

Proposal on credit transfer from two year institutions

Submitted by Mindy Peden* to the Committee on Academic Policies

I propose to *eliminate* the following from the Undergraduate Bulletin (page 122 in the 2009-2011 Bulletin):

“Note: Students who intend to earn transient credit from a two year institution (community colleges) may do so (after securing proper approvals) provided the sum of the credit hours earned and in progress at John Carroll University and planned at the two year institution does not exceed 64 semester hours.”

To make the Bulletin consistent, I also propose to *eliminate the bolded sentence* in the following paragraph on page 22 (Admissions, Credit evaluation):

“Transfer guides for Lakeland, Cuyahoga, and Lorain County Community Colleges are available upon request and online. The limit of transfer credit from a community college is 64 semester hours (96 quarter hours). **This total includes course work taken at any four-year school prior to enrollment in a community college.** In no instance will a degree be awarded to a transfer student unless the last 30 semester hours have been completed at John Carroll University. “

Explanation/Background

This note on transferring credit from two year institutions is difficult to explain and very hard to defend to students because the only thing that matters to why we would or would not accept credit for a course is how many credit hours they have as a student, not the level of the course itself. So, under existing rules a student can take the same introductory course at a two-year institution when they are a freshman or sophomore (up to 64 credits earned overall) at JCU but **not** when they are a junior or senior at JCU.

I propose elimination of this note because it will allow students to transfer in courses taken at a community college/ two year institution at any point in their educational careers, subject to other boundaries in the Bulletin such as an overall credit restriction, the requirement of the last 30 hours in residency, and the fact that all credits from two- year institutions transfer in at the 100 or 200 level (never at the 300 level or above). In other words, students still won't be able to transfer in more than 64 credits from a two year institution; students still can't take their last 30 credit hours outside of JCU; and all two year college courses will still come in to JCU as 100 or 200 level courses.

* In developing this proposal I was also advised by and ultimately received the endorsement of the following people in their capacities as current or former University administrators; John Day, Lauren Bowen, Nick Santilli, Jim Krukones, Jeanne Colleran, Peter Kvidera, Mark Storz, Karen Schuele, Jim Martin, Lindsay Caulkins, Elaine Hocesvar, Diane Campbell, Sophie Kus-Patena, Laura Atkins, Ernie DeZolt, and Beth Martin (Academic Division); Brian Williams and Kathy DiFranco (Enrollment Division).