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Educational Session

2327 - Creating & Maximizing a Transfer Student Advisory Council
Partnerships and Collaboration, Diversity and Inclusion

Student voices are critical for creating movement towards transfer inclusive cultures and understanding what is propelling and stalling transfer momentum. Transfer research highlights the need for increased and improved quality of services to support transfer success. Direct student feedback is critical for knowing if we are achieving these goals. Join our session to learn about creating a Transfer Student Advisory Council, engaging campus partners, and amplifying transfer student voices.

Heather Domonoske, Coordinator, Transfer Center
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
CREATING & MAXIMIZING A TRANSFER STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Heather Domonoske, she/her
Coordinator - Cal Poly SLO’s Transfer Center
IN THIS SESSION WE WILL...

Learning Goals

After attending this session, participants will be able to...

• Create a plan for implementing a student advisory council on their campus

• Articulate to campus partners the important of utilizing and engaging with a student advisory council

• Illustrate the importance for amplifying transfer voices across campus using a council or other forms of advocacy boards.

Structure

1. Institutional Context

2. Research & Data

3. Year 1 Learnings

4. What do you want to do?
Campuses need a way to consistently communicate with transfers students, to consult with them in all stages of programmatic creation or change, and to have a way for transfers to feel they could connect with a peer to share their concerns or ideas.
## CAL POLY TRANSFER CENTER

### Resources
- Within our center & connections across campus
- Transfer Academic Coaching Program
- Academic support events

### Community
- National Transfer Student Week
- Transfer Talks & Transfer Hangouts
- Study Breaks

### Advocacy
- Transfer Student Advisory Council
- Staff & Faculty Transfer Advisory Board
- Transfer Inclusion Trainings
What we Found When Creating the Transfer Center

Common themes within the research include easy access to services that are tailored to meet transfers needs, transfer community and resources, and major specific support from application through graduation.

Theory & Pedagogies on Our Campus

Learn by Doing. “Upside down curriculum” with first year first-time students coming in with a declared major.

Equity Lenses

Intersectionality. Who is being asked to solve problems and inequities created by systems of oppression?
# WHY AN ADVISORY COUNCIL?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Already Exists on Our Campus</strong></th>
<th><strong>The Name is Important</strong></th>
<th><strong>Paid or Unpaid position</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every college as an advisory board of students.</td>
<td>What is the role of the students? How much power or influence do they have? (Striving to be as transparent as possible)</td>
<td>What we have a budget for was unpaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Dean of Students has a student advisory council</td>
<td>What will attract people to accept invitations?</td>
<td>By being unpaid there is a benefit to how students will be able to advocate in ways they cannot on our campus when they are a staff member of our center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a Parent &amp; Supporters advisory council</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**CAL POLY**
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? OR SEEN?
LEARNINGS FROM YEAR 1

Structure

• Once a month was too infrequent
• Want to be able to opt into zoom or in person even after COVID
• Campus partners getting feedback or presenting ideas is a great use of this space

Outcomes

• Being aware of how much time pro-staff have to support any subgroup work
• What do students want from the experience?
• How to have follow through with campus partners?
CREATING YOUR OWN COUNCIL...

What will work best for you?

• Institutional context
• Understanding your student population
• Goals & outcomes
• Time, funding, & capacity
• Knowing your why
QUESTIONS?

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