

2013

## Rating Template Example: Transitions

University of Southern Maine

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### Recommended Citation

University of Southern Maine, "Rating Template Example: Transitions" (2013). *Direction Package*. 9.  
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Transitions						
Category/Headings	Topic Area	Score (1-4; 4=highest)	Strengths	Opportunities for Improvement/Growth	Other Comments	
Major Category	Transitions		Learning Designers to support faculty/instructional development	High Touch/High Tech advising		
				Concierge Model		
				Institutional Priority re: flexible scheduling		
				Academic support to address student needs		
				Degree programs responsive to learner needs; maybe tweaking programs		
				People (staffing)		
				Need role/responsibility clarification for academic advising and mentoring		
				Contract issues for faculty		
				Understand how potential student "access" our institution....what door they enter		
Minor Categories/Sub-Headings	High School to College Transitions		Strengths	Opportunities for Improvement/Growth	Other Comments	
				Lack of connection to the institution from students coming directly from high school		
			Environmental Science	Lack of cohesiveness		
			Com/Media Studies	Making sure that students connect with an individual (ongoing connection with faculty and/or staff member)		
			Scholarship Recipients	Uneven across the institution		
			Arts			
			SBS			
			MOT			
			Online Programs			
			UG LOS program			
		College to College		Strengths	Opportunities for Improvement/Growth	Other Comments
					Benign neglect	
					Lack of articulation agreements/clear pathways...don't do anything with articulation agreements	
					Not enough initial support for connection to the institution	
					Lack of responsiveness of re: articulation of courses....credit evaluation...takes too long	
					Core curriculum navigation	
				Programs that are accredited may not take certain courses into the major (sometimes in the Core)		
	Life to College (adult first time in college; adult transfers)		Strengths	Opportunities for Improvement/Growth	Other Comments	
			LAC	Lonely		
				Need to focus on ease of degree completion		
				Need to understand the nature of adult learners		
				Bureaucracy unfamiliar and complicated		

			Not just service areas.....general lack of responsiveness outside the “normal” business hours	
			ABCDE Report needs to be widely communicated for our path forward	
<b>International Students Transitions</b>		<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Opportunities for Improvement/Growth</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
		Potential to target populations	Learning Support needs	
			Size of population –scaling up	
			Focus for international students is on program offerings	
			Benchmark: UNH?	
			Need to build out a coherent and cohesive strategy	
			Need to consider language support as appropriate	
<b>Undergraduate to Graduate Transitions</b>		<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Opportunities for Improvement/Growth</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
			We do not reserve “slots” for our ug students;	
			No efforts to recruit from within by department; faculty engagement in process limited	
			USM UG students do not seem to be competitive (anecdotal)	
			Scholarship dollars limited for graduate students	
<b>Graduate to Career</b>		<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Opportunities for Improvement/Growth</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
		Theatre (individual faculty initiative); business; any department that has an internship program; MES/COM; programs that are more career oriented have more luck in this area	Anecdotal	
			Conversations with students about career pathways is uneven...and at times non-continuous	
<b>Student to Alum</b>		<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Opportunities for Improvement/Growth</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
			Don't track our alums	
			Don't do follow up surveys in any consistent/universal way (departments do some)	
			Don't set expectations re: what it means to be an alum	
<b>Non-Degree to Degree</b>		<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Opportunities for Improvement/Growth</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
			Hard to compete with “free”	
			Early Study students tend to go elsewhere	
			Students from other institutions who would have historically taken courses at USM (e.g., summer) are getting those courses from their “home institutions” via online, etc.	
			Lack of employer incentives	