



NISTS 2020

REIMAGINING THE TRANSFER STUDENT EXPERIENCE FEBRUARY 5-7, 2020 • ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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Academic Affairs Swiped Right! Academic & Student Affairs Collabs for First-Gen Transfer Success

Partnerships and Collaboration, Transition Programs and Services

Academic and Student Affairs share responsibility in addressing challenges first-generation transfer students experience by creating spaces to connect, facilitating belonging, and supporting academic success. This interactive workshop will highlight the collaboration between the Educational Opportunity Program (SA) and Transfer Student Center (AA) at UC Santa Barbara and dive into details about our process of collaboration, program development, and evaluation. Participants will brainstorm collaboration and programming ideas to take back to their institutions.

Kari Weber, Student Activities Coordinator

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University of California, Santa Barbara

Academic Affairs, Swiped Right! Cross-Divisional Collaborations for Promoting Transfer Student Success

Kari Weber, M.S.

Angelica Caudillo, M.S.

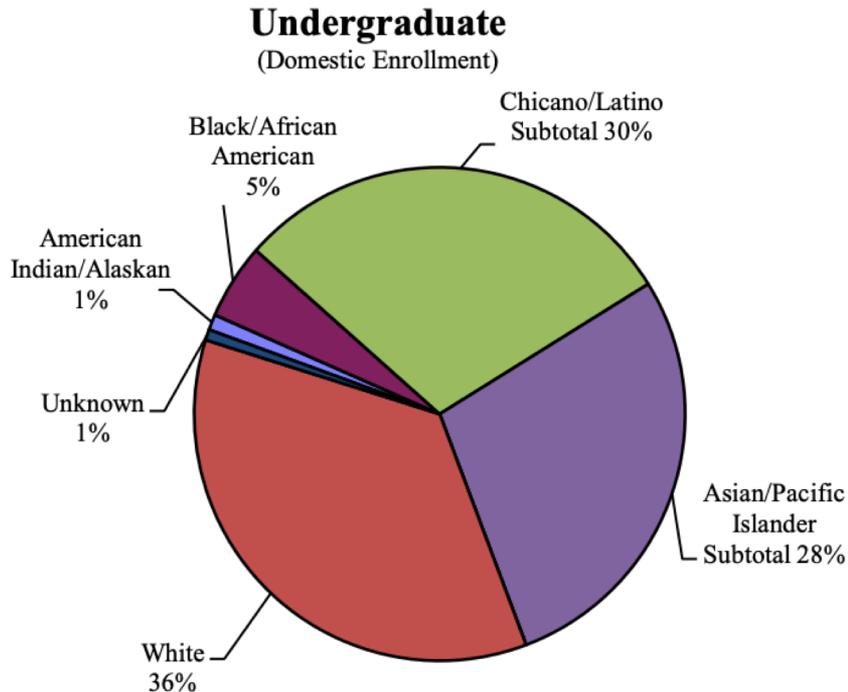
Malaphone Phommasa, Ph.D.

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers



It's a Match!

University of California, Santa Barbara



- Nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of undergraduate students are transfer students
- **42%** of UCSB undergraduates are first-generation college students
- **HSI** and **AANAPISI** designations

Transfers at UCSB

Transfer Class 2019

18,449 applicants

51% admitted

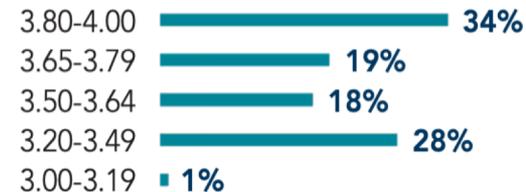
2,210 size of class (estimated)

3.65 average GPA, admitted transfers

95% of admitted transfers from California community colleges



GPA range, admitted transfers:





Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

- Created after and in response to Civil Rights Movements & the Watts' uprising in 1964
- EOP population: 2% (1965) 35 % (2019)
- Holistic Counseling/Advising
- 5 Cultural Resource Centers
- AS/EOP Emergency Grant
- Peer Mentorship
- Programming
- Graduate School/Career Preparation

Transfer Student Center

- Opened Spring 2016
- Located in UCSB Library
- 8 Peer Educators & 1 Graduate Student Mentor
- 2 College Academic Advisors
- Open study & community space
- Transfer Student Mentoring Program
- Workshops, events, & free tutoring
- Drop-in hours with campus resources

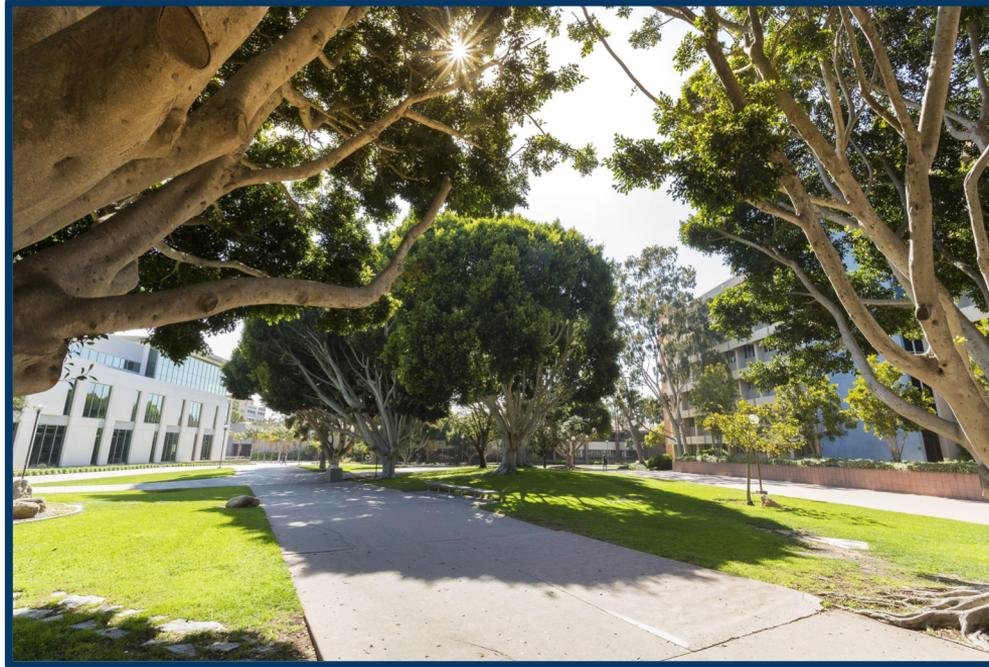


How and why the “match” was made

- Both units support traditionally underserved populations: first-generation college students & transfer students
- Supporting the *whole* student means breaking down historical divides and campus silos
- Facilitate opportunities for students to engage in and/or gain access to high impact practices
- Negotiate resources (budgets, staff, etc.)
- Increase visibility of resources



How and why the “match” was made



Highlighted programs

- **Faculty Mentoring Program: Dining with Faculty**
- **Coffee & Community for First-Generation College Students**

Dining with Faculty

- 5-7 (EOP) transfer students
- 3 dinners with 1 professor during one academic quarter
- Major specific



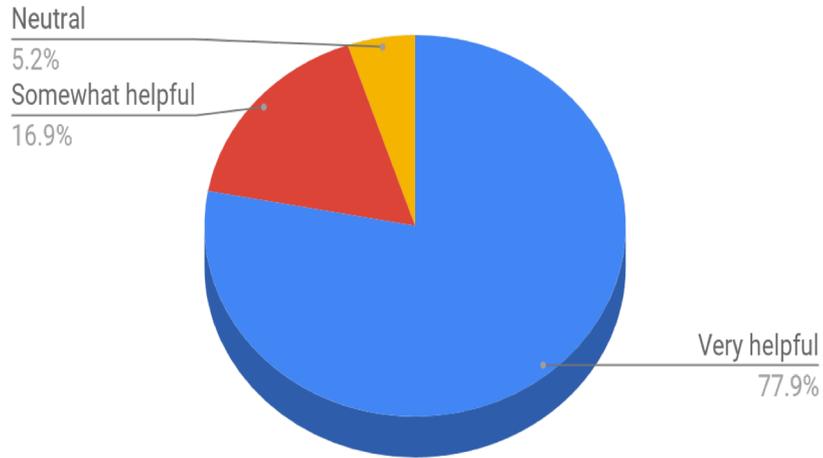
Professor from Teacher Education Program



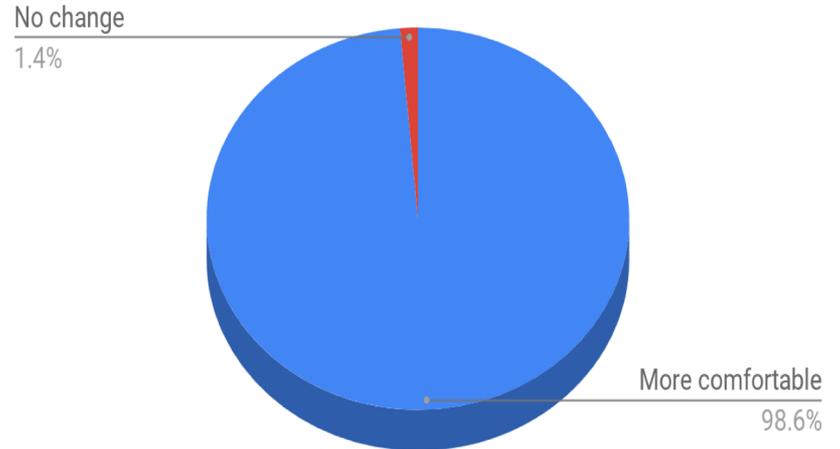
Professor from Film & Media Studies

Evaluating our efforts

How helpful was the faculty member in helping you feel more confident about being a part of the UCSB community?



After participating in this program, how comfortable do you feel about approaching faculty members?





Coffee & Community

- First-gen transfer students
- Weekly meetings
- Unstructured, topic-focused
- 2-3 peer mentors facilitate
- EOP counselor & TSC staff attend
- Foster community at UCSB
- Introduce campus resources

Student feedback

“This space was a very necessary part of my time at UCSB. It really allowed me to grow into a student, but also a leader. It made me feel included at UCSB...**Had I not had the Transfer Student Center or Coffee & Community, I don't think I would have felt as part of UCSB as I do.** I was involved in a variety of different things, but none of them really made me feel as supported or as seen as the TSC and C&C.”

“When I went back to my community, I saw so many people who were not here or who were not able to make it here. I felt a sense of guilt because I had. **Coming here and talking to other people realizing, “Oh, it's not just me feeling like this.”..We're all trying to help each other. We're all trying to go back to our community and benefit it in some way. I think that's very central to the first-gen, transfer experience so it was really cool to come together weekly with people who have similar values and similar goals.** And to be able to nurture that part of my identity that I didn't know was so important until I got here.”



Who do you want to “swipe right” on YOU?

Who would you like to collaborate with?

What programs would you like to develop?

What can you contribute to the partnership?

Who would you like to collaborate with?

Academic Department: Linguistics

What programs would you like to develop?

Faculty involvement

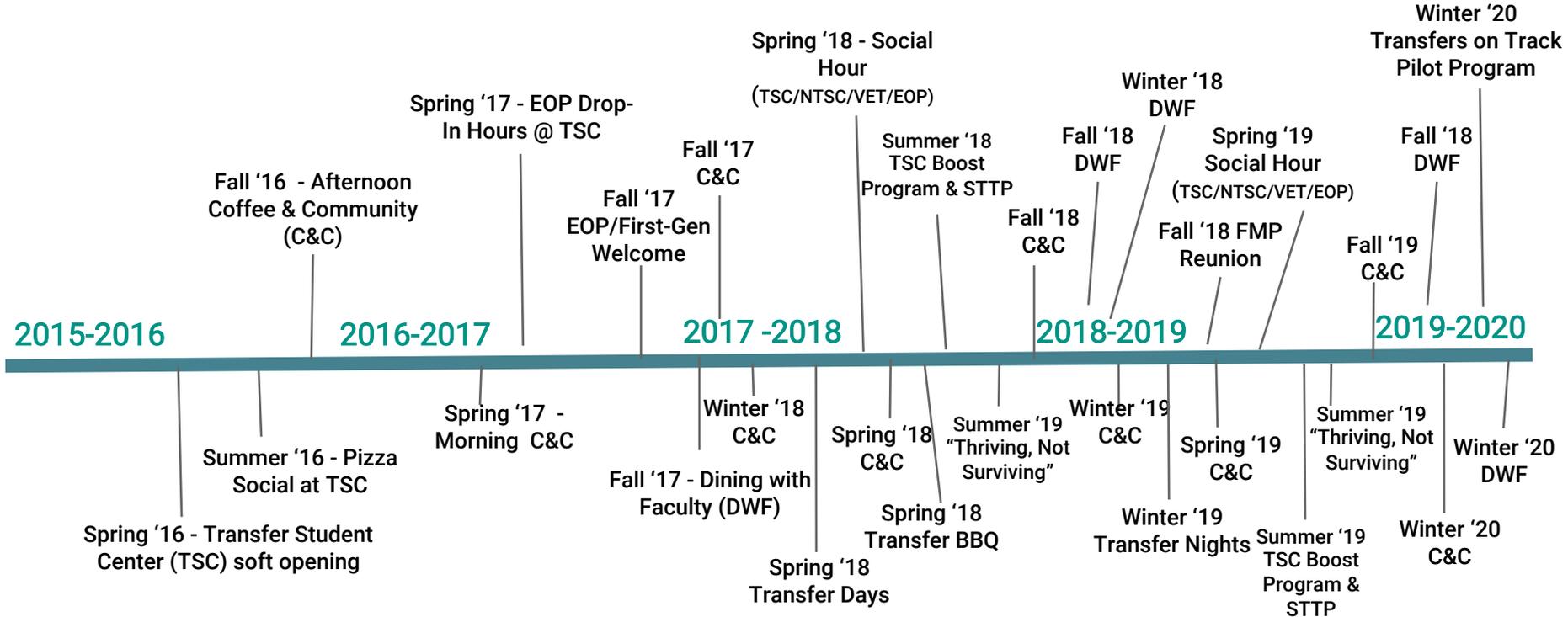
Academic support for students

Connect students to faculty

What can you contribute to the partnership?

I have funding for programming, \$7,000 within the academic year to support Res Hall/Transfer Peer Mentor.

From the “first date” and beyond....



REFLECTIONS



Our collaboration has been successful due to:

- Staff are ideologically aligned and committed to the success of traditionally underserved and marginalized student populations
- High levels of organization & shared workload
- Student suggestions, evaluations, & assessments → modifications & adjustments of programs
- Identify emerging needs and possible supports
- Shared vision for shift in institutional culture: cross-divisional partnerships & transfer receptive culture

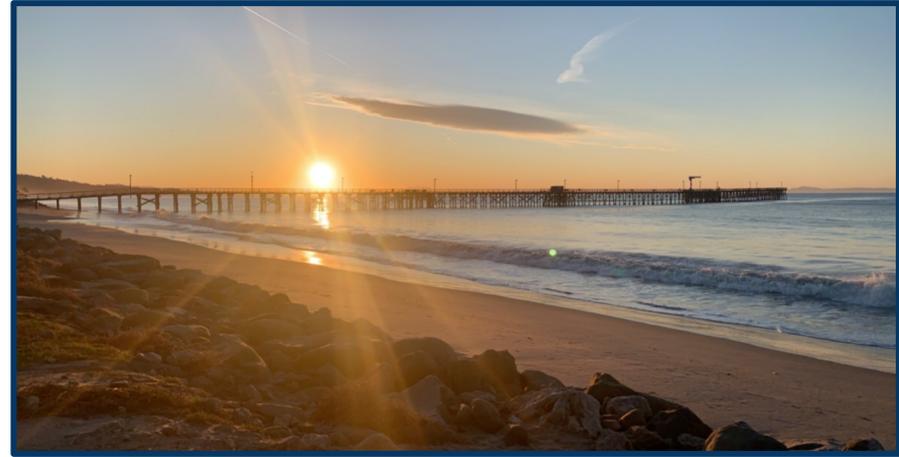


Thank you! Questions?

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