

NISTS 2023

BE A CONNECTOR FOR TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS

Virtual • February 1-3 | Portland, OR • February 22-24

The following presentation was given at the 21st Annual Conference for the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. Please cite responsibly and direct questions to the original presenter(s).

Educational Session

2807 - Using A University-Wide Initiative to Fuel Transfer Reforms: Transfer Explorer At CUNY

Credits and Degree Pathways, Partnerships and Collaboration

This session provides an overview of the continued development of Transfer Explorer, a tool introduced at the 2022 NISTS conference that aims to reduce loss of transfer credit, and its adoption at the City University of New York (CUNY) as part of a University-wide initiative to improve vertical transfer. Strategies and ideas will be presented on how attendees can advance transparent policies and procedures at their own institutions.

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Using A University- Wide Initiative To Fuel Transfer Reforms: Transfer Explorer at CUNY

*National Institute for the Study
of Transfer Students*

FEBRUARY 1 - 3, 2023

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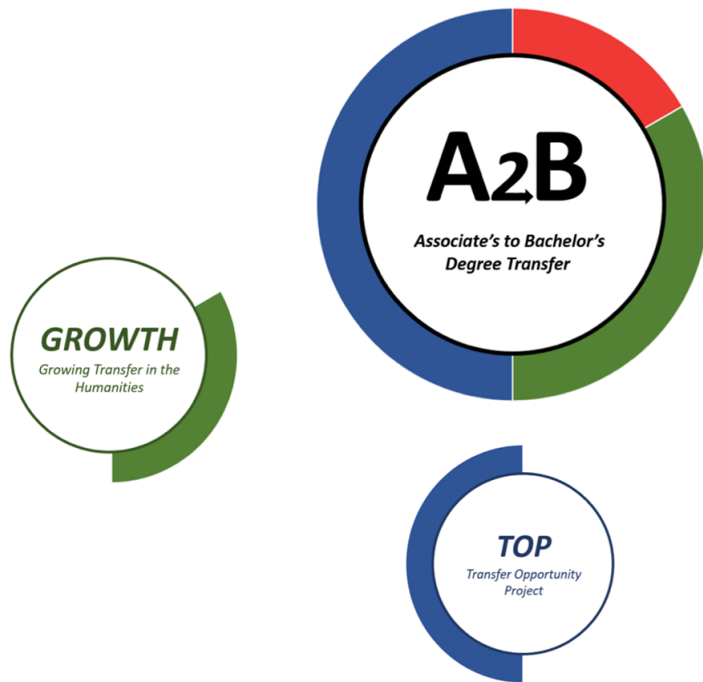
Emeritus Professor of Computer Science,
Queens College, City University of New York



Today's Session

1. Introduction to Partners
2. T-Rex Developments
3. Transfer at CUNY
4. Closing and Q&A

Associate's to Bachelor's Degree Transfer



The Challenge

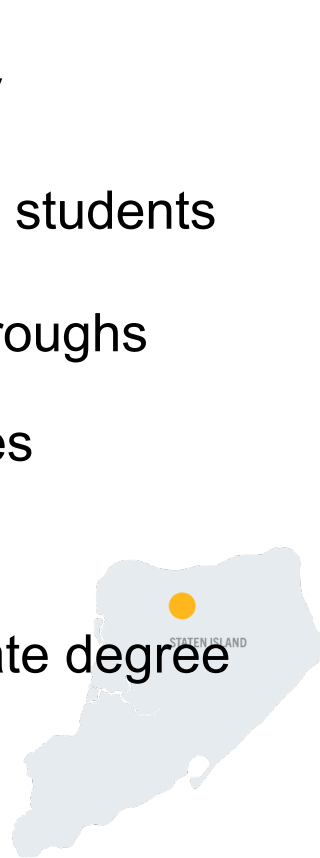
- Nationally, **80%** of first-year cc students aspire to a bachelor's degree
- **11%** or fewer earn one within six years
- **Lack of credit transfer and applicability** is one of the many hinderances for transfer students who aspire to achieve a bachelor's degree

The ACT Solution

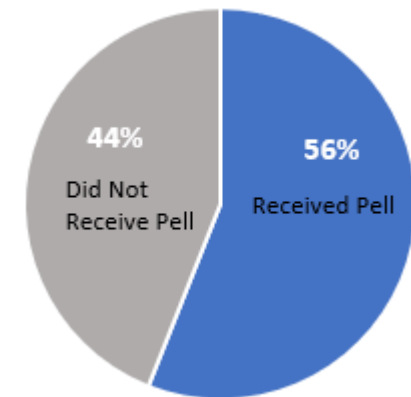
- Make credit transfer information **transparent, accessible, and actionable** through public resources, advising tools, and administrative policy changes

About CUNY

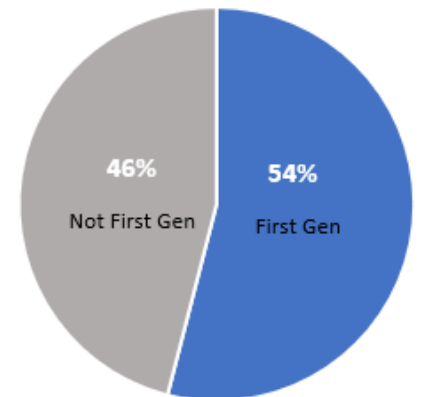
- Largest urban University
- **220,000** degree-seeking students
- **25** colleges across 5 boroughs
 - 7 community colleges
 - 13 senior colleges
- Over **1,500** undergraduate degree programs
 - Associate: 323
 - Bachelor's: 1,304



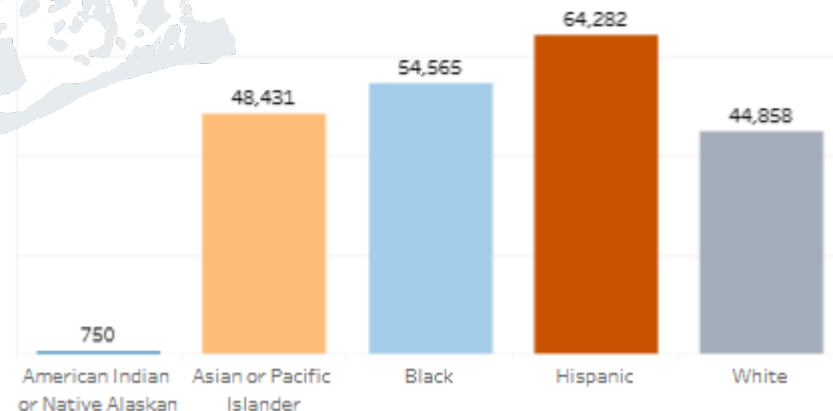
Pell Recipients



First Gen Status



Race/Ethnicity



Transfer @ CUNY

10,000

The number of vertical transfer students who entered a CUNY 4-year college to pursue a bachelor's degree in Academic Year 2021-2022.



Almost 9 in 10 CUNY students who start in an associate degree indicate that they intend to earn a bachelor's degree or higher, yet just **one** reaches their goal within six years.

(Source: Transfer Opportunity Project)

>50%

The percent of students graduating from a senior college who entered as transfer students. For at least the past ten years.

53%

53% of students who transferred from an associate program to a baccalaureate program with a degree in Fall 2018 graduated with a bachelor's degree within four years.

(Source: Transfer Opportunity Project)

Ithaka S+R

Not-for-profit research and consulting service focused on student postsecondary access and success, with a particular focus on supporting Black, Latinx, lower-income, and other students who have long been underserved in higher education. Ithaka S+R is a part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to expanding access to knowledge and education around the world whose services include Artstor, JSTOR, and Portico.



Funding from Heckscher Foundation and Petrie Foundation to:

- improve processes for evaluating transfer credit and,
- improve the information and advising provided to transfer students



- Transfer Explorer
- Degree Works Archiving
- Community of Practice



Funding from Ascendium Education Group, Heckscher Foundation, Petrie Foundation, Robinhood, The Dell Foundation, ECMC Foundation, and the Ichigo Foundation to:

- Enhance the existing site at CUNY
- Disseminate and train CUNY stakeholders in using T-Rex
- Conduct research and evaluation of T-Rex data and usage
- Expand and replicate T-Rex beyond CUNY

What information would you like to see in a transfer tool at your institution?

T-Rex: Goals

Provide Clear Transfer Information

Display organized, searchable, and user-friendly information on how every course in the CUNY catalog (as well as non-CUNY courses, trainings and exams that have been assessed) will transfer and apply across any number of undergraduate institutions in CUNY.

Transparency

Provide transparency to students and all other stakeholders in the transfer process by making the equivalencies and program requirements public.

Facilitate Ongoing Communication & Review

Create a mechanism by which faculty and administrators can communicate effectively across campuses and efficiently about course equivalencies. Equivalency changes can be suggested, or existing ones can be validated.

T-Rex: Features

Explore transfer credit equivalencies as well as major and minor requirements at CUNY



Explore Equivalencies and Requirements

- CUNY to CUNY by course
- CUNY to CUNY by subject
- CUNY to CUNY by transcript (CUNY login required)
- Non-CUNY courses, trainings, and exams
- Understand CUNY major and minor requirements



CUNY STUDENT, PROSPECTIVE STUDENT, FACULTY, ADVISOR, OR STAFF?

CUNY Transfer Explorer has lots to offer. Learn how courses transfer in all directions across the CUNY system and how CUNY awards credits for courses taken elsewhere as well as for prior learning experiences. CUNY Transfer Explorer also shows how courses fit into majors and minors across campuses. Current students can even log in for a personalized experience and community college students can indicate their transfer plans.

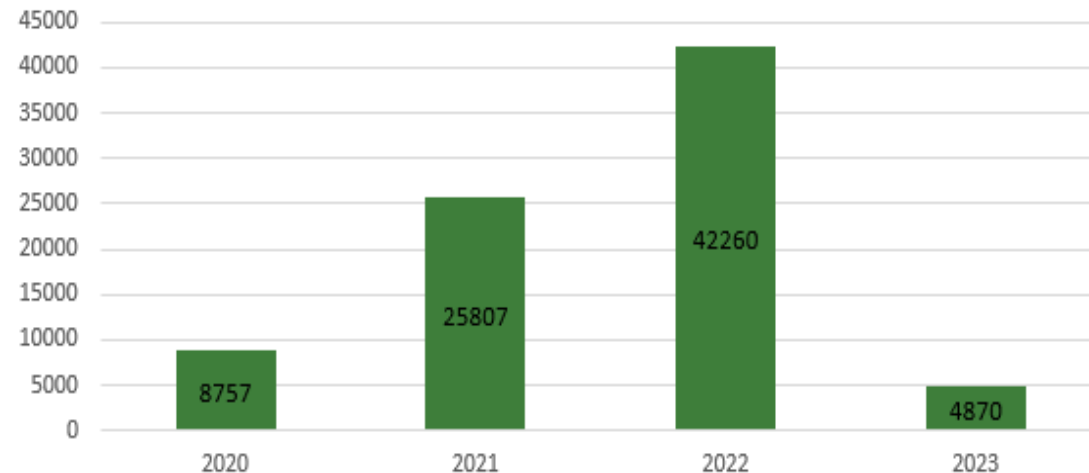
- View Course Equivalencies
- How Does This Course Transfer
- CUNY Course Catalog
- Frequently Transferred Courses
- Transfer Equivalency Review (workflow)

T-Rex: Usage Statistics

Data as of January 30, 2023

- T-Rex is already an active resource, supporting thousands of users across the University – and continues to grow
- Since we started tracking on May 21, 2020:
 - 81k+ unique users
 - 154k+ sessions
 - 674k+ page views
 - 4:21 average time spent on site per visit (at the top of overall internet benchmark)

Total Unique Users by Year



Average New Users per Month

Year	Average New Users per Month
2020	1095
2021	2151
2022	3521
2023	4870 (less than 1 month)

New Feature: Non-CUNY courses, trainings, and exams

CUNY TRANSFER EXPLORER

HOME TOOLS LOGIN

Non-CUNY courses, trainings, and exams

Home / Non-CUNY courses, trainings, and exams

Step 1: Select CUNY Colleges Step 2: Select Transfer Experience Step 3: View How Credits Transfers

Use the search boxes below to search for the course you completed at another college OR for a training or exam to see how it can transfer to any CUNY college. The radio button will allow you to switch between the two options, and you can add as many selections as you wish to transfer. When you are finished adding, click the 'Next (View Equivalency)' button to see how they will transfer.

If you don't find a particular course/training/exam, or the college you are interested in transferring to has not evaluated the course, it does not imply the college will not accept it, and it will be considered upon admission to CUNY.

Non-CUNY Colleges: There is a minimum grade requirement for courses to transfer, which you can find within each selection.

Trainings and Exams: Each of these will have a score or completion requirement, which will be displayed upon selecting.

Non-CUNY Coursework Trainings and Exams

Your College *

Courses *

← Back (Select Colleges) Next (View Equivalency) →

- View how all currently equated non-CUNY courses, trainings, and exams will transfer and apply
- Search just one CUNY college, or multiple at one time
- Mix and match courses with other experiences
- In the works: Process to request that CUNY evaluate a prior learning experience

New Feature: Transfer Plans (requires login)

CU NY TRANSFER EXPLORER Buonocore, Christopher

Transfer Plans

Calling all Community College students interested in transferring! Please let us know of your current thoughts about transferring to another college. This is NOT a transfer application, and has no implications other than helping us to help you! Stay on track and be sure to share your intentions with your advisor so they can guide you along the way! If you have any questions or concerns, you can always reach out to Transfer.Explorer@cuny.edu.

1. Student 2. Education **3. Transfer To** 4. Finish

Select the program you are most interested in pursuing and the college/program you are most likely to transfer to.

Program of Interest

College/Program

Check here if you don't know
 Check here if you are interested in a Non-CUNY institution

Are you also considering transferring anywhere else?

Check here if you don't know

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

- Gather student's transfer plans as early as possible
- Provide actionable data extracts to both sending and receiving colleges
- Identify mismatches to help guide a student accordingly along their transfer journey

New Feature: My Course History (requires login)

How My Courses Will Transfer

Below you will find all courses that you have successfully completed at a CUNY college and how it will transfer to the college you selected. Expand any row using the + and use the search box for quick and easy filtering.

Select Transfer College

Use the search box for quick and easy filtering

Show 10 entries

	Sending College	Course(s)	Receiving College	Course(s)
-	Queens College	ACCT 100: Fin & Mgr Acct BALA Minors Only Credits: 3 Hours: 3 (LEC) This is a course in the theories and principles of financial and managerial accounting. Financial accounting includes the study of the preparation and interpretation of commonly used financial statements. Managerial accounting deals with the use of accounting data for managerial control and planning. Students will be introduced to the use of accounting systems programmed for the microcomputer, and to managerial decision making based on mathematical modeling. This course is currently being offered (Regular Liberal Arts)	Lehman College	ACC 185: Introduction to Accounting for Non-Accounting Majors Requisites: None Credits: 3 Hours: 3 (LEC) Study of accounting principles, their application and use in the preparation and interpretation of financial statements. The uses of accounting for management and control. This course is currently being offered (Regular Non-Liberal Arts)
+	Queens College	ANTH 101: Intro Cult Anthro	Lehman College	ANT 211: Cultural Anthropology
+	Queens College	BALA 100: Intro Seminar	Lehman College	LAE 9999: Liberal Arts Elective Credit

- CUNY students can log in to see how courses they have taken (or are currently taking) will transfer and apply across CUNY
- All of this information is still available publicly, but this will make it easier for students to view their own record

New Feature: What Requirements Does This Course Satisfy

If this course is taken or given as transfer credit...

^ **PSY 166: General Psychology**
Lehman College

Requisites: None
Credits: 3
Hours: 3 (LEC)

Introduction to the fundamental concepts and methods of modern psychology. Consideration of the scientific basis of psychology and of the significant problems in the areas of learning, motivation, emotion, individual differences, physiological bases of behavior, perception, developmental processes, personality, and social behavior. NOTE: There is a research requirement for this course that students can fulfill either by writing about their participation as a subject in approved studies or by writing their reactions to approved articles or colloquia. NOTE: All of the following PSY courses carry PSY 166 as a prerequisite. Additional prerequisites are indicated where appropriate.

[This course is currently being offered](#)
(Flexible Core - Individual and Society)

... The course will satisfy the following requirements

Expand All

Use the search box for quick and easy filtering

- + Electives (2)
- + General Psychology (6)
- + Select 6 credit from List C (1)

- Through the parsing of DegreeWorks scribe data, we can now show the major and minor requirements that every course can apply to across CUNY
- We are associating each course across the platform with a link to this page, for easy navigation

New Feature: Understand CUNY major and minor requirements

Major in Psychology BA at Lehman College

- Credits needed to complete this program: 35.0-45.0 credits
- Minimum number of credits that must be taken at Lehman College: 17.5 credits

The courses listed below in the gray boxes are the requirements to complete the program you have selected.

- Click the icon in the box below to see requirements underneath the headers.
- You can click: 'Select Transfer College' to select which college (up to three) you are transferring from, to review any courses that can be taken to satisfy these requirements.

This page shows requirements as they are programmed in DegreeWorks, and we know there are errors. Our translation might look different from what's in the published bulletin, therefore the bulletin should still be reviewed to fully understand a degree program.

This is still very much a work in progress, so please report any issues or feedback to us, we want to hear from you!

Additional considerations as you use this information ▾

Transfer Courses	Lehman College Courses
Pre-requisites	
Introduction to Statistics or Precalculus or Elements of Calculus or Calculus I (1 class required)	
Hostos CC Recently offered courses Option 1 MAT 120: Introduction to Probability and Statistics	MAT 132: Introduction to Statistics
OR	OR
Hostos CC Recently offered courses Option 1 MAT 160: Precalculus	MAT 172: Precalculus
OR	OR
Hostos CC Recently offered courses College has not yet specified an equivalency	MAT 174: Elements of Calculus
OR	OR
Hostos CC Recently offered courses Option 1 MAT 210: Calculus I	MAT 175: Calculus I

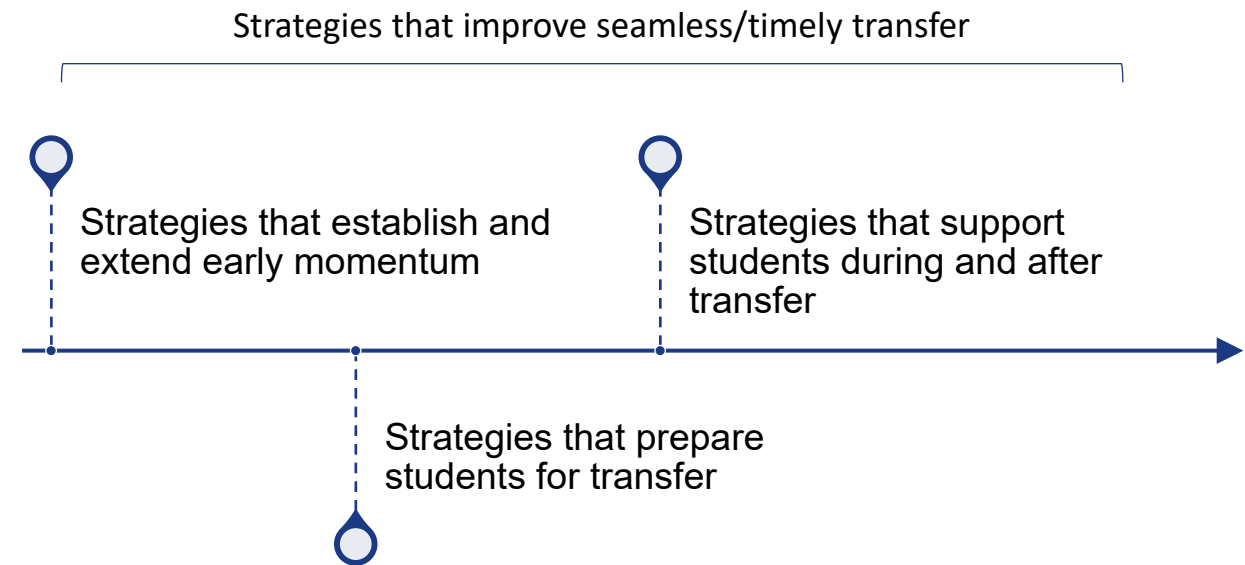
- Through the parsing of Degree Works scribe data, we can now show the full major and minor requirements across CUNY
- User will see requirements as scribed in Degree Works
- Ability to see what courses can be taken in transfer to satisfy those requirements

Recent Transfer Context @ CUNY

- Gateway Course Alignment
- Promising Practices
 - Bronx Transfer Affinity Group (BTAG)
 - New Academy Models
- Transfer Tools
- Transfer Research Projects
- Transfer Steering Committee
- Academic Momentum Campaign 2.0

Academic Momentum Campaign (AcMo) 2.0

- Builds on Academic Momentum Campaign 1.0
- Provides coherent framework for amplifying/extending transfer work already happening across CUNY
- Recognizes shared responsibility of all institutions to support students along their entire CUNY transfer journey
- With declining new student enrollment, offers opportunity to increase retention of students on a transfer pathway



Broaden Adoption of T-Rex

CUNY OAA

- Project management & reporting to funder
- Technical assistance and guidance

College Ambassadors

- Become resident expert and point of contact at each college
- Turnkey training to staff/faculty
- Identify opps to integrate T-REX into college operations
- Liaise with the CUNY OAA and report on activities/outcomes
- Support setup of admin workflow

Lehman College

- Lead trainers

Over AY 22-23, working to train faculty, advisors, and other stakeholders across CUNY colleges.

Goals:

- **Train 50% of advisors**
- **Increase T-Rex usage by 50%**

Broaden Adoption of T-Rex

By the Numbers

~1,200 Number of staff and faculty trained.

~65% Percent of advisement staff trained.

^27% The change in average monthly new T-Rex users from the time we began our ambassador work.

Other Accomplishments

- Begun to build community of practice
 - Active TEAMS channel
- Rolled out administrative module

T-Rex: Administrative Module Dashboard

Receiving Colleges

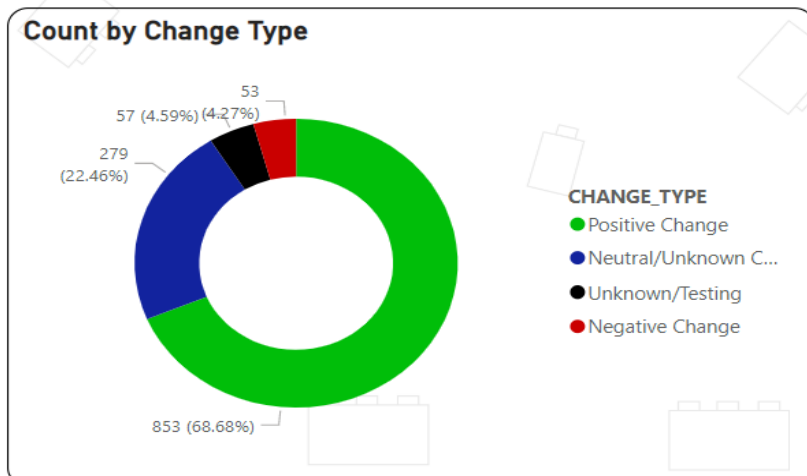
- Select all
- Baruch College
- Borough of Manhattan CC
- Bronx CC
- Brooklyn College
- City College
- College of Staten Island
- Hunter College
- John Jay College
- LaGuardia CC
- Lehman College
- Medgar Evers College
- NYC College of Technology
- Queens College

Number of Cases

1242

Case Status

- Select all
- Approved
- Pending
- Processed
- Rejected



Change Type Definitions

Positive: The suggested equivalency has:

- Elective/Blanket Credit to a real course. (ELEC 1000 -> BIO 181)
- Elective/Blanket Credit to a subject elective credit. (ELEC 1000 -> WGS 399)

Negative: The suggested equivalency has:

- Real course to an elective course (BIO 181 -> ELEC 1000)

Neutral/Unknown: The suggested equivalency has:

- Suggested requirement designation and current requirement designation are the same.

Unknown/Testing: Seems to be a testing case, or a mistake.

526 approvers set up 1242 cases opened

- 91.1% positive or neutral/unknown

Dashboard updated regularly to keep track of changes.

Source College	Source Course	TO	Destination College	Destination Course	Current RD	Suggested Destination College	Suggested Course	Suggested RD	CHANGE
Baruch College	ACC 2101	->	Queens College	ACCT 101	RLA	Queens College	ACCT 101	RLA	Unknown/Testing
Baruch College	ACC 2203	->	Queens College	ACCT 499	MLA	Queens College	ACCT 305	RLA	Positive Change
Baruch College	ACC 4100	->	Borough of Manhattan CC	ACC 1	MNL	Borough of Manhattan CC	ACC 1	MNL	Unknown/Testing
Baruch College	ANT 3009	->	College of Staten Island	ANT 199	MLA	College of Staten Island	ANT 199	MLA	Unknown/Testing
Baruch College	ART 2050	->	College of Staten Island	ART 299	MNL	College of Staten Island	COM 250	RNL	Positive Change
Baruch College	ART 3050	->	College of Staten Island	ART 299	MNL	College of Staten Island	COM 250	RNL	Positive Change
Baruch College	ART 3050	->	College of Staten Island	ART 299	MNL	College of Staten Island	COM 299	MLA	Neutral/Unknown
Baruch College	ART 3055	->	College of Staten Island	ART 299	MNL	College of Staten Island	COM 211	RLA	Positive Change
Baruch College	ART 3056	->	College of Staten Island	ART 299	MNL	College of Staten Island	COM 232	RLA	Positive Change

Data as of: Friday, January 27, 2023



Looking Ahead: Transfer @ CUNY and T-Rex

TRANSFER

- Transfer has become an even higher priority at CUNY
 - One of the priorities in a forthcoming strategic plan
- New system-wide work getting underway

T-REX

Ongoing

- User-experience testing
- Collaboration with CUNY OAA and T-Rex Ambassadors across CUNY to build out the faculty workflow.

By June 2023

- Incorporation of transfer timelines and other “leader boards”
- Site design refresh
- Personalized transfer and degree program recommendations via SSO integration

Sessions By Our Colleagues

Wednesday February 1	
<p><u>Virtual Concurrent Session Breakout 1</u> 3:05-3:55pm EST</p>	<p><u>Virtual Concurrent Session Breakout 2</u> 4:10-5:00pm EST</p>
<p>The True-Life Story of Transfer Students' Credits: The Bad and the Good</p> <p>Logue, A.W., Gentsch, K., Yoo, N., & Chellman, C.</p>	<p>Faculty Views about Student Transfer from Community to Bachelor's-Granting College</p> <p>Rabinowitz, V., Oka, Y., & Logue, A. W.</p>
Friday February 3	On-Demand Video
<p><u>Virtual Concurrent Session Breakout 3</u> 12:00-12:50 pm EST</p>	<p><u>Via Conference App</u></p>
<p>Students, Faculty, and Staff Views on Transfer: Text Analysis of 34 Focus Groups and 35,000 Surveys</p> <p>Wutchiett, D., Logue, A. W., & Gentsch, K.</p>	<p>Advantages of Humanities Transfer Students: Differences in GPA, Graduation, and Graduate Study</p> <p>Wutchiett, D., & Rabinowitz, V.</p>

NISTS 2023

BE A **CONNECTOR**
FOR **TRANSFER STUDENT**
SUCCESS

Thank you
for attending!

**PLEASE COMPLETE
A SESSION EVALUATION**

(via the conference app)

This
session's
id# is: **2807**



Q&A