

## Transfer Tritons

EVC Elizabeth H. Simmons 2018-05-05

On Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, I participated in my very first Transfer Triton Day. So many happy students and families spread out across campus. Such an array of enthusiastic UC San Diego faculty and staff on hand to provide a welcome and proffer information. Joyous conch tones resounding as ever more students accepted their offers of admissions.

I am so proud to have had the chance to meet these future Tritons. Those I spoke with knew exactly why they wanted to attend UC San Diego. They had such clear visions of the majors they were pursuing and the directions they had chosen for their future careers. They were ready to network and build connections with everyone they were meeting during the day.

It reminded me of just how strongly prepared our transfer students are for their entry into the university. They have not only met all the same kinds of stringent admissions requirements as our entering freshmen – but have also already successfully completed two years of college courses. They bring an array of educational, work, leadership, and life experiences that immeasurably enrich our campus community.

As all of us in the faculty, staff, and administration encounter transfer students in our daily work, here is what I hope each of us can consistently communicate to them through our words and enthusiasm:

- We are so glad that you have chosen to be Tritons.
- We respect and value what you bring to our campus and what you have to teach your new peers as you join them in classes, sports teams, and student organizations.
- We know that you are up to the educational challenges all students encounter on our campus: the pace and rigor of the courses, the overwhelming array of options, the need to adapt swiftly to a new environment.
- We, your teachers, advisors, supervisors, and mentors are here to boost your progress on the educational and career paths you have chosen for yourselves. We are ready to do our part.
- We will be very proud to count you among our successful alumni.

After all, UC San Diego serves the people of California by providing multiple pathways into and through higher education. Celebrating our confidence in and support for the success of our transfer students is crucial to our mission.