



UNIVERSITY^{AT}ALBANY
State University of New York

An Institutional and Comprehensive Approach to Supporting Transfer Transitions

University at Albany, State University of New York

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Understanding UAlbany

- ▶ Public Research University
- ▶ Approximately 18,000 total enrollment
 - 13,500 undergraduate
- ▶ Part of State University of New York System (SUNY)
 - 64 campus
 - 4 University Centers + comprehensive 4-year colleges + community colleges
 - Separate from City University of New York (CUNY) system
- ▶ Largely residential
 - 96% of freshmen are first time, full time and live on “uptown” campus
 - One original residence hall on the “downtown” campus houses primarily transfers (2.3 miles from campus)
 - 44% transfers live on campus; half live on Alumni Quad
- ▶ Historically strong in social sciences, business, sciences, humanities, arts
 - Engineering and Homeland Security are new...no medical, law, architecture, nursing
- ▶ Period of leadership transitions – lots of transitions!

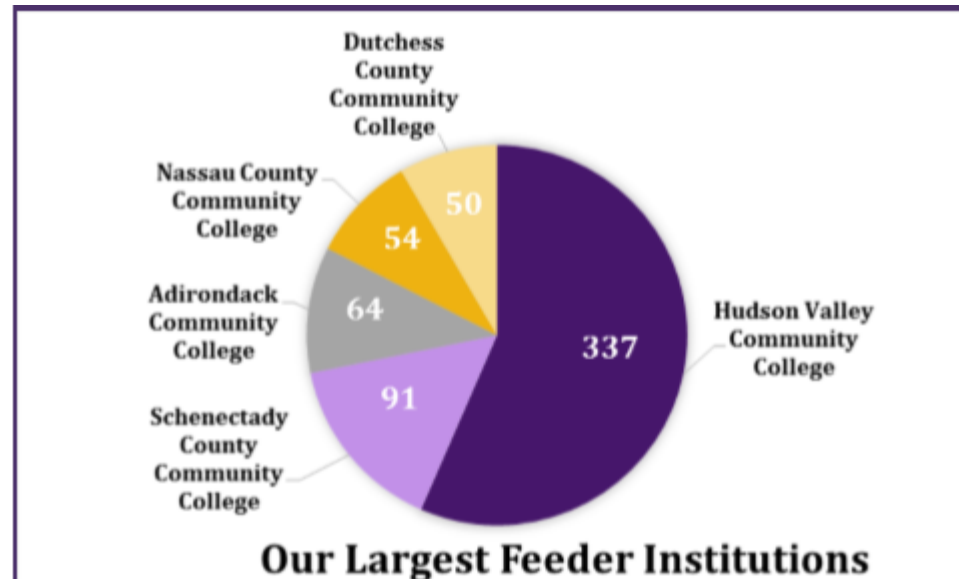


Understanding UAlbany Transfers

- ▶ SUNY Seamless Transfer and General Education changes (approximately 2010)
- ▶ Approximately 43% of incoming students are transfers
- ▶ Approximately 48% of each graduating class began as transfers
- ▶ Approximately 45% of transfers come from SUNY CCs
- ▶ Associates Degree holders
- ▶ Community College starters
- ▶ Students who come or are “home” for a variety of reasons
- ▶ Students seeking specific degrees/majors
- ▶ Average transfer GPA: 3.1; 1st UAlbany semester: 2.69

1,926 transfer students enrolled in 2017 - 2018:

- 1,779 are in-state
- 119 are international
- 28 are out-of-state students



Top counties our transfers came from:

- Albany: 336
- 5 boroughs of NYC: 304
- Saratoga: 144
- Schenectady: 103
- Rensselaer: 101

Understanding UAlbany Transfers



- Transfers are a large proportion of our campus population
- Transfers are a large percentage of our campus tuition / revenue structure
- A large percentage of our transfers are from – and staying in – the Capital Region
 - The transfer experience is a student AND alumni AND community engagement experience
- Transfers need to be part of our strategy
 - If transfers make up over 33% of your tuition revenue, we are NOT simply backfilling native freshmen attrition!
- Transfers need to be part of our thinking
 - Class of 2022 at Convocation? Meaningless to 43% of your audience!
- Transfers present unique – but understandable – challenges and **opportunities**

First Year Student Engagement // Transfer Engagement // Student Engagement

- ▶ Many campuses focus on freshman to sophomore retention and “finish in four”
 - Not measuring anything having to do with transfer students
 - Transfer retention can be largely ignored
- ▶ Data matters
- ▶ Terminology matters
- ▶ People matter (SE, ASC, OTP, Gen Ed)
- ▶ Advocacy can mean being a PITA

Being at the table matters!

Admissions	Orientation
Opening Weekend	Curriculum
Academic Departments	Financial Aid
Residential Life	Articulation Agreements
Transfer Credit Processes	Recognition

Structural Support for Transfers

- ▶ Transfer Programs Coordinator
- ▶ Task Forces to study transfer patterns
- ▶ Transfer and Commuter Lounge
- ▶ Permanent Advisory Board representative of all aspects of campus
- ▶ Transfer Transition Leaders (TTLs) (former transfer students)
 - Volunteer leadership position
 - Academic credit possible via community service or internship classes
- ▶ Transfer Liaisons (faculty and staff)
- ▶ Representation to, and leadership in, NYSTAA (New York State Transfer and Articulation Association)



Pre-Enrollment Support

- Special Transfer open house (spring)
 - Includes meeting with advisors
- Admissions presence at feeder CC
- TTL outreach
- Transfer Coffees – off campus
- Departmental Information slides
- Advisor email outreach
- Invitations to special transfer programs
- Transfer mentors



Welcome to the Human Development Major!



• Dayna Newton, Academic Coordinator for the Human Development major
dnewton@albany.edu



• Human Development Faculty

Want Extra Help?

- All of the faculty who teach undergraduate courses will be available for office hours to assist any student who needs help
- There are also graduate assistants who will run study groups for many of the larger courses

Location of Department Offices



As a new student in our department, you should...

- Contact Dayna Newton to set up an advising appointment

Check out these clubs and groups!

- Human Development Club
- President Tara Caemmerer, contact for application
Tcaemmerer@albany.edu

Orientation Customization

- ▶ Until transfers meet with advisor and finalize academic schedule, hard to get them interested in other important parts of orientation
- ▶ Traditional Orientation split into two parts:
 - Transfer Advising
 - Transfer Orientation
 - Some required sessions
 - Conference session style – transfers choose
 - Convocation
- ▶ Welcome opening for transfers on our downtown residence hall
- ▶ Opening Weekend-Invite to all; Focus transfer attention on some
 - Explore UAlbany - academic
 - CandleLighting – ceremonial and traditional
 - Great DaneTopia – clubs and fun



First Semester Transitional Programs

- ▶ Curricular-Transfer seminars present unique challenges
 - “Challenges for the 21st Century” discussion sections
 - 0-credit “Engagement” class
- ▶ Residential- Downtown residential quad and housing sign up policies create unique challenges
 - Transfer Living-Learning Communities
 - Some where living is optional
 - Transfer programming on downtown residential quad
- ▶ Transfer clubs
 - Transfer Engagement Club – first club with goal of fostering other connections
 - Driving Force
 - Non-Trads
- ▶ Special outreach to selected campus events (Munch with the Majors)
- ▶ Transfer-specific outreach programs held in the transfer lounge (Campus Center) and downtown res hall



Transfer Recognition

- ▶ Tau Sigma
 - Transfer Student Honorary
- ▶ Transfer Week
- ▶ Transfer visibility
 - Proud Transfer t-shirts
 - Signage
 - Transfer glass wall on lecture center concourse
 - I Love Transfers buttons
- ▶ Alpha Sigma Lambda
 - Non-traditional student honorary

NATIONAL TRANSFER STUDENT APPRECIATION WEEK

"It's Not Where You Start, It's Where You Finish!"

OCTOBER
15TH - 19TH

MONDAY

TRANSFER WEEK KICKOFF
Wall signing & Giveaways!
10 AM - 2 PM
Lecture Center Concourse

#TRANSFERSTUDENTWEEK

TUESDAY

INSPIRATIONAL PAINT & SIP
3 PM - 5 PM
Transfer Commuter Lounge

WEDNESDAY

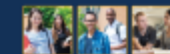
FALL FUN & DE-STRESS
Pumpkin Painting & Cider Doughnuts
6 PM - 8 PM
Alumni-Waterbury Basement

FRIDAY

TRIP TO INDIAN LADDER FARMS
2 PM
RSVP in LC 31 by October 18th
Cider is on Us!

THURSDAY


**Tau Sigma's 2nd annual
Transfer Advocacy &
Appreciation Day**
CC Assembly Hall
12:30 - 2:00 PM
Enjoy food and connect with
faculty that support transfers!
- Transfer Advocate -
Recognition Ceremony
at 1 PM



National Transfer
Student Week



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

Office of the Vice President
for Undergraduate Education



Transfer Results

- ▶ Transfer L-LCs show success
 - 5% fall to spring retention bump
 - 9% 3rd semester retention bump
- ▶ .13 GPA bump for students in “Challenges” class
- ▶ Tau Sigma has 400+ members
 - Membership and engagement has grown every year
- ▶ 30% of students who attended “Munch with the Majors” began as transfers
- ▶ 1500+ students attended transfer engagement events in past academic year (not discrete individuals)
- ▶ Articulation agreement signing – publicity as well as impact



More Work Ahead

- ▶ Housing policies favor freshmen
- ▶ Admissions priorities and policies
- ▶ Marketing priorities – become a destination for top transfers
- ▶ Transfer scholarships – stipends to then support transfers
- ▶ Identify faculty/staff who were, themselves, transfer students
- ▶ Full-Service Transfer Center
 - Visit on admissions tour
 - Offer stipends for exceptional transfers who then support transfer engagement work
 - Equipped to facilitate preliminary evaluation of transfer credit
 - Advising drop in hours



Transfer Challenges Opportunities **SUCCESS!**

STRATEGY

Support our
transfer students
for engagement
and academic
success!



Develop a full-service
Transfer Center and
become a top
destination for transfer
students in NYS!

TRANSFERS:

“It’s not where you start, it’s where you finish!”



Please review this session: CI-8