2786 - Transfer Appreciation Day: Connecting an Idea to Serve your Transfer Culture
Partnerships and Collaboration, Transition Programs and Supports

Learn how a connection with an innovative transfer institution at last year’s NISTS Conference inspired another university to build a more robust transfer culture on their campus! In Spring 2022, the institution launched its first Transfer Appreciation Day to celebrate and honor its transfer student community. Learn about the day’s activities and programming, from giveaways to transfer champion recognitions, and the collaborations and partnerships that led to its implementation and success!

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Goals & Outcomes
- Welcome & celebrate the transfer student community
- Create student engagement in Transfer Appreciation Day
- Raise awareness & connect students to resources on campus
- Build robust programming with a focus on belonging, inclusivity, & recognition
- Campuswide effort via transfer champion recognitions, central tabling, visible signs, resource open houses, food & swag giveaways
- 250+ student interactions on campus via tabling, open houses, events, & more
- Instagram Takeover by PSU Student Government with 2000+ social media views
- 17+ units & departments participated in Transfer Appreciation Day
- 16 ways to get involved in Transfer Appreciation Day, including giveaways, shoutouts, events, & visits

Timeline
- February 2022: St. Louis, MO
  - The NTSB Conference sparked emerging ideas about how to celebrate transfer students on campus. While “thinking big,” one idea was inspired from a fellow transfer center across the Coast.
- March 2022: Portland, OR
  - The TRSRC conference and subsequent brainstorming sessions focused on how to effectively engage transfer students.
- April 2022
  - The TRSRC conference helped launch the transfer-centered holiday.
- April 25th, 2023: PSU’s Second Transfer Appreciation Day Kick-off

Program Spotlight: Who is you transfer champion?

A transfer champion is someone whose support and advocacy on behalf of transfer students is integral to the success of transfer students at PSU but most impactful to the individual students they meet day-to-day.

More than 25 transfer champion emails, postcards, & social media stories were delivered to recognized PSU students, faculty & staff.

Events
- The TRSRC partnered with Campus Recreation to host a Transfer Climbing Hour to connect transfer students through skill-building, health & wellness, and community.

Questions for Reflection & Discussion
- Think about how you currently celebrate the transfer community on your campus.
- Reflect on 1-2 programmatic elements or practices from Transfer Appreciation Day to bring back to your institution.
- Identify 1-2 campus partners or collaborators on your campus with whom you can share these ideas upon your return to campus.
- Add your ideas from Questions 1-3 to the flipchart, write them down, or share them with a fellow institution.