



The Commission on
INDEPENDENT
Colleges & Universities
in New York

**You Say You Want a Revolution:
Navigating Challenges for Next Gen
Transfer Practices**

NYSTAA Conference • May 23, 2023

Session Plan

1. Brief overview about the initiative:

- Colleges involved
- Activities
- Learning to date
- Next steps: Develop—
 - Simplified transfer pathways
 - Clear communication about transfer opportunities, &
 - 2-year & 4-year faculty collaborations

2. Moderated panel discussion to share panelists' professional and campus perspectives on:

- Project's benefits, challenges and surprises
- How to incentivize and engage campuses to change
- How do we build the right relationships without over-burdening community college staff?

Questions from attendees are welcome.

Session Outcomes

Become knowledgeable about and interested in the project's goals and transfer pathways

Learn both campus and student perspectives on transferring: what is working and where improvements are needed

Identify other campuses that have undertaken focused efforts on equity to improve and enhance transfer transparency and accessibility

Find out how to learn more about the transfer project and join efforts toward more seamless transfer

Presenters

- **Susan Nesbitt Perez**, Senior Vice President for Education Policy, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU)
- **Sandra Fowler**, Director of Education Policy, CICU
- **Michael R. DiBartolomeo**, Vice President for Enrollment Management, St. Thomas Aquinas College
- **Anne Gilligan**, Assistant Vice President of Admissions, Mercy College
- **Kristen Hargrave**, Assistant Registrar, SUNY Genesee Community College
- **Roza Pacile**, Grants and Institutional Research Analyst, SUNY Dutchess Community College

Overview

- Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) convened a statewide initiative to re-envision transfer practices in NYS
- Planning grant funding from Teagle Foundation and Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
- Goal of increasing opportunity, access, and equity for transfer
- Formed a consortium of institutional leaders, faculty and staff, from 2-year and 4-year independent institutions
- Focused on improving transfer transparency and clarity to guide community college students toward their best pathways for continuing their education into 4-year institutions

Project Key Facts

- CICU Transfer Initiative awarded \$50,000 12-month planning grant, Mar 2022 – Feb 2023. No-Cost Extension through Dec 2023
- Project Goals:
 - Establish baseline understanding of transfer enrollment practices at NYS independent institutions and at community colleges, and
 - Identify gaps, need for improvement, and opportunities for development of enhanced or new transfer pathways to the liberal arts
 - Building *facilitated, transparent* transfer pathways in biology, history, psychology, sociology
 - Strengthen faculty relationships and collaboration between community colleges and independent 4-yr colleges and universities
 - Develop proposal for an *Implementation Grant*

Transfer Pathways to the Liberal Arts

12-Month Planning Grant

- Consortium work framed around the funders’ “Transfer Pathways to the Liberal Arts” initiative
- Grant Purpose:
 - “...support statewide, regional, or consortial academic partnerships between public two-year and private four-year colleges to facilitate transfer and completion of the [associate and] baccalaureate in the liberal arts”
 - Address the academic, cultural, and financial dimensions of transfer

CICU Transfer Initiative

Planning Grant Participating Institutions

Independent 4-Year		SUNY Community Colleges	
1. Adelphi University	15. Marymount Manhattan College	28. St. Lawrence University	1. Cayuga CC
2. Bard College	16. Mercy College	29. St. Thomas Aquinas College	2. Columbia-Greene CC
3. Canisius University	17. Molloy University	30. Utica University	3. Dutchess CC
4. Clarkson University	18. Mount Saint Mary College	31. Villa Maria College	4. Finger Lakes CC
5. College of Mount Saint Vincent	19. The New School	32. Wagner College	5. SUNY GCC
6. College of Saint Rose, The	20. Niagara University	33. Wells College	6. Jamestown CC
7. Dominican University	21. Pace University		7. Mohawk Valley CC
8. Fordham University	22. Roberts Wesleyan University	CUNY Community Colleges	8. Monroe CC
9. Hartwick College	23. Sarah Lawrence College	1. BMCC	9. Nassau CC
10. Houghton University	24. Siena College	2. LaGuardia CC	10. Niagara County CC
11. Ithaca College	25. St. Bonaventure University	3. Kingsborough CC	11. Onondaga CC
12. Le Moyne College	26. St. John Fisher University	4. Queensborough CC	12. SUNY Orange
13. Manhattan College	27. St. Joseph's University		13. Suffolk CCC
14. Manhattanville College			14. SUNY Ulster
			15. Westchester CC

Status of Planning Grant's 5 Activities

- 1 & 2.** Institution State of Transfer Survey, Transfer Student Survey, National Student Clearinghouse Data Collection & Analysis
- 3.** Campus Introspection/Discussions (Campus Conversation Questions)
- 4.** Meetings & Convenings (Steering Cmtee; Executive Cmtee; Faculty Advisory Group; Workgroups)
- 5.** Transfer Communication & Information Tool

Project's No-Cost-Extension Work, Mar-Nov

- Project work now through December:
 - Review/interpret data from the planning grant's 2 surveys
 - Draft final Implementation grant proposal
 - Institutions finish their chosen transfer pathway(s): 4-yr institutions, in collaboration with their selected 2-yr community colleges, fully articulate the pathways using the project's pathway template designed with input from the project's Faculty Advisory Group
 - Webinars on SUNY GenEd and CUNY T-Rex project

Proposed Implementation Grant Activities

- Complete & launch 4 transfer pathways in Biology, History, Psychology, Sociology
- Explore creation of new, additional transfer pathways, dual admissions, and other pathways (HS→CC→4yr→& beyond)
- Develop a Project Transfer Website
- Establish student outreach & "touch points" to build transfer connections and information
- Offer periodic regional professional development workshops
- Work to establish/strengthen 2- & 4-yr faculty connections, exchanges, discipline-specific collaborative initiatives or team teaching



Round Robin Panel Discussion:
Mike, Anne, Kristen, Roza

Roza

- Highlights of project's outcomes & challenges to date
- 2 project surveys (*each survey's full report is hyperlinked*):
 - [Institution "State of Transfer" Survey](#)
 - [Student Transfer Survey](#)



2 Surveys & Glance at Findings

- **Institutions’ “State of Transfer” Statewide Survey**
 - 28 4-year colleges respondents
 - 10 2-year college respondents
- **Student Transfer Survey**
 - 25 4-Year colleges (1,034 student respondents; 340 of them transferred from a 2-year college in NYS)
 - 9 2-Year colleges (1,016 student respondents)

“State of Transfer” Survey: Findings

Race-Ethnicity <i>2-Year: n=10</i> <i>4-Year: n=28</i>	2-Year All Undergrads	2-Year Transfer-in		4-Year All Undergrads	4-Year Transfers
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	1%		0%	0%
Asian	6%	9%		6%	4%
Black or African American	17%	24%		9%	19%
Hispanic	26%	20%		15%	19%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0%	0%		0%	0%
White	43%	41%		54%	40%
Two or more races	3%	2%		4%	3%
Race/ethnicity unknown	3%	2%		5%	10%
Non-resident alien (international)	2%	1%		7%	5%
Total	100%	100%		100%	100%

Source: 2019 IPEDS

“State of Transfer” Survey: Findings

Age 2-Year: n=10 4-Year: n=28	2-Year All Undergrads	2-Year Transfer-in		4-Year All Undergrads	4-Year Transfers
Under age 18	20%	0%		4%	0%
18-19	26%	27%		39%	18%
20-21	17%	26%		36%	30%
22-24	12%	16%		11%	19%
25-29	11%	15%		5%	15%
Age 30 and over	14%	17%		6%	19%
Total	100%	100%		100%	100%

Source: 2019 IPEDS

Student Transfer Survey: Findings

2-Year Student Responses

Q3. Are you considering transferring from your community college to a 4-Year college or university?

Of the students attending community colleges, 80% (809) were considering transfer.

Q3. Are you considering transferring from your community college to a 4-Year college or university?	No. Responses	% of Total
No	207	20%
Yes	809	80%
Total	1,016	100%

Source: CICU Student Transfer Survey, Fall 2022

Student Transfer Survey: Findings

2-Year Student Responses

Which, if any, of these 4-Year schools are you considering? Select from list of Independent Colleges/Universities in NYS Participating in the CICU Transfer Initiative
Multiple answers allowed. (809 respondents)

	No. Responses	% of Respondents
Independent Colleges & Universities in NYS Participating in CICU Transfer Project	651	80%
Other Colleges & Universities not participating in CICU Transfer Project + Out of State Institutions	428	53%
Undecided or not considering any specific college or university <u>at this time</u>	216	27%

Breakdown of 428 "Other" 4-Year Institutions Students Wrote In

Which, if any, of these 4-Year schools are you considering? Write-in responses accepted for "Other" institutions.
Multiple answers allowed. (428 respondents)

	No. Responses	% of Respondents
Other Independent Colleges & Universities in NYS not participating in CICU Transfer Project	141	33%
CUNY	29	7%
SUNY	395	92%
For-Profit in NYS	1	<1%
Out-of-State Institutions	29	7%
Don't know	4	1%

Source: CICU Student Transfer Survey, Fall 2022

Student Transfer Survey: Findings To Transfer or Not To Transfer?

Q10. As you consider transferring to a 4-Year college or university, please indicate your level of concern with each of the statements below. Note: 809 respondents

Important or Very Important

Cost of 4-Year college or university (e.g., tuition, fees, room % board)	75%
The number of credits that the 4-Year college/university will accept when I transfer	58%
Balancing school and work responsibilities	52%
My grades from my community college classes	44%
Balancing school and family responsibilities	43%
Transportation to and from a 4-Year campus	30%
Lack of support from my community college	24%
Making friends at a 4-Year college/university	24%
No 4-Year colleges/universities I can attend near my home	23%
Lack of encouragement from my family	15%
Lack of friends who are transferring	9%

Source: CICU Student Transfer Survey, Fall 2022

Other Survey Findings

Transfer Credits

- “Credit approval” ranked as one of the biggest challenges by 2-year college representatives (*“State of Transfer” Institution Survey*)
- 61% of the 4-year colleges reported that an associate degree fulfills core or GE requirements (*“State of Transfer” Institution Survey*)
- Less than half (45%) of CC transfer students at 4-year colleges said all their credits transferred and they did not have to repeat similar courses (*Student Transfer” Survey*)
- 69% of CC transfer students said they transferred with an earned associate degree (*Student Transfer” Survey*)
- 70% of CC transfers entered with an associate degree in liberal arts; followed by associate in business (16%) and computer/info sci (10%)

Source: CICU Student Transfer Survey, Fall 2022

Let's Talk About Positives

- Most respondents (79%) felt supported by their 4-Year institution as a transfer student
- When considering their overall transfer experience, 78% of respondents indicated that their current 4-Year institution met their expectations
- When considering their overall transfer experience, 70% of respondents described it as very good (36%) or good (34%)



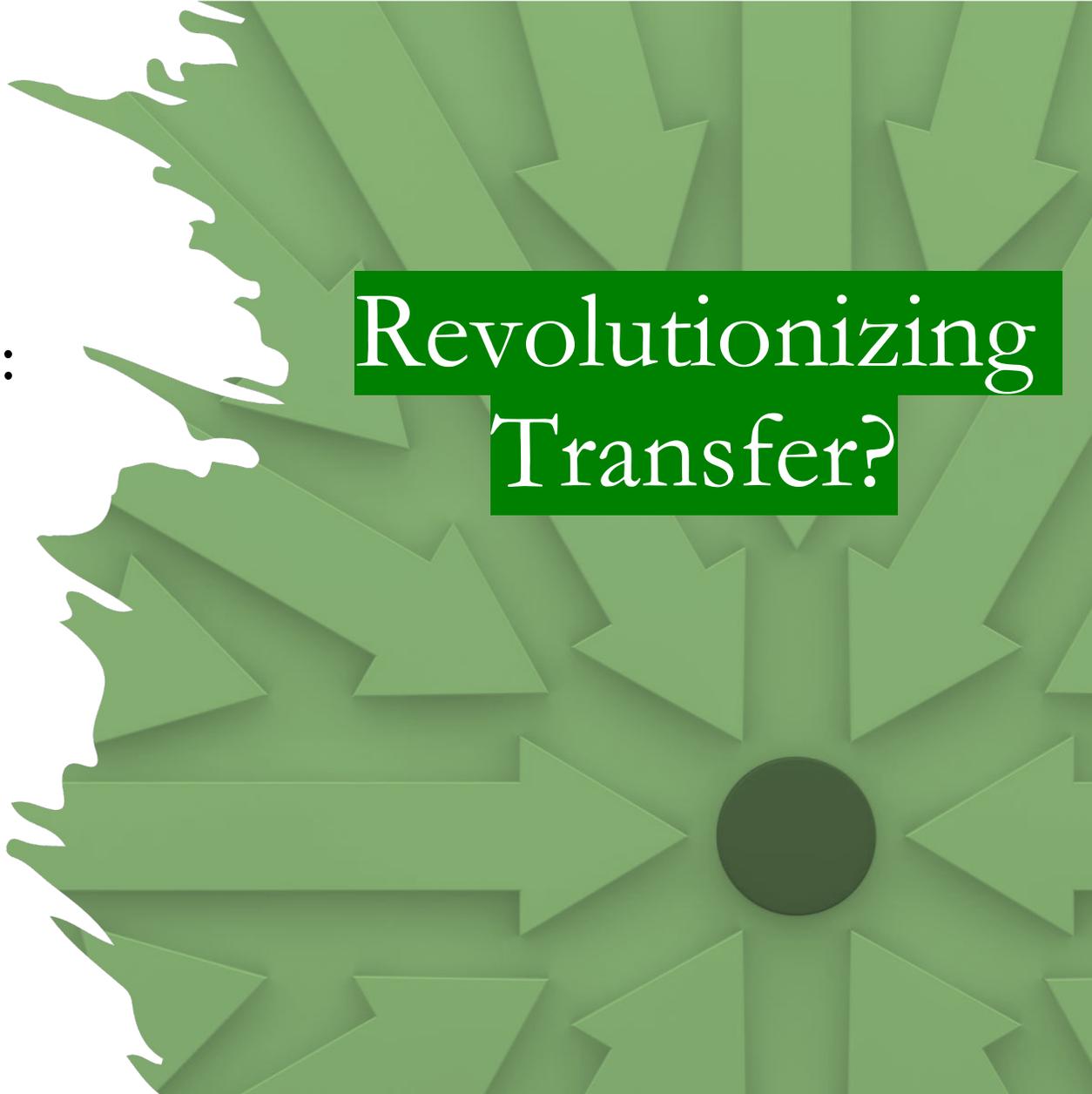
Anne

- Deeper dive to understanding transfer
 - Assess impact of transfer processes on students' success
 - Research, model, analyze
 - Strive for equity: improving transparency & accessibility through *flexibility*



Kristen

- A transfer “revolution” needs:
 - Commitment
 - Understanding
 - Relationships



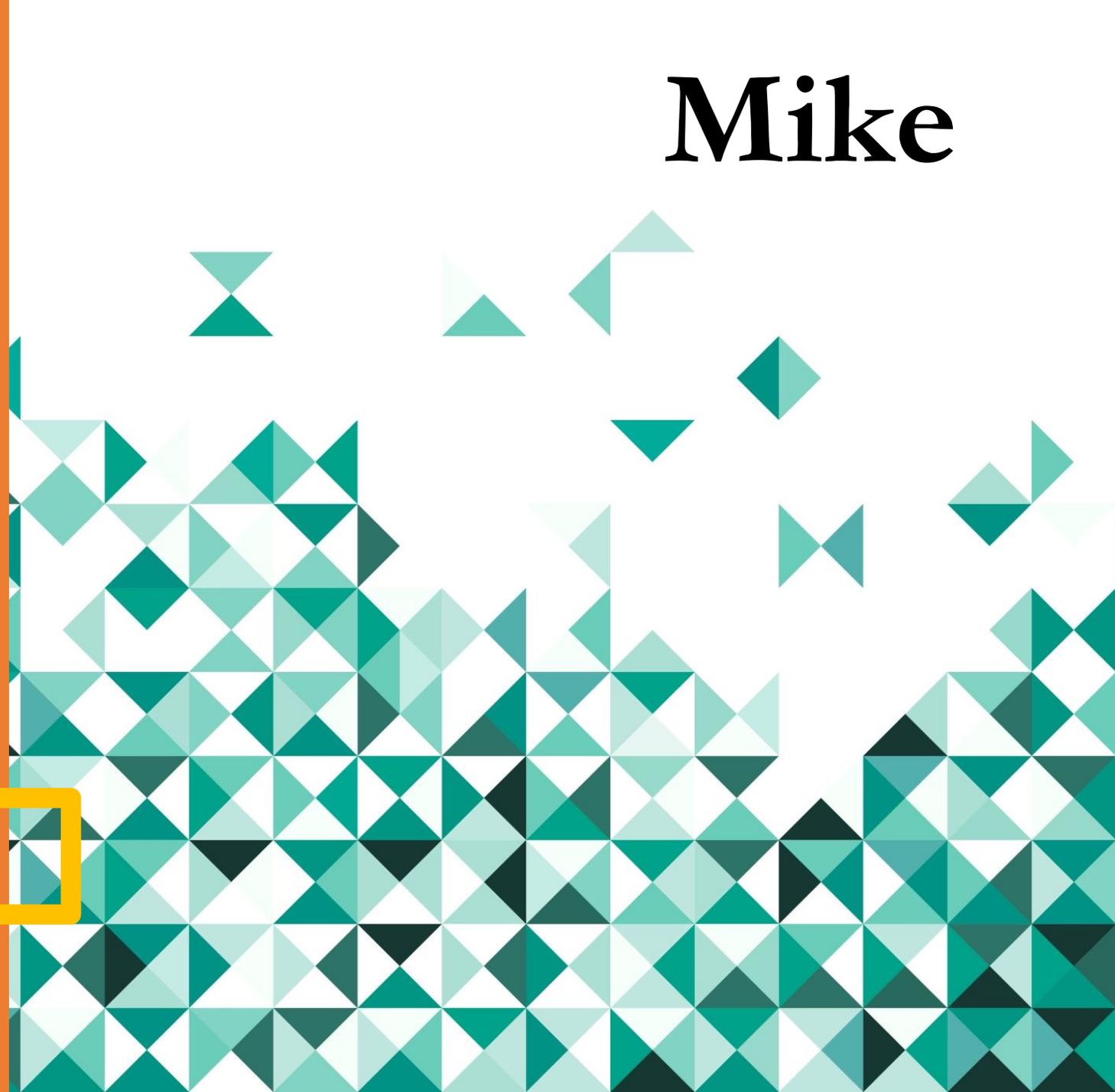
Revolutionizing
Transfer?

Mike



Project Benefits, Challenges, Surprises

Perspectives & reflections on
transfer in New York State vs.
other states





Questions?

How would you revolutionize
transfer?

For More Information...

About the Project & to Join

At CICU:

- Susan Nesbitt Perez, PhD, Senior VP for Education Policy, susan@cicu.org
- Sandra Fowler, Director of Education Policy, sfowler@cicu.org

Transfer Project's Institution Reps:

- [Contacts by institution](#)

(https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18_8Jxhgr_csSUcVoiUqhZwqA01EvAXJE_8zJXqK7o3Q/edit?usp=sharing)