



Special points of interest:

- **Updating/Adding/Deleting Programs in u.select**
- **u.direct updates available**
- **Best Practices/Health Check—Annual Maintenance**
- **U.select & Reject Flags**
- **Campus Announcements**
- **Transfer Articulation Rule Report**
- **NEW—2011-2012 Curriculum Changes Available Earlier**
- **2010-2011 Curriculum Changes**
- **2010-2011 New/ MnTC Course Inserts**

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DARS/u.select News

Announcements:

Updating/Adding/Deleting your Programs in u.select

Is now the time of year when you are updating your programs in DARS to keep up with the curriculum and program changes for the 2011-12 school year? Don't forget to make sure that your programs in u.select are kept up-to-date as well! We have documentation to explain the process of making changes to your Program set-up in u.select. Find this documentation at:

http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/Updating_uselect.pdf

u.direct - Graduation Planner

Bi-weekly updates are now available for each of the Students First projects. Please go to <http://studentsfirst.project.mnscu.edu/>, click on bi-weekly update, and look at the specific information which is in the boxed area. Information has also been added on the efforts that are required of universities and colleges for the Students First projects as we approach June 30, 2011. Your feedback is encouraged!

If you have questions, contact Jonathan Eichten at jonathan.eichten@so.mnscu.edu or 651-201-1655.

✓ **REMINDER:** At last year's DARS/u.select Users Conference, we offered a session on Best Practices/Self "Health Check" which can be found at: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/UserConf2010/documents/Best_Practices_Check.pdf

Please use this useful guide to make sure you are keeping up-to-date on DARS & u.select maintenance items. **NOTE:** See REFY Update and TRANSCRIP requirement reminders in the April Newsletter.

u.select and Reject Flags

In Transfer Articulation, schools with equivalent MnTC courses, but with different goals, normally accomplish this with reject flag lines in sub-requirements and a combination of alternates and flags in Transfer Articulation tables. Alternates normally identify the Goal area(s) attached to the course. The flags reject the course from a goal area sub-requirement. In u.select Equivalency

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Campus Announcements:

Please let us know about information you wish to share with other MnSCU schools. We particularly welcome news from you that will impact DARS encoding and transfer processing within MnSCU. Celebrate accomplishments by sharing your victories ... small or large ... with your colleagues.

This month's announcements...Discipline Changes!

The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Geology Department is changing their GEO discipline to ESCI effective 2011/2012 academic year.

South Central College changed their SPCH discipline to COMM effective 2011/2012 academic year.

Ridgewater College changed their SPCH discipline to CMST effective 2011/2012 academic year.

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Guides, encoders provide a definition of the meaning of Alternates in the Glossary Messages. Flags, however, on Target courses are normally not displayed in u.select. The flags used for rejecting a Goal on an equivalent course may be useful information to display in u.select. Flags, like Alternates, should be defined in the Glossary Messages. If your institution uses flags to reject courses, and would like to display flags in u.select, please contact the DARS Team.

"Reject Flags in Transfer" documentation can be found at:

<http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/number28.pdf>)

Transfer Articulation Rule Report

As you work toward completing the Smart Transfer Plan, you may find the Transfer Articulation Rule Report useful. The report lists the course memo, source course, title, effective dates, target course, title, alternates and flags of all the TA rules for a specific school in your DARS Transfer Articulation Tables. The report can be viewed via the Process Monitor, or printed.

<http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/TARuleReport.pdf>

NEW - **2011-2012 Curriculum Changes - Shift to a Earlier Time**

In an effort to identify the new courses prior to the fall academic term, we will shift the annual curriculum comparison from December to May. Users requested receiving the new courses before the start of fall term in order to display in u.select. The equivalent courses are also used in the online registration Equivalent Course Search function.

The lists of curriculum changes for your campus will be sent in June. We are requesting the returned lists by late June for posting on our website in July. The 2011-2012 Curriculum Inserts should be available for electronic inserting in July.

2010-2011 Curriculum Changes

Curriculum Changes for the Academic Year 2010-2011 are posted on our site at: <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/currchanges/changesmenu.html> .

Courses adding or removing a MnTC goal are compiled into one document. The list "2010-2011 MnTC Curriculum Notes" is at: <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/currchanges/changesmenu.html> .

2010-2011 New Course Inserts and 2010-2011 New MnTC Course Inserts

New courses for MnSCU institutions, for the academic year 2010-2011, are available for electronically inserting into your TA tables.

Request 2010-2011 New Course Insert at: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/NewCourse_Insert_req.pdf

Request 2010-2011 New MnTC Course Insert at: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/New_MnTC_Course_Inse.pdf

See April's Newsletter for needed 2010-2011 Curriculum details.

Please contact Mary D'Andrea at mary.dandrea@so.mnscu.edu if you have questions.

SQLs:

Recent SQL updating has been done for two schools to alleviate the data entry burden resulting from Discipline/Department changes. In both cases, the SPCH designator was changed to COMM or CMST in all the A-lines (acceptable course lines) in the sub-requirements.

We were also able to provide a list of all the sub-requirement title lines that used SPCH or Speech, so that the DARS Encoder could make the appropriate language changes.

Training & Conferences

Fall 2011 training dates TBA. If you have new or existing staff that will be using DARS or u.select, please encourage them to attend the appropriate training session(s) as they are announced. Even if you or your staff already attended training, you are welcome to attend again. Many people find a return visit to training helpful.

- ◆ **Transfer Articulation Training** – Fall 2011 dates will be announced at a later time.
- ◆ **Basic Encoding Training** – Fall 2011 dates will be announced at a later time.
- ◆ **u.select Advisor Training** – Fall 2011 dates will be announced at a later time.
- ◆ **u.select Administrator Training** – training offered via WebEx upon request, (after registering, participants will be contacted to arrange date & time).

All training will be held at Wells Fargo Place in Saint Paul, unless otherwise indicated. Training will be in Room 2204 or 3354, depending on the number of registered participants.

Registration for all training, open labs, and conferences can be found at the following link:

http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_index.html.

The format will allow you to check the dates of the training, review agendas, and register from the same page. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.**

Upon completion of all training and labs, please complete the Training Evaluation at:

<http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/evaluation.html>.

Third Wednesday & Thursday/DARS Open Labs

Third Wednesday & Thursday – May 18 & 19 at Wells Fargo Place, Room 2204 or 3354. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.**

- ◆ **DARS "Out West" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "Up North" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "Central" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "Down South" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.
- ◆ **DARS "North Shore" Open Lab** – Spring lab completed. Fall dates will be scheduled at a later time.

REGISTRATION: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_regform_new.html

DIRECTIONS: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/registration/directions_WFP.html

*For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Marla Delaney at marla.delaney@csu.mnscu.edu.
Thank you.*