The following presentation was given at the 22nd Annual Conference for the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. Please cite responsibly and direct questions to the original presenter(s).

Solutions Showcase

3284 - Just Tell Me What to Do! Five Practical Steps to Enroll and Retain More Transfer Students

Leading and Advocating for Change, Maximizing Credits and Streamlining Pathways

There are multiple layers of policies and practices that make the transfer process challenging for students. In order to increase the number of students transferring and completing 4-year degrees, 4-year institutions must find and address these issues. This session will present a road map of comprehensive, practical steps for staff or administration to identify and address these often-hidden barriers and challenges. Audience members will create their working list of incremental steps for their own institutions. Administration and staff at any level can be catalysts for change at their colleges and universities.

Judy Johnson, Assistant Director of Admission and Transfer Minnesota Private College Council

Just tell me what to do! Five practical steps to enroll and retain more transfer students



Minnesota Private Colleges

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Just tell me what to do! Five practical steps to enroll and retain more transfer students

Who is in the room?



Transfer Initiative project is funded by the Teagle Foundation and the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations

Just tell me what to do! Five practical steps to enroll and retain more transfer students

Began with home institution
Initiated cross pollination
Basis for Transfer Initiative project
Working with twelve institutions
Developing institutional change



Transfer Initiative project is funded by the Teagle Foundation and the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations

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Five practical steps: Simple but effective



- Build transfer student visibility
- Review transfer polices
- Share your findings
- Be the transfer voice
- Initiate transfer pathways

Build transfer student visibility

- •Create transfer communications
- •Track transfers after enrollment
- •Feature transfer students
- •Feature transfer alums



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Build transfer student visibility

- •Connect student to student
- Connect student to faculty
- •Highlight transfer student work



Review transfer polices



- Application deadlines
- •Transcript review timeline
- •Access to student support services prior to enrollment
- •Intake advising timelines
- •Class standing registration
- •Limits on transfer credits and type

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Review transfer polices



- •AA meets general education core
- •Gen ed courses reduced w/credits
- Residency requirement
- •Lower division courses in major
- Course scheduling for juniors
- •Established pathways in majors

Review transfer polices



- Tuition discount rates
- Scholarship levels and availability
- •Cost of repeating courses
- •Financial aid application deadlines
- •Financial aid packaging timelines

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Share your findings

- Track all data
- •Offer specific student examples
- •Share peer institution policies
- •Include enrollment trends for specific majors
- Propose solutions



Share your findings

- •Enrollment manager
- •Registrar
- •Institutional research
- Financial aid
- •Faculty and staff across campus



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Be the transfer voice



- •Participate in open campus meetings
- "How does this affect transfer students?"
- •Call out derogatory language and bias
- •Invite transfer students to the table

Be the transfer voice



- •Draw attention to student challenges
- •Share their stories positive/negative
- •Facilitate four-year and two-year faculty in conversation
- •Help others walk in transfer shoes

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Initiate transfer pathways

Educate faculty on transfers

Lay out degree guides

Provide peer examples





Facilitate conversations across institutions
Address myths and bias

Initiate transfer pathways

Review for equivalencies
Walk through course schedules
Bring up enrollment trends





Create clear guides

Address faculty access/advising

Facilitate future collaboration

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Five practical steps: Simple but effective



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Just tell me what to do! Five practical steps to enroll and retain more transfer students



Questions?

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