Transforming the Transfer Experience: Changing Landscapes for Transfer Students in NY

NISTS Annual Conference
JW Marriott Buckhead Atlanta, GA

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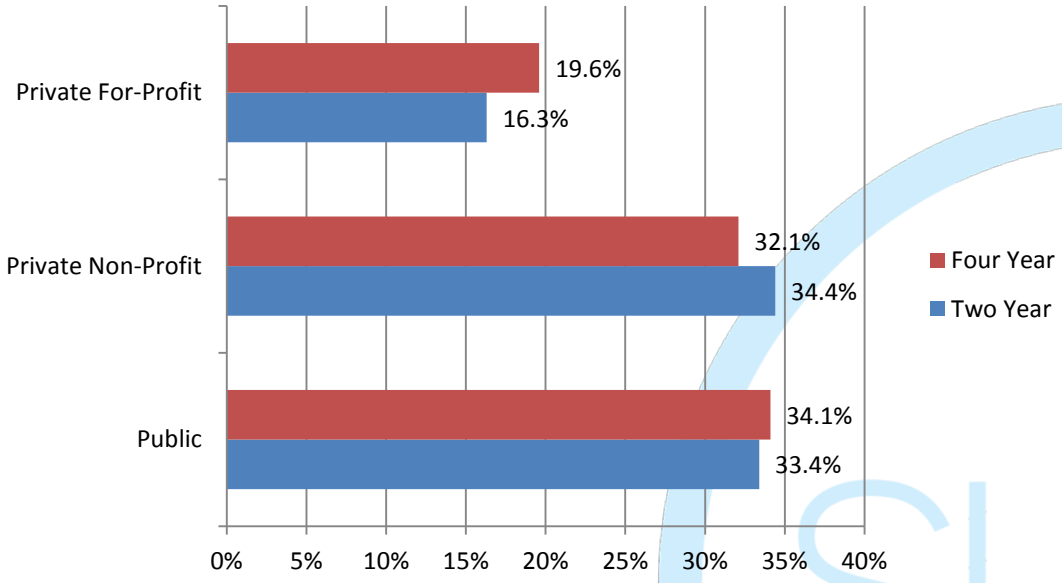
Outline:

- **Overview of Student Mobility**
  - Enrollment Trends
    - National
    - SUNY
- **Where Does SUNY Stand?**
  - Comparing Metrics
- **Supporting Transfer**
- **DegreeWorks**
- **Credit When It's Due Initiative**
- **SUNY Reverse Transfer**
    - Project Overview
    - Transfer Tools
    - DegreeWorks Integration
- **Moving Forward**
    - System Actions
    - Campus Actions

National Context

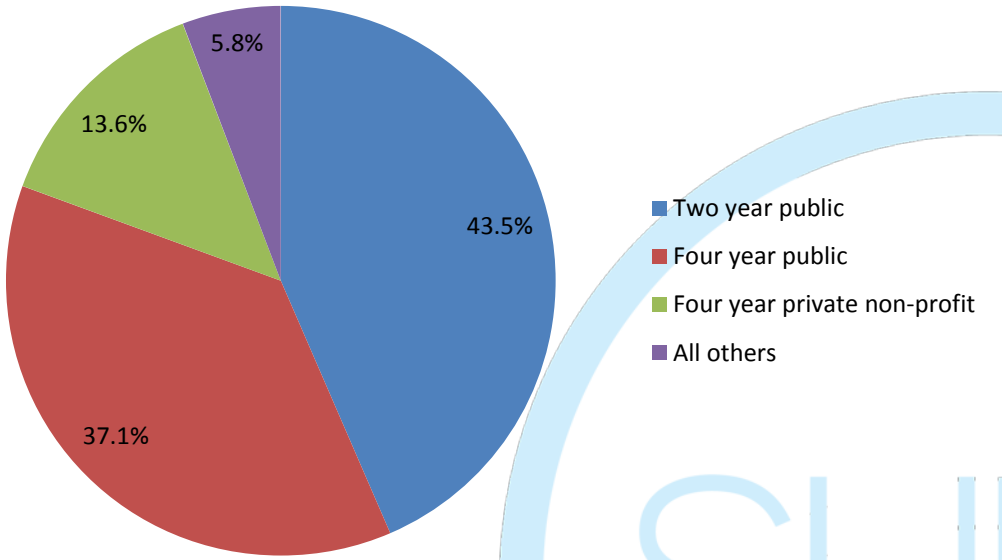
- **Sending Institutions**
  - **33.1% of all students transferred at least once within 5 years (2006-2011).**
  - **These trends are similar for public/private non-profits, while for-profits have lower rates of transfer:**



Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Transfer and Mobility: A National View of Pre-Degree Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions (February, 2012).

National Context

- **Receiving Institutions**
  - **The most prevalent destination for transfer students?**
    ***Two year public institutions* (including lateral/reverse transfer).**



Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Transfer and Mobility (February, 2012): A National View of Pre-Degree Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions (February, 2012).

National Context

- **Other patterns:**
  - **Timing**
    - **Most common year of transfer was during the 2nd year (37.1%)**
    - **Almost half transfer during year 3 (25.2%) or later (22.2%).**
  - **27% cross state lines**
  - **25% transfer more than once**

Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center (February, 2012). Transfer and Mobility: A National View of Pre-Degree Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions.

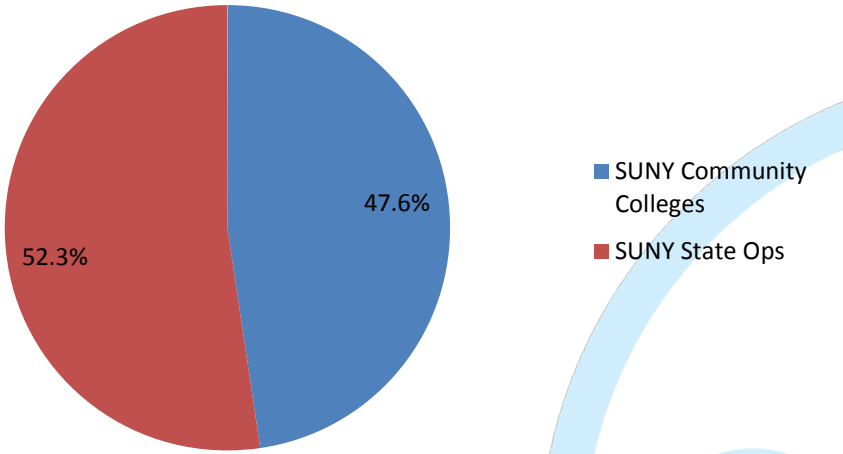
National Context

- **Key Points:**
  - **Students are increasingly mobile, and transfer patterns are increasingly complex.**
  - **These trends are expected to continue and accelerate.**

Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center (February, 2012). Transfer and Mobility: A National View of Pre-Degree Student Movement in Postsecondary Institutions.

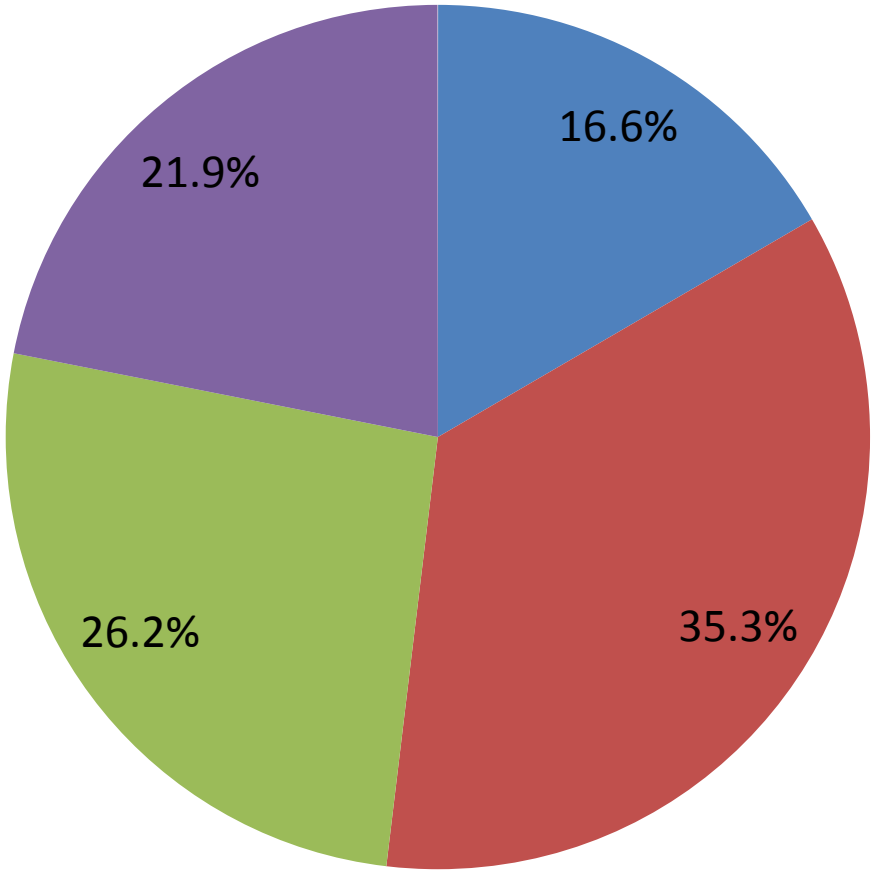
We can see similar patterns within SUNY:

- For all students who earned an undergraduate degree in 2010-2011
  - 46.4% of baccalaureate degrees; and
  - 27.1% of associate degrees were awarded to transfer students.
- On a semester-by-semester basis, among all students who transferred to SUNY campuses (AY 2007-08 – AY 2010-11):



- Similar to the national trend, SUNY 2 year campuses are a popular destination for transfer students.

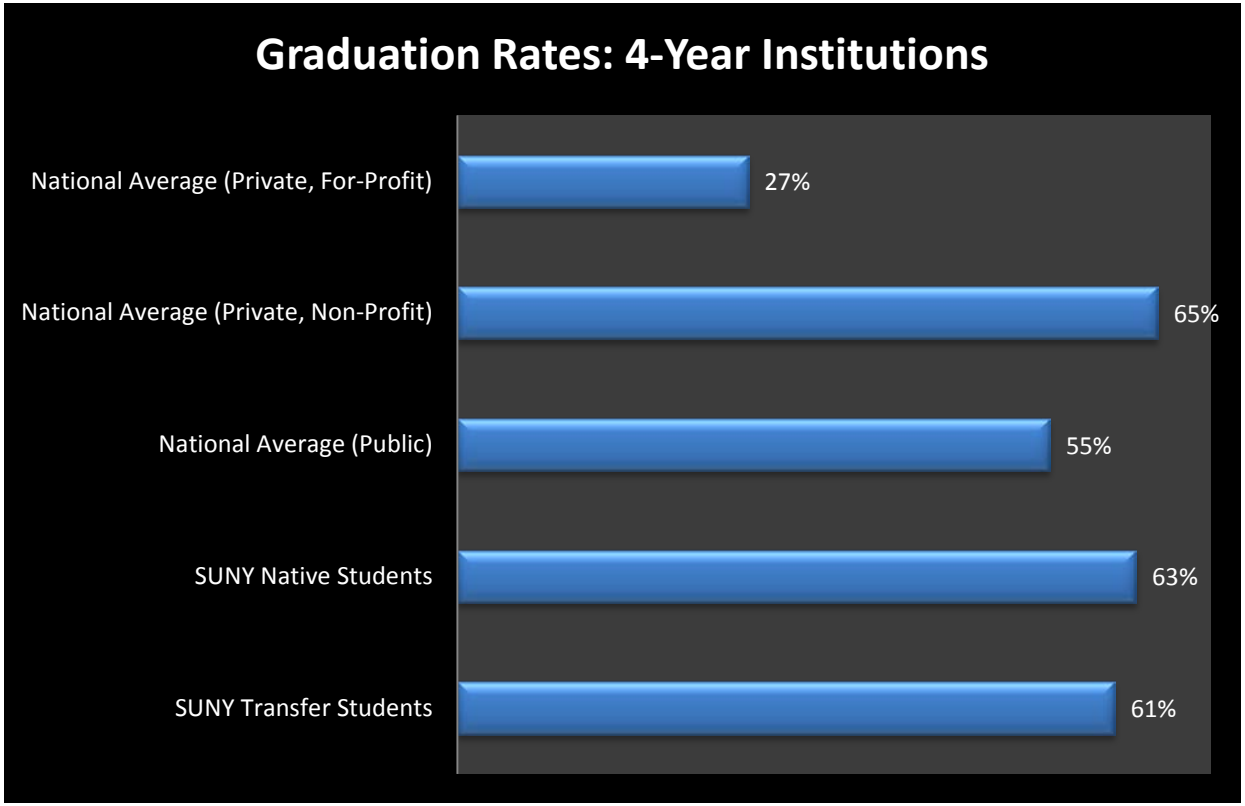
SUNY Transfer Patterns



Key Points:

- **Transfer is everyone's business**
  - **SUNY campuses in *all* sectors are both senders and receivers.**
- **As a system, we must strive to support omnidirectional transfer student success.**

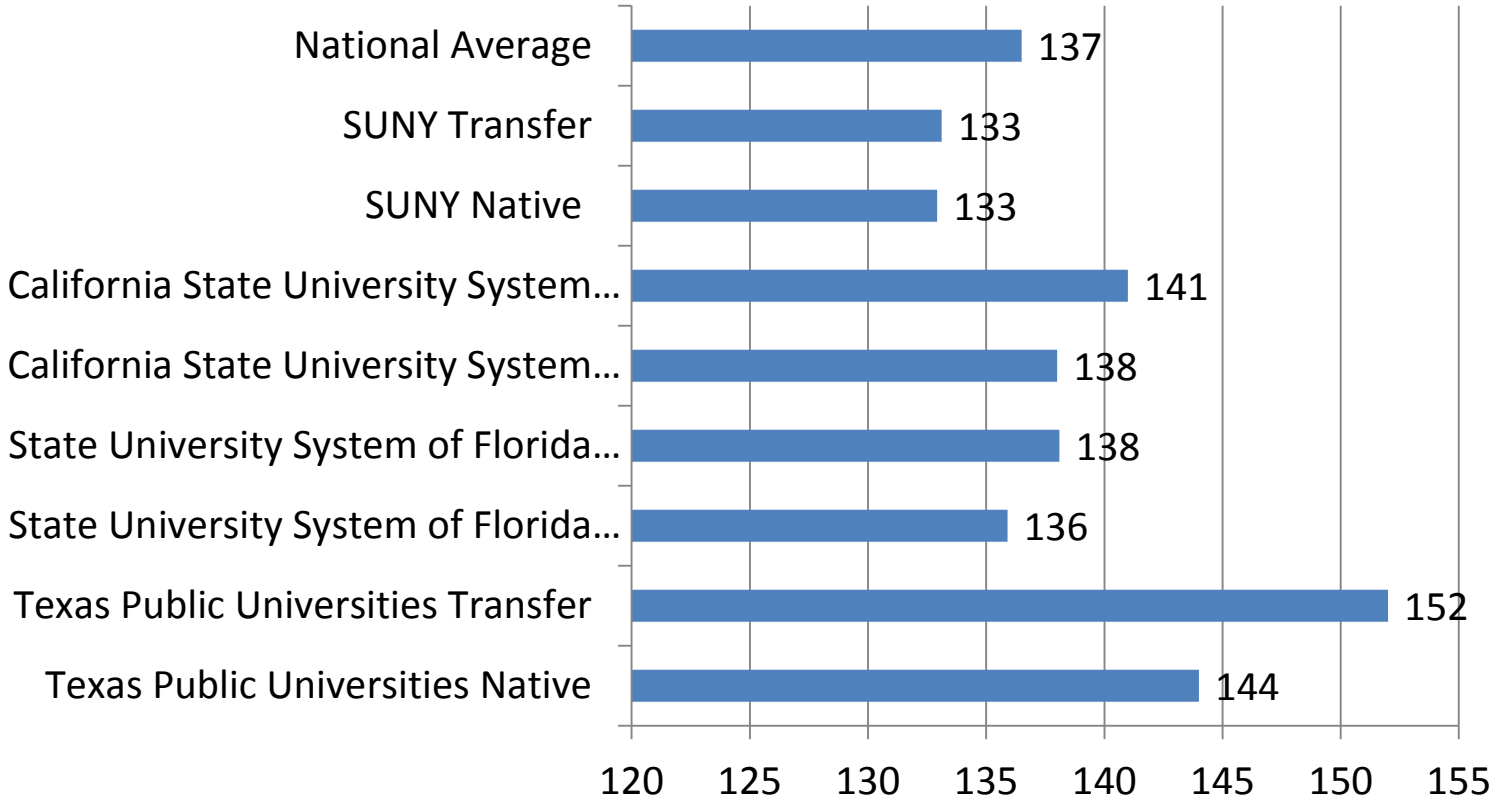
How SUNY Measures Up



All using 2009-2010, six-year graduation data.
Sources: SUNY System Administration (SUNY Averages), IPEDS (National Averages).

How SUNY Measures Up

Average Earned Credits of Baccalaureate Degree Recipients (2009-10)



SUNY Policies

A Basis for Seamless Transfer

All SUNY A.A and A.S. graduates are guaranteed:

- **Transfer of 60 credits of coursework toward the bachelor's degree.**
- **Up to 30 credits of general education courses in ten subject areas.**
- **No repeat courses with the same (at least 70%) content.**
- **Transfer to at least one SUNY 4-year campus.**

SUNY Policies

Making Seamless Transfer Work – Beyond General Education

Major Requirements in the first two years:

-37 Transfer Paths (58 majors) in the most popular disciplines.

-Covers 95% of all transfer students within SUNY.

-140 core courses defined by faculty committees.

-Over 400 faculty from both 2 year + 4 year campuses.

-Nearly 15,000 courses in the mobility database.

-These courses are guaranteed to transfer to SUNY campuses.

Seamless Transfer Resolution

Following two years of discussion and consultation, in December 2012, the SUNY Trustees adopted a resolution on seamless transfer

- Sets specific requirements to address key barriers to transfer, completion and success:
  - General Education
    - 7 of 10 areas and 30 credits of general education completed in the first 60 credits of all A.A., A.S. and bachelor's degrees AND
  - Courses in the Major
    - Transfer Path courses in the major and cognates in A.A. and A.S. programs sufficient for junior status
  - Credit cap set for associate's programs = 64 credits
  - Credit cap set for bachelor's programs = 126

Evidence: SUNY-General Education Requirements

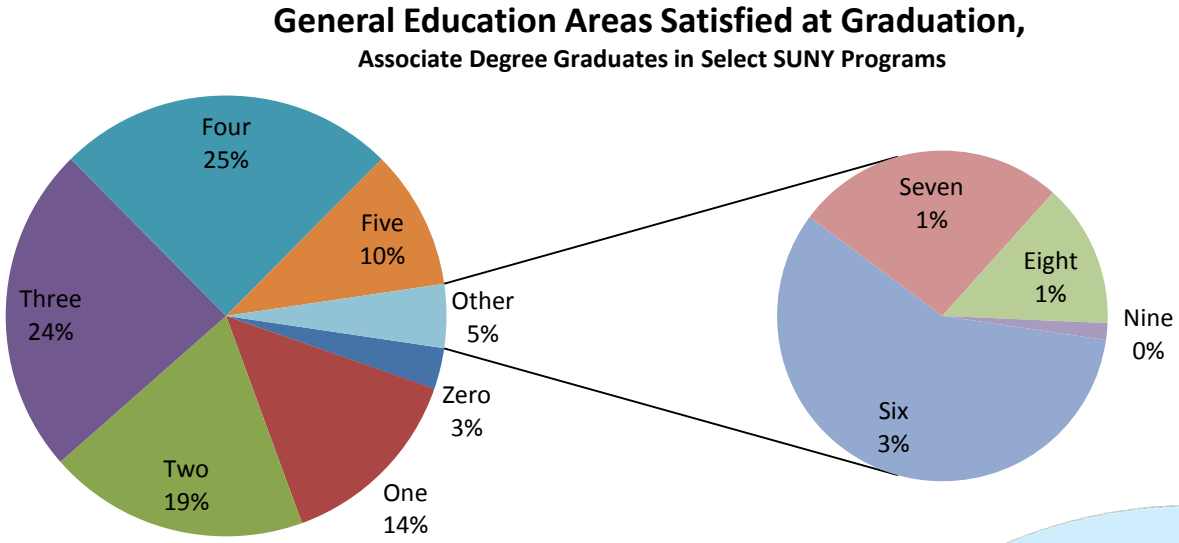
General Education Requirements for Bachelor Degrees		
University system or campus	Credits/Courses	Areas
State University of New York	**30 credits**	**7 content areas; 2 competencies**
Arizona Statewide Transfer System	**35 credits**	**5 content areas**
University of Texas-Austin	39 credits	9 areas and freshman signature course
Tennessee Board of Regents	**41 credits**	**6 content areas**
Pennsylvania State University	45 credits	2 skill areas; 5 knowledge areas
University of Michigan Ann Arbor*	45 credits	5 content areas
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	48 credits	3 broad areas
UC Berkeley *	7 courses	7 content areas
Harvard	8 courses	8 content areas

* Indicates sample program, not university-wide requirements.

Proven Results:

- Tennessee
  - ✓ Increased graduation rates: *25 points higher* for completers of the entire core in a matched sample of transfer students
  - ✓ Higher GPAs
  - ✓ Decreased time to degree (Tennessee Board of Regents, 2013)
- Arizona
  - ✓ Students with associate + general education complete more likely to complete bachelor's degree.
  - ✓ Students with associate without general education complete no more likely to complete a bachelor's degree than transfer students with credits and no associate degree (Hezel Associates, 2007)

Evidence: SUNY-General Education Requirements



Source: SUNY Data Warehouse, N=5,167.

SUNY Students:

- 33 Gen Ed Credits on Average
- Most fulfilling 3-4 categories
  - ✓ Most common: Natural science, Social Science, Humanities
  - ✓ Less common: History, Western Civilization, Other World Civilization

Evidence: Major Requirements

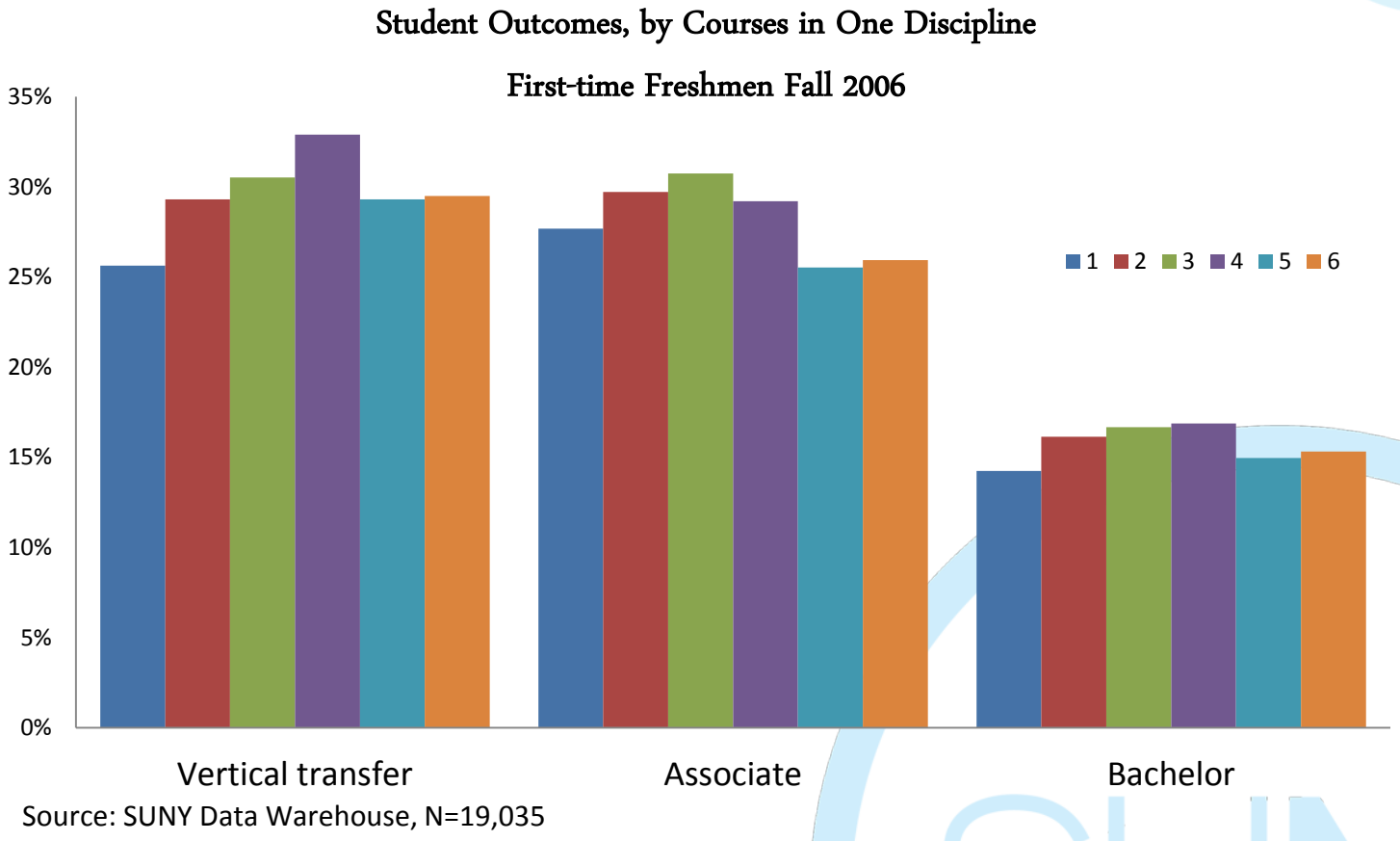
Requiring programs to clearly define foundational courses and transfer paths accomplishes two distinct and important goals:

- ✓ Encourages students to enter a specific field of study.
- ✓ Aligns upper and lower division coursework

Evidence:

- Internal study of SUNY students in CC General Studies programs echoed findings from student success literature (Jenkins & Cho, 2012).
- The more courses a student completed within one discipline (typically up to 3-5 courses), the more likely students were to:
  - ✓ Transfer vertically
  - ✓ Attain an associate degree
  - ✓ Attain a bachelors degree

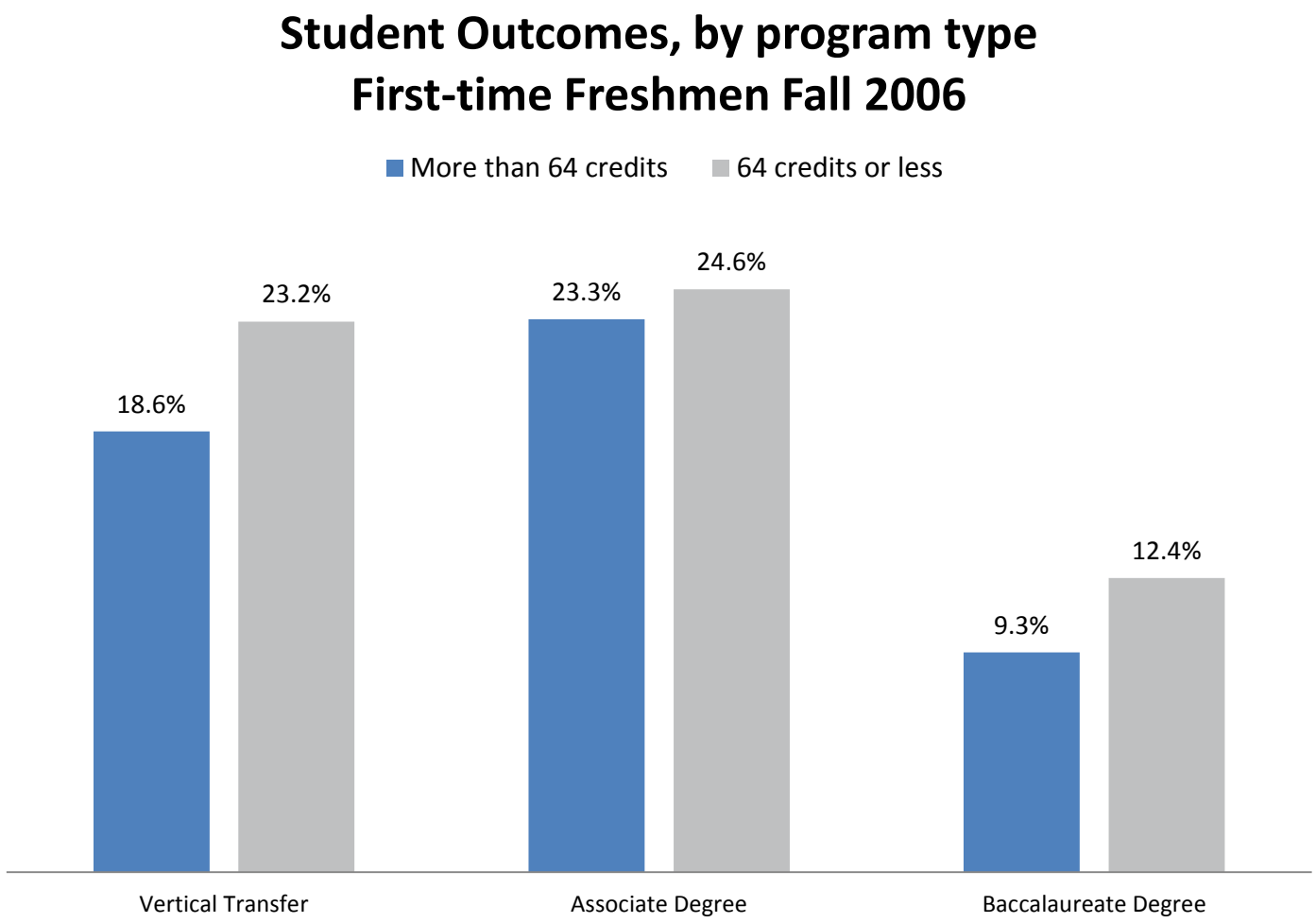
Structure: Major Requirements



Source: SUNY Data Warehouse, N=19,035

*Data is limited on students taking more than five courses in one discipline.

Evidence: Credit Caps



Source: SUNY Data Warehouse, N=21,495

Seamless Transfer

Seamless transfer is supported by current policy,

but *students must take the right coursework:*

At least 7 of 10 Gen Ed categories

+

at least four courses in the major (and cognates)

=

Seamless Transfer

General Education Implementation

- **18 of 26 state-ops have adopted 7 of 10, 30 credits**
  - -Two have moved to 7/10 this summer.
  - -The remaining campuses require 10 of 10 categories.
  - -More campuses are moving toward 7/10/30.

- **15 Community Colleges require 7 of 10** (but do not specify 30 credits)

- **10 others recommend 7/10/30 for transfer to SUNY**

  Variability exists at the program level:

  -At most campuses gen ed requirements that vary by program

  -For example, a recent review of AA/AS programs at one of the requiring campuses shows that only 11 of 23 AA/AS programs actually require 7 or more categories

Advancing Mobility

A coordinated effort is needed for improvement. Both 2-year and 4-year campuses should move toward accepting AND requiring:

- **7 of 10, 30 credit general education requirements**
- **Guaranteed core courses in the major**

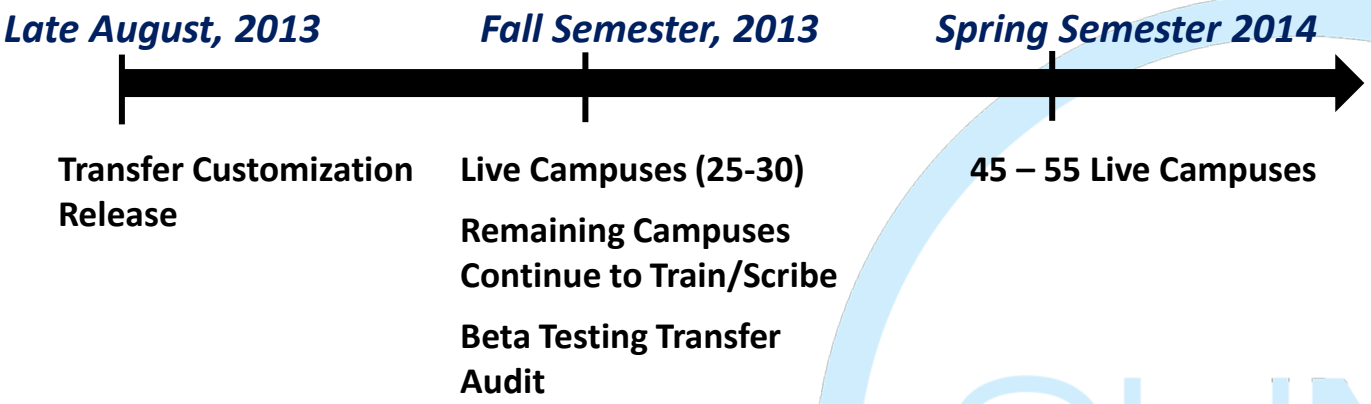
Advisement is key:

- **Students must know what coursework to take as early as possible in their studies.**

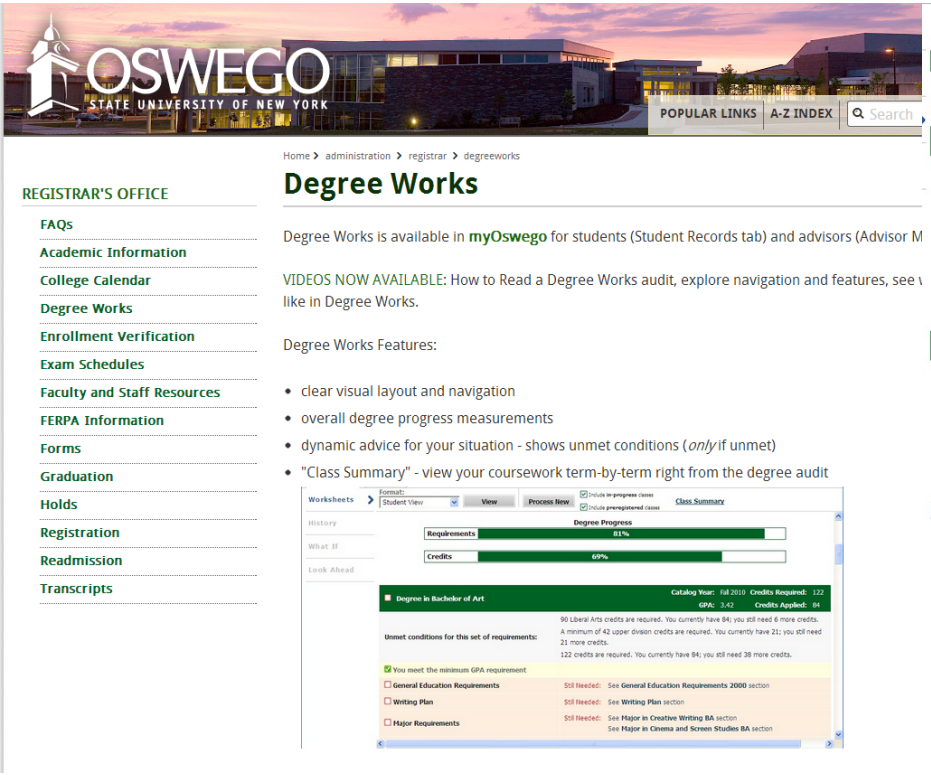
SUNY Degree Planning & Audit Tool

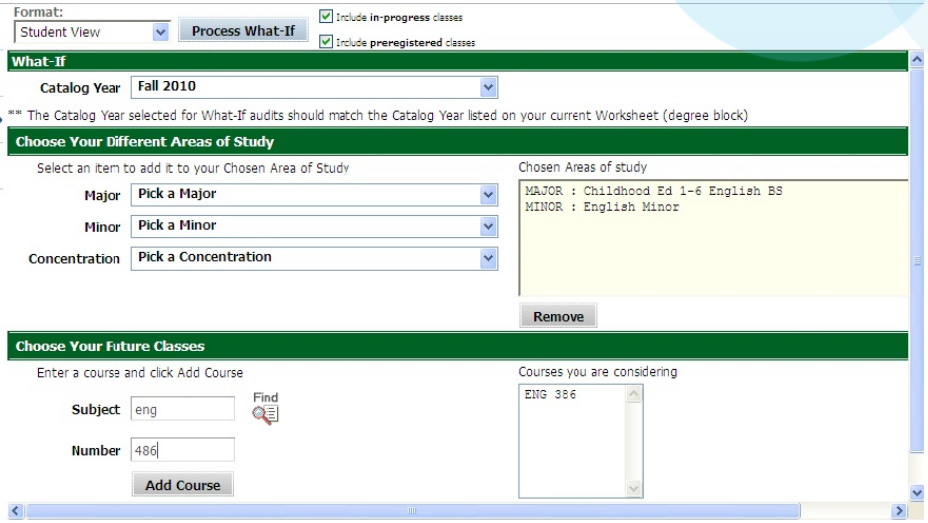
Every SUNY undergraduate student will have comprehensive, interactive degree planning services at every SUNY institution, with the ability for students considering transfer to assess degree progress at other SUNY institutions.

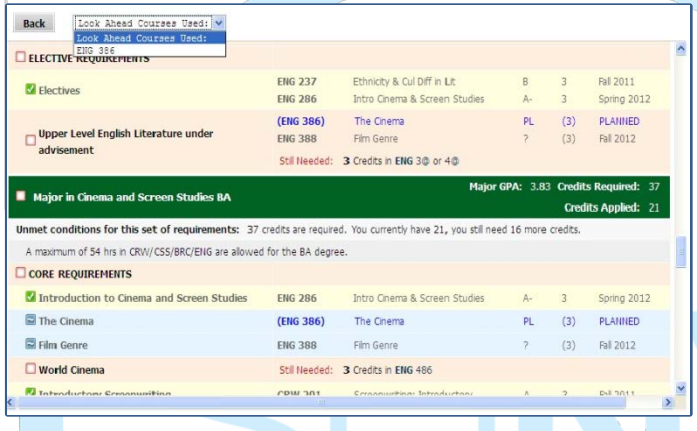
Implementation Update



It's Alive!

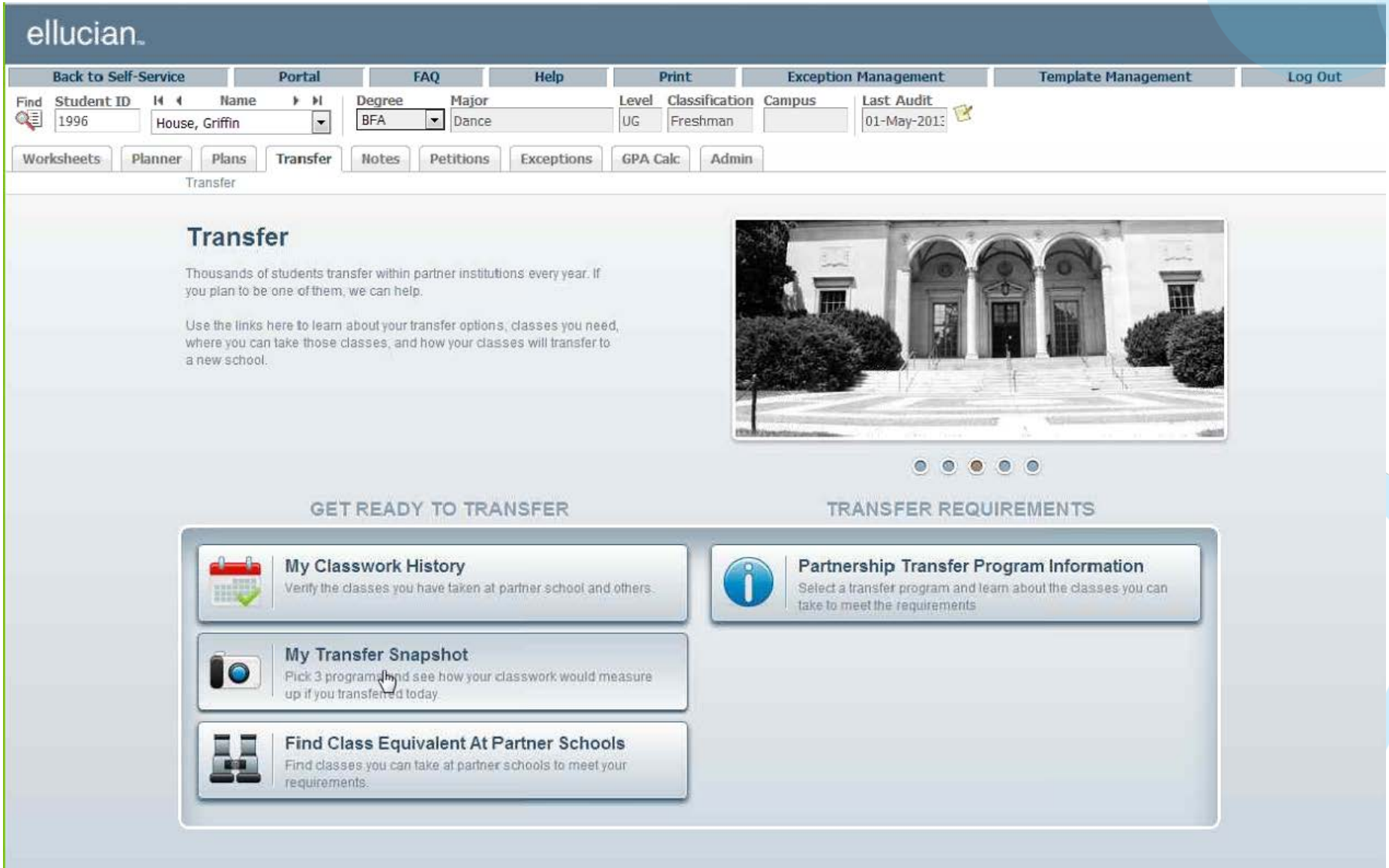






- *11 Campuses in production now: Oswego, Geneseo, New Paltz, Plattsburgh, Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, Cobleskill, Herkimer, MVCC, Potsdam*
- *Covering approximately 66,000 students (Fall, 2012 enrollments)*

Transfer Customization



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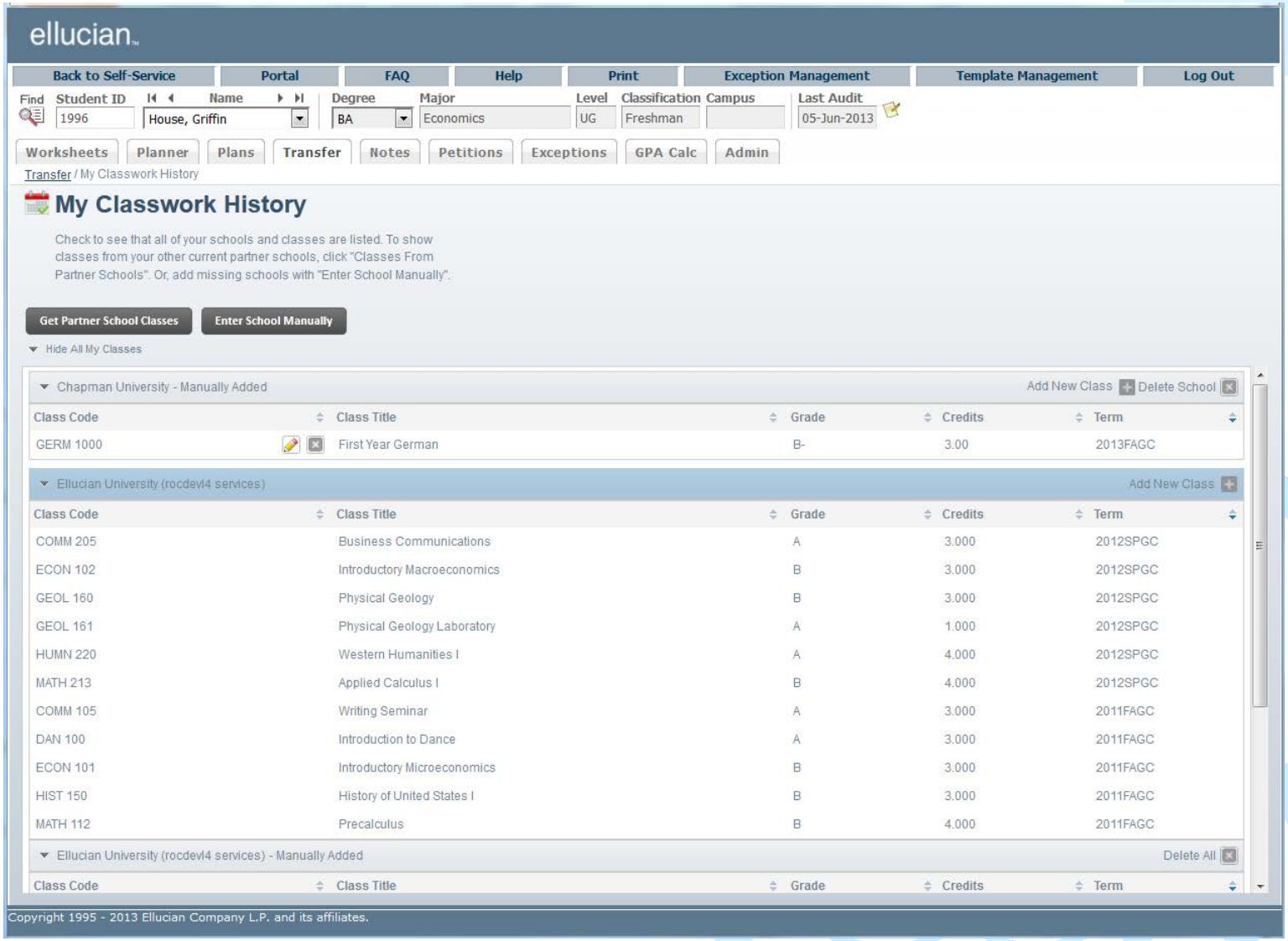

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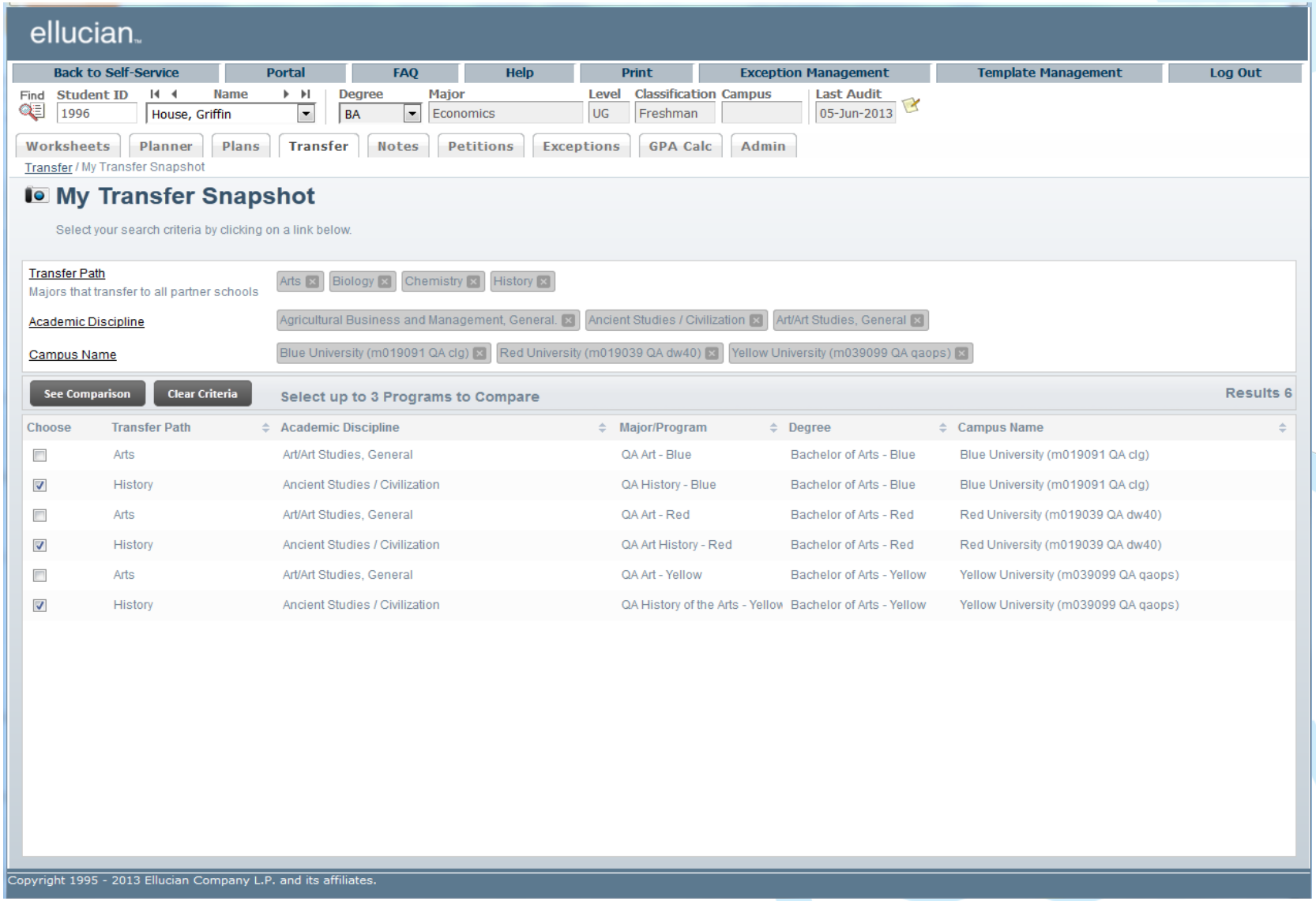

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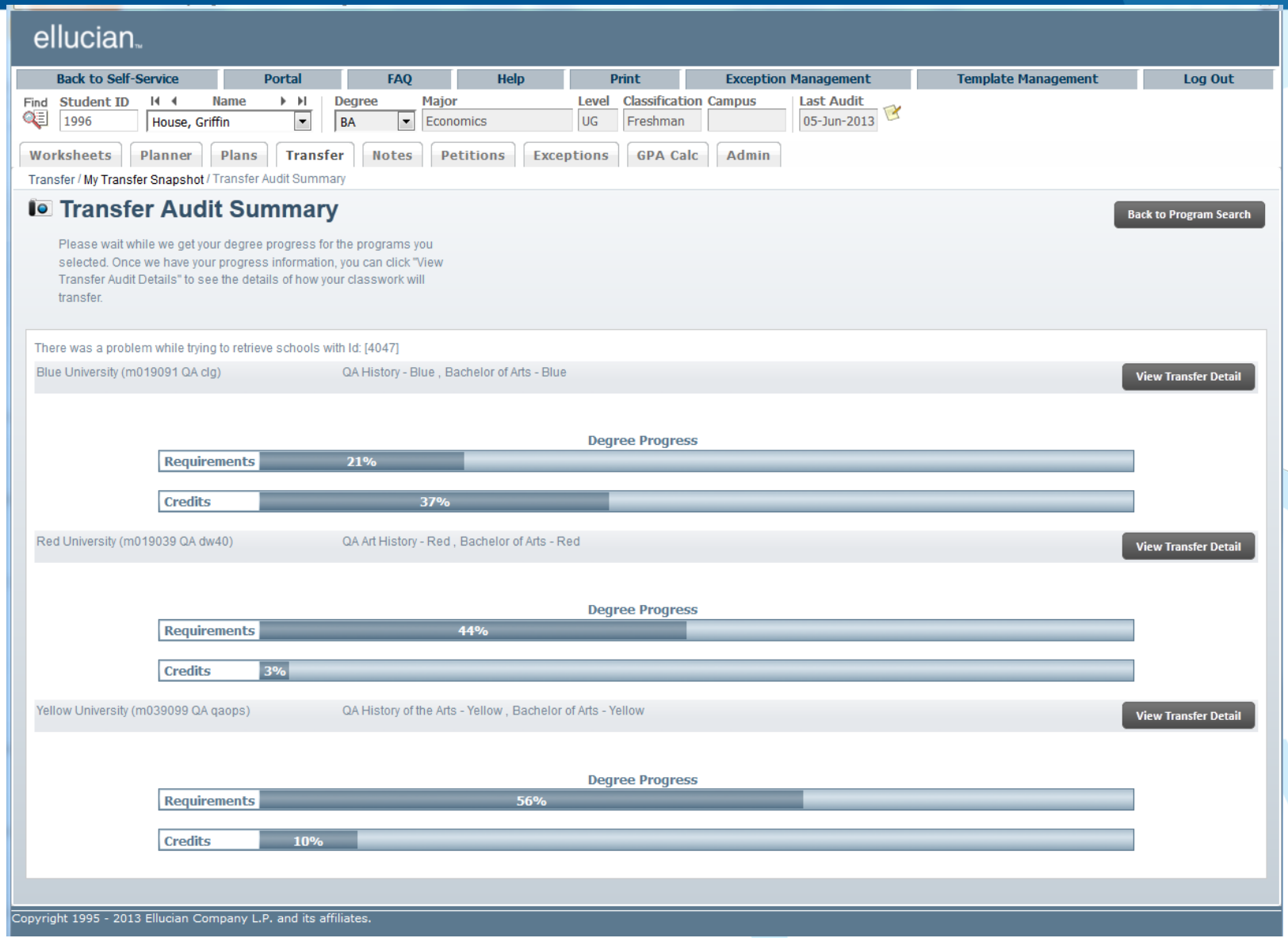
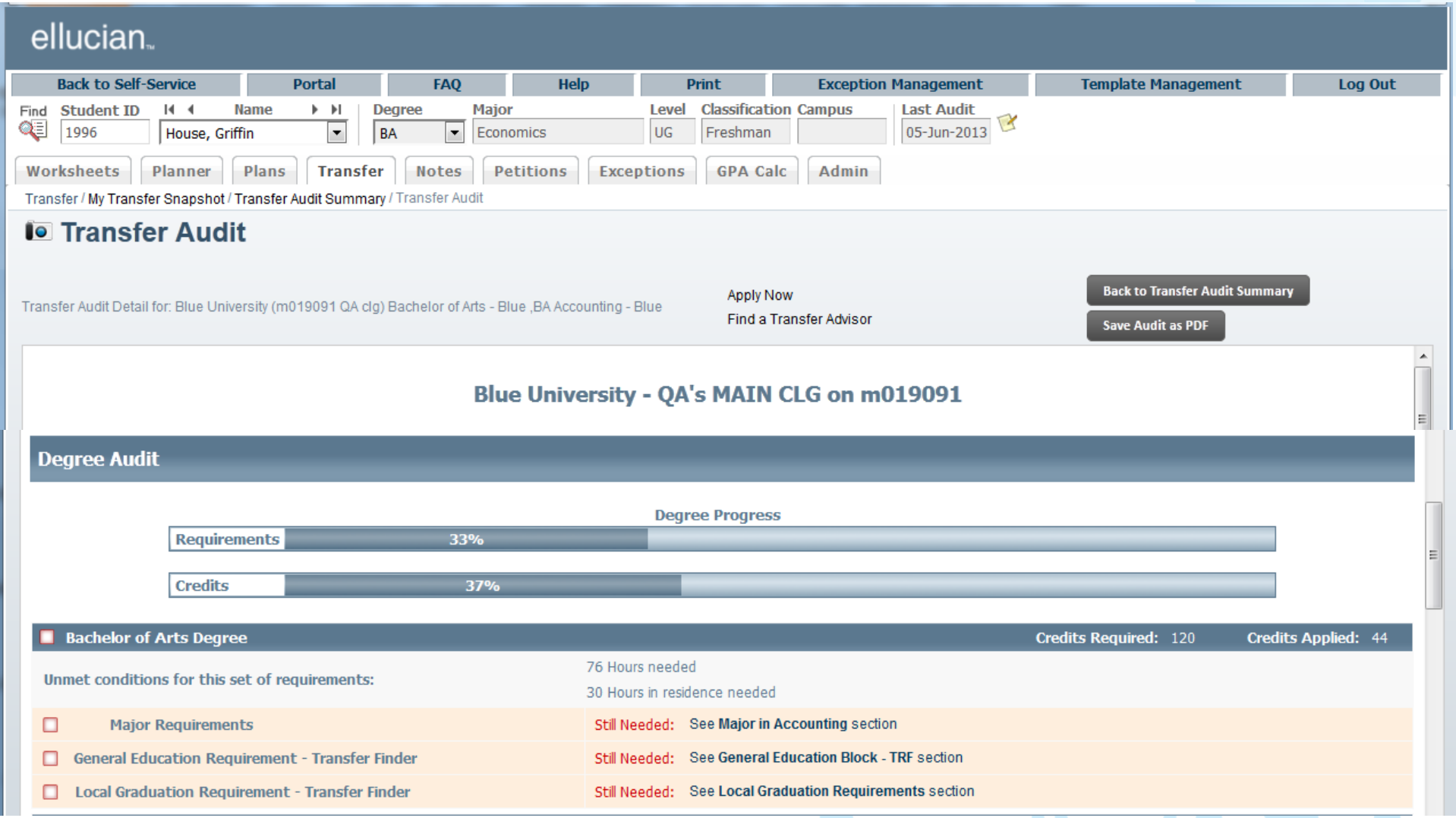


Transfer Customization



Transfer Customization

Major in Accounting					Credits Required: 60	Credits Applied: 12
Unmet conditions for this set of requirements:	60 credits are required. You currently have 12, you still need 48 more credits. A minimum of 30 credits must be taken in residence. A minimum of 9 credits in 300-level MGMT courses taken in residence are required. You have taken 0 but need 9 more credits. A minimum of 12 credits in 300-level ACCT courses taken in residence are required. You have taken 0 but need 12 more credits.					
☑ Introduction to Financial Accounting	ACCT 102B Satisfied by	Intro to Financial Accounting - Blue ACCT 102R - Intro to Financial Accounting - Red University	B	3	2007/FA	
☑ Introduction to Managerial Accounting	ACCT 103B Satisfied by	Information Tech for Business - Blue MGMT 250R - Information Tech for Business - Red University	A	3	2007/FA	
☐ Managerial Accounting I	Still Needed: 1 Class in ACCT 270B					
☐ Intermediate Financial Accounting I	Still Needed: 1 Class in ACCT 301B In residence = Y					
☐ Intermediate Financial Accounting II	Still Needed: 1 Class in ACCT 302B In residence = Y					
☐ Tax Accounting I	Still Needed: 1 Class in ACCT 310B					
☐ Auditing I	Still Needed: 1 Class in ACCT 320B					
☐ 300-level Accounting Elective	Still Needed: 1 Class in ACCT 3@ Except ACCT 395 or 399					
☑ Introductory Microeconomics	ECON 101B Satisfied by	Introductory Microeconomics - Blue ECON 101 - Introductory Microeconomics - Ellucian University	B	3	2010/FA	
☑ Introductory Macroeconomics	ECON 102B Satisfied by	Introductory Macroeconomics - Blue ECON 102 - Introductory Macroeconomics - Ellucian University	B	3	2012/SP	

Transfer Customization

☐	Business and Economic Statistics	Still Needed: 1 Class in ECON 202B
☐	Information Technology for Business	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 250B
☐	Business Law I	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 263B
☐	Business Law II	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 264B
☐	Organizational Behavior	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 300B
☐	Quantitative Methods	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 305B
☐	Managerial Finance	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 311B
☐	International Finance	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 316B
☐	Marketing	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 331B
☐	Strategic Management	Still Needed: 1 Class in MGMT 390B

☐ General Education Block - TRF

Special General Education category check:

You have completed at least 7 out of the 10 GETA categories - way to go!
You did complete the required Mathematics category - good for you!
You did complete the required Basic Communication category - good for you!
You need to apply at least 30 credits towards the 7-of-10 categories. You only applied 19 credits.

☑	BASIC COMMUNICATIONS				
	COMM 105B	Writing Seminar - Blue	A	3	2010/FA
	Satisfied by	COMM 105 - Writing Seminar - Ellucian University			
☑	MATHEMATICS				
	MATH 112B	Precalculus - Blue	B	4	2010/FA
	Satisfied by	MATH 112 - Precalculus - Ellucian University			
☑	NATURAL SCIENCES				
	GEOL 160B	Physical Geology Lab - Blue	A	1	2012/SP
	Satisfied by	GEOL 161 - Physical Geology Laboratory - Ellucian University			
☑	SOCIAL SCIENCES				
	HUMN 220B	Western Humanities I - Blue	A	4	2012/SP
	Satisfied by	HUMN 220 - Western Humanities I - Ellucian University			
☐	Humanities	Still Needed: 1 Class in HUM @			
☑	AMERICAN HISTORY				
	HIST 150B	History of United States I - Blue	B	3	2010/FA
	Satisfied by	HIST 150 - History of United States I - Ellucian University			

Transfer Customization

☐	Western Civilization	Still Needed:	**1** Class in WEST @			
☐	Other World Civilizations	Still Needed:	**3** Credits in WRLD @			
☑	THE ARTS					
		DAN 100B	Introduction to Dance - Blue	A	3	2010/FA
		Satisfied by	DAN 100 - Introduction to Dance - Ellucian University			
☑	FOREIGN LANGUAGE					
		ELEC 999	No specific mapping found - elective credit	B	1	2007/FA
		Satisfied by	SPAN 101R - First Year French - Red University			

Local Graduation Requirements

In addition to the above general education requirements, Blue University has the following local graduation requirements, which may be satisfied by your transfer classwork.

☐ Social and Behavioral Sciences	Still Needed:	2 Classes with Social & Behavioral GE98 &2000 Attribute Type from 2 different departments - check Course Availability.
☐ Tolerance and Intolerance in the U.S.	Still Needed:	1 Class with Tolerance & Intol. GE98 & 2000 Attribute Type - check Course Availability.
☐ Intellectual Issues	Still Needed:	2 Classes with Attribute Types: Self & Society GE98 & 2000, Cultures & Civiliz. GE98 &2000, Explor. in Nat. Sci. GE98&2000. Check Course Availability.

Transfer Customization

Fallthrough Courses			Credits Applied: 13	Classes Applied: 5
COMM 205B	Business Communication - Blue	A	3	2012/SP
	Satisfied by: COMM 205 - Business Communications - Ellucian University			
ELEC 999	No specific mapping found - elective credit	B-	0	2012/FA
	Satisfied by: GERM 1000 - First Year German - Chapman University			
GEOL 160B	Physical Geology - Blue	B	3	2012/SP
	Satisfied by: GEOL 160 - Physical Geology - Ellucian University			
HUMN 220B	Intro to Managerial Accounting - Blue	B	3	2007/FA
	Satisfied by: ACCT 103R - Intro to Managerial Accounting - Red University			
MATH 213B	Applied Calculus - Blue	B	4	2012/SP
	Satisfied by: MATH 213 - Applied Calculus I - Ellucian University			

Legend

☑ Complete	≈ Complete except for classes in-progress	(T) Transfer Class
☐ Not Complete	≈ Nearly complete - see advisor	@ Any course number

Disclaimer

You are encouraged to use this degree audit report as a guide when planning your progress toward completion of the above requirements. Your academic advisor or the Registrar's Office may be contacted for assistance in interpreting this report. This audit is not your academic transcript and it is not official notification of completion of degree or certificate requirements. Please contact the Registrar's Office regarding this degree audit report, your official degree/certificate completion status, or to obtain a copy of your academic transcript.

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Transfer Customization

Course Equivalencies

Chapman University						**Blue University - QA's MAIN CLG on m019091**			
GERM 1000	First Year German	B-	3	Fall 2013 Global	→	ELEC 999	No specific mapping found - elective credit	B-	0
Ellucian University						**Blue University - QA's MAIN CLG on m019091**			
COMM 205	Business Communications	A	3	Spring 2012 Global	→	COMM 205B	Business Communication - Blue	A	3
ECON 102	Introductory Macroeconomics	B	3	Spring 2012 Global	→	ECON 102B	Introductory Macroeconomics - Blue	B	3
GEOL 160	Physical Geology	B	3	Spring 2012 Global	→	GEOL 160B	Physical Geology - Blue	B	3
GEOL 161	Physical Geology Laboratory	A	1	Spring 2012 Global	→	GEOL 160B	Physical Geology Lab - Blue	A	1
HUMN 220	Western Humanities I	A	4	Spring 2012 Global	→	HUMN 220B	Western Humanities I - Blue	A	4
MATH 213	Applied Calculus I	B	4	Spring 2012 Global	→	MATH 213B	Applied Calculus - Blue	B	4
COMM 105	Writing Seminar	A	3	Fall 2011 Global	→	COMM 105B	Writing Seminar - Blue	A	3
DAN 100	Introduction to Dance	A	3	Fall 2011 Global	→	DAN 100B	Introduction to Dance - Blue	A	3
ECON 101	Introductory Microeconomics	B	3	Fall 2011 Global	→	ECON 101B	Introductory Microeconomics - Blue	B	3
HIST 150	History of United States I	B	3	Fall 2011 Global	→	HIST 150B	History of United States I - Blue	B	3
MATH 112	Precalculus	B	4	Fall 2011 Global	→	MATH 112B	Precalculus - Blue	B	4
Red University						**Blue University - QA's MAIN CLG on m019091**			
ACCT 102R	Intro to Financial Accounting	B	3	Fall 2008 Global	→	ACCT 102B	Intro to Financial Accounting - Blue	B	3
ACCT 103R	Intro to Managerial Accounting	B	3	Fall 2008 Global	→	HUMN 220B	Intro to Managerial Accounting - Blue	B	3
MGMT 250R	Information Tech for Business	A	3	Fall 2008 Global	→	ACCT 103B	Information Tech for Business - Blue	A	3
SPAN 101R	First Year French	B	1	Fall 2008 Global	→	ELEC 999	No specific mapping found - elective credit	B	1

The Credit When It's Due Initiative

- **What is CWID?**
  - **The CWID initiative is designed to encourage partnerships of community colleges and universities to significantly expand programs that award associate degrees to transfer students when the student completes the requirements for the associate degree while pursuing a bachelor's degree. This is commonly referred to as "reverse back" or reverse transfer".**

Source: Office of Community College Research and Leadership (November 1, 2012)

The Credit When It's Due Initiative

- **States Funded**
  - **Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon**

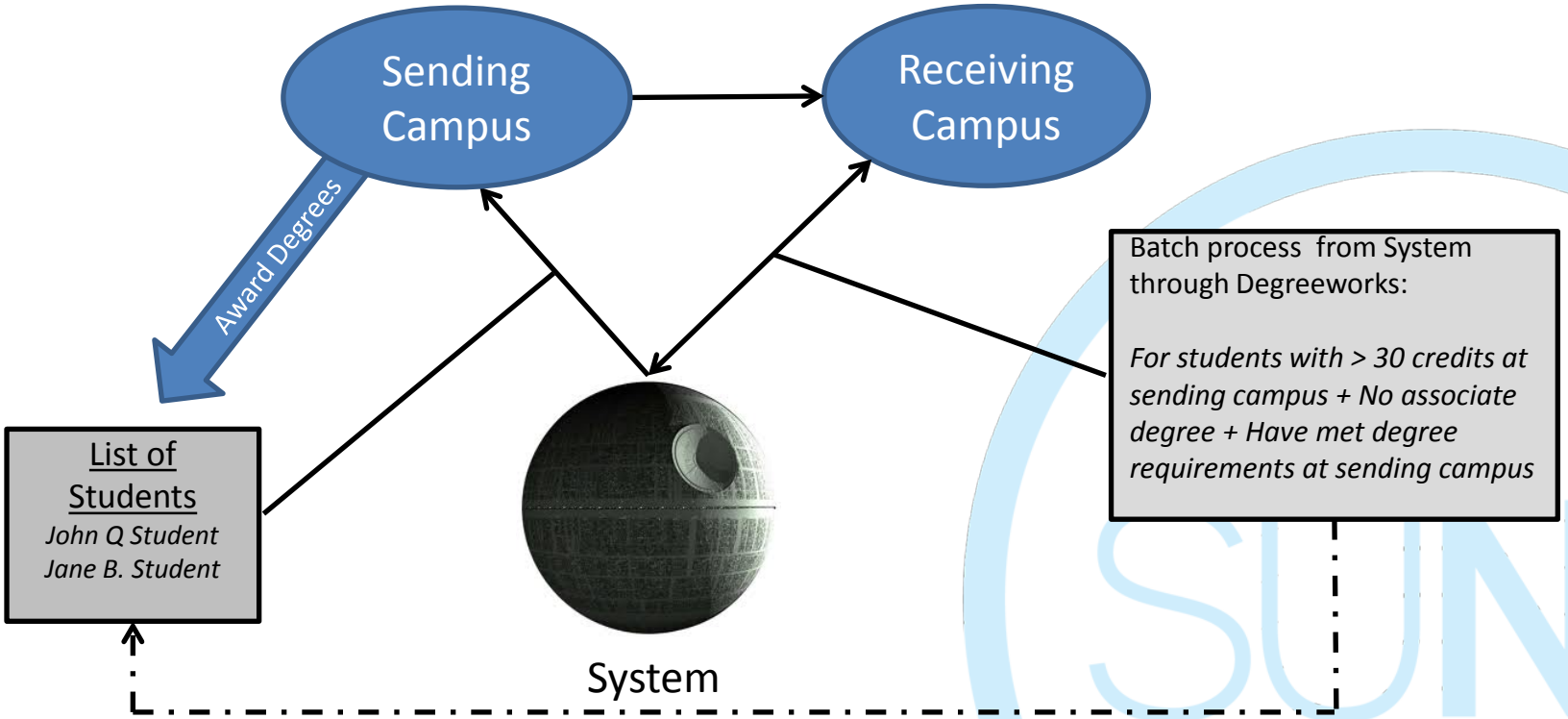
- **Funders**
  - **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**
  - **The Helios Foundation**
  - **The Kresge Foundation**
  - **Lumina Foundation for Education**
  - **USA Funds**

- **Research Partner**
  - **Office of Community College Research and Leadership**

Source: Office of Community College Research and Leadership (November 1, 2012)

SUNY Reverse Transfer
Project Overview

- **Lumina Grant**
  - **Lumina's Goal 2025: "Increase the proportion of Americans with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by 2025."**
  - **Fits with SUNY's strategic initiatives for completion and success.**
  - **Expand functionality of Degreeworks to include reverse transfer.**

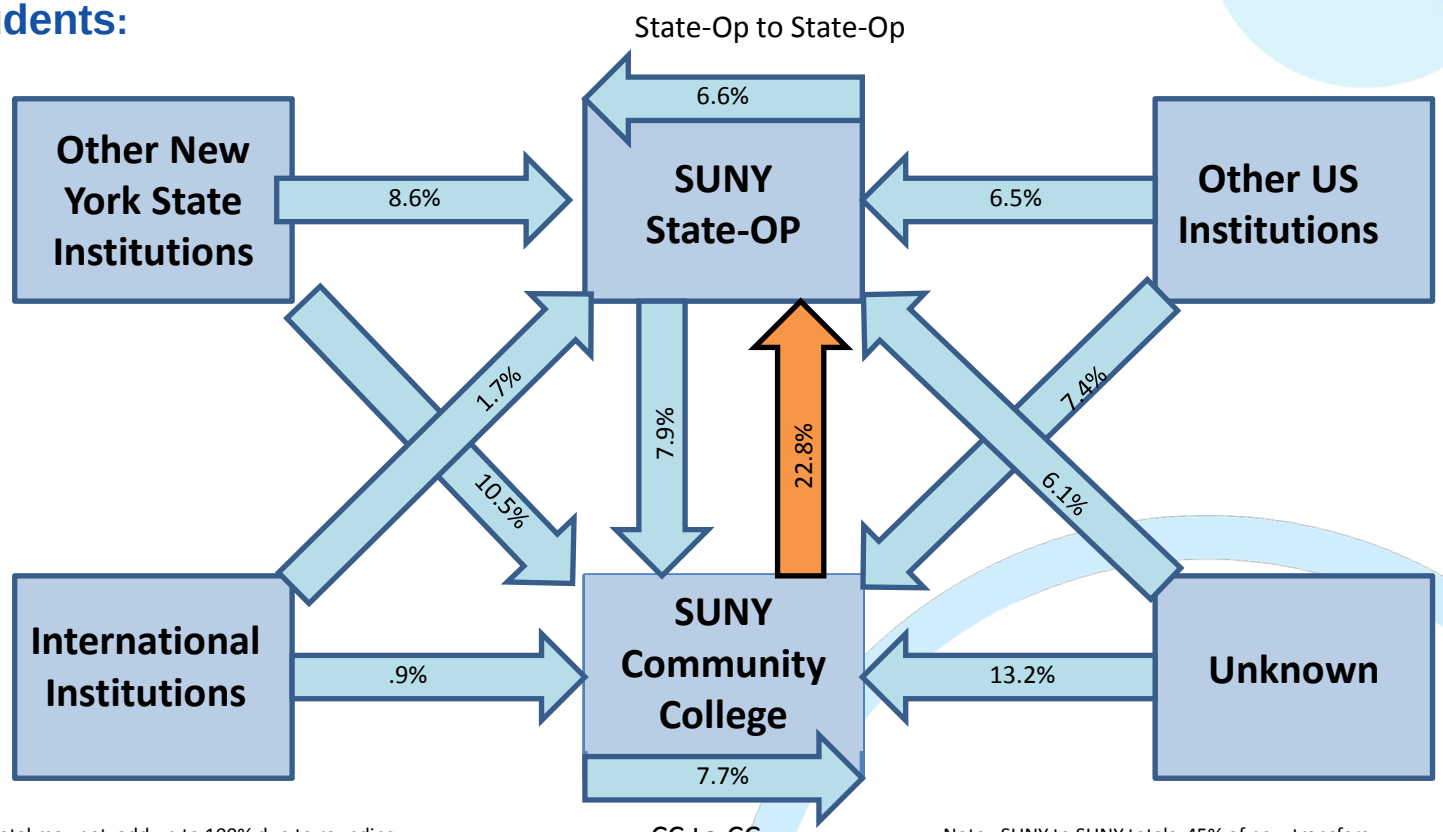


SUNY Reverse Transfer
Project Overview

- **Funding will support**
  - **Hiring Reverse Transfer Project Coordinator for two years.**
  - **Develop a common database of course equivalencies.**
  - **Development of tools to facilitate course equivalency evaluations.**
  - **Interns/overtime pay for data entry.**

- **Expansion of Pilot: Project Win-Win**
  - **Three community colleges paired with their main four-year transfer institutions.**
  - **Students:**
    - **Transferred with 60+ credits**
    - **Did not earn associate degree OR a baccalaureate degree.**
    - **363 students identified so far that fit the profile.**

Potential Students:



* Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Note: SUNY to SUNY totals 45% of new transfers:

Vertical Transfers (Fall, 2011):

- **9,881**
- **4049 (41%) had an associate degree**
- **5832 without an associate degree**

Centralized Strategy

- **Build and host a centralized database.**
- **Build a web application with tools for performing CE.**

➢ **Advantages**

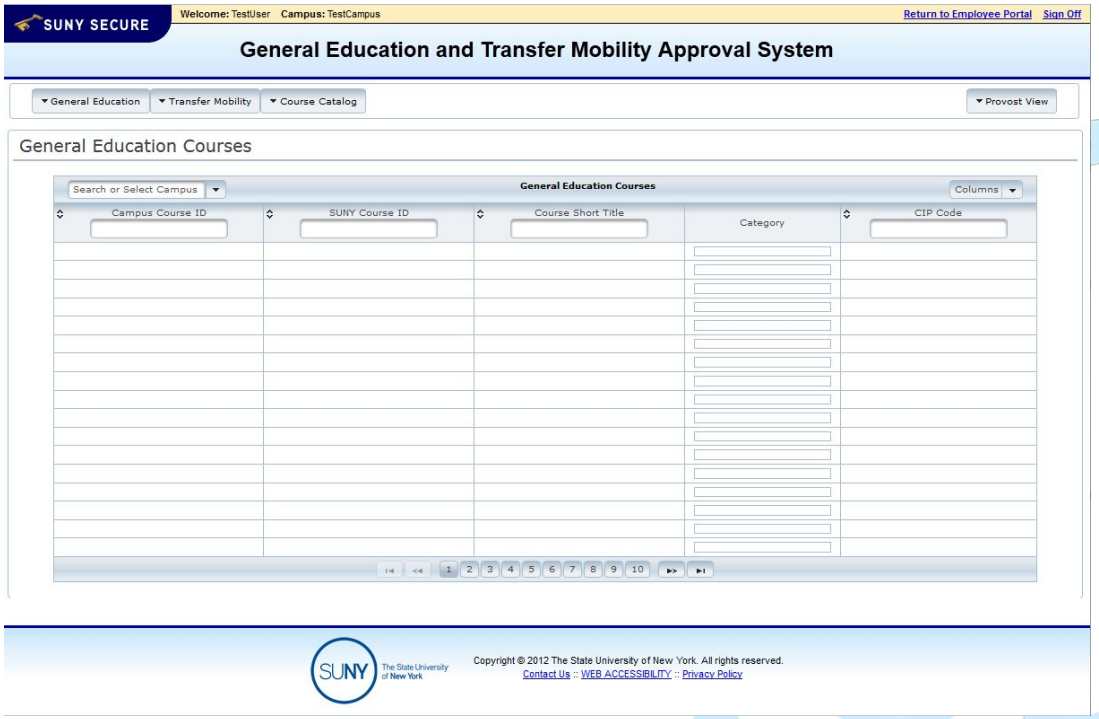
1. **Sustains and expands over time.**
   - **Captures institutional knowledge.**
2. **Provide information and services to aid campus workflow.**
   - **Users can see all campus CE's, rather than only local.**
3. **Provides these services to ALL campuses.**
4. **Public views available too.**
5. **Provides opportunities for future analysis.**

➢ **Disadvantages**

1. **Up-front cost for web development.**
2. **More technically complicated.**
3. **Requires campus buy-in. Will people use the tools?**
4. **Doesn't address different campus SIS.**

SUNY-TECAS (Transfer Equivalency & Course Approval System)

- **Web Portal: One-stop shopping for course approval & equivalency**
  - **Gen ed course approval (under construction)**
  - **Mobility course approval (next phase)**
  - **Course equivalency (Phase III?)**

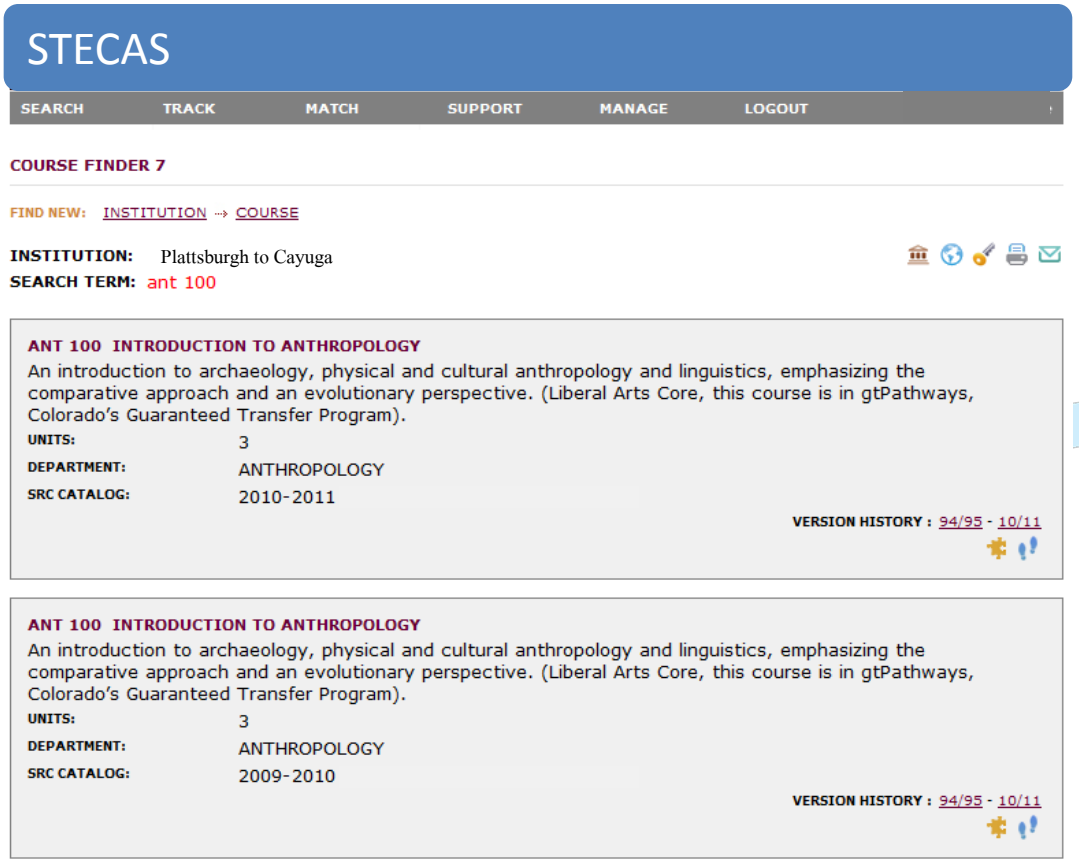


STECAS (SUNY Transfer Equivalency & Course Approval System)

- Capture each instance of course equivalency & add to database.
- Users can
  - Search by course, campus, discipline, etc.
  - View course equivalencies across multiple campuses.
    - Example: Evaluating ANTH 111 from Plattsburgh

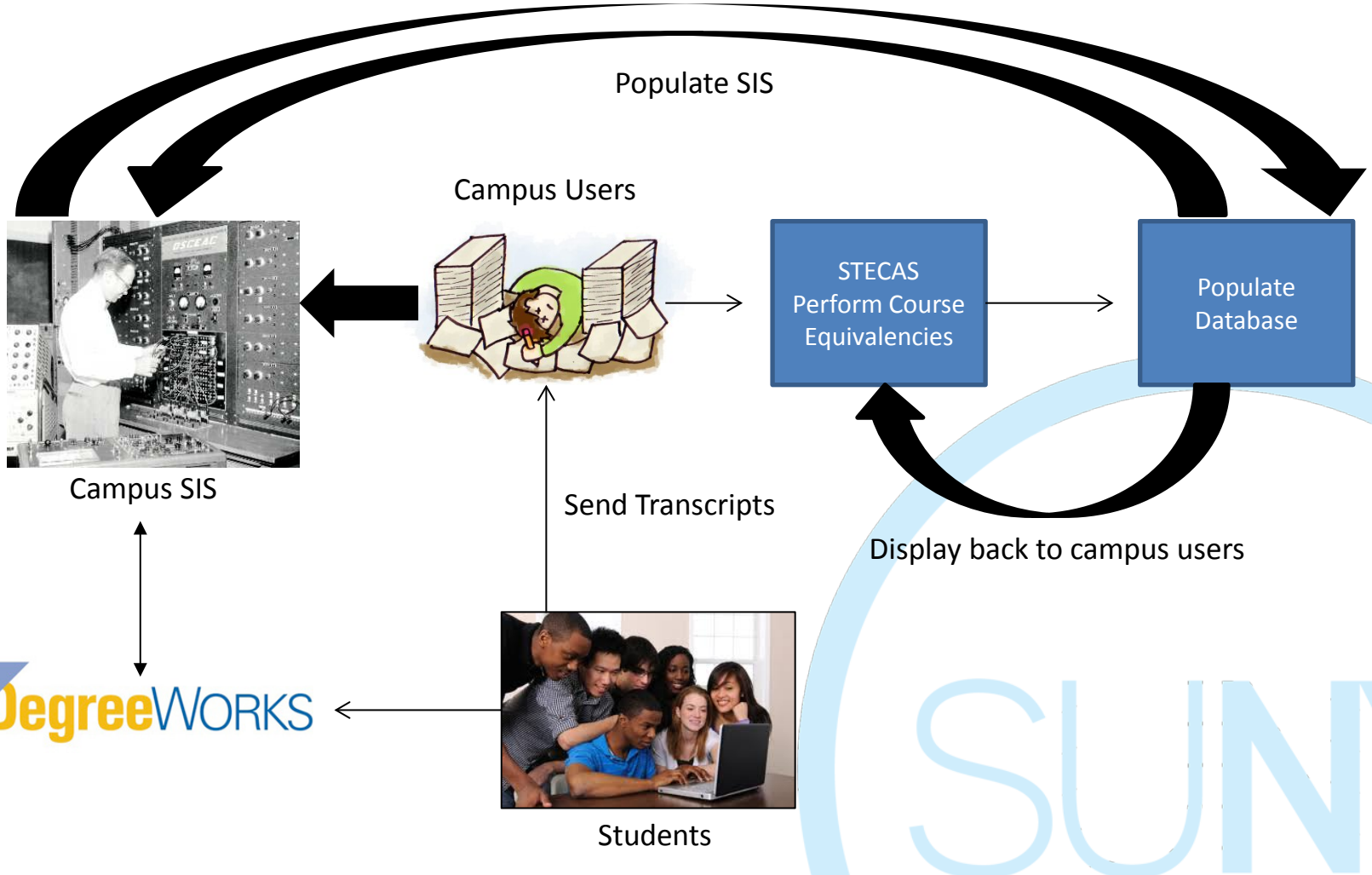
Sending Campus	Course ID	Title	Receiving Campus	Course ID	Title	Requirement Fulfilled
Plattsburgh	ANTH 111	Intro to Anthropology	Binghamton	ANT 101	Intro to Human Evolution	GE5 Social Sciences
			Cayuga	ANT 102	Human Culture	Major requirement
			Albany	AANT100	Perspectives in Anthropology	GE5 Social Science
			Oswego	ANT 103	Introduction to Ant Eating	Freshman Seminar

- **View and compare course descriptions:**



- **Create course equivalencies** → Submit

Closing the Loop:



SUNY Reverse Transfer Updates

- Community College Visits
  - Course Equivalency Status
  - Course Articulation Database Feedback
- Transfer Student Focus Group
  - Barriers
  - Motivations
  - Process
- Course Articulation Database
  - Homegrown vs Outsourced
  - Features and Functionality
  - Inclusion of Non-SUNY

Moving Forward

- System Actions:
  - Help to establish partnerships
  - Identify pilot groups
  - Continued discussion and development on transfer tools
  - Data collection and dissemination
  - Assistance in campus workflow and systems changes
- Campus Actions:
  - Review of graduation policies for potential roadblocks
  - Review of current workflow processes
  - Course equivalency updates and submissions
  - Review of existing outreach process and procedures

Discussion

- **Have at it!!**

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