

ABSTRACT

Transfer Student Experiences and Success at the University

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This study focused on some of the psychological and social experiences of undergraduates who entered into the university via the transfer process. In a university endorsed electronic survey to all graduating transfer students, responding participants reported on their academic, social, and psychological experiences related to college life. The existence of experiences of rejection on the basis of being a transfer student were examined along with the relationship between perceived rejection and the concealment of one's transfer student standing. Results indicated that nearly one-fifth of the respondents concealed at least once in the past and approximately one-fourth of the respondents had experiences of transfer related rejection. Further, those who reported experiences of rejection were more likely to conceal that they had transferred into the university than those who did not experience such rejection. Despite these reported experiences of concealment and rejection, the overall group of surveyed transfer students in this study nonetheless proved to be very successful academically. The theoretical and practical implications of this research are discussed.