Transfer Student Success

TRANSFER STUDENTS AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY: THE FACTS

**Transfer Students are 40 Percent of OU's Undergraduate Student Population**

Though they are outnumbered by students who start at OU (i.e. FTIACs), they earn almost as many degrees and contribute just as much net revenue.

**67 Percent of Transfer Students Come from Community Colleges**

Most of these community college transfer students come from Oakland Community College (29%) and Macomb Community College (26%).

**OU Students Bring an Average of 42 Credits from Other Institutions**

Fifty-eight percent of First Time In Any College (FTIAC) students bring in 11 transfer credits by the time they graduate.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 2-YEAR AND 4-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

- **Year 1**
  - Research shows that the four-year institution is typically
  - Less personal or nurturing
- **Year 2**
  - More likely to emphasize selectivity over access
  - Less student-centered
- **Year 3**
  - More likely to provide less academic support
  - More likely to perceive transfer students as “interlopers” or “second-class citizens.”

From The Transfer Transition from 2-Year to 4-Year Institution: Critical Issues & Promising Practices
By Joe Cuseo, Marymount College

WHAT FACULTY CAN DO

- Contact Admissions to become involved in visiting community colleges and in recruitment.
- Meet and collaborate with community college faculty from your discipline.
- Create a classroom environment that is welcoming to transfer students and offers a sense of belonging.
- Provide information on campus resources.
- Refer students to advisers and department staff.

- Engage and connect transfer students with native students through course activities.
- Act as a student advocate to help transfer students seeking assistance from campus offices.
- Provide strong mentoring and academic support.
- Be aware of and watch for “transfer shock.”
- Talk with transfer students outside of the classroom setting.

Judy Ableser, Director for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at Oakland University.