



ADVISING  
COMMUNITIES

## TRANSFER TUESDAY: MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE ADVISING COMMUNITY ON TRANSFER STUDENTS

**AUGUST 2021**

Happy Back to School month! We are continuing to navigate unprecedented times at the start of another school year. Our students are returning to or joining us (possibly still mostly online) after over a year of uncertainty. As we ramp up to the coming fall term please take care of yourselves and your families.

We are recruiting for new members to join our steering committee. Please see details and the application link below! Our listserv has been hopping these last two months and as always brief notes on the threads appear below. Also, our steering committee member Jacqui Rogers-Frere shares her experience serving on the AACRAO Transfer Student Success Work Group.

If you know someone who would benefit from joining our community, please forward this message to them. For those of you who are new to the group this month, welcome! We have a lot of ways to engage members and we rely on you to help make this group as robust as possible. Whether it is engaging with our listserv (directions on how to join can be found by [clicking here](#)), our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts, or attending an event, this group is what you make of it.

### **This message will include:**

- 1) Steering Committee Recruitment
- 2) Listserv Threads this month
- 3) Resource Spotlight

## STEERING COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

Have ideas that could enrich our transfer community? Do you have a passion for community building, research, communication, transfer advocacy and more? Consider joining the Steering committee for the Advising Community on Transfer Students! We are recruiting new steering committee members to join us for the upcoming two year cycle and are looking to expand our activities and enrich our community.

If you are interested in joining the steering committee please complete the [application](#) and upload your CV (priority deadline: September 17th).

## LISTSERV THREADS THIS MONTH

The listserv has been active this summer with several June and July topics shared. Here is a quick overview of them:

### June Topics

- Transfer and Academic Policy Implementation - seeking best practices on disseminating, training, and ensuring adoption of transfer and academic policies. This was a short chain so if you have some tips on proper implementation and enforcement of policies please share.
- Catalog/Bulletin Policies for Transfer Students - samples and information on catalog wording that is transfer friendly.
- Transfer Success Metrics - seeking examples of transfer success metrics with an equity and CTE lenses
- Wasted Credits - Led to a lively thread on the tracking of non-transferable credits including various state policies and concerns about third party credentialing. This thread stretched into July and has lots of great details and information that you may find useful.

### July Topics

- Degree Plans/Curriculum Sheets for Transfers - seeking examples of useful templates that work well with transfer students. Many shared what their institutions use including some sample sheets.
- Resetting a Broken Transfer System - shared a report and article arguing for the recognition of all relevant learning.

## RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

Steering Committee member Jacqui Rogers-Frere shares her experience serving on AACRAO's Transfer Student Success Work Group. Many thanks to Jacqui!

Throughout the spring semester, I had the opportunity to serve on the [American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers \(AACRAO\)'s Transfer Student Success Work Group](#). This Work Group was tasked with reviewing a variety of transfer-related research in order to create a list of recommended policies and practices in regards to transfer. From there, the standards were set to create AACRAO's "Recognition of Excellence in Supporting Transfer Student Success." This will serve as an institutional badging program that will showcase institutions that are doing outstanding work in regards to transfer.

While putting together the standards, six areas of evaluation were identified: institutional practices impacting access to official transcripts, academic and financial aid advising for outbound transfer students, academic and financial aid advising for inbound transfer students, articulation agreement and/or other mapped pathways, transfer credit evaluation policy and practice, and technology.

Some of these topics touched on "hot topics" across the country. For example, the concept of "loss credits" due to the fact that institutions will not release a student's transcript for various reasons (primarily due to the student having an outstanding debt at the institution). As well, research shows that students who earn Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credits are more likely to graduate, however, very rarely do other institutions accept these credits in transfer.

Serving on this Work Group during Spring 2021 was definitely a rewarding experience. First, it gave me an opportunity to dedicate time to truly dive into the plethora of research on transfer-related topics. Second, the outcome of this Work Group will provide institutions (both two-year and four-year) the opportunity to truly measure their current transfer-related practices and policies. The idea behind the standards set within the institutional badging is to give institutions something to strive towards. For me personally, once the standards are officially released, I plan on using it as part of yearly goal plans to pull one or two items a year to work on.

AACRAO is putting the final touches on the whitepaper and standards, so stay tuned to AACRAO to find out more!