

Office of Academic Transitions (OAT) was created to support students' academic and personal success at Lehigh University through academic mentoring, monitoring, and individual meetings. Through coordinated efforts across campus the OAT works with students to ensure they are engaging appropriate people and resources on campus to be successful.

Student Impact 2011-2012

- 81 “transition” students identified by Admissions
- 2.6 Average fall GPA
- 3.16 Average all undergraduate GPA
- 16% experienced some degree of negative academic consequence

Student Impact Fall 2012

- 31 “transition” students identified by Admissions*
- 70+ additional “at-risk” students identified by OAT*
- 2.7 Average GPA
- 3.17 Average all undergraduate GPA
- 6% experienced some degree of negative academic consequence

*The decrease in “transition” students was a direct result of intentional collaboration between OAT and admissions to identify the characteristics of students in need of earlier and extra levels of support. Due to the lower number, more targeted outreach was directed to identifying and support additional “at-risk” students beyond those identified pre-matriculation.

The Impact of Academic Support

The OAT conducted an academic support survey with all undergraduate students who participated in midterm grade meetings with a staff member in fall 2012. Below are highlights that point to the benefit of proactive

87% agreed that they were provided with information about available campus resources to help them succeed in their courses.

83% agreed that their meeting(s) helped to identify issues that negatively impacted their academic performance.

65% utilized the resources that were shared during those meetings.

65 % agreed that the meeting(s) increased their confidence in their ability to succeed in their courses.

61% agreed that they learned new information and/or techniques to improve their performance.

A Look Ahead for OAT...

- We may be overlooking students who are “at-risk” based on non-cognitive variables
- Our Summer 2013 implementation of Beacon, a web-based assessment tool, to all incoming first-year students will strengthen the abilities to reach all students who may be at-risk for success.
- Student issues range from personal or family circumstances and low academic preparation to a general reluctance to actively seek out support resources
- Continued emphasis will be put on first-generation status and how that factor overlays with socio-economic status and student success.