In the Abstract

May 2005

Office of Institutional Research

Cohort 99 and Persistence at Oakton

From time to time we have provided information about the 3210 students who first entered Oakton in fall 1999, a group we refer to as “Cohort 99.” This month, our In the Abstract draws from a presentation Jim Kostecki will make at the annual Association for Institutional Research Forum, the major conference for institutional researchers in higher education.

The charts below illustrate the persistence of Cohort 99 students who did not come to Oakton with a bachelor’s degree already (based on student self reports). The first chart shows all of these students (below), the second chart shows only those enrolled in transfer programs, and the last shows those enrolled in career programs (back page).

Each bar chart displays:

- The number of students that enroll in a given term. (Grey bar)
- The number of students who have “stopped-out” for the term (i.e., have not enrolled in that term, but do enroll in a subsequent term). (Clear bar)

As seen in these charts, a significant number of students exhibit stop-in / stop-out patterns of attendance. Taking these students into account, the charts demonstrate the total number of students that are still “in our system” (i.e., have not yet left the College permanently).

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