

2008-2010 BRIDGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

A Memorandum of Understanding

Between

FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY

and

NORTHEASTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The purpose of this agreement is to establish a Bridge Partnership Program between Francis Marion University (FMU) and Northeastern Technical College (NETC). This collaboration will provide a seamless transfer opportunity for local first-time college students who choose to begin their academic study at NETC as preparation for entry into a baccalaureate degree program at FMU. Under the program, students may complete developmental or other required coursework, enhance study skills, and acclimate to college life to enhance their preparation to succeed in a baccalaureate program. This agreement provides guidelines for the operation of the program including the admissions process, student advisement, and institutional responsibilities.

Participant Selection:

This program is intended for first-time college attendees from Chesterfield, Dillon, and Marlboro counties. Participants in the program will be identified in the following ways:

- *Students who apply initially to FMU* but do not meet the normal admission standard will be advised of the program by the FMU Admissions staff and encouraged to contact NETC for additional information about enrollment. FMU will provide the student with a Bridge Program Registration Form to be taken with the student to NETC.
- *Students who apply initially to NETC* and express an interest in eventually transferring to FMU will be advised of the program by the NETC Admissions staff and encouraged to apply.

Students wishing to participate in the program must submit a Bridge Program Registration Form to NETC. Once Bridge participants are identified, NETC will forward a copy of the registration form to the FMU Office of Admissions for system input and tracking.

Conditions for Enrollment at FMU:

In order to complete the Bridge Program and qualify for transfer admission to FMU, students must:

- Complete and submit an application for admission to FMU at least two months prior to the start of the desired semester of entry. FMU will waive the application fee for Bridge students.
- Complete all developmental and required coursework as identified through placement testing at NETC.
- Complete a minimum of 24 credit hours of transferable coursework with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher. Students who transfer less than 24 semester hours must meet Francis Marion University freshman admission requirements.

Institutional Responsibilities:

FMU agrees to:

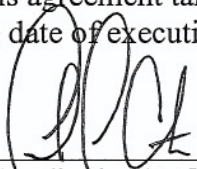
- Promote the program to qualified applicants who do not meet the normal FMU admission standard.
- Designate the transfer counselor in the Office of Admissions as the primary point of contact with students in the program. This individual will arrange to visit NETC at least once each semester to meet with Bridge students and/or to present information about FMU.
- Provide and distribute a list of recommended courses at NETC that will transfer to FMU and count toward the University's graduation requirements.
- Provide special counseling for Bridge students during the summer orientation sessions.
- Use the FMU catalog that is in effect when the student first enrolls at NETC for advisement purposes provided that the student has been continuously enrolled in classes at NETC prior to enrolling in classes at FMU.
- Provide NETC with a copy of the academic transcripts of transfer students so that credits may be transferred back for appropriate awarding of NETC credentials.
- Provide participants who present an NETC Bridge student identification card access to the library and cultural and athletic events at FMU.

NETC agrees to:

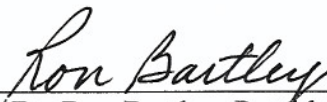
- Promote the Bridge program to students who express an interest in eventually transferring to FMU.
- Provide participating students an NETC Bridge student identification card that will permit access to the library and cultural and athletic events at FMU.
- Designate an Admissions Recruiter as the primary point of contact with students in the program. This individual will work to facilitate visits to NETC by the FMU transfer counselor.
- Provide participants with a list of recommended courses that will transfer to FMU and count toward the University's graduation requirements.
- Monitor participation in the program, copy FMU on all Bridge Registration Forms that are processed, and provide FMU with a copy of the academic transcript for all participants upon application to FMU.

Enactment:

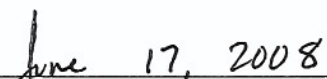
This agreement takes effect upon signature of the parties below and will expire two years from the date of execution unless renewed or amended by mutual agreement.



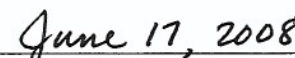
Dr. Luther F. Carter, President
Francis Marion University



Dr. Ron Bartley, President
Northeastern Technical College



Date



Date