Harnessing Momentum
Transition and Academic Growth
Annual Report
2022-2023

The Ohio State University
Office of Undergraduate Education
A message from David Graham

On behalf of the TAG staff, I would like to highlight the positive transformation happening within our institution. Our momentum is remarkable as we enter the 2023-2024 academic year, and I am proud to share these incredible achievements and strides in student success with you.

I am delighted to spotlight some noteworthy achievements that underscore our ongoing progress:

- A remarkable 6,955 NFYS participated in summer orientation.
- The TAG Advising staff provided onboarding training for 43 new academic advisors across the university.
- An impressive 98.2% of our 8,000+ Columbus campus first-year students enrolled in the spring term.
- Throughout the academic year, TAG sent 23,690 enrollment nudges via OnCourse.
- The College of Social Work's SOARS interns provided invaluable support with 3,053 student contacts.
- The university achieved a commendable 94.2% retention rate, a one-point improvement from the previous year.
- A noteworthy 96% of SpringForward Summer 2022 participants were retained for their second year.
- EXP students attended over 7,000 appointments.

Every student counts at Ohio State; we firmly believe their stories matter. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to our students for their outstanding accomplishments and express deep gratitude to our faculty and staff for their dedication to fostering student success. It is a privilege to be part of this transformative process, where every story, every achievement, and every contribution is valued and adds to the vibrant mosaic of excellence at Ohio State.

DAVID L. GRAHAM, PHD
ASSISTANT VICE PROVOST FOR
STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS
Overview

Transition and Academic Growth (TAG) was created to be a valued partner for student success, consistently providing innovative programs, services, and resources for students, faculty, and staff. TAG helps students meet three goals: transition smoothly to college, progress in a program of study and graduate on time; and is home to several initiatives that aim to close the retention and graduation rate gap between the overall student body and traditionally underserved populations (underrepresented minority students, first-generation students and low-income students).

Mission

TAG provides academic support and evidence-based resources to empower undergraduate students to develop and realize their full potential for excellence.

Vision

TAG will be a valued partner for student success that consistently provides innovative programs, services, and resources for students, faculty, and staff.
Academic Advising promotes student-centered advising in alignment with reaccreditation standards by supporting long-term student success and progression to graduation and by providing university-wide opportunities in technology, data analytics, advisor trainings and supplementary advising support.

Training

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<td>New Advisors Onboarded</td>
<td>43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours of General Training Offered</td>
<td>140</td>
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<td>Virtual Wellness Day Participants</td>
<td>229</td>
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<td>Mental Health First Aid Certifications</td>
<td>39</td>
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<td>NACADA Conference Presentations</td>
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Collaboration & Student Success

Utilizing reports built by OUR and OESAR, 98 Columbus Campus students were identified as repeating a course three or more times. These students received outreach from the central advising team.

70% of the students improved their performance

63% of students who improved earned a C- or higher

In collaboration with Newark Campus, 167 former Newark students received outreach about applying to receive their Associate of Arts degree. 90% of students opened the email and associate degree applications doubled.
Initiatives

Culturally Responsive Student Support Endorsement

The purpose of this endorsement is to provide academic advisors and other student-support staff with a framework to help guide their selection of, and engagement with, diversity training sessions to help build awareness, confidence and competence when working with students who have diverse identities and backgrounds.

Kudos Campaign

Using OnCourse Population Health, the TAG advisors reached out to 2081 students whose GPA in AU22 represented at least a 0.5 improvement over their cumulative GPA. 59% of student responses indicated that academic advising/advising related interventions contributed significantly to their improvement.

SOARS

The Successful Ongoing Academic Resilience with Social-Work (SOARS) program connects current students with peer professionals in the College of Social Work who are completing their internship requirement. Peer professionals refer students to campus and community-based resources, conduct skills building and education sessions, and offer support and accountability.

![Graph showing progress of endorsement completion]

- Completed: 38.2%
- In Progress: 11.8%
- Not Started: 17.6%
- Discontinued: 11.8%
- Left OSU: 20.6%

- Campus Change Students: 168
- Warning and Probation Students: 300
- Returning Probation Students: 719
- CUSN Cases: 593
- Students with >0.75 GPA Drop: 132
- Transfer Students with 3+ Previous Institutions: 100+
Academic Success Programs

Academic Success Programs (ASP) encompasses three unique but collaborative areas: Buckeyes First, First Year Experience, and SpringForward. Each program uses a tiered model of support to prioritize outreach and support to students:

**Universal Engagement**
All students are served by our programs

**Supplementary Intervention**
Scalable interventions employed to support specific student populations

**Intensive Intervention**
Elevated and coordinated care for specially-identified students

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Buckeyes First

Buckeyes First provides programming and academic coaching for first-generation students (neither parent has earned a 4-year degree).

Buckeyes First Scholars Program first-year participants have a 5% higher GPA and take 15% more credits than other first-generation students who are not part of the scholars program.
First Year Experience

First Year Experience supports all new, first-year students with an emphasis on data model-identified students who may benefit from additional outreach and resources.

- Tier 1 NFYS to PL Ratio: 320:1
- Tier 2 NFYS to PL Ratio (AU22): 49:1
- Tier 2 NFYS to PL Ratio (SP23): 46:1
- Tier 2 URM: 22%
- Tier 2 First Generation (AU22): 41%
- Tier 2 First Generation (SP23): 44%
- 6,955 NFYS attended orientation
- Over 3,150 outreach attempts to Tier 2 NFYS

SpringForward

SpringForward is an academic recovery program for students to improve their success in the classroom.

- Pell Eligible: 53%
- Underrepresented Minority: 61%
- First Generation: 53%
- 209 SPRINGFORWARD CONNECTED STUDENTS
- 96% Retained to Year 2
- 6.6% Overall Increase in Students’ Cum. GPA
- 22% Overall increase in Students’ Term GPA

- 1,190 Total appointments with SpringForward Staff
- 233 students enrolled in ESEPSY 2059 course
OnCourse

OnCourse is a student academic success platform used by students, faculty, and staff to communicate, collaborate, and create a coordinated care network across the university.

Progress Reports

Through OnCourse, instructors can submit student progress reports that automatically alert each student’s supporting staff members.

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<th>17.7%</th>
<th>4.4%</th>
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<td>COURSES FAILED AFTER INSTRUCTOR REPORTED CONCERNS</td>
<td>COURSES FAILED AFTER INSTRUCTOR REPORTED CONCERNS &amp; STUDENTS HAD SUPPORT APPT(S) AFTERWARDS</td>
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17,369 students received progress reports
95,669 progress reports were issued

Enrollment Campaigns

23,690
Enrollment reminder nudges sent annually

890
Students in summer nudges enrolled in AU 23

+$11 MILLION
TUITION REVENUE*

*estimated using Columbus campus in-state tuition ‘23-’24 from undergrad.osu.edu/cost-and-aid/basic-costs
Ambassador Program

Participants in the OnCourse Ambassador's Program gain an in-depth understanding of the role that OnCourse can play in helping their units. New cohorts of ambassadors are mentored by previous year's ambassadors and all complete a student success related project.

23 COLLEGES/DEPARTMENTS REPRESENTED

90% OF AMBASSADORS ARE STILL EMPLOYED AT OHIO STATE

“…Having one centralized system to track students’ academic journey, progress, and interactions is imperative when providing coordinated support to students and removing silos between areas.

-Amanda Donahue, SpringForward Program Manager”

Plans for Expansion

Automate

- notifications and emails based on student success indicators

Collect

- appointment feedback to support scheduling improvements

Implement

- success markers to track student completion of new GE

Integrate

- with Canvas assignment data

Update

- the predictive model to guide student retention and early outreach

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University Exploration

University Exploration helps students evaluate Ohio State’s more than 200 majors before making an official commitment. Through a series of assessments and engagement with professional academic advisors, students learn about their academic options while taking course work that keeps them on track for a timely graduation.

Students attended over 7,000 appointments
992 students enrolled in EXP 1100 & EXP 2000

University Exploration and Transition & Academic Growth took over the University’s administration of the Focus 2 Career student interest inventory and career/major matching tool in May of 2022 and revamped the University’s version leading to a relaunch of the tool to the Ohio State community in August 2022.

NFYS 49.9%
Campus Change 20.6%
Transfer 29.5%
1,870 TOTAL EXP STUDENTS

RATES FOR NFYS:
94% PERSISTENCE AU22 TO SP23
89% RETENTION AU22 TO AU23

3,822 New users in Focus 2 Career
65 Staff users interacting in Focus 2 Career
NFYS Squad
The NFYS “Scarlet” Squad focuses on working with students who enter Exploration as new first year students.

Students in EXP 1100.01 gave feedback via Qualtrics regarding recitation topics:

- 89% Found REC on types of Majors to be useful
- 93% Found REC on Gen Ed curriculum and Degree Audits to be useful
- 91% Found REC on scheduling for Spring Semester useful

KCC Squad
The KCC “Gray” Squad focuses on working with students who are coming to the Columbus campus as transfer or campus change students.

- 87 NEW TRANSFER STUDENTS MOVED INTO DEGREE PROGRAMS
- 30 STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS ELIGIBLE FOR LEGACY GE PETITIONS

Navigated changes to Engineering admission process and advised students about “Big 4” specializations.
Partnered with TAG to engage in outreach to Campus Change and Transfer students.
Expanded use of OnCourse to provide targeted outreach to Campus Change and Transfer Students.

Moving Forward
Now that our KCC and NFYS Squads have had time to adjust to the new structure, we are taking advantage of our more specialized focus to innovate and be more proactive with our outreach, programming, teaching, and initiatives for our populations. Upcoming initiatives:

- Increase resources for students interested in/optioned from Engineering and Business
- Create more opportunities for connection with Transfer and Campus Change students.
- Innovate and evolve EXP 1100 and 2000 offerings to align with GEN
University Innovation Alliance

The University Innovation Alliance (UIA) is the leading national coalition of public research universities committed to increasing the number and diversity of college graduates in the United States. As a founding member, Ohio State University continues to engage with initiatives to support the university’s completion plan and alliance goals.

Black Student Success Initiative (BSSI)

BSSI will create a coordinated care network for undergraduate students and centralize campus resources.

BSSI Project Plan

- Inventory support services across all campuses.
- Provide all enrolled Black students with academic, personal, and professional success opportunities for support throughout their academic journey.
- A student service initiative: monitoring student success, and ensuring students are connected to and receiving support from an existing student success unit or program.
- Leverage the Cross-University Support Network, OnCourse, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Office of Student Life, Drake Center for Teaching and Learning, and academic college partners to identify and support students.

New for Spring 2024

In partnership with Education and Human Ecology’s (EHE) QualLab and faculty support, we are conducting a qualitative study to learn more about the experiences of our BSSI campus change and transfer students: u.osu.edu/quallab/
Acknowledgements

We want to thank our many colleagues who participate in the various communities of practices that have been incredibly valuable for our team’s success. Your commitment and willingness to collaborate have been instrumental in achieving our shared goals.

Academic Advising Association of The Ohio State University (ACADAOS)
Academic Standing Group
Advising Admins
Campus Change and Transfer Student Working Group
Cross University Support Network (CUSN)
First Scholars Network
First-gen Steering Committee
Kessler Scholars Implementation Committee

New Student Orientation
OnCourse Ambassadors
Pre-enrollment Programs Committee
Regional Campus Advisors
SpringForward Steering Committee
Student Academic Success Programs and Research (SASPR)
Student Athlete Advising Review
University Innovation Alliance Campus Partners

We are grateful for the support and encouragement you've provided.
Thank you again for your contributions.

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