



The University of Arizona Transfer Student Experience

**A project designed and implemented by students
in HNRS 403 – Collaborative Leadership
December 7, 2005**



How we decided

- Brainstorm activity
 - What is working well
 - What could be improved
- Key factor: Two members of the class are transfer students



Purpose of the Project

To create awareness of the problems associated with transferring to the University of Arizona in the hopes of improving the transfer student experience.



The Process – Action Research

- Exploring the context
 - Determining the stakeholders
- Gathering information
 - Email to various listservs
 - Follow up questionnaire
- Analyzing information
 - Distributed tasks among class members



Sharing the findings

- Respondent profile
- What went well
- What could be improved
- Use of available resources



Selected Demographics

- Nearly half of the respondents are older than the “average” student
- About a quarter of respondents are married
- More than half are employed part time or full time
- About half from community colleges, a third transferred from Pima
- However, some came from 4-year colleges, e.g. Dartmouth, Smith, Baylor, and BYU



What went well?

- Nearly as many said most everything went well as said nothing went well
- About 20% said working with advisors and getting credits transferred went well
- The Transfer Strategies class offered at PCC received praise from several respondents



What did not go well?

- A number of processes...
 - Most frequently reported problems were with registration, transfer of credits, and/or class availability
 - Other processes cited include orientation, advising, and financial aid



Common Resources

- About 2/3 did not use the Transfer Student Center or the Commuter Student Center citing that they were not aware of these resources
- Although the UA website is highly regarded as an information source, most students didn't use the Transfer Student site



Issues and suggestions

- Resources for transfer students
 - More effort to highlight TSC and CSC
 - Consider transfer student listserv early – e.g. from admission to end of first full semester
- Explore orientation alternatives
 - Mixed reviews on orientation suggest that this need is not being met but could be valuable



Your comments and ideas

We'd like to open the discussion now to all of you who were so kind to accept our invitation. You were asked to come to our forum because we see you as stakeholders in this issue. We believe that together we can make a difference for UA Transfer Students.



Thank you!

- Stephanie Beggy
- Natalie Brown
- Jennifer Dais
- Dania Molla Hosseini
- Jessi Samoy
- Anna Stagner
- Emily Stuart
- Stormy Wall