Busting the Myth: Transfer Students Don’t Need Transitional Program

NASIM SCHWAB
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, TRANSFER STUDENT INITIATIVES
“Transfer students must learn to navigate barriers most college students experience that make degree persistence and completing a challenge at least twice, once at their first institution and again when they transfer (Hatton, Homer, Park, 2009).”
HOKIE CONNECT-Transfer Student Peer Mentor Program

CONNECT with other transfer students

CULTIVATE a sense of community and support

CREATE enthusiasm and involvement in campus life
HOKIE CONNECT-Transfer Student Peer Mentor Program
Transfer “FYE”

UNIV 2984
UNLEASHING YOUR HOKIE POTENTIAL
Who am I?
Where am I going?
What are my goals?

1 credit course; various offerings
transitional class for all new transfer students
Transfer Experience LLC

Transfer Experience
A VIRGINIA TECH® LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITY
National Transfer Student Week

I was a transfer student

Transfer Student Advising

NAME: Jarrett Toothman
MAJOR: PPE
HOMETOWN: Grafton, WV
TRANSFERRED FROM: University of Alabama

FAVORITE THING ABOUT VIRGINIA TECH: The people! Everyone is so friendly and welcoming. You instantly feel right at home.

TRANSFERS NEED TO KNOW: Come in with an open mind and enjoy! Also, utilize the many many resources we have on campus. From your fellow classmates to faculty and staff, all are great resources and are ways to help you succeed!

FUN FACT: I love to fish and travel!

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT / ACHIEVEMENTS: I’m a part of Transfer Leadership Council, Young Life College, and am helping to revive an Appalachian Students Association on campus.
Lessons Learned

- Length of the programs
- Timing
- Holistic social support throughout the whole year
- Types of programs
- Open programs to all transfer students
- Small gestures
- FREE FOOD!!!
Transfer Student Support Tool Kit

- Language surrounding their identity
- Their needs
- Normalize their transition
- Build a inclusive community EARLY
- Promote engagement
- Campus collaboration
- Visibility of the community
- Meet them where they are
- Peer to peer support
- Tiers/levels of involvement
- Doesn’t have to be grand gestures
Questions?

Thank you!