**CMPT475/477 Project Case Study (Fall 2015)**

Transfer admission is more complex than freshman admission primarily because of the questions surrounding prior coursework and their transferability to Marist. Prospective transfer students increasingly want to know how many credits will transfer to Marist prior to submitting their application for admission. However, because credit evaluations are so time consuming to complete, the Registrar can only provide official ones to accepted students. This results in a number of students seeking unofficial credit evaluations from the Admission Office. The challenge is that, whether official or unofficial, these evaluations are time consuming because they are completed manually, and the peak of the requests come at the busiest times in the Admission and Registrar’s Offices. Students also have multiple majors of interest, or they will change majors after being accepted. This results in the generation of multiple credit evaluations and lost productivity for Marist employees. The current system is laborious and inefficient.

We know that our number one source of transfer inquiries is the application itself. This infers that students are doing a lot of their own research via the Marist website. The challenge with this is that we do not know how many students self-select out of the admission process because they were not able to determine how many credits would transfer (this is one of the primary concerns for every transfer student).

What is needed is a platform that allows prospective students to input their courses, choose a major, and automatically generate a credit evaluation for their major of choice. We are not aware of any college or university that currently offers this service to prospective or accepted students.

An ideal system will be capable of the following functions:

* Allow students to choose from courses we already have in our database. By selecting courses, rather than inputting them, it would hopefully limit human error. At the same time, we recognize new courses are added every year, so we want the students to submit information about those courses so that we can review them and display the Marist equivalent.
* Allow us to capture basic information from the user (e.g., name, email, major of interest, current college/university, intended Marist start date)
* Provide the prospective student an easy to understand assessment of the number of transferable credits, and the number of courses/credits they will need to complete the Marist degree
* Allow prospective students to request someone to contact them with more information
* Allow prospective students to save the courses they have entered/selected, so they do not need to start from beginning if they close their browser
* Allow us to update the program requirements for each major
* Allow us to update course equivalencies when needed
* Allow us to promote this platform to our two-year college partners, their transfer services staff, and their students