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Facilitated Discussion

2341 - Why Campus Collaboration is Crucial in Advocating for Transfer Students

Partnerships and Collaboration, Leadership and Strategic Planning

Whether you are an office of one or twenty employees, to advocate and serve successfully a subpopulation of students like transfers you need campus partners. In this session, we will explore the benefits of collaboration, how anyone - regardless of their position - can initiate those relationships, and identify some of the must-have partners across campus. The presenter will provide examples of how collaboration resulted in a transfer residence hall, food at events, faculty mentors...!

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Appalachian State University

Why Campus Collaboration is Crucial in Advocating for Transfer Students



Kim Morton
NISTS Virtual Conference
February 2022

Appalachian
STATE UNIVERSITY

Objectives

- Introduction
- Why should we and what are the benefits of collaboration?
- Who should you collaborate with?
- Examples of campus successes when you collaborate

Overview of Appalachian State

- ❑ Located in Boone, NC
- ❑ Public, one of 16 institutions in UNC system
- ❑ 18,555 undergraduate and 2,086 graduate students (Fall 2021)
- ❑ Over 150 undergraduate majors & minors
- ❑ Welcomed 1,524 new transfer students in fall and another 453 this spring; over 4,800 total transfer students in undergraduate population
- ❑ 72% transfer from community colleges



Transfer Admissions & Engagement

- ❑ Housed in Division of Enrollment Management, under Academic Affairs
- ❑ Originated in 2010 to ensure consistent credit evaluation; expanded in 2014 to holistically support transfer student success; expanded again in 2020 to include transfer admission recruitment & App State Online
- ❑ Help students from prospective through graduation
- ❑ 19 full-time staff members
- ❑ 10 Transfer Student Mentors & 125+ Faculty Transfer Mentors
- ❑ Transfer Services Team - internal advisory committee

**Before we begin,
let's see who is here...**

What area do you represent today?

Transfer Services/Center

Admissions

Registrar

Academic Advisor

Faculty

Student Affairs

Other

What type of institution do you represent today?

Community College

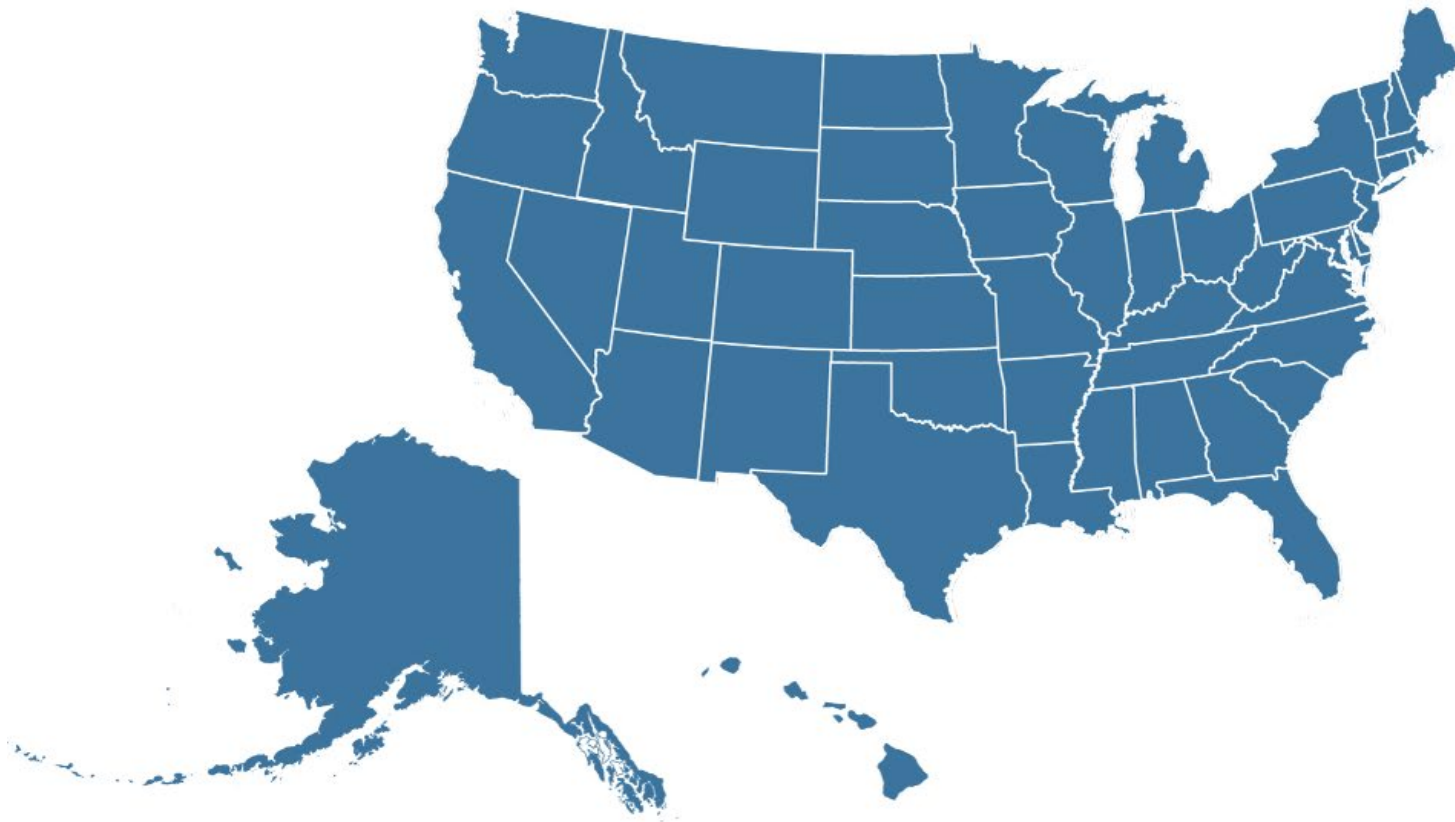
Medium Public 4 Year
(5,000 - 15,000 students)

Large Public 4 Year (More
than 15,000 students)

Private 4 Year

Other

Where is your institution located?



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What is your level of collaboration with other departments/areas at your institution?

High (we rock!)

Medium (we are doing ok)

Low (we work in silos)

Definition of Collaborate

To work with another person or group in order to achieve or do something (Miriam-Webster Dictionary)



**What word comes to mind when you think of
collaboration?**

What are the benefits of collaborating?

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Benefits of Collaboration

- ❑ Share information and learn from each other
(leads to transfer advocates!)
- ❑ Enable empathy and understanding
- ❑ Share resources and workload
- ❑ Create a sense of community
- ❑ Get to know other departmental
processes/provides context
- ❑ Create a network to call on when needed
- ❑ Helps problem solve when issues cross
departments

A Few Examples



Small But Impactful

Our budget (being from Academic Affairs) did not allow for food purchases. But as we all know – food gets students to events! We met with Campus Activities, explained the size of our population and the plan/goal of the event, and offered to plan and host the entire event if they covered the cost of the food.

Large And a Game Changer

After years of a successful 2 floor Residence Learning Community (@70 beds), Housing thought of us when an entire hall came available as a population to live there. After developing an MOU to ensure everyone knew each other's roles, we now collaborate with Housing to operate a 250 bed transfer residence hall.

Who (or what offices) should you identify as collaborators?

Top

Who should you approach to collaborate with?

- Who?
 - Who do you know/work with from other departments?
 - What departments make sense for your project/event?
 - Networking is key!
 - Do you know people across campus from: serving on committees, staff socials, professional development workshops, volunteering for events, etc. The more involved you are the more contacts you have to reach out to for events/projects.
- Need to ask yourself should this be:
 - Someone who can make the decisions (contribute \$\$) OR
 - Someone who can team up with you to do the work?

How do you approach them?

- Informal:
 - Lunch
 - Quick conversation before/after a meeting (with more to follow after you plant the seed)
 - Email if you have a close working relationship
- Formal:
 - Request a meeting
 - Introduction through a third party
 - Written Proposal

Other App State Successes

- ❑ [Transfer Pre-Orientation Program](#)
- ❑ [Transfer Student Experience Strategic Plan](#)
- ❑ [Faculty Transfer Mentors](#)
- ❑ [Transfer Alumni Network](#)
- ❑ [Transfer Services Team](#)
- ❑ [Welcome to App](#)
- ❑ Campus Partners participate in events, workshops, visit Transfer Center, etc.

Open Conversation

What examples do you
have to offer?

Questions?

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