# Memorandum of Understanding between St. Petersburg College and New College of Florida Guaranteed Admission Program

# PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM:

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is to memorialize an agreement between St. Petersburg College ("SPC") and New College of Florida ("NCF") to ensure qualified SPC students are guaranteed admission to NCF upon successful completion of an Associate of Arts ("AA") degree from SPC and application for admission to NCF. Students will use a prescribed academic pathway ("Pathway") while at SPC to ensure transfer entrance to associated NCF academic areas of concentration. Each Pathway will describe the curriculum a student should complete while pursuing their AA for a specified area of study at NCF. All Pathways shall be in writing and executed by authorized representatives of SPC and NCF and shall be incorporated into this MOU as supplemental addenda. Students eligible for the Guaranteed Admission Program ("GAP") will be expected to earn an Associate of Arts degree ("AA") within eight (8) semesters, not to exceed thirty-two (32) months, from the time the student enrolls at SPC as a non-high school attending student ("Transfer"), or within four (4) academic years for a dual enrolled high school student ("DE Student"), and maintain a minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.00.

# PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW OF THIS PROGRAM:

The primary purpose of the GAP is to increase access for intellectually engaged, high achieving students to enroll and complete degrees at both SPC and NCF. Further, the GAP will allow for more students within the State of Florida to remain in the state to pursue higher degrees of education to positively impact the state economy. These students will receive support and mentoring to guarantee the applicants' admission to NCF upon completion of an AA at SPC. The students at SPC will be closely monitored by academic advisors to ensure proper advisement occurs for coursework necessary to transition to NCF. All Pathway courses shall be completed prior to official enrollment at NCF; provided, the Pathway courses have been offered at SPC during the students' enrollment. If SPC has not offered Pathway courses during the students' enrollment at SPC, NCF will consider reasonable alternatives on a case-by-case basis. SPC students shall be held to the standards of each institution's Student Code of Conduct and Honors Code.

# TARGET AUDIENCE:

Any SPC student who is interested in transferring to NCF after completing an AA at SPC.

### **COMMITMENTS FROM SPC:**

- Identify students who may be interested in NCF.
- Track potential NCF students for the GAP program.
- Communicate to students about student engagement opportunities at SPC and NCF.
- Provide appropriate reports on progress of students; subject to FERPA.
- Advise students appropriately to ensure that necessary coursework is met for admissions into NCF.
- Refer interested students to either NCF's Transfer Admissions Coordinator for Transfer students, or freshmen admissions coordinators for DE Students for appropriate admissions advising or questions.

# **COMMITMENTS FROM NCF:**

- Provide regular curriculum updates to SPC.
- Provide SPC with data on success stories of SPC GAP transfer students.

- Provide graduation data for GAP students commencing with the graduation of the first cohort of students transferring under this MOU.
- Invite students to attend information sessions with details on NCF's admissions process and points of contact.
- Offer in-person and on-line advising sessions for SPC students in the GAP Program.
- Provide welcome/encouragement letter to students that have self-identified as pursuing GAP admission.
- Encourage GAP students to attend activities (academic/social programming) to make connections with NCF students.
- Admit students who have satisfied the requirements outlined herein, who apply as a Transfer student or DE Student to NCF.
- Award to each SPC student admitted to NCF one or more annually renewing scholarship in an amount
  consistent with NCF's scholarship guarantee programs and their established associated policies for the
  student's enrollment term and status as either a Transfer or DE Student.
- Award the Phi Theta Kappa Scholar Award to all Phi Theta Kappa AA graduates from SPC; subject to availability of the scholarship.
- Provide information about this GAP in denial letters to all prospective freshmen students who reside in Pinellas County.

#### **DATA SHARING**

The parties agree to share data on current and prospective students consistent with the restrictions imposed by state and federal laws and statutes. Data sharing will improve the quality of processes, increase student engagement and learning, and advance public accountability. SPC and NCF will provide an annual report every September (or agreed upon month) to report on the previous academic year. Other technical details of data sharing will be determined by mutual agreement of the parties.

## REVERSE TRANSFER

NCF will identify students transferring without the A.A. from SPC, track progression, and once appropriate coursework has been completed, share student data with SPC to allow the A.A. degree to be awarded

# **TERM OF THIS MOU**

This MOU shall take effect on the date of the last signature below and remain in place for one (1) year. It shall automatically renew on an annual basis unless either institution provides the other institution written notice no later than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of the preceding term that it wishes to terminate this MOU. If either institution fails to follow the terms and conditions of the MOU, as set forth herein, the other institution has the right to terminate this MOU immediately upon written notice. If this MOU is terminated, the status of the students matriculated, enrolled, or accepted in programs contemplated under this MOU shall not be affected.

# **OPERATIONAL DETAILS:**

- SPC and NCF will meet to review MOU and make appropriate amendments and/or addenda when either party identifies a need to do so.
- SPC and NCF academic administrators will communicate annually and may meet to address the unique
  academic needs of both institutions. Administrators or designees will review regional academic
  programming needs and plans with a particular focus on baccalaureate degree offerings.

- SPC and NCF will identify members in their respective institutions to monitor the progress of the students and the program.
- If either institution requests a change to a Pathway, the institutions will cooperate to develop and execute a new Pathway.
- Advertisements, press releases, flyers and other print or electronic publicity created and disseminated by
  each institution regarding programs or activities related to this MOU shall be approved in advance by
  designated representatives of both parties.
- Neither party shall discriminate on the basis of sex (including pregnancy or gender identity), race, religion, age, national origin/ethnicity, color, marital status, disability, veteran status, genetic information, gender identity, or sexual orientation in any of its educational programs, services, or activities, including admission and employment.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have caused this MOU to be duly executed and delivered by their respective officials thereunto duly authorized as of the date last written below.

St. P	eters	burg	Col	lege

By: Title: Jamelle J. Conper, Ph.D.

Vice President, Student Affairs

On: 2/23/23

Title: Matthew Liao-Troth

Vice President, Academic Affairs

On: 2/23/23

New College of Florida

Title: Dr. Bradley Thiessen, Interim President

On: 02/21/2023

Title: Dr. Suzanne Sherman, Provost

on: 2/21/23

General Counsel's Office:

Appr. as to Form/Content MACps

Appr. by JC on 1/19/23 & ML on 2/22/23