PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

And

WICHITA AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

This partnership agreement is entered into this 11th day of February, 2015, by and between Wichita Area Technical College (WATC) and Wichita State University (WSU):

WHEREAS, WATC and WSU, both being desirous of cooperating in a plan to provide a joint Associate of Arts degree (Shocker Pathway), do mutually agree to enter into this agreement:

NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree to the terms and conditions as hereinafter set forth below.

BOTH PARTIES agree:

Shocker Pathway is a collaboration between WATC and WSU to assist students who wish to begin their course work at WATC and achieve an AA degree and beyond from WSU. The student will benefit by having a clear and guided pathway toward degree completion at WSU. Shocker Pathway will provide a seamless transition for students through a collaborative admission and advising process.

Currently the technical colleges in the state of Kansas are prohibited from issuing AA degrees. However, the Board of Regents has granted technical colleges the authorization to teach individual general education courses including 46 courses that KBOR has approved for seamless transfer across the system. In some cases, the process can be difficult and confusing for students beginning their academic career at a technical college if they decide to obtain a bachelor’s degree. Shocker Pathway opens a clear path for students by articulating up to 50 hours of transferable coursework to WSU. The student will take an additional 15 hours at WSU targeted to specific college requirements and have their AA conferred by WSU. This also opens the avenue for application to one of the colleges at WSU for bachelor’s degree completion.

Students will apply to the Shocker Pathway program through WATC. A Shocker Pathway application will serve the needs of both institutions, and students will be pre-admitted to WSU using this collaborative application process. Admission to WSU will be finalized upon presentation of transfer transcript showing the required transfer GPA. The student will receive academic coaching from WATC as well as dual advising from the WSU Office of Adult Learning in consultation with the student’s academic advisor. The cost of transfer transcripts will be covered by WATC. WSU will waive the admission application fee. Students in the Shocker Pathway will pay WATC tuition and fee rates while taking the 50 credits from WATC. The remaining 15 credits taken at WSU will be at the WSU tuition and fee rate.
An academic plan will be developed for each student using the Shocker Pathway guide (see attached). The student can transfer up to 50 hours from WATC and will add an additional 15 hours or more from WSU to complete the AA at WSU (64 credits are needed for the AA degree).

Students in the Shocker Pathway will be under the jurisdiction of the WATC Academic and Student Codes of Conduct while taking the 50 credits from WATC. Students in Shocker Pathway taking the 15 credits from WSU will be under the jurisdiction of WSU academic and student policies.

Once the student transfers to WSU, the Office of Adult Learning will work with the student to complete their AA degree. At that time if the student wishes to pursue a bachelor’s degree the Office of Adult Learning will assist with the transition into the individual college at WSU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their respective authorized officers:

FOR: Wichita State University

Dr. John Bardo

Date

FOR: Wichita Area Technical College

Dr. Anthony (Tony) Kinkel

Date

Sheree Utash

Date