

**CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT  
REVERSE TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE INITIATIVE**

*between*

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

*and*

**SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE**



Ferris State University and Southwestern Michigan College have reached certain mutual understandings which will enable both institutions to partner to assist students who have transferred to Ferris State University to complete an Associate's Degree at Southwestern Michigan College. This agreement is an extension of the transfer relationship between Ferris State University and Southwestern Michigan College. This agreement applies to Southwestern Michigan College students who have completed a minimum of 32 credit hours at Southwestern Michigan College but who transferred to Ferris State University before earning an Associate's Degree. The signatories to this agreement commit to work collaboratively to enable qualified students to obtain an additional credential. This agreement is an extension of our efforts to provide a seamless transfer experience and to increase student retention and degree completion.

Each signatory agrees to:

1. Appoint a contact person and liaison for the initiative.
2. Share student information and ensure that the sharing of information is conducted in a manner that is in compliance with FERPA guidelines.
3. Develop a method to track the success of the initiative and share results on an annual basis.
4. Follow parameters of the law and regional accrediting agencies.
5. Develop and document the system, processes, communication and timeline supporting the initiative.
6. Explore opportunities to leverage existing technology in an effort to create an effective, efficient and seamless process.
7. Outline student communication, procedures and advisement assistance to complete degree requirements.
8. Attend partner meetings to continuously monitor the agreement and its outcomes.
9. This Reverse Transfer Agreement may be unilaterally dissolved at any time upon mutual agreement by either institution upon 180 days written notice to the other institution.

**AGREED TO THIS 3RD DAY OF JULY, 2013**

Ferris State University  
1201 S. State Street  
Big Rapids, MI 49307  
Phone: (231) 591-2000

Southwestern Michigan College  
58900 Cherry Grove Road  
Dowagiac, MI 49047  
Phone: (269) 456-8675

July 3, 2013

July 3, 2013

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David Eisler  
President

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David M. Mathews  
President