

Engaging Transfer Students in Undergraduate Research

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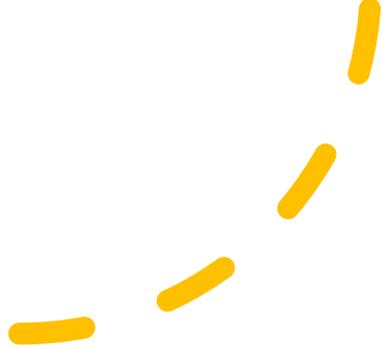
Barriers to Research for Transfer Students

- **Limited awareness of importance of research experiences.**
- **Limited social/cultural capital and resources.**
- **Barriers to navigating opportunities and identifying research mentors.**
- **Limited network of faculty.**
- **Implicit (and explicit) bias.**

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Inequity in Access

Limited access to research experience and other experiential learning negatively impacts transfer students in graduate/professional school admission, and access to STEM employment.

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COS Community of Transfer Researchers

- **Yearlong, voluntary learning community for new COS transfer students**
- **Five-Pronged Approach:**
 - **Navigational support**
 - **Faculty and near-peer mentoring**
 - **Networking**
 - **Community-building**
 - **Optional courses: COS 300/400**

COS- AACTR Cohort 1 Data

- **100% of Cohort 1 obtained a degree-related experiential learning experience within one year of transfer, including.**
 - **OSCAR URSP**
 - **OSCAR Summer Impact**
 - **Aspiring Scientists Summer Internship Program (ASSIP)**
 - **Biology Research Semester**
 - **Research Assistantships with Mason Faculty**
 - **External Experiential Learning (NSF REU, STEM Internship, VAW, GEO, etc.)**
 - **100% of Cohort 1 in good academic standing after one year.**
 - **70% of Cohort 1 students served as near-peer mentors for Cohort 2.**
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Questions?

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