

## **A Resolution to Acknowledge National Transfer Student Week and Promote Institutional Knowledge**

**WHEREAS**, the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) is a national organization that aims to empower the transfer pathway from community college to a four-year university by consistent statistical analysis of how transfers are achieving higher education across America. The Institute offers professional development, research opportunities and overall college retention counselling towards transfer communities of interest;

**WHEREAS**, National Transfer Student Week is hosted by NISTS as a time to commemorate transfer stories and empower students in high school and community college to consider the transfer pathway to the four-year university they would like to attend. This week highlights both the tensions that come with switching institutions in the middle of students' degrees, and the genuine value that this pathway brings to an undergraduate experience<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, roughly one in three students at UCLA are transfers, constituting a significant portion of the student population that are involved in a variety of different clubs, sports, student governance, and other organizations on campus in addition to academic studies<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the transfer rate to UCLA has increased incrementally every year, with 92% of transfers matriculating from 114 California community colleges, staking a historical impact on the student body;

**WHEREAS**, the transfer classes of 2022 and 2023 are on-campus for the first time during the 2021-2022 school year, and with a much shorter time-to-degree than most direct entry students, as a result of the virtual learning of the past year during the COVID-19 pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, transfers have a limited time to complete their studies and to experience the academic, cultural, social elements of being a Bruin, including less time to acclimate to the quarter system, explore campus, join organizations, and take advantage of campus resources and opportunities UCLA provides;

**WHEREAS**, as institutional knowledge is often gained over the course of a student's time at an institution, the transfer community experiences difficulty navigating UCLA as upper division students without the same level of institutional knowledge as their direct-entry peers;

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<sup>1</sup> National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) - <https://www.nists.org/national-transfer-student-week>

<sup>2</sup> Transfer Student Center - Quick Facts, <https://transfers.ucla.edu/about/about-ucla-transfers>

**WHEREAS,** transfers at UCLA lack a written history of transfer student organizations, movements, advocacy, and relations with administration, faculty, and legislation;

**WHEREAS,** campus entities including but not limited to the Office of the Transfer Student Representative Transfer Student Center, and Transfer Student Association have historically given various forms of Transfer Awareness Trainings to other campus entities in order to address the twin issues of a lack of historical record and the barriers to institutional knowledge for transfer students.

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED,** that the Undergraduate Student Association Council acknowledges and honors National Transfer Student Week and celebrates a national mission to support transfer students across the United States;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED,** that the Undergraduate Students Association Council encourages the undergraduate student body to participate in National Transfer Student Week programming hosted at UCLA by the Transfer Student Center, Office of the Transfer Student Representative, Transfer Experience Living Learning Community, and other campus entities;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED,** that the creation of a written history of the transfer community be developed by the USAC Office of the Transfer Student Representative, the Transfer Student Center (TSC), the Transfer Leadership Coalition (TLC), the Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP) and other transfer-related entities at UCLA to address the gaps in institutional knowledge that transfers have faced historically and in the present, providing a historical framework for future transfers;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED,** that the Undergraduate Student Association Council is fervent in its support for the transfer community at UCLA, through legislation, representation, and Council members committing to engage in transfer allyship practices such as participating in Transfer Awareness Trainings;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED,** that the Undergraduate Students Association Council encourages student organizations, faculty members, and administrative offices to demonstrate their support for the transfer community by requesting a Transfer Awareness Training from the Office of the Transfer Student Representative and its transfer-serving campus partners to better understand the complexities of transferring and cater to transfer-specific needs in their respective roles;

**LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED,** that Transfer Awareness Trainings shall be institutionalized at UCLA through collaborations between the Office of the Transfer Student

Representative and relevant transfer-serving campus entities to ensure continuity in transfer-inclusive allyship development across the university.