The following presentation was given at the 19th Annual Conference for the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students. In some cases, photos have been removed to avoid possible copyright infringement. Please cite responsibly and direct questions to the original presenter(s).

Educational Session

Transfer Advisory Council: How to Amplify Your Voice

Matriculation Trends and Issues, Partnerships and Collaboration

In an environment where it can be easy to feel overworked and understaffed, learning how to build a team to amplify transfer student voices is vital. Participants will hear how a department of one enlisted a team of colleagues dedicated to consistently advocating and facilitating transfer student integration. This session will cover the council's development, member selection, completed projects, and future directions. This session is applicable for institutions of all sizes.

Erin Bird, *Transfer Transitions Coordinator*

Oregon State University

Transfer Advisory Council

How to Amplify your Voice

Erin Bird (she/hers)
Transfer Transitions Coordinator
Office of Undergraduate Education | Oregon State University

Agenda

1. Institutional Context
2. Transfer Advisory Council
   - The Why
   - The Who
   - The How
3. Projects
4. Future Directions

1

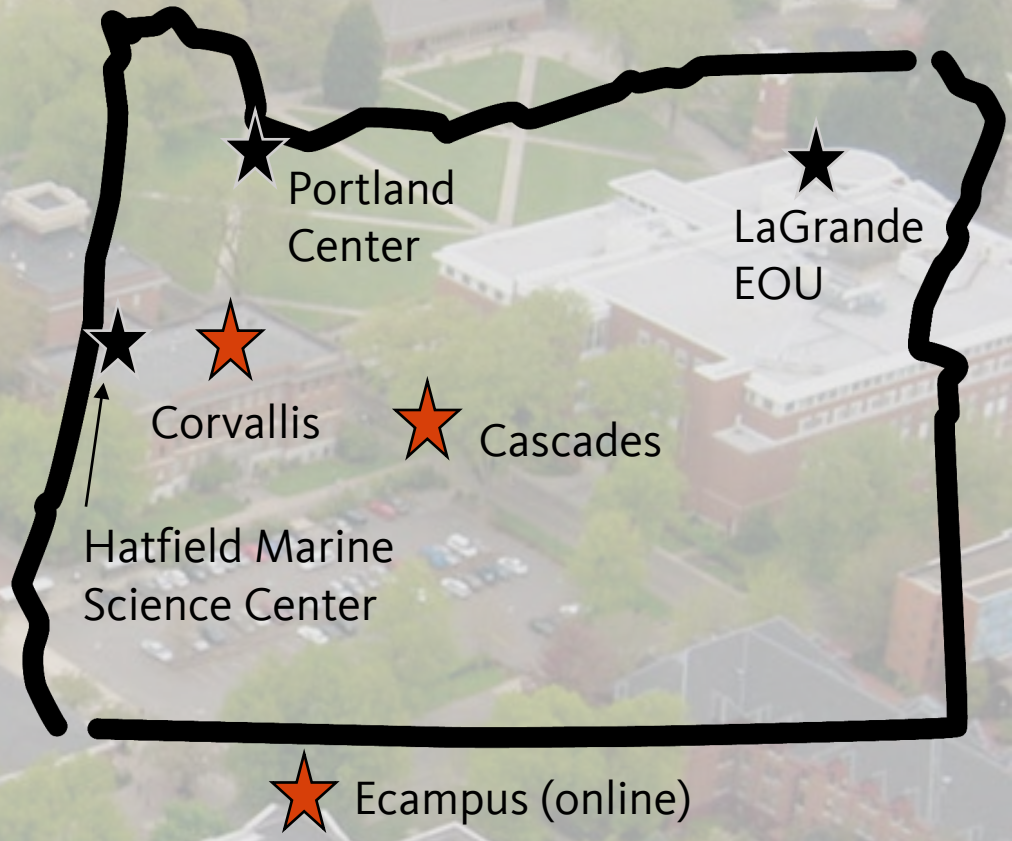
Institutional Context

Oregon State University

1 of 7

public universities

17 Community Colleges



R1 Research Institute

1 of 2 institutions to hold 4 grant designations

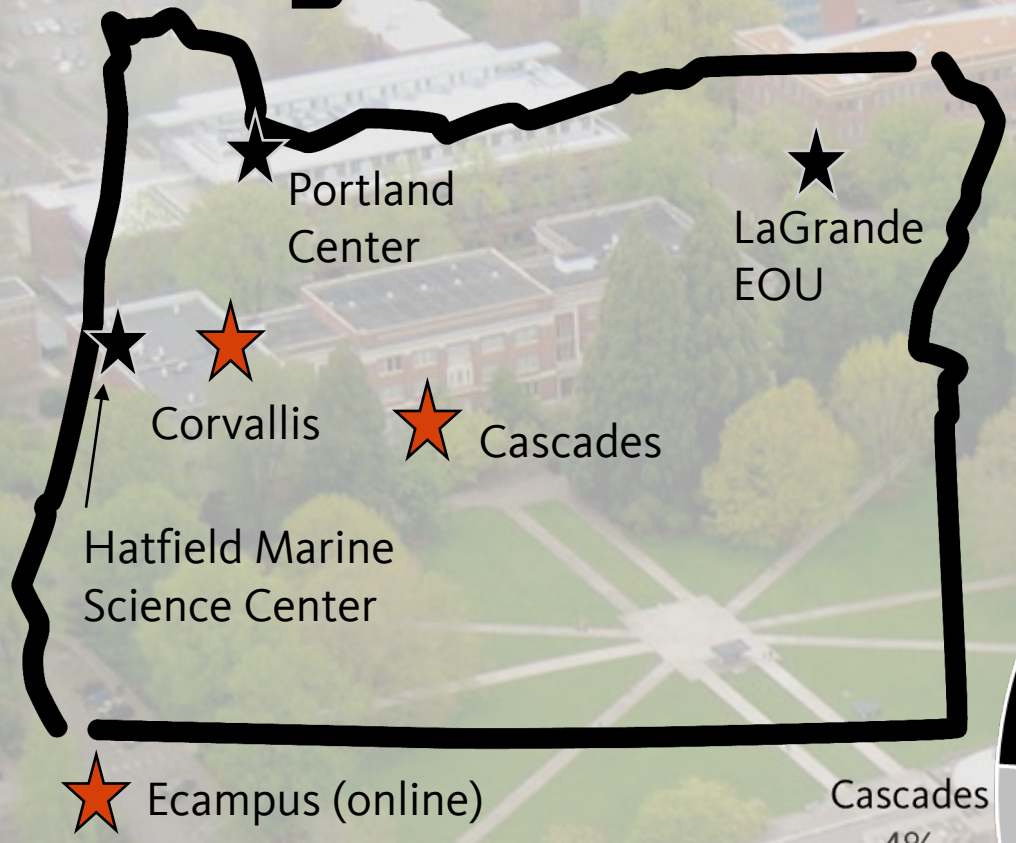
Sun

Sea

Space

Land

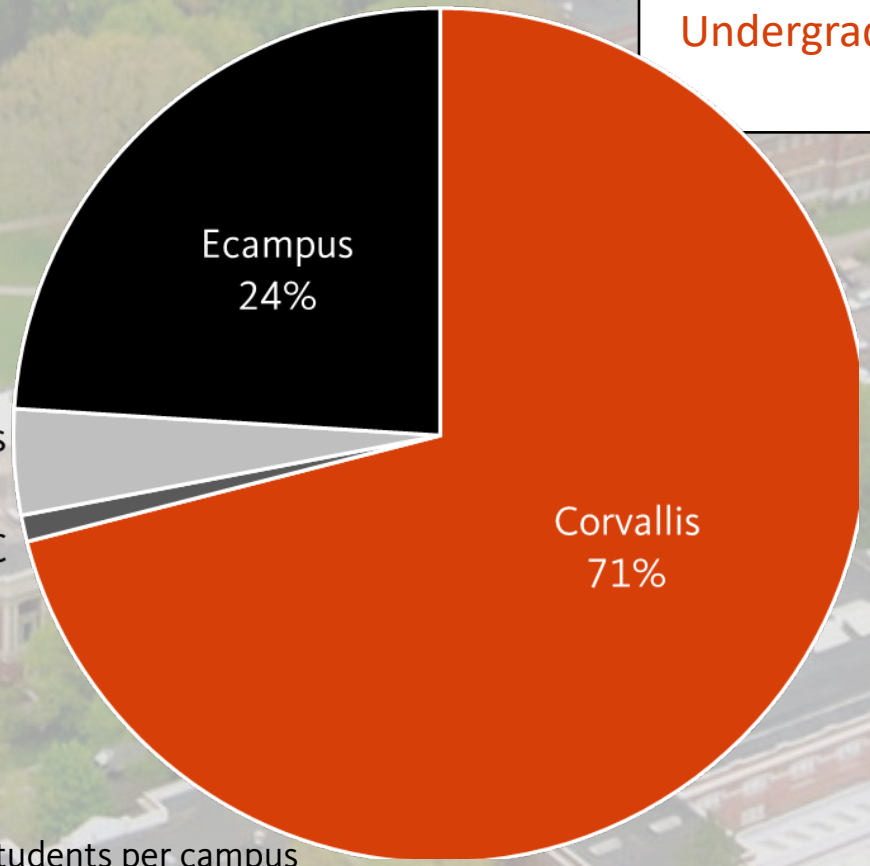
Oregon State University



33,359

27, 351 Undergraduates

6,078 Graduate Students



% of Undergraduate students per campus

Fall 2020 Enrollment data

What's in a name?

1/3

Transfer students

- Students that complete 24+ credits at another regionally accredited institution prior to attending OSU
- Students that meet progression requirements through INTO OSU[1] Programs

1/4

Degree Partnership Program[2] students[3]

- Admitted OSU students taking courses through a Community College[4] partnered with OSU
  - Dual enrolled at 2 institutions concurrently
  - Enrolled solely at partner institution(s) for up to 10 terms prior to matriculating into OSU

[1] INTO OSU
[2] Degree Partnership Program
[3] DPP students may be classified as "Transfer" or "First Year" depending on admission application.
[4] OSU is partnered with 17 Oregon Community Colleges and 3 Hawai'i Community Colleges

Who are they?

32%

Undergraduate Transfer Student Population

First Gen 33% **Students**

39% **Pell Eligible**

20% **Underrepresented Minority**

12% **International**

9% **Veterans**

52% **OR Resident**

39% **Age 25+**

11 Decentralized Colleges

Liberal Arts	21%
Engineering	20%
Business	14%
Agricultural Sciences	14%
Science	10%
Public Health & Human Sciences	9%
Forestry	7%
Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sciences	5%
University Exploratory Studies	1%
Education	1%
Honors	1%

% of Transfer Students in each Primary College

Fall 2020 Enrollment data
OSU Institutional Research

2

Transfer Advisory Council

What are you aware that is NOT being done?

Have you identified any specific pain points?

What are you doing for your current Transfer students?

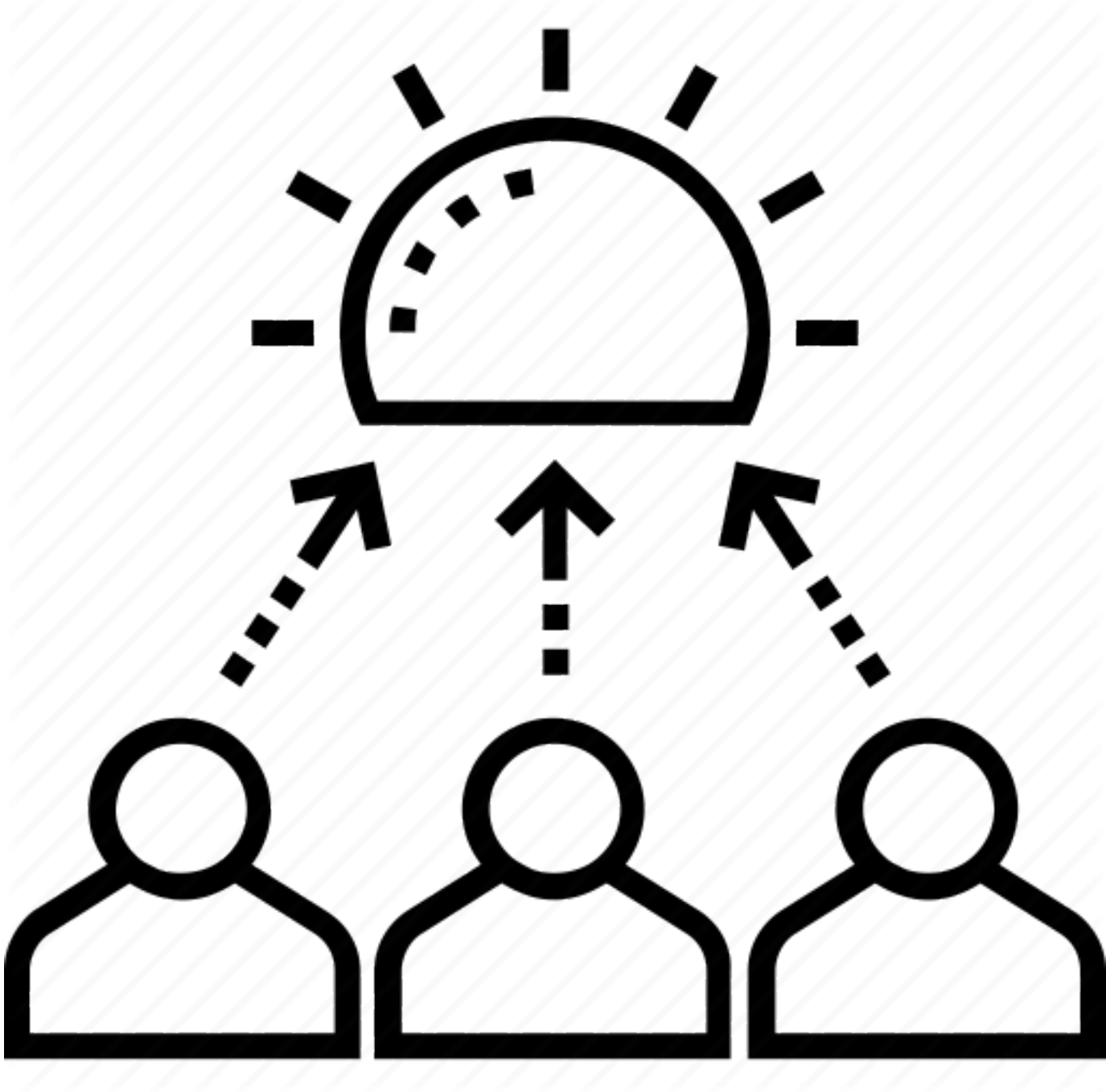
Dream BIG! What types of programs can better support our students?

Campus Conversations

TAKE IT HOME...

Consider your institution.

- How do you define transfer students?
- What is the pulse of transfer student support at your institution?
- Are you aware of any pain points?



First-Year Advisory Council
Transfer Advisory Council

Mission: Raise profile of first-year and transfer student populations through implementation and evaluation of initiations within the academic advising and counseling community at Oregon State University

CHARGE

The First-Year Advisory Council (FYAC), and Transfer Advisory Council (TrAC), are individually comprised of professional faculty from across the disciplines who hold academic counseling and advising roles. These groups contribute to the expansion, improvement, and awareness of services related to First-Year and Transfer student populations.

REPORTING & EXPECTATIONS

FYAC works with Kerry Thomas. TrAC works with Erin Mulvey.

Kerry & Erin will:

Convene and charge their workgroups
Support each workgroup's operational needs
Provide institutional memory/consistency for each workgroup
Advocate as necessary on behalf of each workgroup

Participant Benefits:

Increased awareness of student needs as well as direct involvement and voice in:

- Engage in a network of professionals across campus
- Develop solutions to challenges facing each student community
- Building a culture around First-Year and Transfer student success
- Big picture planning

Participant Expectations:

- Agree to do this at least 1 ye
- Maintain strong communicat with all group members
- Work collaborative and distri the work fairly
- Periodic check-ins with Kerry or Erin
- Engage in planning and implementation of strategic visioning

Spring 2018

Year 1

2018-2019

- College representatives
- Ecampus representative

FORMATION TIMELINE

Beginning of Spring Term	Invitations to founding workgroup members & charge
Middle of Spring Term	Initial 1-3 meetings for strategic visioning & context
End of Spring	Establish regular meeting schedule

mprised of individuals who work cooperatively to address the following:

Advisory Council

unication Plan
us and College inserts
t Year Engagement
U
rt and advising for First
issues that face First
nges that First Year
nter
ammatic, systemic and
tunities/challenges as

Transfer Advisory Council

- Transfer Communication Plan
- Identify, develop, and/or improve:
  - Academic support and advising for Transfer students
  - Transfer Guides and other pre-advising tools
  - Social engagement opportunities
  - Structural challenges that Transfer students encounter
- additional programmatic, systemic and curricular opportunities/challenges as they arise

Membership

Year 1

2018-2019

- College representatives
- Ecampus representative

Year 2

2019-2020

- College Representative
- Ecampus Representative

- Degree Partnership Program/Admissions
- Student Affairs Units
  - Orientation
  - EOP/TRiO/CAMP
  - International Services
- Open Campus/Extension*

Current Membership

Year 2

2019-2020

- College Representative
- Ecampus Representative

- Degree Partnership Program/Admissions
- Student Affairs Units
  - Orientation
  - EOP/TRiO/CAMP
  - International Services
- Open Campus/Extension*

TRANSFER ADVISORY COUNCIL

Raise the profile of the transfer student population through implementation and evaluation of initiatives at Oregon State University

MEMBERSHIP

September 2020

The Transfer Advisory Council (TrAC) is comprised of representatives from across OSU colleges, student affairs units, and other university partners. This group contributes to the expansion, improvement, and awareness of services related to the Transfer student population within Oregon State University.

Colleges

Agricultural Sciences: *Kelly Donegan, Michelle McAllaster*
Business: *Connie Caddis, Kyle Ross*
Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences: *Andrea Nelson*
Education: *Jason Tena-Encarnacion*
Engineering: *Cate Olson, Brett Jeter*
Forestry: *Terina Mc Lachlain*
Honors: *Rebekah Lancelin*
Liberal Arts: *Tristen Shay*
Public Health and Human Sciences: *Gina Cavanaugh*
Science: *Henri Jansen, Heather Arbuckle*

Enrollment Management

Admissions: *Bridget Jones*
Degree Partnership Program: *Rick DeBellis*
Financial Aid: *Michele Lynam*
Scholarships: *Heidi Kinion*
Transfer Services Manager: *Kim Alvarez, Jose Ceja Garibay, Melissa Lee*

Student Affairs

Academic Success Center: *Marjorie Coffey*
Advancing Academic Equity for Student Success: *Jason Dorsette*
Career Development Center: *Erich White*
Cross Campus Strategic Initiatives: *Jeff Malone*
Education Opportunities Program: *Dorian Smith*
Office of International Services: *Grace Atebe, Marigold Holmes*
New Student Programs and Family Outreach: *TBD*
University Housing and Dining Services: *Brittany Griffin, Ben Medeiros*

ECampus: *Rebeka Phelps*
OSU Cascades - Advising: *Dianna McGinnis*
OSU Cascades – Enrollment Services: *Brian Palmer*

Ad Hoc

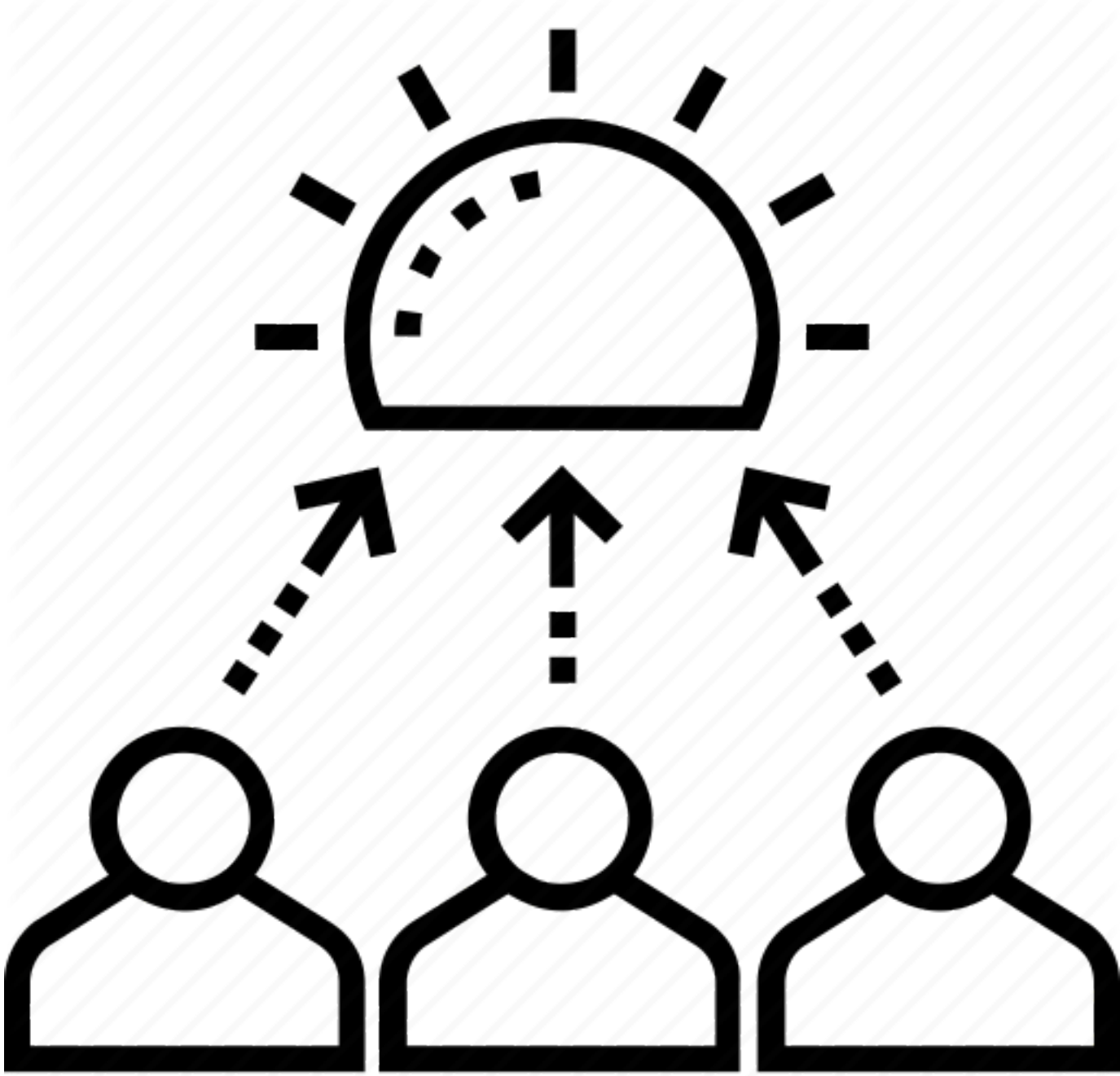
Disability Access Services: *Earlee Kerekes-Mishra*

Oregon State University

TAKE IT HOME...

Consider your institution.

- How is your institution structural organized?
- What voices do you want reflected in your Transfer Advisory Council?



Progress Points

Year 1
College Representation
Ecampus

Year 2
College Representation
Ecampus
Student Affairs
Degree Partnership Program

Year 3
College Representation
Ecampus
Student Affairs
Degree Partnership Program
Enrollment Management
Cascades campus

Meeting Agenda

Intros

Introductions

Set retreat intentions and expectations

TrAC Charge

Members identify:

- how TrAC can influence OSU
- How they will benefit
- How they will contribute

Celebrate

Acknowledge and celebrate work from prior academic year

Projects

Identify projects for upcoming academic year. Determine frequency of TrAC meetings.

Initial Summer Retreat layout

Summer Retreat Focus

TrAC Charge

Members identify:

- how TrAC can influence OSU
- How they will benefit
- How they will contribute

REPORTING & EXPECTATIONS

Members will serve a one-year, renewable term on the Transfer Advisory Council, chaired by Erin Bird, Transfer Transitions Coordinator within the Office of Undergraduate Education.

The Transfer Advisory Council will initiate and contribute to ongoing efforts in support of transfer students at OSU, aligned with university priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan 4.0 and the Provost's Undergraduate Student Success Initiative. Additionally, this council may work in conjunction with committees and task forces to provide a comprehensive university-wide plan to improve the transition experience for students.

Specifically, the Transfer Advisory Council will:

- **Recommend best practices**. Identify and recommend best practices that enrich a smooth transition for students into OSU through work with students, staff, and faculty.
- **Enhance Communication.** Evaluate and develop proper communication channels that streamline outreach to students, as well as delivering timely information to transfer student professionals.
- **Improve Credit Articulation Processes.** Determine strategies for improving credit articulation processes, and work to provide information that is readily accessible, easy to understand, and transparent.
- **Identify Relevant Data.** Develop metrics to track transfer student progress and success from pre-arrival through graduation. Supplementary metrics will be evaluated as needs arise.
- **Funding Opportunities.** Collaborate with university-wide units to consider policies and processes for fund distribution.

Participant Benefits:

- Interact and network with a community of Transfer student professionals
- Receive timely updates on university-wide policies, programs and initiatives related to transfer students
- Broaden understanding of transfer student challenges and barriers
- Identify and develop best practices to support transfer students

Participant Expectations:

- Agree to 1-year participation (renewable)
- Attend and participate in quarterly meetings
- Engage in planning and implementation of strategic visioning
- Work collaboratively and distribute the work fairly
- Maintain strong communication with committee members and university partners

Oregon State University

TrAC Meeting Frequency

Summer Retreat
2- 2.5 hours
Scheduled with consideration of vacation

Winter Quarterly
90 minutes
Last week of term before finals

JUL AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN

Fall Quarterly
90 minutes
Last week of term before finals

Spring Quarterly
90 minutes
Last week of term before finals

Meeting Agenda

Intros

Introduce new members, set intentions, affirm focus areas

Celebrate

Acknowledge and celebrate work from prior academic year

Plan forward

Identify priorities and projects for upcoming academic year

Closing

Confirm future dates and identify campus partners

Ongoing Summer Retreat layout

TrAC Meeting Frequency

Summer Retreat
2- 2.5 hours
Scheduled with consideration of vacation

Winter Quarterly
90 minutes
Last week of term before finals

JUL AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN

Fall Quarterly
90 minutes
Last week of term before finals

Spring Quarterly
90 minutes
Last week of term before finals

Meeting Agenda

Intros

Introductions and agenda overview

Campus Partner

Guests share how their unit support transfer students & ways TrAC can provide referrals

Updates

Project leads will give status updates. Space is provided for unit updates.

Future Topics

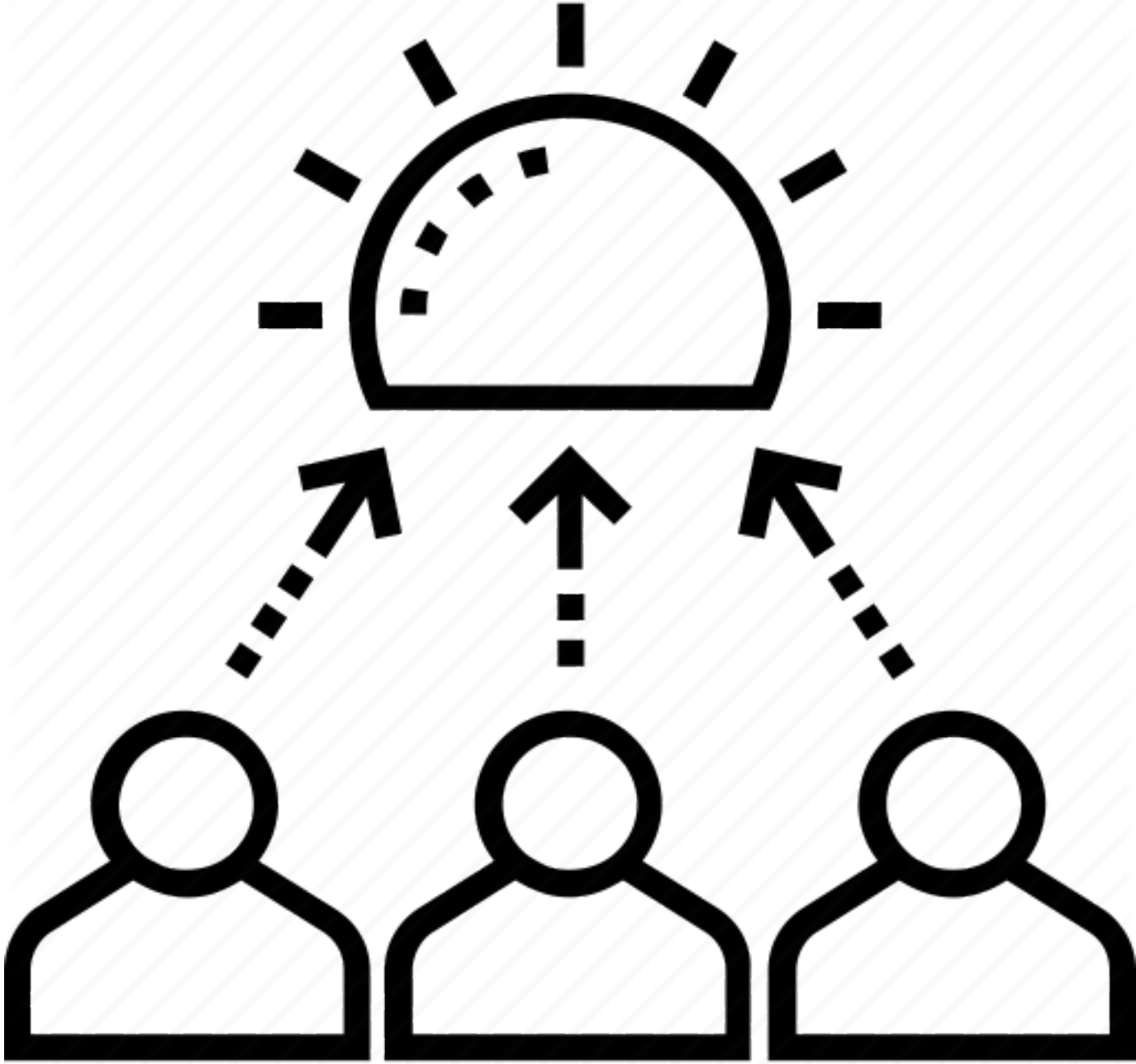
Reminder for next meeting date. Request any specific agenda items

Quarterly meeting layout

TAKE IT HOME...

Consider the makeup of your institution's Transfer Advisory Council.

- What are your initial goals for the group?
- What frequency will your TrAC need to meet in order to accomplish those goals?



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Projects

AY 2018/2019

Transfer Student Events

Hosted 4 events per quarter. Each quarter included a Welcome event for new students and a collaboration with OSU Athletics for transfer student night. Remaining events ranged from physical activity, crafts, and service projects.

Transfer Guides

Developed universal template for document. Transfer Guides are created for each major at OSU and articulates courses that will fulfill major requirements for each community college in Oregon.

AY 2019/2020

OSU Transfer Professional Directory

Collected contact information for colleagues that support transfer students within units across OSU. Directory is hosted within “Canvas for Advisors” and updated annually.

Transfer student scholarship document

Developed handout for prospective students to support understanding of application, deadlines, and requirements for central and departmental scholarships.

Prospective student degree audit

Investigated whether DegreeWorks Transfer Equivalency Self-Service tool could support OSU’s needs for working with prospective students.

AY 2020/2021

National Transfer Student Week

Hosted first ever OSU National Transfer Student Week. Daily events boasted collaborations with Academic Success Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, and general social connections.

No other sponsored projects

Given the nature of the pandemic and OSU's decision to provide remote and online learning for Fall, Winter, and Spring terms, TrAC opted to not engage in sponsored projects. Quarterly meetings will occur to allow for conversations and connections.

4

Future Directions

What's next?

Continuation

Projects that are in progress
Projects that require annual review & maintenance

Student Club

Creation of a Transfer Student Club
Social engagement + co-design solutions for challenges

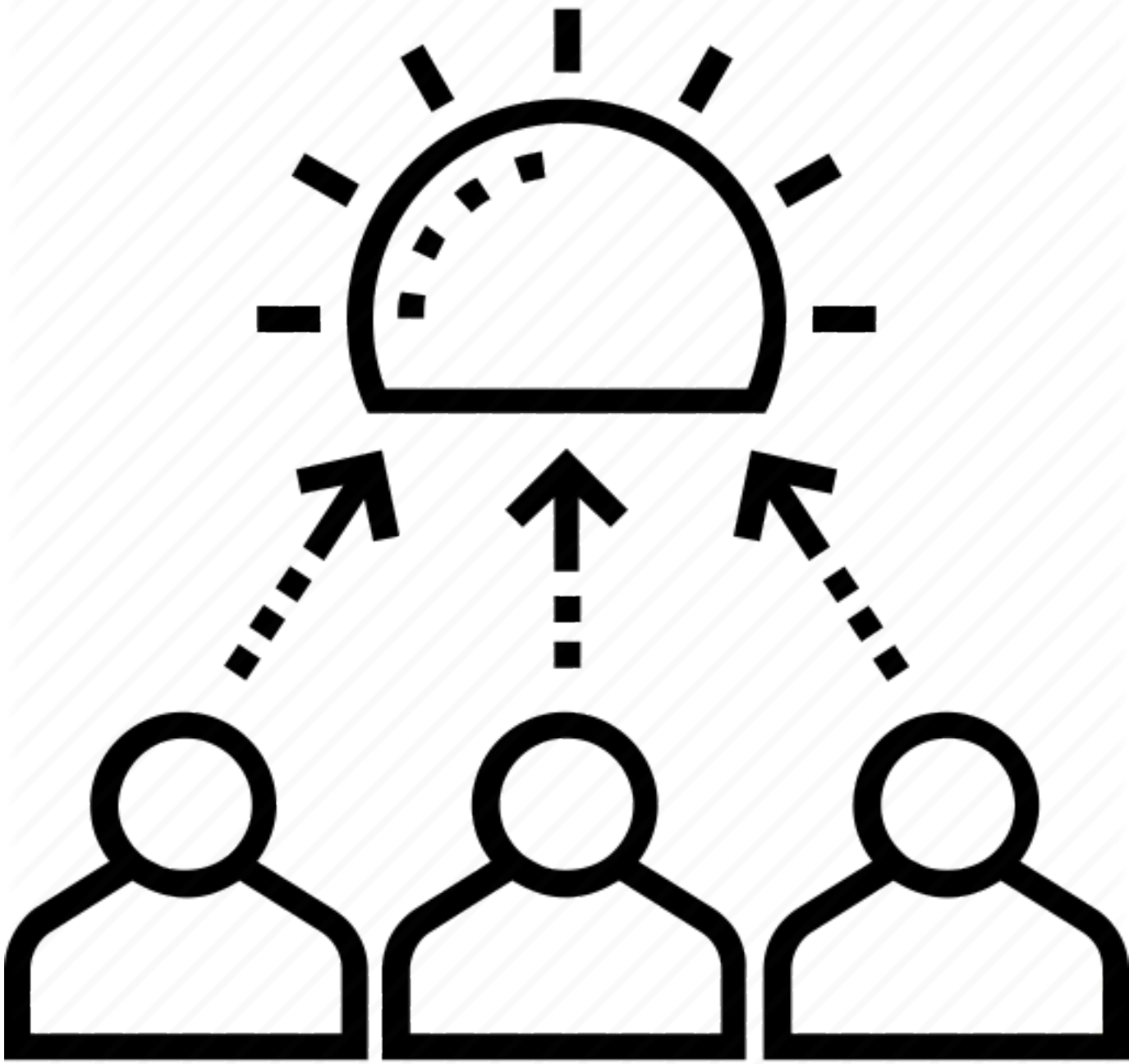
BIPOC Transfer Students

Evaluate how we need to support BIPOC transfer students.

TAKE IT HOME...

Consider your institution.

- What is the current pulse of transfer student support?
- Which departments should be included in your TrAC?
- Do you have any initial goals for group?
- What will be your mechanism for connection?



Thank you!

undergraduate.oregonstate.edu/transfer-advisory-council

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Transfer Transitions Coordinator
Office of Undergraduate Education | Oregon State University