  
Dean  
School of Arts and Sciences

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bradley Isler  
Program Coordinator  
Biotechnology



# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Affairs Policy Letter

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## GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSFER POLICY

Effective September 6, 2005

Transfer of degrees to FSU in relation to BS/BA/BIS/BSW  
General Education Requirements

**Objective:** To clarify the process of transferring general education credits to Ferris for students with completed degrees and/or with the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO) stamp. The MACRAO agreement applies only to students entering bachelor degree programs, pertains solely to general education, and does not exempt students from meeting specific requirements for their program major.

**MACRAO stamp only:** Students transferring to Ferris State University with a MACRAO STAMP will have met the lower division general education requirements, meaning that in order to complete the general education requirements for a bachelor's degree at FSU they must still demonstrate proficiency in Math 115 either through course completion or credit-by-examination. In addition, they must complete the upper-level communication competence requirement and have a minimum of 33 hours in general education coursework.

**AA and AS degrees and MACRAO stamp:** Students transferring to Ferris State University with a completed associate degree in arts or associate degree in science will have met the lower division general education requirements. In addition, they must complete the upper-level communication competence requirement and have a minimum of 37 hours in general education coursework.

**AAS and AAA degrees:** Students transferring to Ferris State University with a completed associate in applied arts or associate in applied science (unless accompanied by a MACRAO stamp) must complete the general education requirements for the bachelor's degree.

**BS and BA degrees:** Students transferring to Ferris State University with a completed bachelor's degree are assumed to have completed ALL general education requirements.

**Transfer of Grades Lower than C:** Students transferring completed degrees, associate or bachelors, or MACRAO stamp only to Ferris State University will not have to repeat courses with grades lower than "C" (2.0) in order to meet General Education requirements. Programmatic requirements and prerequisites override the acceptance of grades lower than "C." *The Transfer of grades less than a "C" (2.0) Rule\* still applies for individual courses transferred outside of degrees and the MACRAO stamp.*

\*Ferris accepts transfer courses in which the student earned a grade of "C" (2.0) or better. Consistent with program progression policies, coursework taken at other institutions and not accepted for credit at FSU may need to be repeated. All references to a 2.0 GPA are on a 4.0 scale.

Individual college requirements or programmatic requirements supersede these general education transfer guidelines.

VPAA 9/2006