



# ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN BUSINESS  
Business Administration

AND

**SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE**

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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 Southwestern Michigan College (hereinafter “SMC”) on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2011.

## *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 Business, Business Administration (hereinafter the “Bachelors Program”); and,

WHEREAS, SMC is a Michigan community college with its main campus in Dowagiac, Michigan, and offers associate degrees in transfer and occupational specialty programs (hereinafter the “Associates Program”); and,

WHEREAS, the SMC Associates Program include courses that may be applied toward the Ferris Bachelors Program; and,

WHEREAS, Ferris and SMC desire to collaborate to provide opportunities for continued education to SMC’s students in the Associates 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 ("guidelines") as set forth in an Academic Affairs Policy Letter.

Except as governed by the MACRAO Agreement or the guidelines, the following terms shall apply:

1. SMC students who have completed the Associates Program or have completed at least forty-eight (48) transferable credits from SMC with a cumulative grade point average of not less than a 2.35 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher, and completed or placed into Math 105 or English 103 (or equivalent from another accredited institution), each with a grade of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher (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 Associates Program toward the Bachelors Program, and apply those that are applicable, for those courses that the qualified student received a grade of C (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 SMC’s definition of a Pass does not include the equivalent of a grade lower than a grade of C (2.00 on a 4.00 scale). Although all courses that meet the guidelines will transfer, program specific requirements must still be met.

2. Ferris and SMC establish their own admissions requirements and recognize and respect each other’s autonomy in establishing such requirements. Although qualified students from SMC may meet the academic admissions requirements for Ferris, such qualified students may not be otherwise eligible for admission to Ferris. Ferris and SMC 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 the program plan for the Bachelors Program (hereinafter the “Transfer Guide”), setting forth the Bachelors Program prerequisites, including the course equivalencies for the Ferris Bachelors Program and SMC’s Associates Program that is the subject of transfer from SMC to Ferris by qualified students. The Transfer Guide is subject to programmatic review and periodic change by Ferris and SMC. Ferris and SMC 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 Transfer Guide prior to the implementation of any programmatic changes.

4. Ferris and SMC anticipate offering, depending on enrollment, available facilities, and available faculty or instructors, courses at the SMC Campus, online, and/or mixed delivery.

5. 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 SMC 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 SMC 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.

6. 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 SMC. 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.

7. 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 Southwestern Michigan College, agree to the terms of this agreement, effective December 1, 2011

## Signatures

**Ferris State University**

**Southwestern Michigan College**

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David Eisler  
President

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Dr. David Fleming  
Vice President of Instruction

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Fritz Erickson  
Provost and Vice President

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Donald Green  
Vice President  
External & International Operations

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David Nicol  
Dean  
College of Business

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David Steenstra  
Academic Department Head  
Management Department