

The Office of the First-Year Experience provides support and resources for the academic and social transition of new students and their families.

287 FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY → **23%**

RESOURCES HELPFUL IN YOUR ADJUSTMENT TO LEHIGH

	2015	2014
An Academic Office	25%	29%
The Orientation Program	41%	↑ 35%
The evoLUTION Seminar	35%	↑ 18%
A University Office or Service	34%	↑ 28%
Center for Academic Success	15%	17%

PEOPLE/GROUPS HELPFUL IN YOUR TRANSITION

	2015	2014
Peers in the Residence Hall	75%	80%
Gryphon	61%	↑ 60%
Orientation Leader	38%	38%
evoLUTION Seminar Facilitator	34%	↑ 29%
evoLUTION Student Leader	28%	↑ 13%
Professor	20%	20%
Academic Advisor	19%	↑ 17%

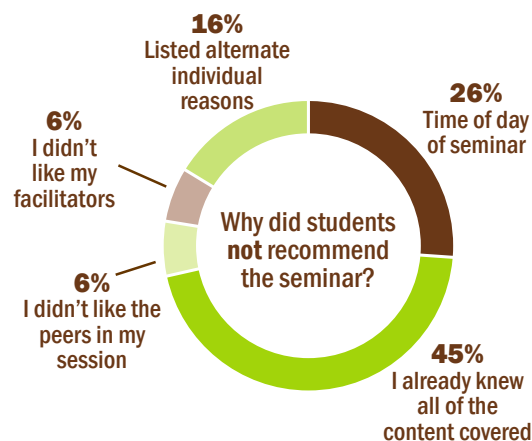
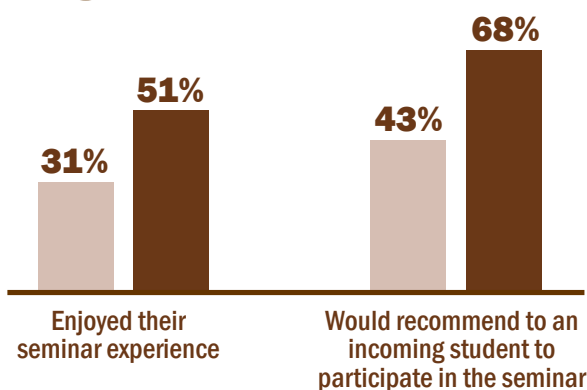


AREAS OF TRANSITION THAT WERE MOST DIFFICULT IN YOUR ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL/SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT TO LEHIGH

- 64% Preparing for exams
- 48% Studying
- 49% Managing my time
- 34% Writing papers
- 34% Making friends
- 32% Getting involved in a club/organization
- 30% Managing my money/finances
- 28% Dealing with homesickness

THE evoLUTION SEMINAR

97% Completion Rate



"I met people that I trust and who listen and it made me think about what I'm going to do in my community to get involved and make a difference."

SEMINAR FORMAT

- Facilitators held **3 group** meetings and **3 individual** meetings (1 with their peer leader)
- The seminar continued to be anchored in **bLUeprint** and used the **Draft Book** as a reflection tool

Students were **more comfortable** with their group after participating in the **ROPES COURSE**

60% Agreed **↑22%** from 2014

12% Disagreed **↓9%** from 2014

Meeting my seminar facilitator **INDIVIDUALLY** was beneficial to my experience

56% Agreed **↑9%** from 2014

11% Disagreed **↓12%** from 2014

Meeting my seminar **GROUP** was beneficial to my experience

46% Agreed **↑19%** from 2014

18% Disagreed **↓23%** from 2014

- A **weekly email** was sent first-year students providing updates and academic tools for their transition
- First-year student athletes participated in an athlete-only program **PRIDE**, instead of the evoLUTION seminar.

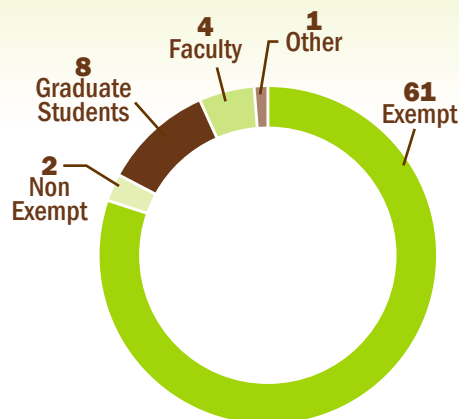
41% would have altered their participation in the seminar if it were for a **grade** or for **credit**

Approximately **90%** of students established **academic & personal goals** for themselves

51% have explored South Bethlehem

The **evoLUTION seminar facilitator** was the **highest rated** faculty or staff member who has been helpful in a student's transition to Lehigh (compared to professors and academic advisors)

FACILITATOR STATS



43% facilitated for the first time

57% returned to the role

SUGGESTIONS FROM FACILITATORS:

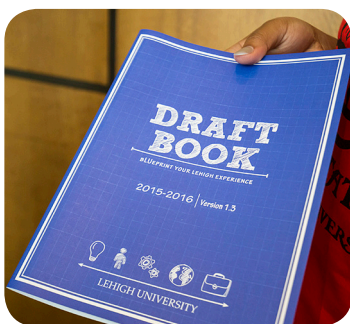
- Seminar themes should be continued because they provided structure and guidance for the facilitators and an element of choice for students
- Begin earlier in the semester, which would require the use of the registrar's class scheduling system
- Integrate the 5x10 and evoLUTION seminar more effectively
- Groups should be smaller than 19 students



38% can explain the purpose of bLUeprint

"A plan with 5 pillars of success to help students set goals, reflect and grow as people, students and leaders."

Students indicated the most useful elements of the **Draft Book** were:



Academic Calendar **43%**

GPA Calculation **36%**

Resource & Information Pages **29%**

5x10 **69%** stated attending 5x10s helped them learn about the Five Foundations for Success
87% of students completed their 5x10 requirement

MOVING FORWARD...

- Enhance training and the resources available to provide best practices, curriculum examples, etc.
- Reevaluate meeting content to create engaging and interactive curriculum options
- Refocus and clarify goals for the seminar (Are we currently trying to accomplish too much in little time?)
- Evaluate the timing of group and individual meetings with students' academic schedule

Office of the First-Year Experience
studentaffairs.lehigh.edu/ofye

