

#NISTS2019 CONFERENCE

WORKING TOGETHER TO SIMPLIFY TRANSFER

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Creating Successful Transitions: The Transfer Orientation Experience

Transition Programs & Services, Matriculation Trends and Issues - Educational Partner

Transfers come to college with an array of interests, needs, life experience and motives. A supportive and specialized orientation experience is the foundation for their ongoing success and persistence. This presentation will highlight current research and best practices to enable you to take away the necessary foundations to build a transfer orientation experience for your respective institution.

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Creating Successful Transitions: The Transfer Orientation Experience

**National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students
Annual Conference**

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Association of Orientation, Transition and Retention in Higher Education

Membership: \$180 per year

- Access to NODA Connect/Resource Library
- Free online presentations from NODA Networks
- Journal of College Orientation and Transition
- Orientation Planning Manual
- Databank
- Discounts on conference registration
- Discounts on webinars
- Ability to apply for NODA leadership positions



**Annual Conference in
Houston, TX
October 20-23, 2019**

Program Objectives

- Highlight the national and campus trends
 - Present components of a successful transfer orientation experience
 - Provide an opportunity forum for conversation surrounding transfer students including best practices
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Questions for the Group

How do you define transfer students on your campuses?

What words/thoughts/experiences come to mind when you think of transfer students?

What trends are you seeing on your campuses in regards to transfers?

Transfer Students are Often Overlooked...

“At a recent staff meeting we were discussing programs and services for new freshmen, when someone remarked, ‘Don’t forget we have three hundred transfer students coming in.’ As I left I realized that we had not spent any time considering transfer students. Are we alone in overlooking them in our planning and programming?”

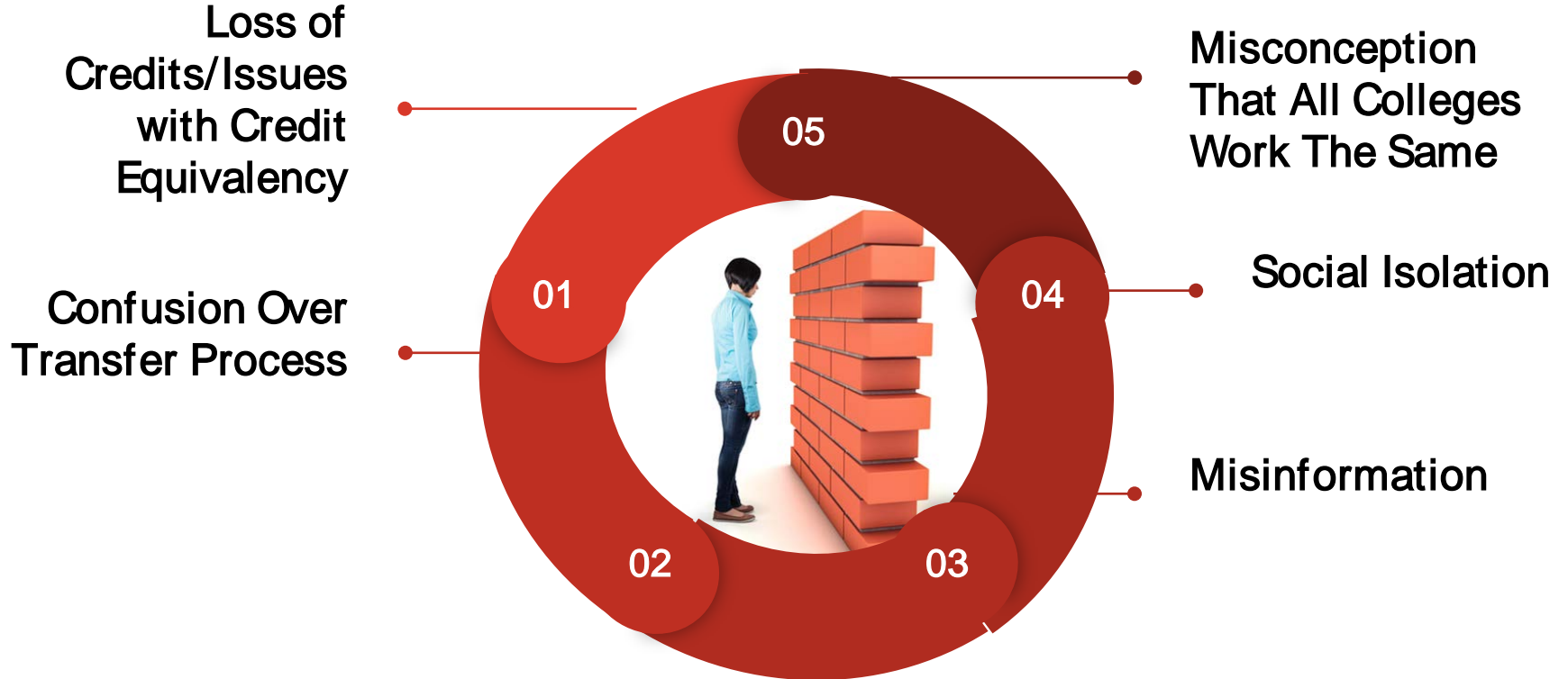
(Barr & Sandeen, 2009)

Transfer Trends

Questions for the Group

What trends are you seeing on your campuses in regards to transfers?

Barriers



Components of Transfer Orientation Programs

Orientation Programs



“As admissions is the gateway to the university, so orientation serves as the pathway for transfer student success.”

(Marling and Jacobs, 2011)

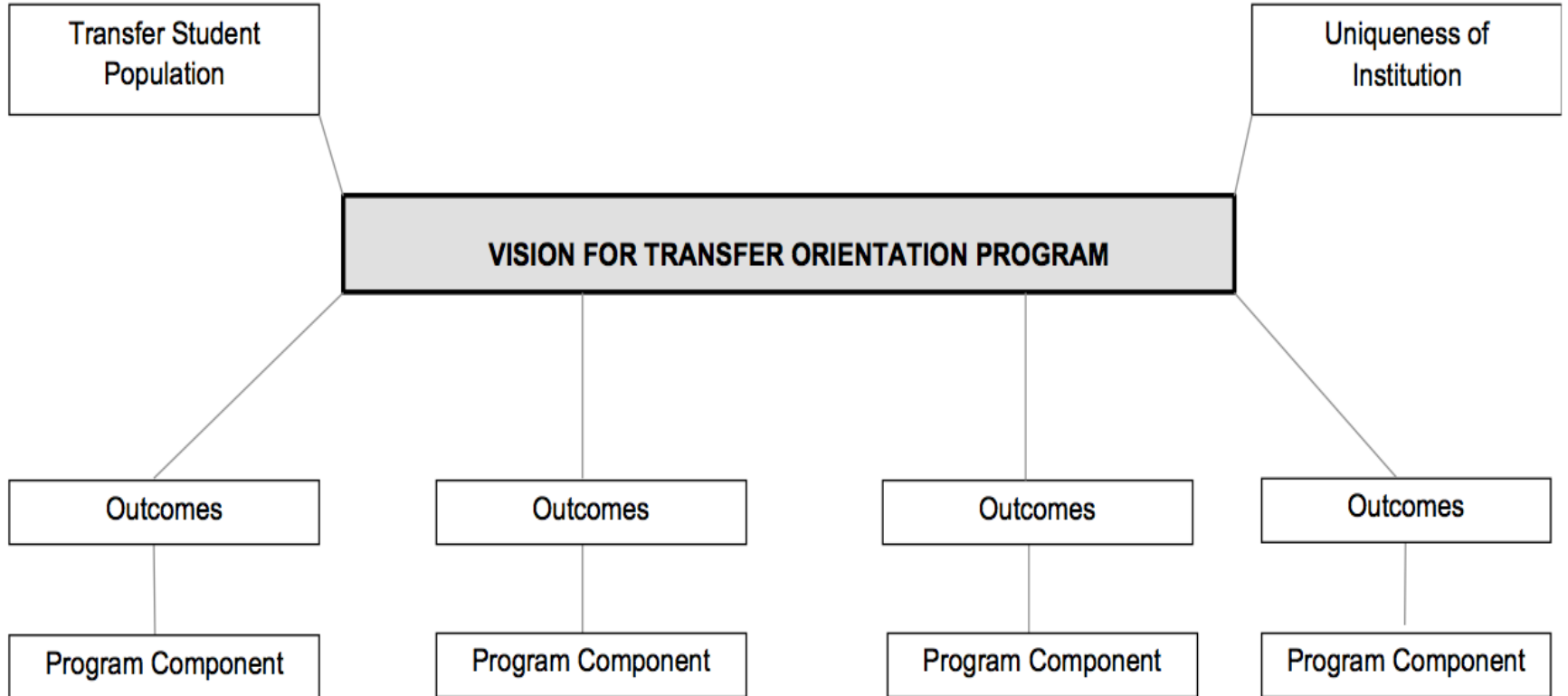
What is the Orientation Experience?

Deliberate programmatic and service efforts designed to **facilitate the transition of new students** to the institution; **prepare** students for the institutions **educational opportunities** and **student responsibilities**; initiate the **integration** of new students into the **intellectual, cultural, and social climate of the institution**; and **support the parents, partners, guardians, and children** of the new student (CASHE, 2009).

Orientation may include (but is not limited to):

- Single or multiple day “traditional” orientation programs
 - Welcome Weeks
 - Orientation “camps”
 - Outdoor/wilderness orientation programs
 - Special-interest (e.g., community service) & special-population (e.g., student-athletes) orientation programs
 - Summer bridge programs
 - Online orientation programs
 - Parent/family orientation programs
 - Orientation courses/first-year seminars/workshop series
 - Mechanisms & strategies of communication from institutions to incoming students
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Vision to Practice



Checklist for Programs

From *Establishing Pathways for Transfer Student Success Through Orientation...*

- Identifying the transfer population
- Shaping appropriate expectations
- Effective communication with transfer students
- Using transfer peers
- Providing faculty interaction
- Assess



(Marling and Jacobs. p. 74-77)

Planning Tips

- Know Your Population
 - Make transfer orientation programs meaningful
 - Consider best time for orientation program
 - Help students feel like they belong
 - Train student leaders & campus partners
 - Assess and adjust
-

Program Components

Taken from Establishing Pathways for Transfer Success Through Orientation...

- Campus Resources
- Involvement and Culture
- Academic Department Meetings
- Placement Test (if applicable)
- Academic Advising and Class Registration
- Student Q&A Panels
- Breakout Sessions (student choice)
- Campus Tour
- Student Success and Personal Development
(e.g., self-examination, goal setting, plans for success, peer-to-peer interactions, etc.)

(Marling and Jacobs, p. 78-79)

Things to Consider

Parent and Guest Programming

- How big is your transfer population? Do many of them bring families to orientation?
 - What services are available for families on campus?
 - How can they be incorporated into existing programs or should there be a separate program?
 - What information do families need?
 - Online or In Person
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Beyond Orientation

Transitional Issues	Academic Advising and Course Registration	Academic & Community Expectations
Involvement & Engagement	Support Services & Resources	Day-to-Day Life

Care to Share...

What aspects of your transfer orientation program are you most proud of? Why?

Is there an innovative program or approach you would like to share with the group?

Steps to Success

Gather Data and Research



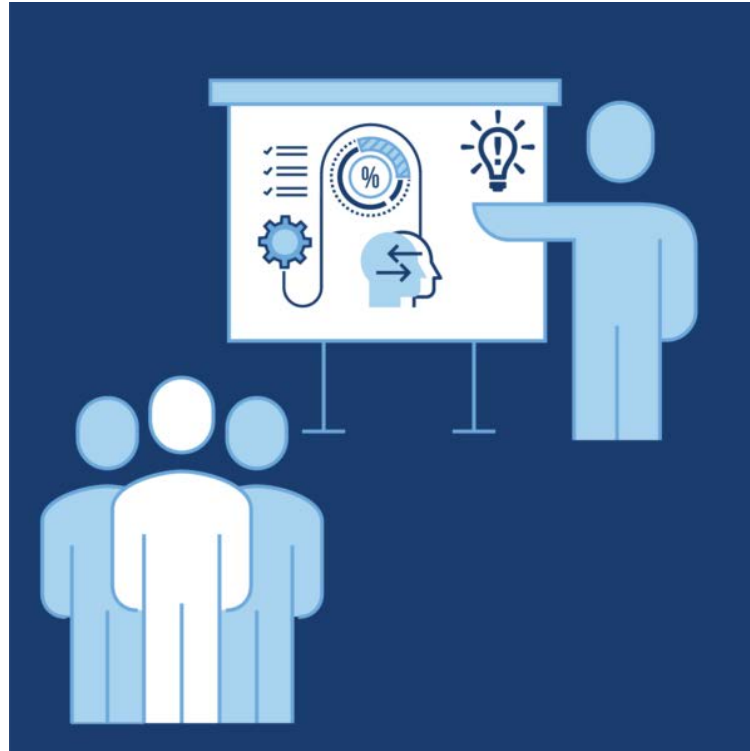
Develop Outcomes and Action Plan



Build Support From Campus Stakeholders



Educate Campus Community



Create Partnerships



Identify Gaps and Create New Initiatives

Gap Analysis



Packing and Marketing



Assessment Plan



Assessment
Plan

Things to Remember

- There is no one size fits all approach
- Challenges
- Success
- Takes Time



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Thank you for attending

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