

Improving Transfer Success in Engineering Introduction to Engineering – Chabot College Student Brainstorm

Students enrolled in a fall 2010 Introduction to Engineering course at Chabot College generated the following ideas for how students, the community college and four-year universities could improve transfer success in engineering.

Transfer Issue	Actions You [Students] Could Take...	Actions Chabot College Could Take...	Actions Four-Year Institutions Could Take...
Establishing School/Work/Family Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work harder, longer – at least 80 hrs/wk on school, PT employment • Become more independent; engineers work in an accountable environment; good training for this is paying my way through school myself • Take maximum classes during day/night to save time in traveling, waiting** • Create a schedule, manage time • Sacrifice time used elsewhere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more class options for students, including courses at night***** 	
Addressing Course Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make an ed plan**** • Apply for classes immediately*** • Know what courses are available, when • Try to take those courses which are offered once a yr • Take summer classes • Try to get good grades so you can get the classes you need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure high-level math, physics and engineering courses are available, especially multiple sections of calculus*** • Increase number of professors qualified to teach missing courses** • Offer courses every semester** • Offer more spring courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make engineering course articulation more consistent and uniform***; students have to take too many specialized lower-division courses after transfer • Offer certain courses year-round** • Give students access to classes needed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take action—petition to increase courses • Check other colleges • Open up your schedule, be more available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer a broader range of course delivery options (e.g., online, hybrid, recorded for later viewing) • Coordinate courses required for a particular program so not offered at the same time • Prioritize students moving through a sequence toward transfer when enrolling, in addition to how long at the college 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow potential transfer students to take classes at the campus • Allow open enrollment courses that count for graduation (like SJSU) • Inform CCs that engineering students need the classes • Understand the lack of courses at CCs
Managing Finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work *** • Get financial aid*** • Get a BOG waiver • Cut down excessive spending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more grants, scholarships and aid*** • Provide information on obtaining aid • Make school more affordable; offer cheaper books, tuition, etc. • Don't provide money to dependent students who don't need it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide grants, scholarships and aid**
Improving Counseling/Advising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult an engineering teacher rather than counseling** • Visit counseling, instructors frequently***** • Rely on yourself to know what to take • Find advisors in the field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide different counselors for every major; provide counselors specialized in Engineering*** • Improve counseling and [their] knowledge*** • Increase counselor availability** • Offer more “drop-ins” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more resources for students • Provide more counselors; provide counselors specialized in Engineering

Maintaining Grades/Academic Intensity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work, study hard***** • Don't fall behind • Take advantage of tutors • Obtain help from students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more tutors, study group meetings, gear toward specific classes*** • Make places where students can study • Make more sparse deadlines • Hire professors who know the material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide tutoring services** • Inform students of the rigors of engineering
Developing Community Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get involved, join clubs** • Talk to people and make friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer online sites, discussions • Offer more social events 	
Pursing Personal/Professional Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get updates about what is happening in your specific field • Research, learn about your profession [of interest?]** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Offer] industry visits • [Offer] more survey courses • Provide more hands-on experiences, clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make survey intro course mandatory
Developing a Clear Path to Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set your personal goal • Plan ahead*** • Take Engineering 10 to help establish courses needed for transfer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure teachers, counselors know the necessary courses for transfer • Develop an online location to i.d. classes completed and a 4-yr institution of choice that will then map an ed plan and schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance • Provide clearer information on ASSIST about courses accepted

**Indicates the number of times students made suggestion.*