International admission and transfer evaluation services are working with two special student populations: International transfer students and adult students with international transcripts. Interdepartmental collaboration is key to streamline the process of recruitment, admission, and enrollment of transfer students in a large, public, research 4-y university. We will share matriculation trends, data, and post-COVID issues we encountered during the last 2 years, and how we have addressed them.

Elizabeth Carrillo, Associate Director, Transfer and Transition Services
Delver Retana, International Admissions Officer III, DSO

Florida International University
An International Lens on How to Service the Transfer Student Population

Elizabeth Carrillo, Associate Director
Transfer and Transition Services

Delver Retana, International Admissions Officer III, DSO
Presentation Outline

1. Florida International University and its Miami Context
2. International Admission
3. Transfer and Transition Services
4. Transfer Students Populations
5. Collaboration Accomplishments - COVID
6. Best Practices and Recommendations
FIU: Urban, Public, Research University

- Top producer of Hispanic graduates
- Ranked #2 of colleges that enroll most transfer students (Jan 2021)
- Earned #1: FL SUS performance metrics (June 2021)

- FIU is Locally Engaged and Globally Connected
- Marriott Tianjin China Program
- Business & Engineering International Partnerships

Background

FIU Transfer Students

AY2020 - 2021: 9,676 New Transfer Students!

Enrolled Students

- 70% from FL Community/State College
  - 51% from Miami Dade College
  - 15% from Broward College
- 19% are International
- 58% are Women
- 54% are Hispanic/Latino + 13% African American
- 21% are First Generation College Students
- 19% are Online Students
Role of International Admissions

• Recruitment efforts – educating students on the documentation needed
• 1st Stage: Admission
• In house Evaluation
• English Proficiency for the students from Non-English-speaking countries
• College Readiness – Assessment for transfers (ENC and Math)
• Strength: Early intervention Approach
• 2nds Stage: Matriculation
• Once Students Matriculate – Time for Equivalencies!
Transfer and Transition Services

- TTS Overview
- Emphasis on transferability of courses (Syllabi)
- TTS Equivalency Evaluation (Core Curriculum- Pre-reqs)
- Rule vs Student Specific (TES- Catalogs)
- TED  https://transfer.fiu.edu/
- Credits by Exam
- Military
- ACE approved providers
Transfer International Students: 2020-21 to 2021-22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5.89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admitted</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>11.74%</td>
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<td>Matric</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>-20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>14.62%</td>
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Percentage Change: 2020-21 to 2021-22

From: EMS Business Analyst Report
## International Transcripts Data

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unique Students</td>
<td>1169</td>
<td>1254</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unique Transcripts</td>
<td>1196</td>
<td>1311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses entered/updated</td>
<td>32913</td>
<td>35708</td>
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</table>

From: EMS Business Analyst Report
## Top Countries - Transcripts Data 2020-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Countries 2020</th>
<th>Count of ID</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHN</td>
<td>620</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOM</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>CUB</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>COL</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>VEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>PER</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRA</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRA</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>937</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Countries 2021</th>
<th>Count of ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHN</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOM</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUB</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COL</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>VEN</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAM</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>BHS</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRA</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>966</strong></td>
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Inter-Departmental Collaboration

International Admissions and Transfer and Transition Services

Students from International Universities or Domestic Students With International Coursework

• IA+ TTS evaluate transfer individually/course-by-course to determine how they satisfy FIUs University Core Curriculum (UCC)

• Award a maximum of 60 lower-division credits toward the bachelor’s degree

• Faculty consultation for STEM pre-requisites

• Meet UCC and Award up to 30 upper division credits (Students with Bachelor’s Degree from an Accredited Institution Seeking a 2nd Bachelor’s)

• Each respective academic unit evaluates Upper-division courses. Students are required to provide course descriptions and/or syllabi (In English).
Transfers Students Populations

- International Transfers on visa with foreign transcripts only
- Transfers on visa from domestic institutions
- AA from FCS with foreign transcripts
- Domestic transfers with mixed transcripts
- Returning adult learners with foreign degrees or 100+ cred
Challenges for International Equivalencies

Transferring Directly from foreign institutions
- Transcript Issues
- NACES evaluation helps, but at a cost to the student.
- UCC does not facilitate foreign education.
- Understanding what a Syllabus is.

• Transferring from USA colleges (not Florida)
  - FLENT/FLEX
  - HS transcripts
  - Excess Credits.
  - No Articulation
  - TES – TED access.
AA Transfers & Returning Adult Learners

- Florida State Colleges articulation closes UCC
- Less than 60 AA?
- Honoring former equivalency
- More than 60?
- Check for additional UD

- BA/BS from accredited institutions close UCC
- 90 transfer cred: 60 LD + up to 30 UD
- Prerequisite's check
- Career redirection
- Challenge: Syllabi
- Opportunity: Graduate!
## International Student Success Metrics

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<td><strong>FT FTIC 4 year</strong></td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td>16.30%</td>
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<td><strong>graduation Rate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FT/PT FTIC 6 year</strong></td>
<td>69.5%</td>
<td>57.7%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>graduation Rate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FT FTIC Academic</strong></td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>81.2%</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Progress Rate</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FT AA Transfer 2 year</strong></td>
<td>80.5%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>45.9%</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
<td>55.1%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FT/PT AA Transfer 4 year</strong></td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>81.6%</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rate</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data source: FIU Analysis and Information Management
Due to school closure, as well as our University mail room closing, our team began accepting Unofficial transcripts for admissions purposes only!

Solution: Email transmission- accepting transcripts directly from school officials or HS counselors. This applied as well to examination reports such as IB, AP, and international exams.

COVID Recruitment adapted to an online modality and adopted a virtual fair model. This allowed students to have one-on-one conversations with recruiters and allowed for future preparations for student arrival which includes gathering of syllabus.

This resulted in an increase of applications, however, this also created delays with posting credits as students would turn in documents closer to the beginning of the terms.
Best Practices – Lessons Learned

- **Enhance Pre-Enrollment Advising:**
  - Target countries and institutions
  - Specific academic programs
  - FIU Online Recruitment Center Marketing Model

- **Retention Efforts:**
  - Sharing check lists or written materials to student prior to arrival
  - Improve and update Online resources
  - Early Communication – early enrollment
  - Career intervention and major redirection
  - Weekend and late hours support services
Best Practices – Recommendations

- Articulation Agreements
- Transfer Equivalency Database
- Internal Institutional Collaboration
- External Partnerships
- Planned Proactive Rule Building
- International Database (Ex. Business)
- Expand Credits by Exams (Lebanese, German, Caribbean, etc.)
Questions?

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  • carrille@fiu.edu Elizabeth C.
  • dretana@fiu.edu Delver R.

Visit our web resources:

  tts.fiu.edu
  iadmiss.fiu.edu
  transfer.fiu.edu
  Business Database