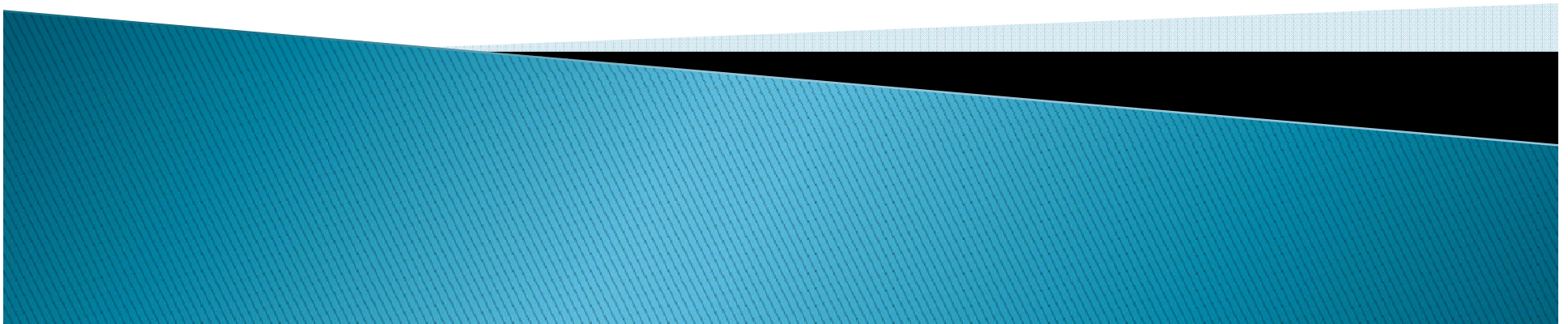


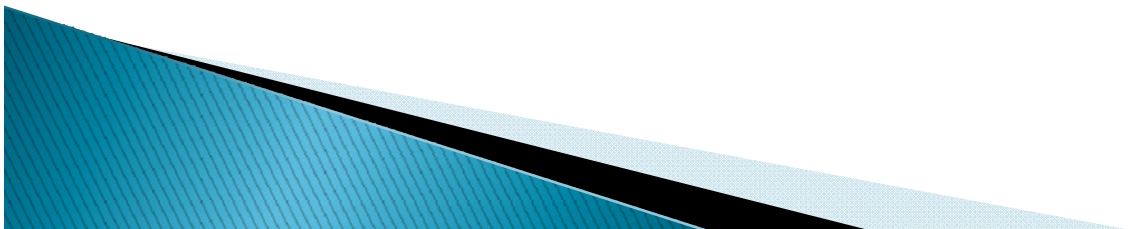
College Readiness Standards for the Missouri Community Colleges

A Presentation for the Midwestern Higher Education Compact
Annual Commission Meeting
St. Louis, Missouri
June 9, 2011
Presented by Jean A. McCann
Vice President, Instruction
East Central College



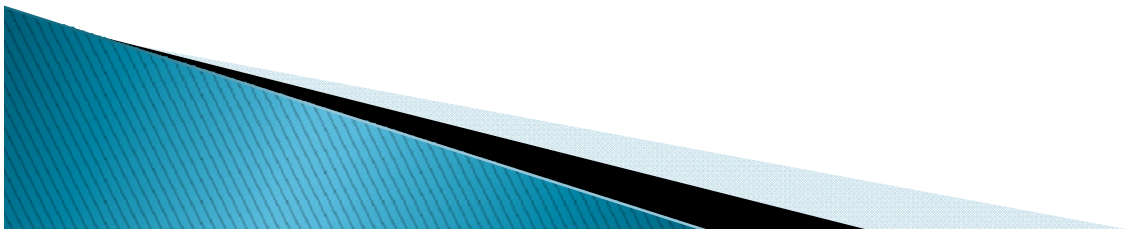
From the beginning....

- ▶ Getting Started
- ▶ Need to Establish “Why?”
- ▶ Process
- ▶ Results
- ▶ Assessment –How will we know the impact and the effectiveness of the standards?
- ▶ Transparency, Reporting and Adjustments
- ▶ Unintended Consequences
- ▶ Lessons Learned



The Before....

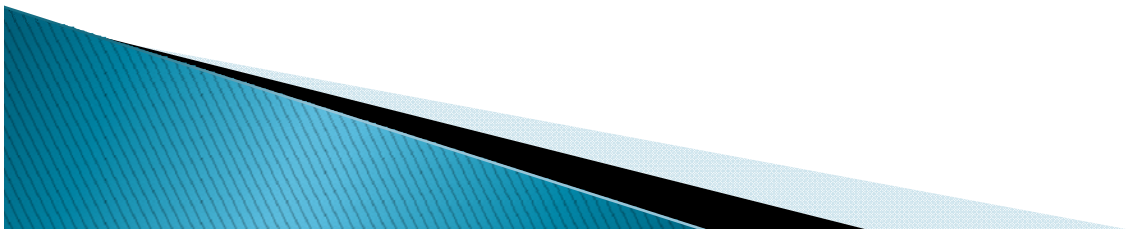
- ▶ MoDEC and work done previously
 - The infamous report
- ▶ DHE and discussions surrounding a national initiative for college readiness assessment
 - Grant efforts and DESE
- ▶ The Missouri Community College Association Presidents and discussions about:
 - Developmental Students
 - Definitions



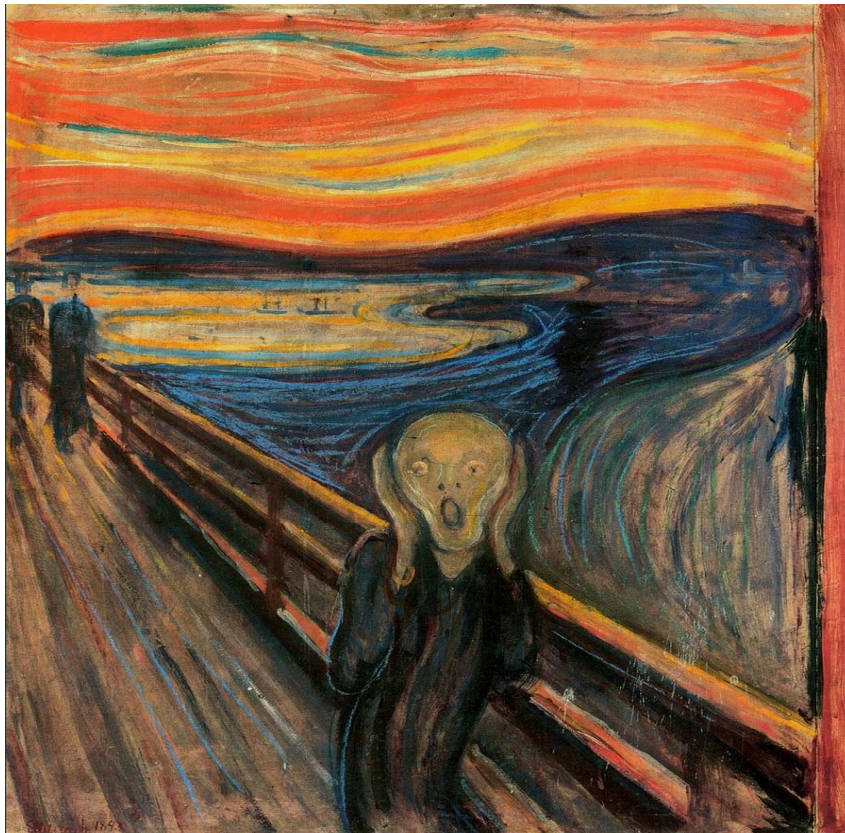
Getting Started

The Statewide Chief Academic Officers group....

- Monthly meetings
- Chair
- Representatives from the 12 districts, 19 individual campuses, 1 technical school
- How we work



So, we all hear the official charge...



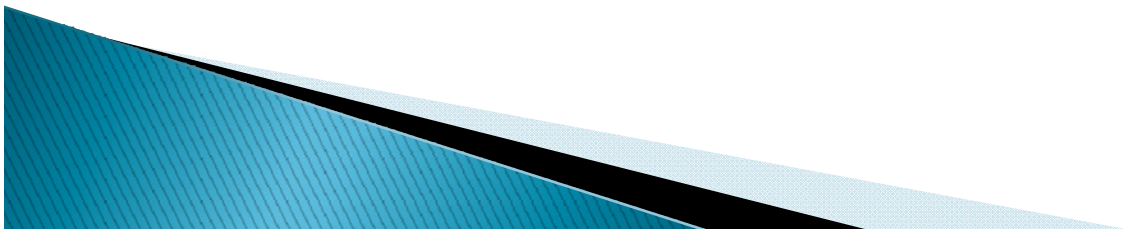
Develop a common standard for college readiness to be adopted by all MCCA institutions

The CAO's react...

...to the charge.

Need to Establish “Why?”

- ▶ 12 districts, 19 campuses
- ▶ Mission and Purpose
- ▶ What do we gain?
- ▶ What do we lose?
- ▶ Benefit to the students
- ▶ Sector
- ▶ The Four Year Colleges and Universities



Range of Placement Scores

Missouri Community Colleges

Mathematics
ACT College Algebra

Low: 19
High: 25

English
ACT Composition I

Low: 16
High: 24

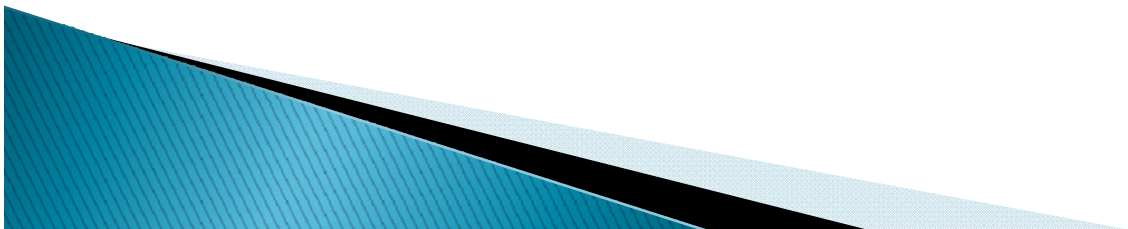
Reading (if applicable)
Low: 14
High: 21



The Process

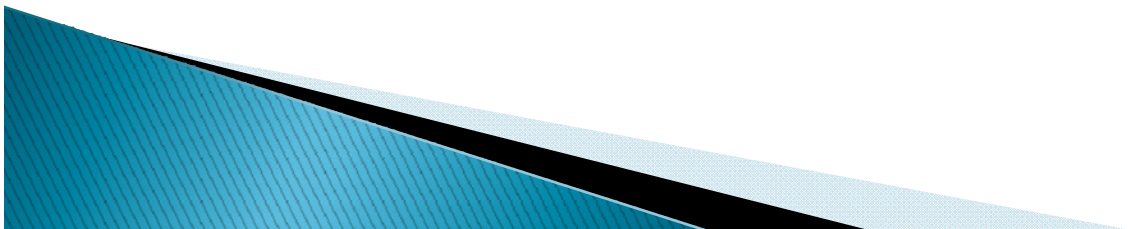
Random Thoughts from 7–8 meetings

- ▶ Institutional Autonomy issues
- ▶ Mission and governance
- ▶ Curriculum
- ▶ The Faculty
- ▶ Implementation
- ▶ Enrollment patterns



How we researched what to do next...

- ▶ Find other states with common standards
 - Single systems
 - What we learned
- ▶ ACT and its role
 - Recommendations
 - ACT and college readiness
- ▶ Information sharing



Results

- ▶ Arriving at a Recommendation
 - Using the work of ACT
- ▶ Numbers alone were not enough
 - Processes, procedures
 - Compliance
- ▶ Negotiating
 - Working through the kinks
- ▶ Final Document
 - To the presidents in January 2011
- ▶ Timeline constraints
 - Getting ready for a Fall 2011 start



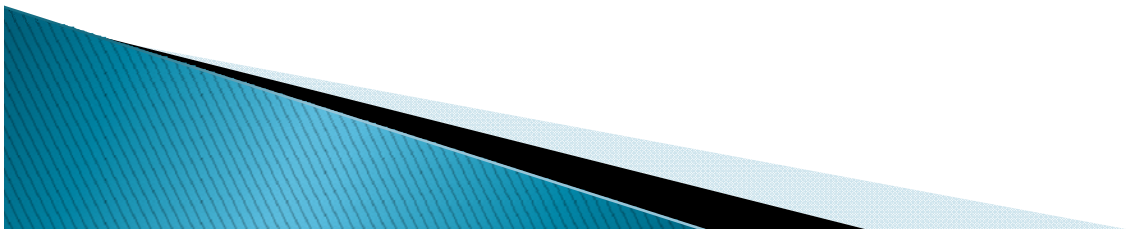
The Recommendations

Proposed Minimum Entry Scores for College Level Coursework

Based on the ACT “Stage 1” Cut Off Scores*

ACT Mathematics	Minimum Subject Score of 23
ACT English	Minimum Subject Score of 18
ACT Reading	Minimum College Readiness Score of 18

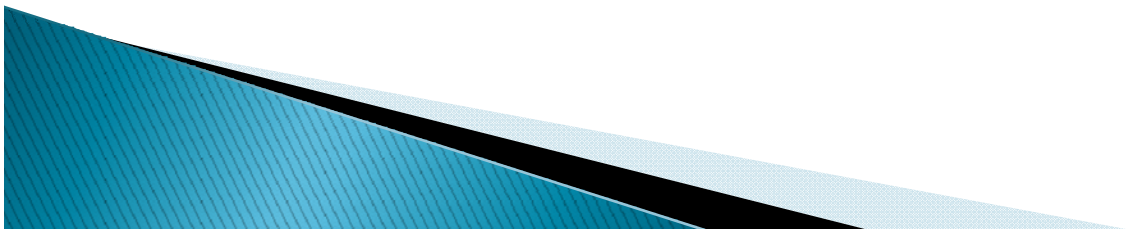
*Scores determined based on ACT, ASSET and COMPASS Data and ACT College Readiness research



Implementation Concerns

At East Central College...

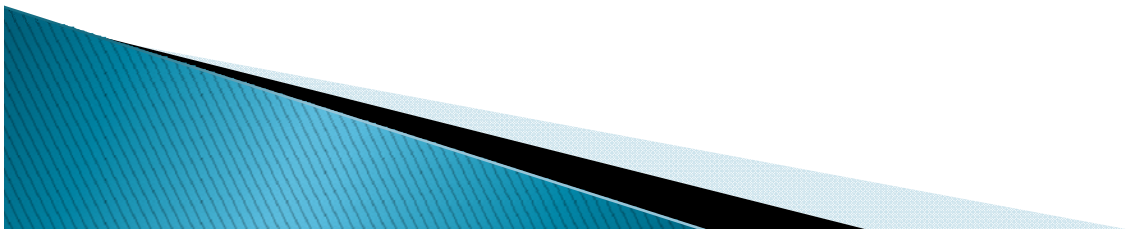
- ▶ Registration was underway for Summer 2011
- ▶ Two sets of standards for students testing in the Spring
- ▶ Fall 2011 Enrollment was about to start
- ▶ How we sorted through implementation issues



Assessment

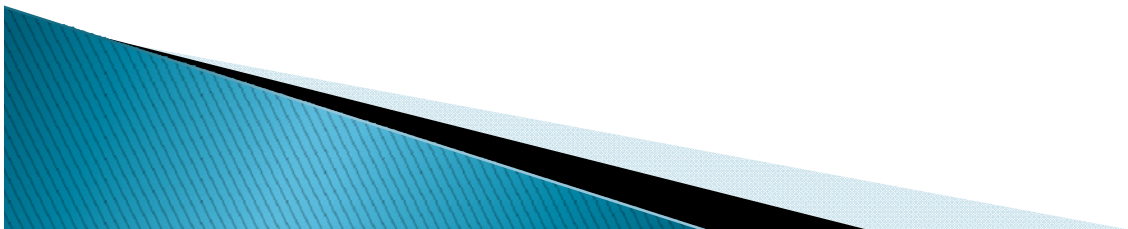
How will we know the impact and the effectiveness of the new readiness standards?

- ▶ Data snapshot
- ▶ What we need to look for
- ▶ Impact on curriculum
- ▶ Impact on enrollment patterns
- ▶ Did we get it right? Or right enough?
- ▶ What to look for



Transparency, Reporting and Adjustments

- ▶ How to communicate a consistent message across campuses?
- ▶ How to involve faculty and staff?
- ▶ How to improve the information flow to prospective students?
- ▶ How to get common information from institutions for the Assessment piece?



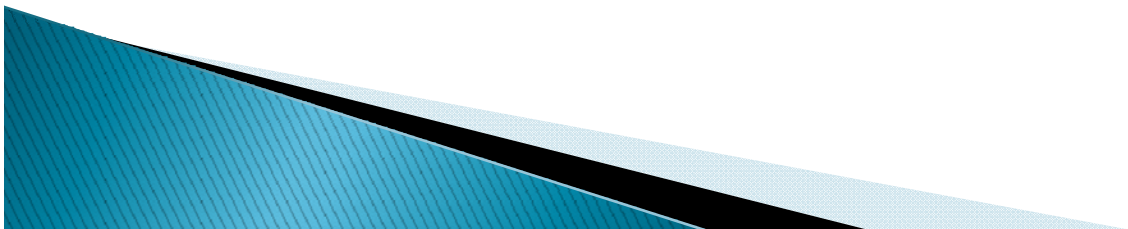
Unintended Consequences

At ECC....

- ▶ Opportunity to review placement practices in English and Reading
- ▶ Opportunity to clarify incoming student assessment processes

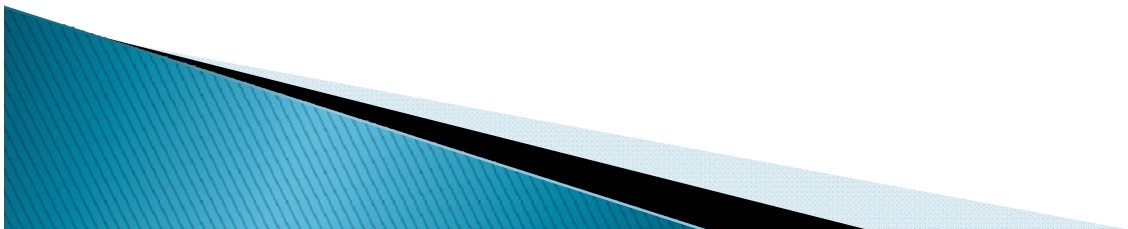
Overall....

- ▶ Comprehensive review of placement testing
- ▶ Connectedness between testing and curriculum
- ▶ Curriculum at the seams
- ▶ The Dual Credit Issue



Lessons Learned

- ▶ Timing matters
- ▶ Placement scores are so much more than numbers....
- ▶ Consistent practices and application are important for the sector
- ▶ Understanding of the implication of placement scores



Any Questions.....

Contact Jean A. McCann
mccannja@eastcentral.edu

