

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

2765 - A Success Resource for Transfer Students

Transition Programs and Supports, Special Populations

The presenter will share a Success Resource Guide for transfer students. This is a compilation of several years of advising, co-coordinating a Transfer Learning Community, and conducting research on social and emotional adjustment for transfer students. Each chapter of the guide contains valuable questions that are useful for transfer students, advisors, and/or anyone teaching to transfer students. This guide is designed for transfer students, advisors, and/or anyone teaching a class to transfer students.

Elaine O'Reilly, *Lecturer in Psychology*
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

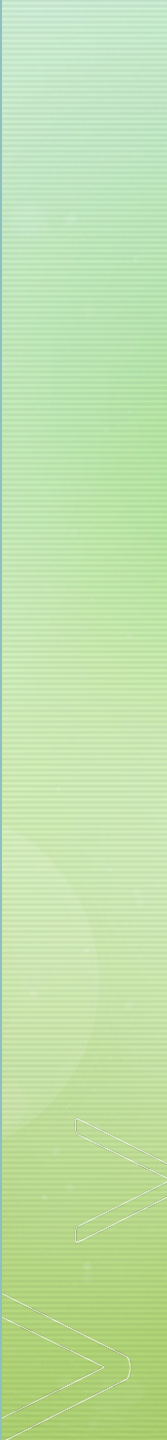
NISTS Conference 2023

A Success Resource for Transfer Students

Dr. Elaine O'Reilly



Agenda

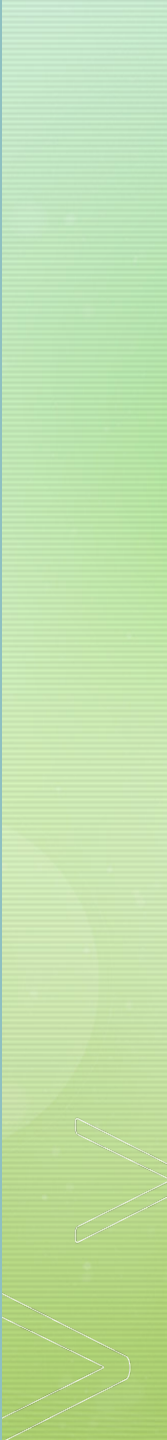
- Introduction of Presenter, and factors that informed the writing of this guide
 - Brief overview of the research on transfer students
 - Research on Transfer Students at The University of North Carolina
 - The guide
 - How students have utilized the resource guide
 - References
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Introduction of presenter, why this guide was written, and what informed the writing

- Elaine O'Reilly, Ed. D
- Taught at University of North Carolina in the Psychology Department for 15 years
- Dissertation research on the social and emotional adjustment for transfer students
- Once an advisor, then lecturer, working with MANY transfer students
- Now, working as a Student Success Coordinator at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt



Why Transfer Students?

- An overlooked population in institutional efforts to enhance student success
 - Notable performance and persistence gaps compared to native students
 - More personal and financial obstacles to success
 - Above translate into transfer shock and challenges to social and academic integration
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Challenges for Transfer Students

- Transfer Shock
- Fitting in
- Feeling lost
- Feeling behind

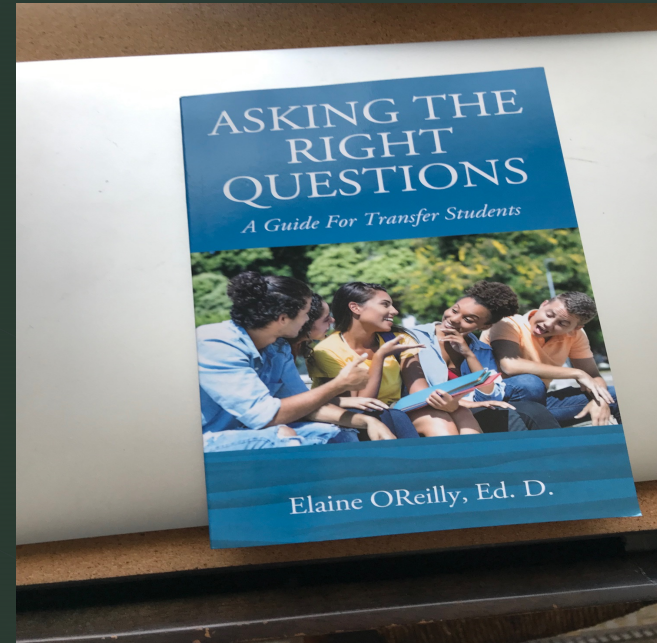
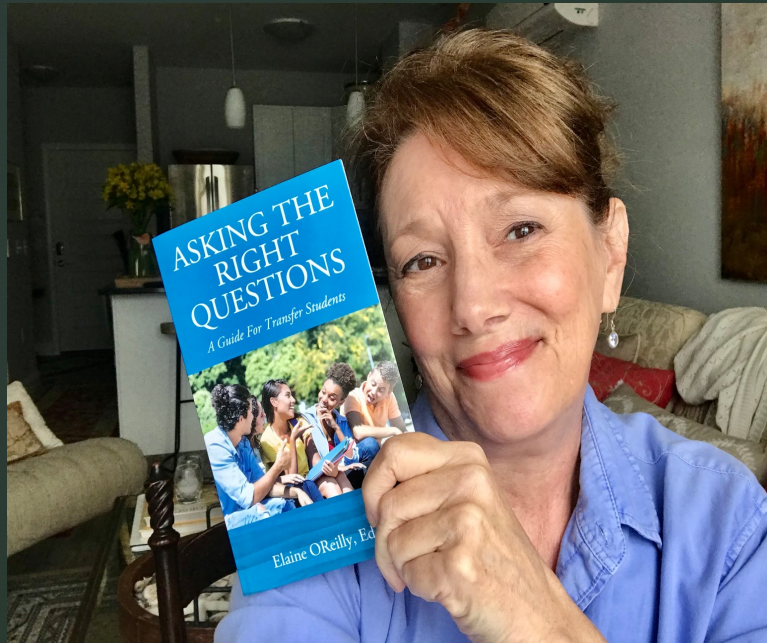
Definition of success based on what they've heard and seen

- Lack of connection to others, resources and the higher educational system

There Are So Many Resources; why do they need to know what questions to ask?

- The majority of transfer students (all students) won't seek out the resources
- They, often times, need guidance on whom to reach out to, and how to formulate the question(s)

This is the Guide!



What's In the Guide?

Chapter 1. Here You Are! *Phew*

Chapter 2. Now what? *OMG, I don't know what to do?*

Chapter 3. Your Assets. *What skills/gifts do I already have?*

Chapter 4. Why Resources Matter. *There's so much out there, how to do I get it?*

Chapter 5. Graduate School; Nay or Yay? *Should I stay or should I go?*

Chapter 6. Adding to Your Tool Kit . *What new things have I learned or in progress learning?*

Chapter 7. What is Success? *What is my paradigm?*

Chapter 8. Self-management; How Do I Balance All of This? *What are my coping skills?*

Chapter 9. What Will I Do After I Graduate? *Start networking now!*

Chapter 10. Reflection. *What have I gained and what have I let of?*

How Students Utilize the Transfer Guide

- As a supplement to taking a course in Positive Psychology for Transfer Students at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- As a map/guide when preparing to enter the new institution
- A way to quell anxiety if they are thinking about a lot of things connected to their status as a transfer student
- A reference to look back on certain areas that could be helpful in the future
- Another source of comfort



- If you would like a copy you can email me at:
 - eoreilly@champlain.edu The least expensive way (11.00)

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