

SDES RETENTION BRIEFINGS

# Sophomore and Second Year Center

## *Focus: Accelerated Students*



### Department Overview

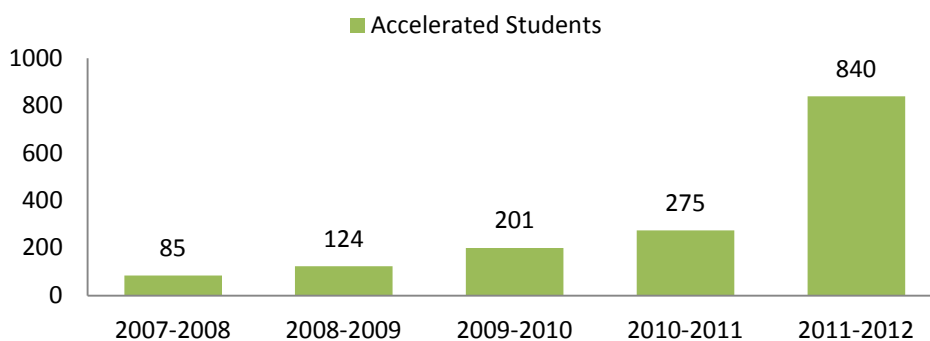
The mission of the Sophomore and Second Year Center (SSYC) is to retain sophomore and second year students at the University of Central Florida by providing academic advising and support services to targeted populations. Accelerated students are one of the special populations advised through SSYC. First year students who enter the University of Central Florida with 30 or more credit hours completed by the start of the fall semester are classified as accelerated FTIC.

### SSYC Support of Accelerated Students

- ❖ Provide intentional and individualized support to accelerated students regarding transitional concerns such as entering a large institution, use of accelerated credits, and handling upper level courses.
- ❖ Work closely with College advisors to directly assist accelerated students with enrollment challenges concerning major prerequisites or upper level courses.
- ❖ Conduct numerous outreach sessions and provide on-line information resources to increase awareness of campus support services and connect students to the college community.

### FTIC Accelerated Students Advised by SSYC

- ❖ The definition of accelerated students changed in 2011 from students coming to UCF with 45 or more credit hours to students with 30 or more credit hours.
- ❖ There were 840 accelerated students in the 2011-2012 cohort.



“My experience at SSYC has been nothing short of amazing. The advisors will stop at nothing to help their students with any and all issues.”

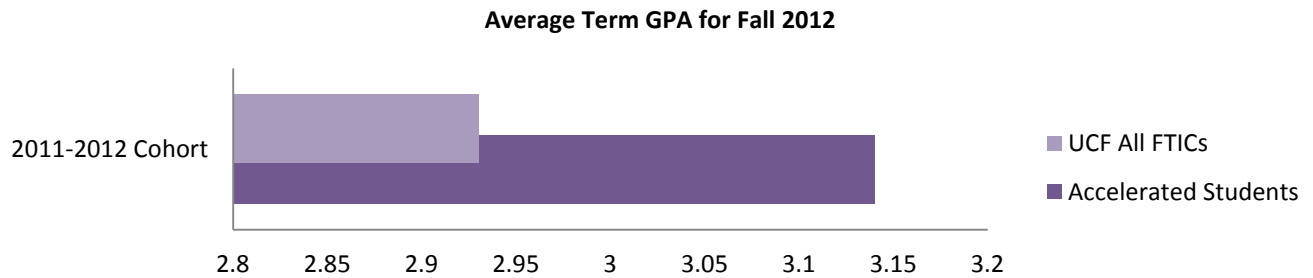
*-Devan Phillips,  
Accelerated Student*

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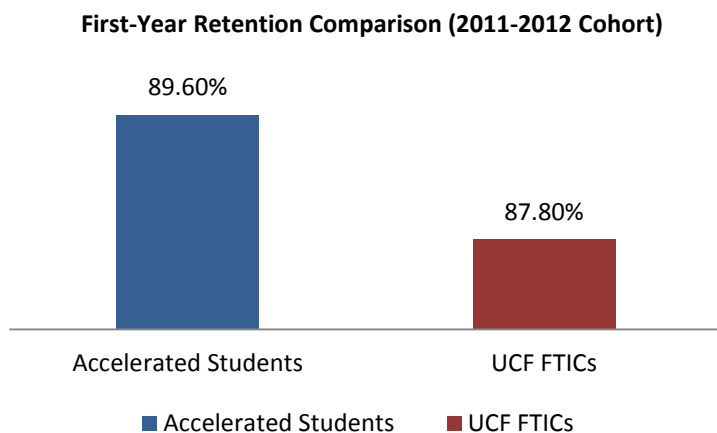
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## Evidence of Impact on Student Retention and Success

- ❖ The average Fall 2012 GPA of accelerated Students in the 2011-2012 cohort was 3.14 compared with 2.93 for All FTICs.



- ❖ The first-year retention of accelerated students from the 2011-2012 cohort was 89.6 percent compared with the UCF FTIC retention of 87.8 percent.



“SSYC is an office like no other. You feel a sense of belonging you don’t find anywhere else. They don’t just offer guidance; they teach you how to think for yourself, and how to use that to your advantage in all your future endeavors” -

*Siqi He, SSYC Peer Advisor*

- ❖ The four year graduation rate of accelerated students for the 2008-2009 cohort was 55.9 percent, compared with 39.1 for the general UCF population in that cohort.

