

Project Name:	McBurney Disability Resource Center Transition Services Program
MIU Round:	Round 3
Sponsor(s):	McBurney Disability Resource Center, Division of Student Life
Coordinator(s):	Cathy Trueba, Samantha Ninneman, Bret Vlach
Partner(s):	Center for the First-Year Experience (CFYE) and SOAR, International Academic Programs
Report Date:	Year 1, July 2012; Year 2, June 2013

Project Specific Goal and Measures

Project Impact Measure(s)	<p>Improve the transition to UW-Madison for students with disabilities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing staffing to support new students services, including a transition course targeted to disabled students and enhanced efforts to assist disabled students to participate in Wisconsin Experience activities. Create an orientation program for new students and their parents. Participate in college fairs and visits in order to connect with prospective students with disabilities.
Project Impact Data Source(s)	McBurney Disability Resource Center
Baseline Measure(s)	The service did not exist prior to MIU funding.

General MIU Goals and Measures (applicable to project)

C	Increased capacity for high-impact practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with offices that coordinate components of the Wisconsin Experience activities to reduce barriers to participation for disabled students. McBurney staff will start tracking participation of their clients in study abroad specifically. Enhance career development services by engaging student with disabilities in targeted internships and by assisting with disclosure of disability to employers and requesting workplace accommodations.
F	Decreased achievement gaps	In order to evaluate the degree to which increased outreach is resulting in an increase in applications from students with disabilities, McBurney staff will work with Admissions to track the number of applicants from the Wisconsin School for the Deaf and the Wisconsin School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

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G	Attention to diversity in new hires	Publicized the transition coordinator position in general higher education publications as well as targeted publications for members of the disabled and/or underrepresented minority communities. This recruiting was successful in terms of increasing the diversity of applicants for the position.
I	Unintended benefits	Early outreach activities have resulted in a higher number of student contacts earlier in the academic year and increased the McBurney staff's ability to process request for services prior to the start of school. The increased work load for staff has been ameliorated by the new transition coordinator position and a student employee to assist with processing paperwork, scheduling appointments, and communicating with incoming students. There has also been increased representation for the McBurney program at SOAR. Additional staff has also allowed the coordination of more group-based service training sessions prior to the start of the fall semester.

Progress Reports

Year 1, 2011-12

- Hired a Transition Services Coordinator and a student hourly position of Disability Program Aide.
 - Participated in 8 college fair events for high school students with a combined attendance of around 400 prospective students.
 - Worked with the SOAR staff to place a question about the potential need for disability-related support services in the web-based SOAR registration form. This allowed McBurney staff to follow up with incoming students prior to their enrollment at SOAR and arrival to campus in the fall semester. As a result, student contacts increased from 185 in 2010 to 354 in 2011.
 - Worked with SOAR staff to participate in the Academic Connections sessions at SOAR and in the resource fair for new students to further communicate the availability of the McBurney Center services to all enrolling students.
 - Offered a course (Exploring the Transition to College) targeted to students with disabilities. 24 students participated in two sections.
 - Worked with International Academic Programs to develop internet based information for students with disabilities who are considering participation in a UW-Madison study abroad program. The information will be available in Fall 2012.
 - Began recruiting students for the Workforce Recruitment Program, a federal program designed to recruit students with disabilities for potential internships and career opportunities. 24 students participated in 2011.
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Year 2, 2012-13

- Developed and implemented information sessions for prospective students and their families. Worked with Admissions and Recruitment to offer this session as a option when students build their itinerary for campus visits.
 - Revamped the student and parent orientation materials based on feedback from prior year. 36 students and parents attended this orientation directed at facilitating the transition to college for students with disabilities.
 - Worked with Admissions to enhance the visibility of disability-related services on web pages directed at prospective new students.
 - Worked with campus partners to ensure that students with disabilities can access information about and participate in key components of the Wisconsin Experience. This included working with International Academic Programs to provide website content devoted to preparing students with disabilities for study abroad. Also, a spring celebration dinner open to all current McBurney Center clients included written information on UW-Madison resources and career advising on campus. Post event survey responses indicate that students were satisfied with the event and appreciated the information.
 - Continued to promote the Workforce Recruitment Program described in Year 1. 23 students participated in 2012.
 - Worked with the Office of Quality Improvement to conduct focus groups of McBurney Center clients who are juniors and seniors to learn more about additional services students need.
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