

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

2851 - Portraits of Success: Transfer Student Mentoring

Transition Programs and Supports, Diversity and Inclusion

The Transfer Mentoring program began in 2012, which means we have 10 years of participant data to share. Our primary focus is to partner new transfer students with a paid, peer mentor during their first semester to assist the transfer student with their transition and goals. Transfer students at the university will record videos of their stories during NTSW to share with the public.

Katherine Lawlor, *Transfer Jacks Coordinator & Co-supervisor of the Transfer Jacks Mentoring Program*

Giselle Soto, *Graduate Assistant & Co-supervisor of the Transfer Jacks Mentoring Program*

Northern Arizona University



Portraits of Success: Transfer Student Mentoring

Katherine Lawlor, Transfer Jacks Coordinator

Giselle Soto, Graduate Assistant & Transfer Jacks Co-supervisor

Transfer & Online Connections

TRANSFER JACKS PROGRAM

NAU Land Acknowledgement Statement:

Northern Arizona University sits at the base of the San Francisco Peaks, on homelands sacred to Native Americans throughout the region. We honor their past, present, and future generations, who have lived here for millennia and will forever call this place home.

Transfer Jacks

About Us

Katherine Lawlor

- 4-year to 4-year transfer
- First-gen proud!
- Student with a disability
- Pell eligible

Giselle Soto

- Commuter student, mentor, senior peer mentor, GA (5+ years total)
- First-gen Latina!

Transfer Jacks

Our Team

- 10-15 student employees
- Representative of the students they serve
- Community-based leadership



Transfer Jacks

Vision & Mission

Vision

To create a culture where transfer students are valued and thrive.

Mission

The Transfer Jacks program serves Flagstaff Mountain students by building community and encouraging personal goal setting throughout their time at NAU.

Goals:

- Providing a valuable peer mentoring experience
- Advocating for our students, and collaborating with campus partners to improve resources
- Creating a sense of community through our interactions, events, and spaces

Transfer Jacks

Who do we serve?

Transfer Totals:

- 700 incoming transfer students in the Fall semester
- 200 incoming transfer students in the Spring semester

Mentor Pairing

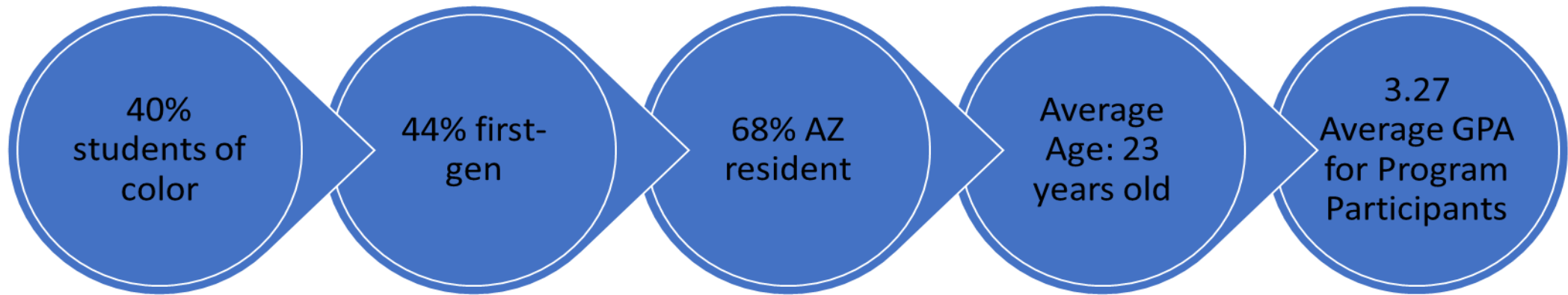
- By academic college and non-traditional status (24 years and older)

Transfer Community

- Lapel Pin

Transfer Jacks

Who do we serve?



Transfer Jacks

Diversity and Inclusion

Committees

- DEI Student Affairs Committee, HSI Sub-Committee

Partnerships

- Office of Inclusion and Office of Indigenous Student Success

Diversity Strategic Plan

Transfer Jacks Success Scholarship

- Eligibility

Our Motto: *“Come alone – leave with friends!”*



FUN TOC EVENTS

- Transfer Student Picnic
- National Transfer Student Week
- Campfire and s'mores
- Game nights
- BINGO!
- Meal of the Month
- Tailgating
- Field trips
- Craft activities
- Video game tournaments

Additional Transfer Jacks Support



SUPPORTING TRANSFER SUCCESS AT NAU

- **TOC Transfer Lounge**
 - A home away from home
 - Day lockers
 - Fridge and microwave
 - Computer lab + printing station
 - Nintendo Switch
- **Weekly events email**
- **Tau Sigma National Honors Society**
- **Weekly Tutoring Program**
- **Transfer Orientation**
- **NAU 102**

Transfer Jacks

Program Overview

Meeting Conversations

- SMART Goals
- Mid-term cases
- Non-enrollment cases

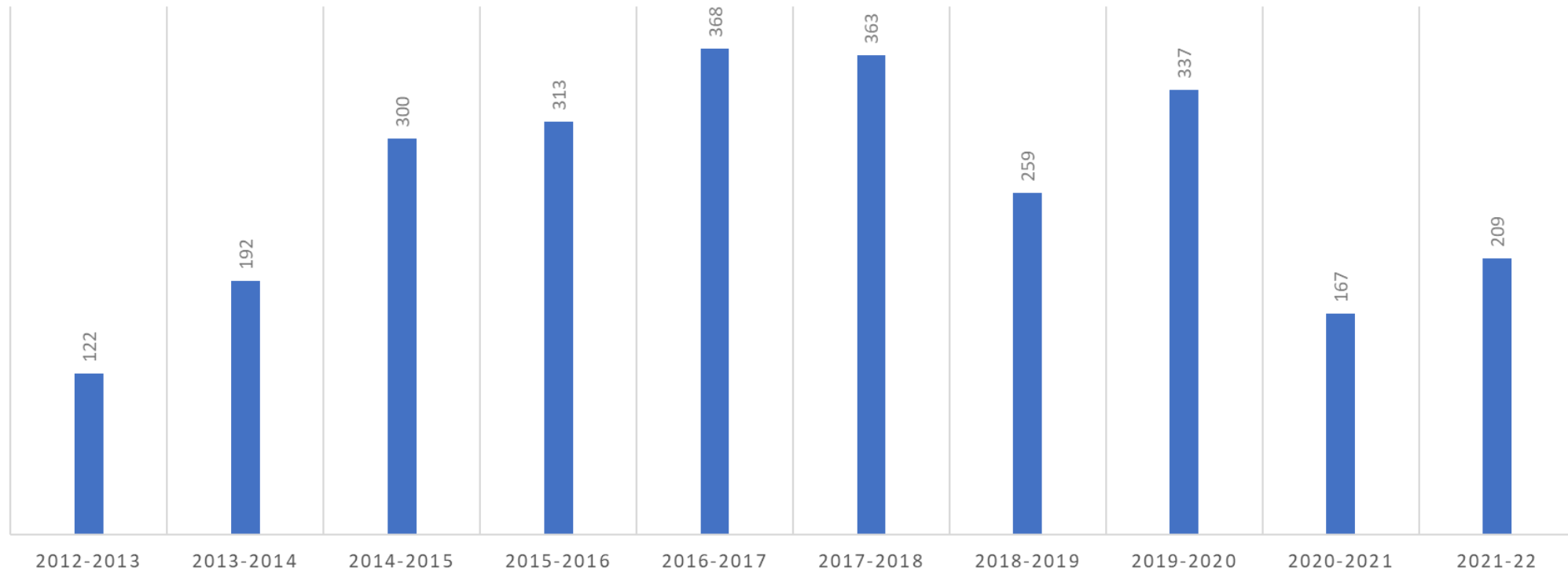
Assessment

- Pulse Survey
 - Want to meet students from their college
- Participant Survey
 - Things my mentor did well.....
 - Informative, supportive, encourage, provide resources, make me feel comfortable asking questions, recommended involvement opportunities, and was relatable.

Transfer Jacks

Engagement

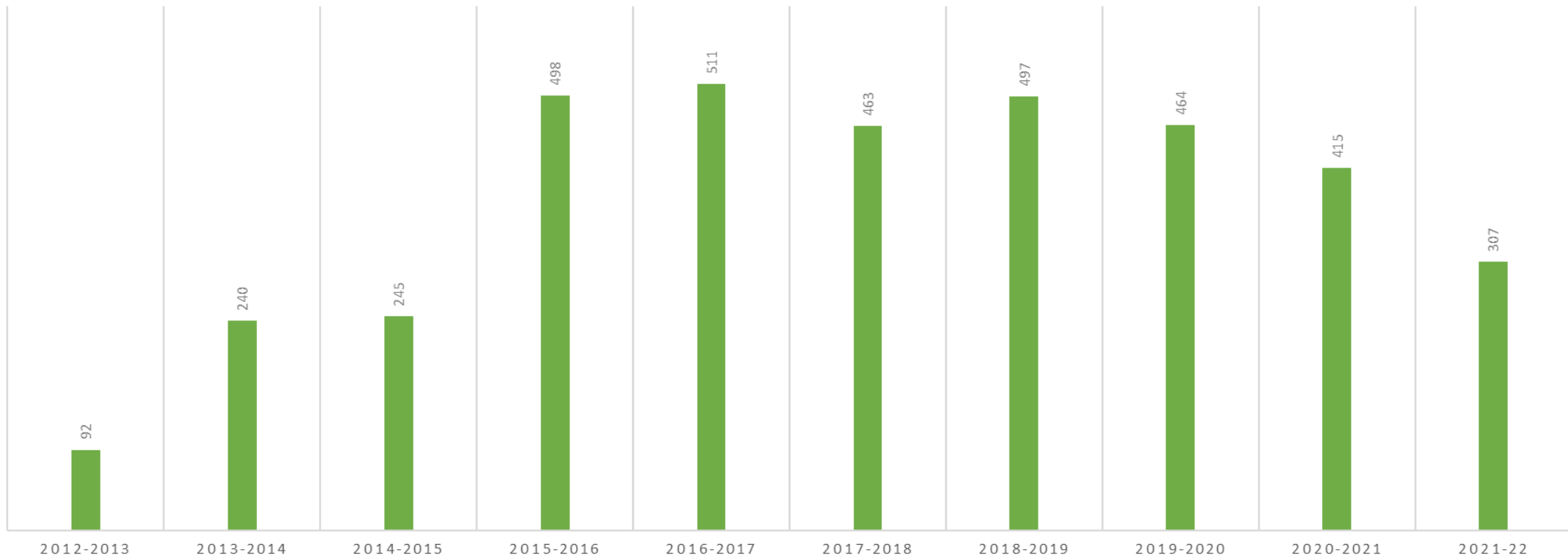
PARTICIPATION IN 1 MENTORING INTERACTION OR EVENT



Transfer Jacks

Participation

PARTICIPATION IN 2+ MENTORING INTERACTIONS AND/OR EVENTS



Transfer Jacks

Technology

NASPA Virtual Innovation Award

NAU won the top prize at \$50,000; TOC received \$4,000

Instagram & Tik Tok

@nautransferjacks

Transfer Talks Podcast

<https://bit.ly/TransferSpotify>

Transfer Jacks Blog

<https://nau.edu/transfer-online-connections/blog/>

Transfer Jacks *Technology*

National Transfer Student Week Celebration



Transfer Student Stories

Transfer Jacks

Discussion

Small Group Discussion:

1. What transfer supports do you offer during the first semester of transition and what has been successful for your initiative so far?
2. Is there anything from our presentation that you want to try to implement at your university?

References

A Case for Peer Mentoring

Brown, R., Desai, S., & Elliott, C. (2020). Identity-conscious supervision in student affairs: Building Relationships and Transforming Systems. Routledge.

Handel, S. J., & Strempel, E. (2018). Transition and transformation: New Research Fostering Transfer Student Success. University of North Georgia.

Lawlor, K. B. (2012). Smart goals: How the application of smart goals can contribute to achievement of student learning outcomes. In Developments in business simulation and experiential learning: Proceedings of the annual ABSEL conference (Vol. 39).

Schlossberg, N. K. (2008). Overwhelmed: Coping with life's ups and downs. Rowman & Littlefield Pub. Group.

Contact Us!

Transfer and Online Connections

Website: nau.edu/toc

Email: transferconnections@nau.edu

Katherine Lawlor

Katherine.Lawlor@nau.edu



Thank You!
Q&A Time