

**TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
AND  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

**Alliance Agreement**

This Alliance Agreement (“Agreement”) is made this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2013 (“the Effective Date”) by and between the University of Maryland University College (“UMUC”) and Tidewater Community College (“TCC”) who together are collectively referred to as the “Institutions.”

**I. Introduction**

a. UMUC is an accredited institution of higher education located in Adelphi, Maryland, and provides its academic courses and programs in Maryland and through distance delivery. UMUC offers undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs and is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. UMUC is a constituent institution of the University System of Maryland, an agency of the State of Maryland.

b. TCC is a regionally accredited institution located in Norfolk, Virginia, and provides its academic courses and programs in the South Hampton Roads region. TCC offers two-year associate programs and is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. Tidewater Community College provides collegiate education and training to adults of all ages and backgrounds, helping them achieve their individual goals and contribute as citizens and workers to the vitality of an increasingly global community. TCC is part of the Virginia Community College System, an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

c. The Institutions recognize the programs and courses offered by the other and desire to establish their understanding regarding the transfer and applicability of credits from one institution to the other. The Institutions further desire to allow simultaneous admission to TCC and UMUC (“the Alliance”). To that end the Institutions enter into this Agreement.

Now therefore, the Institutions agree as follows:

**II. Term**

a. The term of this Agreement shall be effective as of July 1, 2013 and continue in effect for an initial period of one (1) year and shall automatically renew for successive one (1) year periods.

b. Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing the other ninety (90) days prior written notice. During the notice period the parties may discuss continuation of a formal relationship between them.

c. Provided neither Institution’s programs, courses or graduation requirements have changed materially to the effect that articulation or the transfer of credit is no longer academically appropriate, UMUC shall accept the transfer of TCC credits and afford the students the status as

stated herein on the terms and conditions of this Agreement for those students who, at or before the termination of Agreement, have enrolled in UMUC and remained continuously enrolled.

### **III. Dual Admissions, Transfer Credit, Reverse Transfer and Scholarships**

a. **Dual Admission**. The Institutions agree to allow simultaneous admission to TCC and UMUC. UMUC will not promote transfer to UMUC before a student has completed 45 credit hours at TCC and shall encourage students to continue to obtain their associates degree.

b. Students enrolled in both Institutions under this Agreement (“Alliance Students”) shall be subject to the laws, regulations, practices and policies in effect at the institution the respective Alliance Student is attending. UMUC will waive the UMUC admission application fee for Alliance Students who complete the admission application prior to graduating from TCC.

c. With respect to students enrolled in the Alliance, UMUC and TCC shall abide by the following procedures:

(i) **Specific Programs —Acceptance of Degrees**. Subject to the terms and Conditions of this Agreement, UMUC shall provide students graduating from TCC with the opportunity to seamlessly transfer to UMUC into any of the Bachelor’s degree programs offered by UMUC.

(ii) **Transfer of TCC Credits to UMUC**. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, UMUC shall accept transfer of TCC credits up to a maximum of seventy (70) credit hours on the following terms and conditions:

A) the grade earned in the course in question is at least a C;

B) the student does not take the equivalent course at UMUC.

d. **Evaluation of Transfer Credits**. UMUC will grant prospective students from TCC a tentative evaluation of all transfer credits within 1-3 business days. It is anticipated that Alliance Students who apply to UMUC and submit official transcripts to UMUC will receive an official evaluation of their transfer credits within 2-3 weeks of receipt of all documentation. Evaluations may take slightly longer if courses from TCC have not been evaluated by UMUC.

e. **Changes in Programs**. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, the Institutions retain the right and the authority to make changes in their respective courses, programs and credential requirements that they each may determine to be in their respective best interest. The parties shall give the other reasonable notice of changes in course program and credential requirements that may materially affect the Alliance Student’s status and acceptance of degrees or the transfer of credit as contemplated in this Agreement. Students who are already enrolled in the Alliance at the time of program or course changes will have the opportunity to choose whether they will follow the new or existing program.

The parties shall meet, at least annually, to review the changes in courses, programs and

credential requirements for the purpose of determining whether or if this Agreement should be amended to reflect the courses, programs and credential requirements then in effect.

f. **Reverse Transfer.** UMUC will promote reverse transfer to TCC students who transfer to UMUC without a TCC associates degree. Interested students must sign a FERPA waiver to allow UMUC and TCC advisors to exchange student academic records to implement dual advising and promote reverse transfer opportunities. Data will be shared yearly with TCC administrators.

g. **Scholarships.** UMUC will offer graduates from TCC the opportunity to apply for the Community College Transfer Scholarship or other scholarship opportunities as they become available. Students must meet Community College Transfer Scholarship qualifications for eligibility which include 3.0 GPA, associate degree earned from CC and student is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. The Community College Transfer Scholarship will be promoted on UMUC's web sites and Alliance publications, and on TCC's web sites as appropriate.

h. **Tuition Discount.** UMUC shall provide full-time faculty and staff from TCC with a 25% tuition discount for the Doctor of Management in community college policy and administration, subject to appropriate admissions requirements and verification of employment.

i. **Transfer Reports.** UMUC shall provide annual transfer reports to TCC. Transfer reports will include information on bachelor's degree completion, number of credits transferred, number of Community College Transfer Scholarships awarded, and other pertinent information.

#### **IV. Applicability**

a. In order for an Alliance Student having graduated from TCC to be afforded status in the Articulated Programs as contemplated in Section 3 or to be afforded transfer credits as contemplated in Section 3, that student must have met UMUC's admission criteria and other applicable requirements for the transfer of Articulated Programs or the transfer of credits as set forth in the then applicable UMUC catalog at the time the Alliance Student applies for admission to UMUC.

b. UMUC and TCC agree that the status afforded to students as contemplated in this Agreement applies only to the Articulated Programs, courses in the Articulated Programs, transfer of credits and credentials and credential requirements in effect as of the Effective Date.

#### **V. Publicity and Promotion**

a. During the term of this Agreement, the Institutions shall develop and agree upon a mutually acceptable marketing and student recruitment plan to promote the TCC-UMUC alliance and inform students of the opportunities available at both institutions under this Agreement. TCC agrees to promote the Alliance to TCC students by allowing UMUC (www.umuc.edu) to place marketing materials in student service centered departments and/or on the TCC website (www.tcc.edu) and other TCC transfer publications with TCC approval. Any and all marketing, promotional or publication materials developed pursuant to this Agreement

prepared or developed by one party must be reviewed and approved in writing by the other party prior to use of any such materials.

b. TCC agrees to share with UMUC twice per year e-mail addresses for those students with 30 credits or more enrolled in articulated or parallel programs with UMUC. The e-mail addresses will be provided in the fall and spring each year upon a written request by UMUC. UMUC will communicate via e-mail with these students to promote associate degree completion with transfer to a UMUC bachelor's degree. UMUC will e-mail these students no more than five times annually and will not store the student's information in UMUC's prospect database. If a student expresses interest by responding to an e-mail, the student may then be entered into UMUC's database. UMUC will not sell the student e-mail addresses to any external organization or individual.

c. The institutions will discuss methods to publicize the transfer and applicability of transfer credit and to promote enrollment of and other opportunities for TCC's students and alumni at UMUC.

d. Neither Institution shall use the name or marks of the other party in connection with any product, service, promotion, news release or other publicity, without the prior written consent of the party whose name or likeness may be under consideration.

e. Notices. The Institutions will identify their respective representatives for this Agreement and share contact information from time to time.

## **VI. General Provisions**

a. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be personally delivered or mailed registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the following parties at the designated address or such other address as shall be provided in writing by such party to the other party:

To UMUC, addressed to:

University of Maryland University College  
Waldorf Center for Higher Education  
3261 Old Washington Rd, Suite 1020  
Waldorf, MD 20602  
Attn: Lisa Romano-Arnold

To TCC, addressed to:

Tidewater Community College  
District Offices  
121 College Place, Suite 623  
Norfolk, VA 23510-1910  
Attn: Kellie Sorey

b. This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes any and all prior and/or contemporaneous agreements between the parties, written or oral, with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be changed or modified orally, but may only be changed or modified by an agreement in writing signed by both parties.

c. This Agreement shall be construed and governed in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland.

d. Nothing in this Agreement is intended, shall be, or shall be deemed to constitute a partnership or joint venture between the parties. Nothing in this Agreement is intended, shall be, or shall be deemed to create rights or benefits in or to any person or entity other than the parties. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Institutions, by their duly authorized representatives, have entered into this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Printed Name: Javier Miyares

Printed Name: Edna Baehre-Kolovani, Ph.D.

Title: President

Title: President

***This agreement is effective upon its approval by TCC's President and UMUC's President on August 15, 2013.***