

MOU CC Faculty Feedback, 9.10.2025

Feedback Regarding MOU with National

The following reflects questions and feedback from Cuyamaca College faculty regarding the MOU with National University.

Overall, CC faculty are, of course, always in support of finding ways to help our students have more opportunities for transfer. However, there are some questions related to this particular MOU as, in the past, faculty have been involved with the process of signing an MOU so there was more clarity about the purpose and goals from the start.

I have received a request for clarity on a few things. Please see below:

1. Each institution will:
 - a. Publicize the agreement and program among its students and faculty.
 - Question about a: Who is in charge of this? Where will it be publicized?
 - The MOU gives us the opportunity to create a landing page specifically for GC and CC students staff and faculty. Palomar and Mesa College have these landing pages. Here is an example of [Palomar's landing page](#). When students see this partnership on the website, students trust the relationship between National and our Colleges. This will streamline the transfer process for students. NU is a private non-profit institution. National would maintain the website. We could link to it under our transfer center but this would be a decision finalized by the Transfer Coordinator and VPSS.
 - **Follow Up Question:** do we know who will be responsible for creating and maintaining the landing page at Cuyamaca? Or will this page will be only at District's website? Thank you!
 - b. Clearly delineate courses to be taken at Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District and those to be completed at National University.
 - Question about b: This is already listed on www.assist.org. This is already listed on www.assist.org. Yes, but this would also be listed on the landing page.
 - **Follow Up Question:** Is this National's landing page that you're referring to?
 - c. Coordinate activities, monitor student progress, and evaluate and improve program as necessary.
 - Question about c: Who is in charge of this? The initial contact would be made with the AVC of Educational Support Services, and funneled to the college's Vice Presidents. After VP approval, Monir Masoud, Director of

Community College Pathways, would work along with the Transfer Coordinators and Deans of the programs.

- Follow Up Question: I think we need to clearly indicate how much of TCD is involved with this, make sure that everybody knows what they need to do and make sure that we are on the same page. Is it possible to meet with GCCCD TCD/NU and Deans to discuss it further?
- d. List degree programs in the appropriate publication and web sites and print materials of the institution.
 - Question about d: Who is in charge of this? It will be on the landing page.
- e. Exchange regularly updated copies of their general catalogs and other publications, which may be helpful in advising students.
 - Question about e: Who is in charge of this? This will be accessed online and linked to the landing page.
- f. Provide timely information about significant changes in the program and programs of study that relate to the preparation of participating program students.
 - Question about f: Who is in charge of this? How will this be coordinated with Curriculum process? This section is for students who attend National.
 - Follow up: It doesn't read this way. It sounds like they are supposed to communicate their curricular changes to us so we can prepare potential students. How will this be done?
- g. Provide any other information that may be helpful with monitoring and supporting the academic success of participating program students.
 - Question about g: How is monitoring/tracking going to happen? National will monitor their students to ensure success.
- h. Provide the opportunity for National to participate in Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Transfer fairs, staff office hours, and provide online information sessions in partnership with the CC.
 - Question about h: These opportunities are already provided at transfer fairs. We don't have space in Counseling/Transfer to provide office space - where will this take place? This will be discussed with the Vice Presidents of Student Services but Victoria said they'd welcome them to come once a month and present at SSLAT, we may not be able to dedicate an assigned office like we do for adjuncts but, they can table and give information in the quad. These things would be coordinated with VPSS (or Dean of Counseling) and Transfer Counselor Coordinator.
 - Follow up: TC works with NU and provides space for the Transfer fair, tabling. We cannot provide office space in TC at Cuyamaca due to limited offic
- i. Provide the opportunity for staff to make presentations at academic department meetings relevant to the program and transfer departments.

- Question about i: This would need to be coordinated with Department Chairs. Yes, this would need to be coordinated with department chairs.
- Follow up: do chairs are aware that they are responsible for this?
- j. Schedule joint department meetings as needed for program updates to include academic leadership from both institutions.
 - Question about j: This would need to be coordinated with Department Chairs. Yes, this would need to be coordinated with department chairs.
- k. Provide the opportunity to host information by way of a resource table on campus and webinars, materials on websites, and through social media as needed.
 - Question about k: This is already provided through Transfer Center. If this needs to be provided through the college, who is responsible? National would offer the service such as luncheons.
 - Follow up: Usually someone at the college needs to be responsible for this to help NU to schedule and coordinate the luncheons.
- l. Assess the partnership annually in collaboration to discuss successes, opportunities, and challenges needed to improve student outcomes.
 - Question about l: Who is in charge of this? We would dictate how we would like to evaluate our partnership. This could be an annual meeting that includes transfer coordinators, AOs, VPSS, VPAA, AVCESS and any other partner.

There needs to be more clarity about what the benefits of signing the MOU are. National already has an [ADT scholarship](#). Is this a higher scholarship than what is offered to all CC students? They also already offer a scholarship to CC employees, so is this a higher amount of scholarship than what is already offered? National University already offers the ADT Transfer Scholarship for students who complete their Associate Degree for Transfer, as well as a Community College Employee Scholarship. Those programs remain in place and continue to be available.

- What the MOU adds is a deeper, more intentional collaboration that benefits both students and the employees of GCCD. It formalizes our shared commitment to:
 - Provide enhanced communication and outreach to ensure students clearly understand their transfer pathways, and GCCD employees have the information they need about their programs of interest and scholarship opportunities.
 - Offer dedicated support and transfer liaisons to make the transition from community college to NU as smooth and efficient as possible.
 - Expand access to wellness, academic, and student success resources for transfer students, including services through TimelyCare and our Academic Success Center.
 - **The goal isn't just to offer a higher scholarship, it's to create a stronger bridge between GCCD and NU that helps more students complete their degrees with confidence and support.**

At Grossmont's Academic Senate meeting, it was mentioned that National used to be a for-profit institution. That is not correct. I asked this questions and here is the answer:

Was National University ever a for-profit college?

Never.

Veteran-founded and non-profit since 1971 in San Diego, California, National University has always been committed to serving those who serve. We began with a mission to educate active-duty military members and Veterans transitioning to civilian careers and have since expanded to support hardworking adults seeking to transform their lives through education.

We are HSI and MSI and today, NU students come from all walks of life and bring a wide range of experiences and backgrounds, whether they're working professionals, active service members, or individuals dedicated to serving their communities.

Recently we earned two prestigious Carnegie Classifications
<https://www.nu.edu/our-university/the-university/>

Feedback Regarding MOU Process/Protocol

- The process should make sure to include interest holders from the start. In particular, the individuals that will be instrumental parts of the implementation process should be included. Examples of folks who should be brought in at the early stages*:
 - Articulation Officer
 - Curriculum Faculty Chair
 - Transfer Faculty Coordinator
 - Chair of Chairs
 - Academic Senate President

*Note: We understand that the above individuals may not always need to be involved after the initial stages, but they should help bring in the faculty voices that will be appropriate. They are important bridges to this work and

should be looped in so that they are appropriately informed and involved throughout the process. For example, the Chair of Chairs can make sure any chairs who need to be a part of the conversation are brought in.

- Protocol should make sure that the MOU implementation steps are led by the areas who will be doing the implementing. Therefore there should be more consideration of college-level needs. At the top level things tend to be more general since so the concern here is that if the point person is at the District level, then there is a disconnect from the work to implement the MOU since that work happens at the campus level. Both colleges are very different and have different programs; because of this, there needs to be more space for the campuses to design their implementation plan.
 - Question: Could there be a District-level liaison that helps coordinate the efforts happening at the college with those that are appropriate to be handled at the District (the second of which are less operational in nature)?
- What will be the steps for developing the protocol for moving forward with MOUs and how will faculty and college voices be included in that development process so that the protocol is able to capture all needed considerations to avoid slowing down the process in the future?