Wisconsin Transfer Equity Study

A collaboration among:

• The University of Wisconsin System
• The Wisconsin Technical College System

and

• The USC Center for Urban Education
Positioning Wisconsin to be a National Leader in College Completion
Wisconsin Transfer Equity Study

- Project Goals: Enhance equity of outcomes between SOC and white peers in transfer and baccalaureate attainment.
Organization of the Study

Team Composition and Focus

System Team
UWSA, WTCS, CUE

Focus on
System-wide and
Inter-System Policies

Campus Teams
UW-Milwaukee
UW-Oshkosh
UW-Sheboygan
Fox Valley TC
Milwaukee Area TC

Focus on
Campus Practices
Organization of the Study

Inquiry Activities

System Team

Data Analysis w/BESST©
Transfer Maps
Survey of Transfer Professionals
Multi-State Policy Survey
Transfer Accountability Activity
Technical Articulation Activity

Campus Teams

Website Analysis
Syllabus Reflection Activity
Observations of Campus Spaces
 Interviews with Staff
 Interviews with Students
Focus Groups with Students
Transfer Data for UWC and WTCS Students to UW 4-year Institutions

In 2002, the UW Colleges sent 23% more students to than WTCS . . .

Total Transfer Students from UWC = 1,611
Total Transfer Students from WTCS = 1,312
Transfer Data for UWC and WTCS Students to UW 4-year Institutions

... But, WTCS sent more than twice as many students of color

Total Transfer SOC from UWC = 65
Total Transfer SOC from WTCS = 159
WTCS Sends More Transfer Students of Color

UWC

African-American Students

WTCS

Latino/Latina Students

Native American Students

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
To what extent do UW four-year institutions graduate incoming transfer students?

**START**
- Incoming transfer students who enroll in Fall 02

**M1**
- Students who progress one class level by Fall 03

**M2**
- Students who progress two class levels by Fall 04

**END POINT**
- Graduation by Fall 08
  - Baccalaureate Attainment at UW University
Too Few Transfer Students Earn Bachelor’s Degrees

Starting Cohort: 224

M 1: 109 (34%)

M 2: 37 (73%)

End: 27 (12.1%)

# Succeed:

M 1: 115

M 2: 72

End: 10

Source: UWSA OPAR

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Too Few Transfer Students Earn Bachelor’s Degrees

Starting Cohort

SOC
224
Progress

M 1

M 2

End

109
34%

37
73%

27
12.1% of Original Cohort Graduate

# Succeed

115

72

10

Source: UWSA OPAR

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Transfer SOC Experience a “Hump” in Milestone 2

Source: UWSA OPAR

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Key Findings by System Team

- Too little systematic monitoring and accountability of transfer outcomes for students of color
- Need for a more “transfer-centric” campus culture
- Challenges with technical program articulation with bachelor’s programs
System Team Recommendations

- Strengthen transfer accountability reporting
- Set intra-system “equity benchmarks” for transfer
- Strengthen articulation for technical programs, and initially target those programs serving a critical mass of SOC
System Team Recommendations

- Extend transfer process accommodations to WTCS, including waiver of transfer application fee

- Strengthen role and visibility of transfer advocates

- Craft common legislative and public messages about study
Wisconsin Transfer Equity Study

Questions and Discussion