

Making a Difference

The mission of **Student Support and Equity Programs (SSEP)** is to make a positive difference in the lives of non-traditional and undecided students through a broad range of high quality programs and services that promote access and equity, transition, and educational opportunities in support of student learning and success; thus empowering them to become educated and engaged citizens who go on to lead productive and meaningful lives.

The EOP First Year Transfer Group Advising was first introduced in 2009 with the purpose of reaching out to all EOP students in a small group advising setting in addition to the traditional 1-1 academic advising.

The Educational Opportunity Program's First Year Transfer Group Advising is designed to assist first year transfer students in their transition from community college or another university to Cal Poly Pomona. The students participate in quarterly group advising sessions which focus on specific learning objectives to gain a greater understanding of university policies, procedures, requirements and expectations.

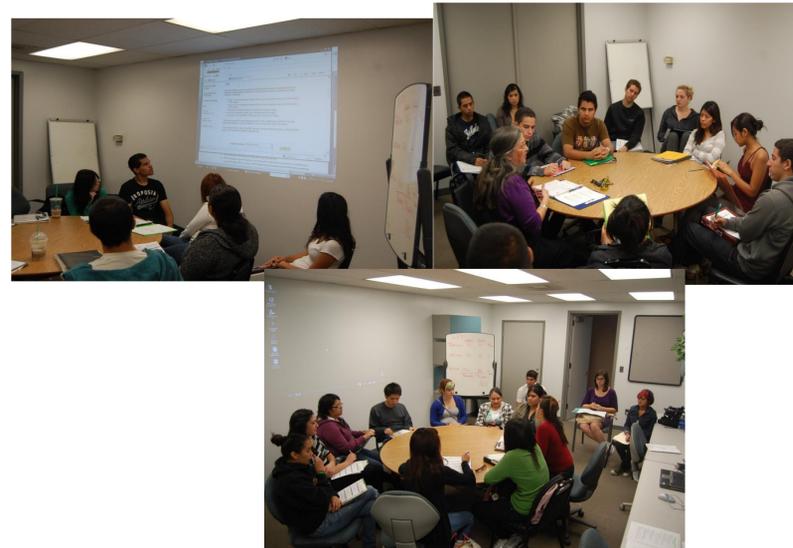
Learning Outcomes

As a result of participating in the EOP First Year Transfer Group Advising, students will:

- Learn to interpret the transfer credit report through Bronco Direct;
- Read and interpret the Degree Progress Report on Bronco Direct;
- Identify units required in order to receive financial aid;
- Locate the cost of attendance per quarter and the meaning of auxiliary fees;
- Identify two study strategies they can incorporate to improve their academic performance;
- Calculate their projected quarterly GPA and GPB;
- Define different academic standing based on their own GPA/GPB calculation;
- Develop a Graduation Planner mapping out their course plans through graduation;

Methodology

A quarterly assessment is administered to all participants at the conclusion of each Group Advising session. An online assessment is administered to all participants at the conclusion of their first year. The purpose of this assessment is to determine the effectiveness of our EOP First Year Transfer Group Advising program and whether students have gained a greater understanding of university policies, procedures, requirements and expectations by way of specific learning outcomes at the conclusion of their first year in attendance at Cal Poly Pomona.



Student Responses

"The First Year Transfer Group Advising was extremely helpful. I really liked hearing others experiences and talking about my experiences. It was great. I wish it could go further into my college experience."

"I liked that our concerns were addressed to the best of the advisors knowledge."

"The first year group advising is very useful. I think I attended three different sessions and I noticed a constant improvement each time."

"Group Advising was very helpful to me my first year here at Cal Poly Pomona. I think that EOP Staff provide incredible help to all the students in this program!"

Conclusion

Students who participated in the EOP First Year Transfer Group Advising were to introduce targeted learning outcomes throughout the three quarters. Student's answers reflected students learned from the variety of advising tools presented during the year to help plan out their time remaining to graduate.

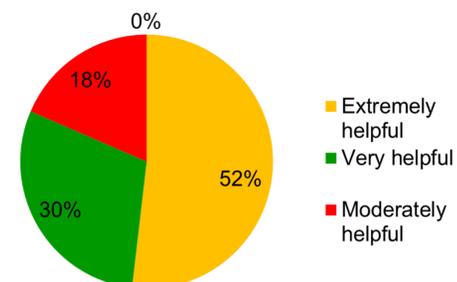
At the end of Fall 2011 Transfer Group Advising session, over 80% of students were able to interpret the Degree Progress Report to make sure all their transfer units corrected entered and know the remaining classes students are required to take to graduate.

At the end of Winter 2012 Transfer Group Advising session, 90% students were able to calculate their Cal Poly Pomona's Grade Point Average as well as Grade Point Balance.

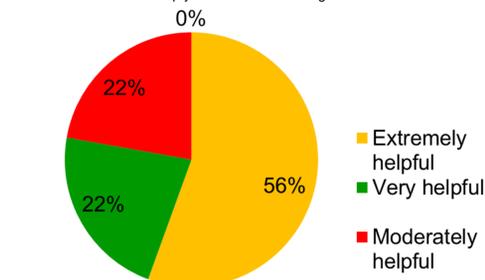
By the end of Spring 2012 Transfer Group Advising session, 93% students were able to understand the GWT requirement and develop a graduation planner.

Assessment Results

How helpful was it to learn about reading and interpreting the Degree Progress Report to keep you on track towards graduation?



How helpful was it to learn about reading and interpreting the Curriculum Sheet to keep you on track towards graduation?



Implications for Practice

The online assessment data helps us to evaluate our agenda for next year's group advising. This year's assessment will be conducted separately for the First Year Transfer students as we recognize their needs are different than the First Time Freshmen.