



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
R. Scott Ralls, President

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 8, 2008
TO: Presidents
FROM: J. Keith Brown
Associate VP, Planning, Accountability, Research & Evaluation
SUBJECT: 2007 Transfer Student Performance Report

Attached is a memorandum from Dr. Scott Jenkins, UNC-General Administration, on the availability of the 2007 Transfer Student Performance Reports. As you are aware, the data for the transfer student performance measure are derived from these reports.

c: Planners

CC08-107
Email Only

Memorandum

To: Presidents of Community Colleges and Private Colleges
From: Scott Jenkins
Date: May 5, 2008
Re: Transfer Student Performance Reports

Three reports on the academic performance of students who transfer from your institution to one of the sixteen UNC institutions are now available at http://www.northcarolina.edu/content.php/assessment/reports/student_info/tsp.htm. The first report provides data on the academic performance of transfers in their first year of attendance. The second report provides information about the transfer rates and academic performance of associate degree graduates of your institution. The third report provides data on the retention, graduation, and persistence of transfers from two-year institutions. The second and third reports are available only to public and private two-year institutions in North Carolina.

The first report is the *original* Transfer Student Performance report. It covers all students who transferred into a UNC institution in the fall of 2006 no matter when they left or graduated from their sending institution. It summarizes their academic performance during the 2006-2007 year and follows a format adopted in 1982-83 for this report. In this report, the definition of *transfer* is a student who applies for admission as a transfer in the fall of 2006, is admitted, and then enrolls. The definition of *sending institution* is the last institution attended by the student. Some students who were enrolled at a UNC institution prior to enrolling at your institution, who then return to their original UNC institution to complete their four-year degree, are not included in this report because they are admitted as “returning” rather than as transfer students.

The second report is in 2 parts and follows a methodology developed in 1995. The first part covers all associate degree recipients who enroll as new transfer students in the fall semester immediately following completion of the associate degree. The second part reports students who completed at least 24 hours at the transfer institution, did not return to the transfer institution and enrolled at a UNC institution in the fall semester. The calculated transfer rate takes into account all associate degree recipients, which we believe to be a good measure of the percent of graduates

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from your institution who enroll at a UNC institution. Grades and other performance information in this report are based on the first two consecutive semesters of coursework taken at a UNC institution. For students transferring in the fall, the data cover the courses taken in the fall and the spring semesters. The value of the current report is that it presents comparative data on the academic performance of native students at UNC institutions, as well as transfers from private colleges and other UNC institutions.

The third report presents data on the retention, graduation, and persistence rates of associate degree graduates compared to those of UNC native rising juniors. In order to have enough students for meaningful calculations, transfer cohorts include the most recent three years of transfers that can be tracked for the period of follow-up. For example, the data on graduation after two years include transfers who entered in the fall of 2002, 2003, and 2004 and were then followed up two years later. The native rising junior cohort in this example would be those students at UNC institutions who, at the start of the fall 2002 semester, had completed 55-70 hours at the UNC institution (having entered as a first-time freshman two or three years earlier). Two additional summary tables show the retention, graduation, and persistence data for students grouped by age: younger than 25, and 25 and older.

With all three reports, we provide a summary report for transfers from all community colleges taken as a group. With the first report, we provide summary reports for transfers from all private two-year and four-year colleges, UNC institutions, out-of-state institutions, etc. These reports permit you to compare the performance of your students to that of transfers from your peer institutions. Copies of all reports for all institutions in North Carolina are posted on the World-Wide Web at http://www.northcarolina.edu/content.php/assessment/reports/student_info/tsp.htm

Questions about these reports should be referred to J. Keith Brown (919/733-7051) at the North Carolina Community College System office, or to Diana Haywood (919/962-4548) at the University of North Carolina General Administration.

Thank you for the attention you give both to these reports and to our shared goal of improving the transfer process in North Carolina.

cc: Erskine Bowles
Scott Ralls
J. Keith Brown
Harold Martin
Alan Mabe
Harry Williams