Wisconsin Transfer Equity Study

Rebecca Martin
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Education Committee
June 9, 2011
UW-Milwaukee
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

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
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

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
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

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
WTCS Sends More Transfer Students of Color

African-American Students

Latino/Latina Students

Native American Students

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
Benchmarking for Equity and Student Success Tool (BESST) ©

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

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
Too Few Transfer Students Earn Bachelor’s Degrees

Starting Cohort: 224

M 1: 109 (49% progress)

M 2: 37 (34% progress)

End: 27 (12.1% of Original Cohort Graduate)

# Succeed: 115 (72 (63% of End Cohort), 10 (37.0% of End Cohort Graduates))

Source: UWSA OPAR

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
Transfer SOC Experience a “Hump” in Milestone 2

Source: UWSA OPAR

Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California
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

Center for Urban Education,
University of Southern California
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