

## **STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1153**

**TITLE: Resolution Advocating for Increased Access to Resources for Transfer Students at the University of Florida**

**AUTHOR(S): Senator Claudia Garcia**

**SPONSOR(S): Judiciary Vice-Chair Joaquin R.C. Marcelino, Senator Matthew Reich, Senator Saketh Damara, Senator Laurie Wang**

**WHEREAS**, at a national level, nearly 40 percent of all college students are transfer students, yet they may be the most overlooked student population in higher education [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, transfer students face a number of barriers when transferring to a new institution [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, transfer students attending the University of Florida are in need of increased efforts to ensure access and awareness of the resources, opportunities, and information; and,

**WHEREAS**, transfer students are granted less time to learn about the University of Florida's campus and its clubs, organizations, and academic opportunities during their Preview experience relative to incoming freshmen at the University of Florida [3]; and,

**WHEREAS**, incoming freshmen and transfer students alike are beginning their first year as students at the University of Florida when they are newly admitted; and,

**WHEREAS**, data pertaining to transfer students at the University of Florida is not being collected in a manner that is easily accessible to prospective students and also current students [4]; and,

**WHEREAS**, transfer students are required by terms under their acceptance to finish within 2 years and have an expectation that they are already established in their field of study/career interests; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2017, the number of transfer applicants for the University of Florida was 4,947 students [5]; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, the number of transfer applicants for the University of Florida was 3,963 students [5]; and,

**WHEREAS**, for the latest transfer student data available, there has been a decline in the number of transfer student applicants, transfer students admitted, and transfer students enrolled at the University of Florida, from 2017 to 2022 [5]; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida strongly urges the Center for New Student, Parent & Family Engagement to increase outreach initiatives and presence at events such as the Transfer Preview which is specifically catered toward the unique needs of Transfer Students.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that Student Senate urges student organizations and programs on campus to exert a greater presence on campus during Transfer Preview in order to help incoming transfer students access key programs and initiatives at the University of Florida.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate calls for greater transparency and increased communication between university departments and incoming transfer students in order to help make their experiences at this university geared toward fostering their academic, social, and professional growth via involvement in clubs, student organizations, and career-specific programs.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of Student Strategic Initiatives Dr. Adrienne Provost, Transfer Affairs Cabinet Director Gali Polichuk, Director of Academic Advising Center Associate Dean for Student Affairs Gillian Lord, Director of the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Tina Lamb, Experiential Learning Coordinator Dr. Kevin Bird, and Associate Director of the Bob Graham Center for Public Service Marianne Verentson*

[1]<https://www.ruffalonl.com/blog/enrollment/the-transfer-experience-getting-transfer-students-there-and-helping-them-succeed/>

[2][https://transfer.appstate.edu/sites/transfer.appstate.edu/files/tst - literature review 0.pdf](https://transfer.appstate.edu/sites/transfer.appstate.edu/files/tst_-_literature_review_0.pdf)

[3]<https://welcome.ufl.edu/orientation/transfer/>

[4]<https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/survey-components/9>

[5]<https://ir.aa.ufl.edu/facts/admission/>