Why Did Only 55% of Fall 2010 Students with 45 or More Earned Credits Graduate in Two Semesters?

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The graph below depicts what happened to those who did not graduate within two semesters, even though they began with 45 or more earned credits. Of those who began with 45 or more earned credits who did not graduate in two semesters, 14% transferred to other schools. Of all those registered with 45 or more earned credits, 8% graduated after the third semester, Fall 2012, while 12% were registered for Spring 2012 courses. Ten percent (258 students) are not currently registered, do not appear to have transferred and have not graduated.

2,500 -	Disposition of	Not Active (10%) 258	
2,000 -	2,482 Students Enrolled in Fall 2010 with 45 or	Transferred (14%) 358	
	More Earned Credits (55%	Registered for Sp 12 (12%) 291	
1,500 -	Graduated within Two Semesters)	Graduated after third semester (8%) 210	
1,000 -			
500 -		Graduated in two semesters (55%) 1,365	
0 —			

If you have earned 45 or more credits and you do not graduate within two semesters (2,482 students less the 1,365 who graduated or 1,117 students), you have a 55% chance of transferring (358 students) or (appearing) to drop out (258 students had not graduated,

transferred or registered for Spring 2012). 87% (224) of the 258 missing students left with a GPA at or above 2.00.

The issue of "moot" credits is important here. Although we do not have history data from DegreeWorks, we know from current data that only about 65% of the students with 45 or more credits actually have 45 or more credits in *their major*. Students with 45 or more credits have, on average, about 57 earned credits, but only about 45 of those actually apply toward their current degree.

If the 907 students who did not graduate still needed about 15 credits in their major in Fall 2010 (which we cannot really tell), then the table below describes their progress. On average, these students only earned enough credits to make up the missing 15 within three more semesters (on average).

Number of Students Enrolled Who Have Not Graduated	Semester	Credits Attempted	Credits Earned
907	Fall 10	8.8	5.9
512	Spring 11	8.2	5.9
369	Fall 11	7.8	5.5
291	Spring 12	6.2	too early

Those students who do not graduate are earning only six credits a semester. This probably explains why 907 or 37% of those who began Fall 2010 with at least 45 earned credits transferred, were still enrolled or appear to have dropped out.