I. Major Changes in the Context of our Profession and Work

Student Transition Programs is comprised of several different elements: National Student Exchange, Semester at Sea, FYE/Academic Success activities, Student Appeals Board and OASIS. Below find a brief update covering our services provided and number of students served since the last strategic planning report done in Fall 2004.

- The OASIS Staff worked with 500 + non-traditional students (compared to 425 the previous year) in areas such as general information regarding returning to college, information on academic concerns, participants in our academic success class, and general information on or needing referral to other areas of campus.
  - We continue with approximately 2/3 of OASIS contacts from women; 1/3 from men
  - Regarding the breakdown on grad/undergrad contacts, we continue to estimate 10% graduate students and 90% undergrad students.

- The Adult Learner Success Class continues with respectable numbers during the Fall and Spring semesters. Of particular positive note is the enrollment of four students participating in the version of this class now offered through Study By Correspondence; two others have already completed the course.

- National Student Exchange and Semester at Sea continue to hold “steady” with participant numbers appropriate for our size institution. Of significance during this past year was Semester at Sea once again allotting five, $2,000 Scholarships for UNR students to utilize during the 2006 Summer voyage; only twenty schools in the U.S. chosen for this special scholarship program!

- The Director of this department continues to serve as Chair of the Student Refund Appeals Board, which met a total of 15 times in 2005 and reviewed 246 appeals. It has become necessary to meet every 2-3 weeks during the Fall and Spring semesters, which is a definite increase over the “early years” of this Board. As more students learn about the option of this Appeals process, we expect a steady increase in numbers of appeals and numbers/length of Board meetings.
II. Update on Performance Measures

The primary assessment project for the department for the past three years has involved the students taking the CEP 122 Academic Success Class for Adult Learners. As per the final report posted on the Assessment Office website, we found that 60% of the students taking this class reported a significant positive change in how they view their academic skills and how they perceive their comfort level on campus. Given the small number of students in this study (36 who took the class, 36 in the control group) we are cautiously optimistic that the students enrolled in the CEP 122 class are achieving academic success as they are taking more credits each semester and obtain higher quality grade points than the control group.

III. Resource Need Priorities

As per the recent CAS Review, which focused on Adult/Re-Entry Student Services, the following were identified as “priorities” for future consideration:

- Explore relocating the department to the new student union or old student union to address the concerns about easier access, adequate meeting space, more “visibility”, etc. This move would also benefit the National Student Exchange and Semester at Sea programs, as well as OASIS.
- Investigate the possibility of a part time professional position (ideally to be filled with a former adult/re-entry student) to focus specifically on OASIS activities, including assisting with teaching the CEP 122 class and networking activities in the community.

IV. Suggestions For New Programs

- There are no current suggestions for new programs, but rather continuing to improve/refine our current activities.