THE CODO STUDENT AT PURDUE-WEST LAFAYETTE

This newsletter examines students who CODO at Purdue-West Lafayette, how frequently it happens, colleges/schools who are the main importers and exporters, and the impact on time to degree.

DEFINITION OF CODO

Change Of Degree Objective (CODO) is the formal process initiated by the student to change their degree objective. This report focuses on students who change from one academic college/school to another college/school.

HOW MANY STUDENTS CODO?

On the Purdue-West Lafayette campus, almost one third or 31% of students CODO at least once during their academic career.

DEGREE ATTAINMENT: ORIGINAL ENTRY COLLEGE v. CODO COLLEGE

At the university as a whole, 42% of the entry cohort will graduate from their original entry college/school, while 27% will graduate from an alternative college. The academic colleges/schools with the highest percentage of CODO-out graduates are *USP, Science, and Pharmacy. The academic college/school that graduate the highest percentage of their entry cohort are Veterinary Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, Engineering and Technology. (*USP by design exports all entry students.)

Chart 1. Percentage of entry and CODO graduates by college/school (cohort year 2005)
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS

Every college/school has students who CODO in (importer) and CODO out (exporter) each semester. When examining the fall to fall CODO rates over the last three years, the net exporting colleges/schools (exporter students more numerous than importer students) are Undergraduate Studies Program, Science, Engineering and Pharmacy. The net importing colleges/schools (importer students exceeding exporter students) are Health and Human Sciences, Technology, Management, Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture, Education, and Liberal Arts (see chart 2).

Chart 2. Net Percentage of CODO Imports and Exports by College/School

COMMON CODO PATHS

The paths and number of times that students CODO varies. The most common CODO paths for students who CODO one time are, from Undergraduate Studies Program to Health and Human Sciences or Liberal Arts, from Liberal Arts to Health and Human Sciences, and from Engineering to Technology. For students who CODO two times, the paths are Undergraduate Studies Program to Liberal Arts then to Health and Human Sciences, Undergraduate Studies Program to Health and Human Sciences then to Liberal Arts, and Engineering to Undergraduate Studies Program then to Liberal Arts.

ONCE

USP → HHS
USP → LA
LA → HHS
ENG → TECH

*TWICE

USP → LA → HHS
USP → HHS → LA
ENG → USP → LA

*Few students (3.6%) CODO more than once.

For questions, comments and suggestions please contact: enrollmentmanagement@purdue.edu
CODO STUDENT GRADUATION RATE DEPENDENT ON WHEN STUDENT CODOs

Generally, CODO students graduate with 7.5 more credits overall and take an additional semester to complete their degree than the average Purdue student.

Data show the longer the student waits to CODO for the first time, the greater the affect on their four-year graduation rate compared to students who never CODO (non-CODO). When the student CODOs in the first two semesters, there is little variance in the graduation rate between non-CODO vs. CODO students. If a student CODOs in semester three or four, their four-year graduation rate declines dramatically. The student who CODOs in the third semester has a four-year graduation rate 8 percentage points lower than a non-CODO student, 42% compared to 50%. The largest gap in four-year graduation rates between non-CODO vs. CODO students occurs when a student CODO’s in the fourth semester. Overall, a fourth semester CODO student’s four-year graduation rate is approximately 30 percentage points lower than a student who graduates from their entry college/school (see chart 3).

Chart 3. Graduation Rates of Non-CODO and CODO students at Purdue-West Lafayette by CODO Semester

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