

NISTS 2023

BE A CONNECTOR FOR TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS

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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

2764 - Enhancing the Transfer Process: Partnerships Between Community Colleges and Universities Through a Dual Transfer Advisor

Partnerships and Collaboration, Credits and Degree Pathways

The dual transfer advisor works with prospective and current community college students to create a smooth academic progression. By creating degree plans, distributing transfer tools and connecting community colleges with university requirements prepares students to be major ready. Inequitable barriers are removed, and student needs are prioritized, resulting in customizable pathways that emphasize student success.

Lindsey Kealoha, *Graduate Academic Advisor*

John Langston, *Assistant Director of Transfer Admissions*

University of Washington Tacoma

Enhancing the transfer process

*partnerships between community colleges and universities
through a dual transfer advisor*



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Presenters

Lindsey Kealoha, M.A.



UW Tacoma Alumna

Participated in Running Start

First-generation college student

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John Langston, M.A.



Veteran – U.S. Navy

Bi-Racial (Afro Latino)

CC to University Transfer

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Transfer Students



Transfer students are a unique group on college and university campuses. Their backgrounds, expectations, and needs differ from those of students who remain enrolled in a single institution throughout their higher education journeys.

(Moser & Woods, 2022)

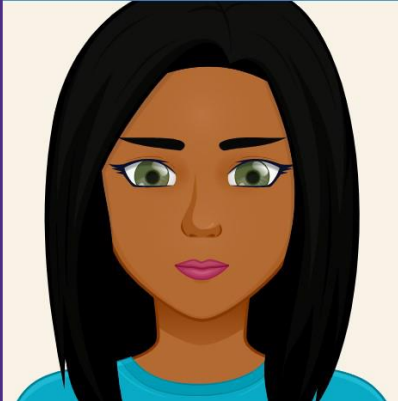


Prospective Transfer Student

Age: 33

Major: Computer Science

Full-time worker + First generation + Mother



1. What motivated them to pursue their degree?
2. What do they value?
3. What does their typical day look like?
4. What are their biggest challenges when pursuing a degree?



Transfer Statistics

2014: Fewer than 60% of community college students were able to transfer most of their credits, and approximately 15% of community college students transferred almost no credits



Transfer Statistics

2016: Nearly half of all students who completed a baccalaureate degree at a four-year institution were previously enrolled at a community college within the last 10 years



Transfer Statistics

2017: Although community college students intend on earning a baccalaureate degree, approximately 13% of transfer students earn a baccalaureate degree within six years



Reflection – what was your higher education experience like?

1. What was your student status?
 - ❖ Freshman
 - ❖ Running Start
 - ❖ Transfer
 - ❖ International
2. Did you regularly meet with your academic advisor?
 - ❖ Once a quarter
 - ❖ Once a year
 - ❖ Once during undergraduate journey
 - ❖ Never
3. What area of admissions did you have the most questions/concerns about?
 - ❖ Financial aid
 - ❖ Selecting a major
 - ❖ Campus culture
 - ❖ Housing

Developmental Theories

“Using the developmental framework, the advisor considers the student as a whole person by learning about his or her skills, attitudes, beliefs, knowledge, emotional needs, self-esteem, and coping mechanisms”

“Setting career and life goals, building self-insight and esteem, broadening interests, establishing meaningful interpersonal relationships, clarifying personal values and styles of life, and enhancing critical thinking and reasoning”

(Himes, 2014)



The Dual Advising Role

- ❑ Advising Appointments
 - ✓ Community College Requirements
 - ✓ University Admission Requirements
 - ✓ Program of Study Requirements
- ❑ Workshops and Information Sessions
 - ✓ Transfer 101 Workshops
 - ✓ Application Workshops
 - ✓ I was admitted-next step Workshops
- ❑ Being a Liaison
 - ✓ Bringing university resources to the community college



Advising Appointments

- ✓ Community College Requirements
 - Associate of Arts & Associate of Science to University Undergraduate Degree
- ✓ University Admission Requirements
 - Admission Requirements
 - Personal Statement
 - Financial Aid
 - Campus Resources
- ✓ Program of Study Requirements
 - Prerequisites
 - Program applications
 - Program Advisors and Resources

Workshops and Information Sessions

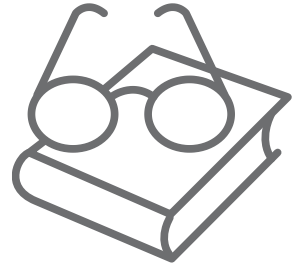
- ✓ Transfer 101 Workshops
 - Exploring the transfer process
 - Planning and next steps
 - Identifying the right college
- ✓ Application Workshops
 - Personal statements
 - Walking through the application
 - Compiling all application material
- ✓ I was admitted-next step Workshops
 - New student checklists
 - Identifying resources not on the checklist
 - Ready, set, go!



Being a Liaison

Bringing university resources to the community college

- ✓ Admission and academic advising
- ✓ University representative visits
 - Classroom visits
 - Tabling
 - Workshops
- ✓ University resources
 - Financial Aid
 - Veteran and Military Resource Center
 - Academic Advising
 - Campus housing



You Belong Here!

- ✓ How impactful has this role been?
- ✓ The Student Perspective
- ✓ The Universal Experience

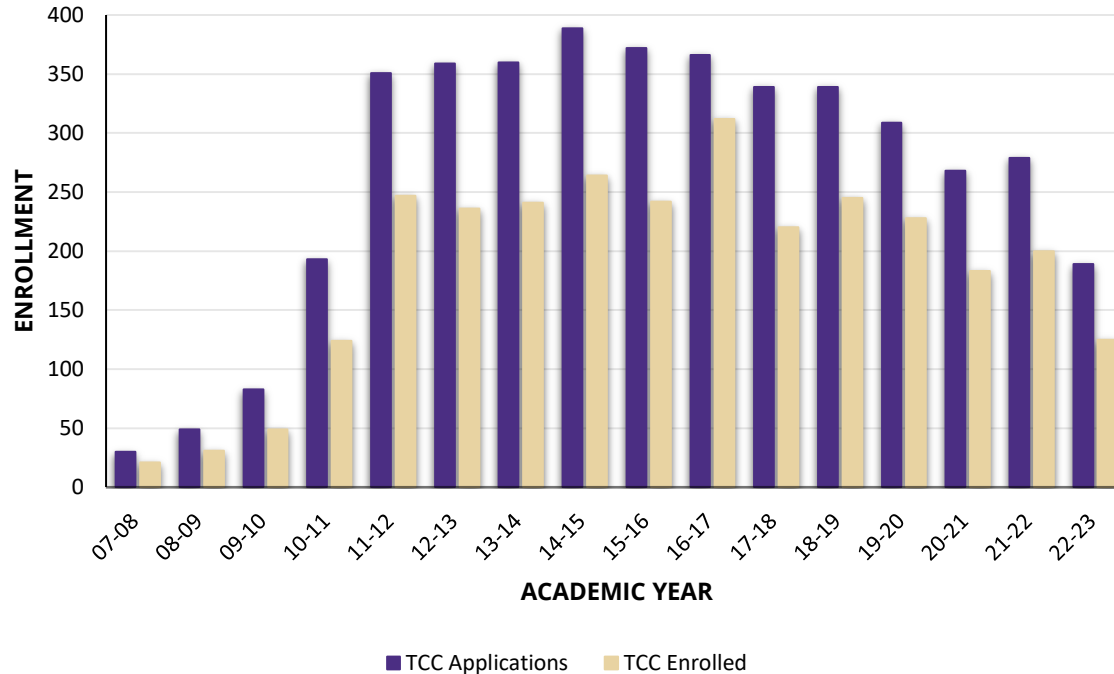


Number of transfer applications submitted

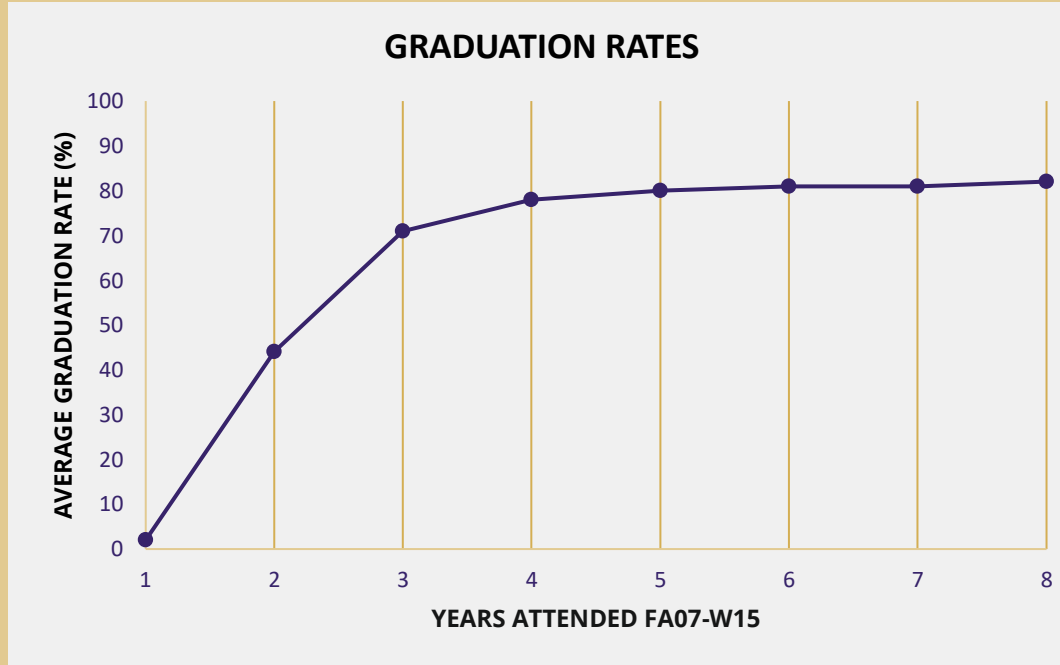
ACADEMIC YEAR	TOTAL APPLICATIONS	TCC APPLICATIONS
07-08	199	30 (15%)
08-09	247	49 (20%)
09-10	377	83 (22%)
10-11	933	193 (21%)
11-12	1824	351(19%)
12-13	1762	359 (20%)
13-14	1901	360 (19%)
14-15	2009	389 (19%)

ACADEMIC YEAR	TOTAL APPLICATIONS	TCC APPLICATIONS
15-16	2067	372 (18%)
16-17	2091	366 (18%)
17-18	2080	339 (16%)
18-19	1915	339 (18%)
19-20	1943	309 (16%)
20-21	1887	268 (14%)
21-22	1750	279 (16%)
22-23	1326	189 (14%)

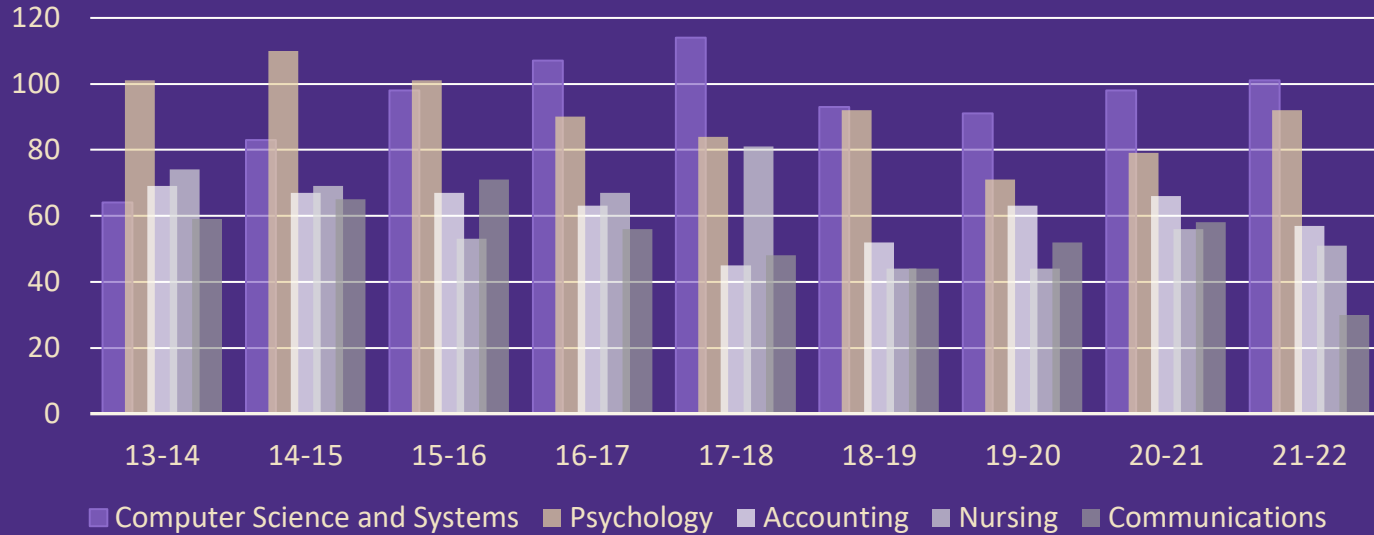
Enrolled Students



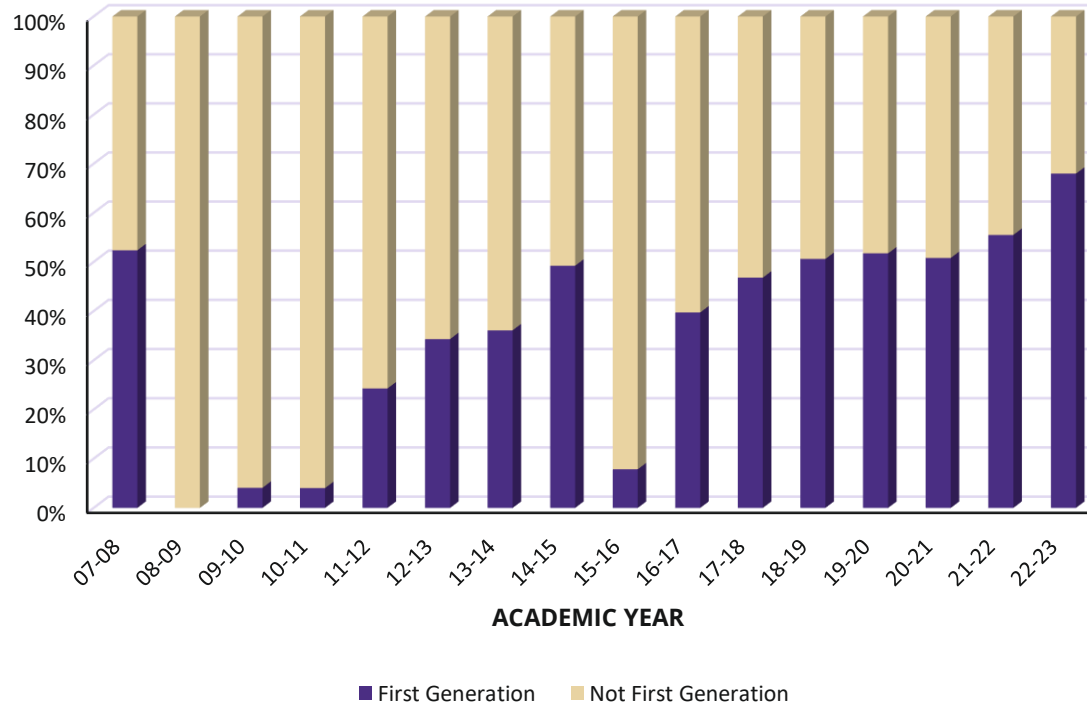
Graduates



Popular majors



First Generation Students



The Student Perspective

- ✓ Getting started on planning a year or two in advance
- ✓ What are the student goals?
 - Career
 - Personal

Why planning early is important

- ✓ UWT requires secondary applications
- ✓ There are more applicants being submitted than availability/space in programs
- ✓ Being competitive (GPA, credits already earned)

The Universal Experience

- ✓ How have transfer students been successful with the TCC role as a resource?
- ✓ Connecting with UWT advisors and campus resources
- ✓ Connecting students with perspective schools

There will always be institutional barriers, such as finances, resources, and staffing, but student success and helping them find their institutional match will always remain the goal

Thank you!



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References

Himes, H.A., (2014). Strengthening Academic Advising by Developing a Normative Theory. *NACADA Journal*, 34 (1), 5-15. <https://doi.org/10.12930/NACADA-13-020>

Moser, K., & Woods, K. (2022, September 22). *Using Data in Our Work with Transfer Students*. National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. Retrieved January 17, 2023, from <https://www.nists.org/post/using-data-in-our-work-with-transfer-students>

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