SJU Saint Joseph's University

Office of Student Success

sju.edu/studentsuccess

Insider Tips for a Successful First Year at SJU

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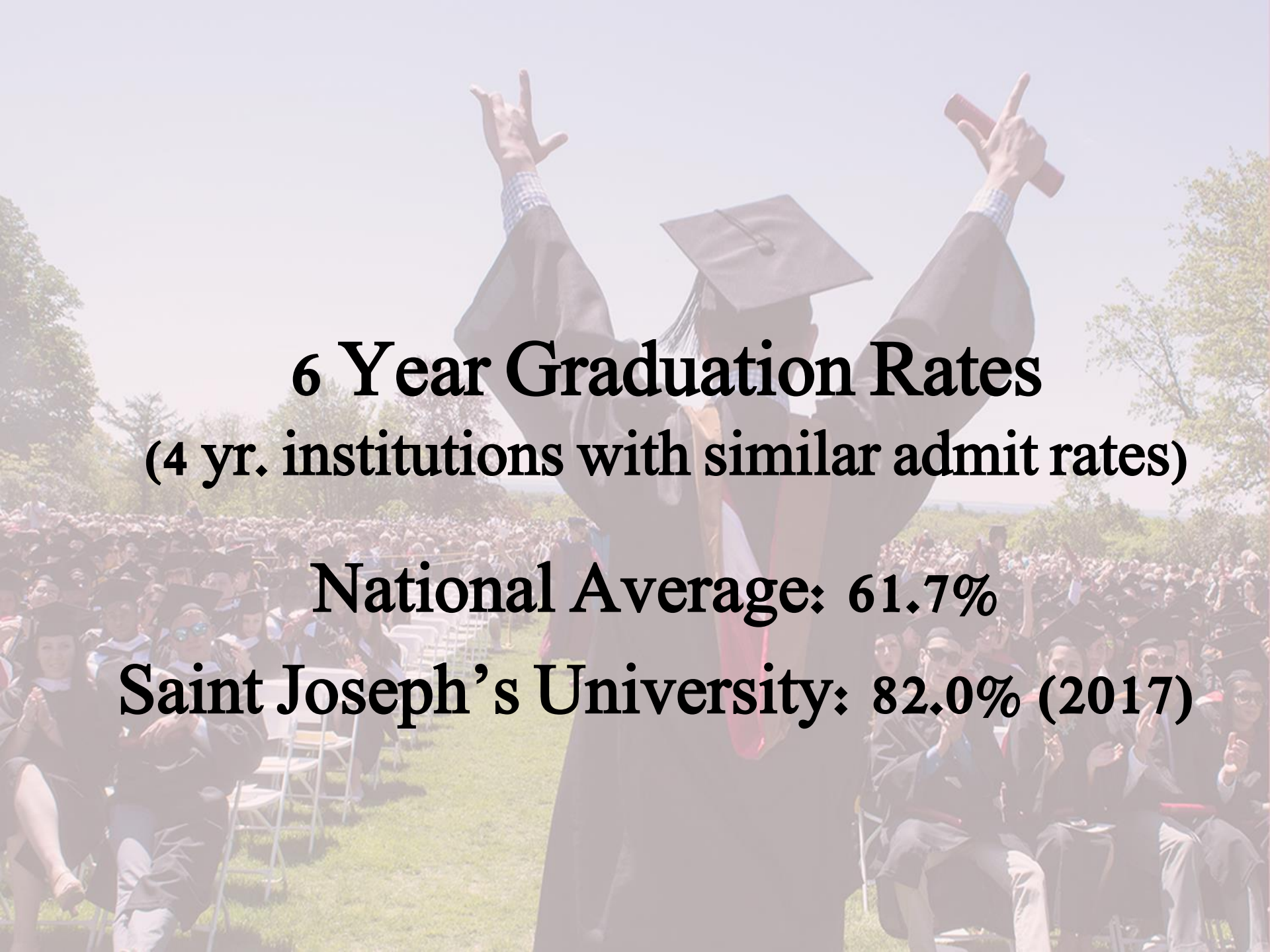
FY to SO Retention
(4 yr. private institutions)

National Average : 74.70%

Saint Joseph's University: 90.73% (2017)



6 Year Graduation Rates

(4 yr. institutions with similar admit rates)

National Average: 61.7%

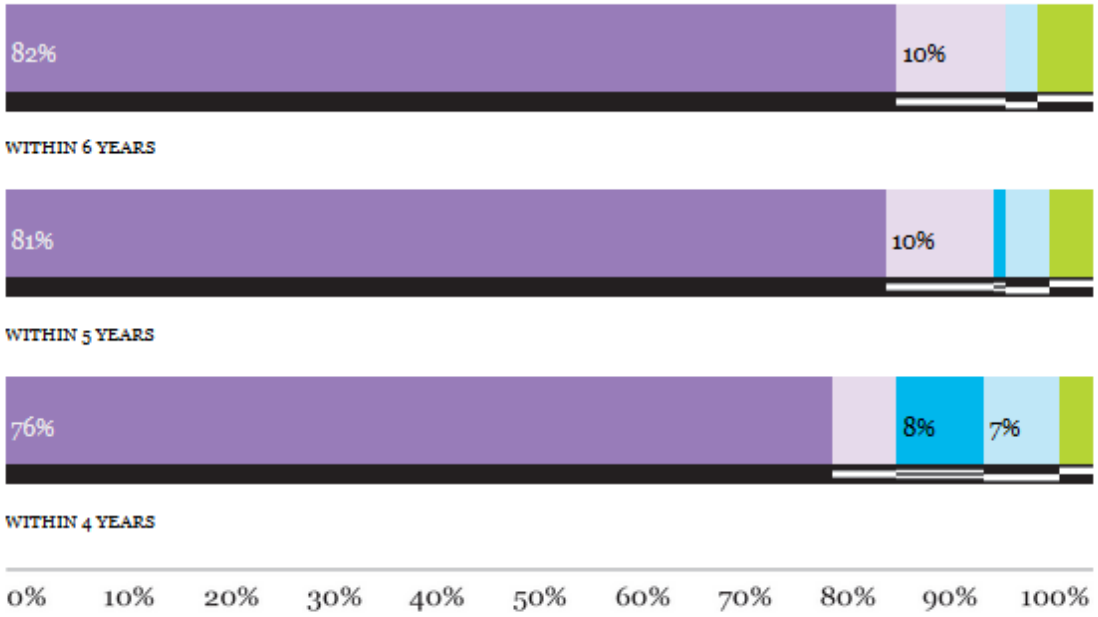
Saint Joseph's University: 82.0% (2017)

First-Time Full-Time

First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2011

Number of students: 1,132

roll over each bar for detail data



Graduated: Reporting institution

Transferred & Graduated: Other Institution

Enrolled: Reporting institution

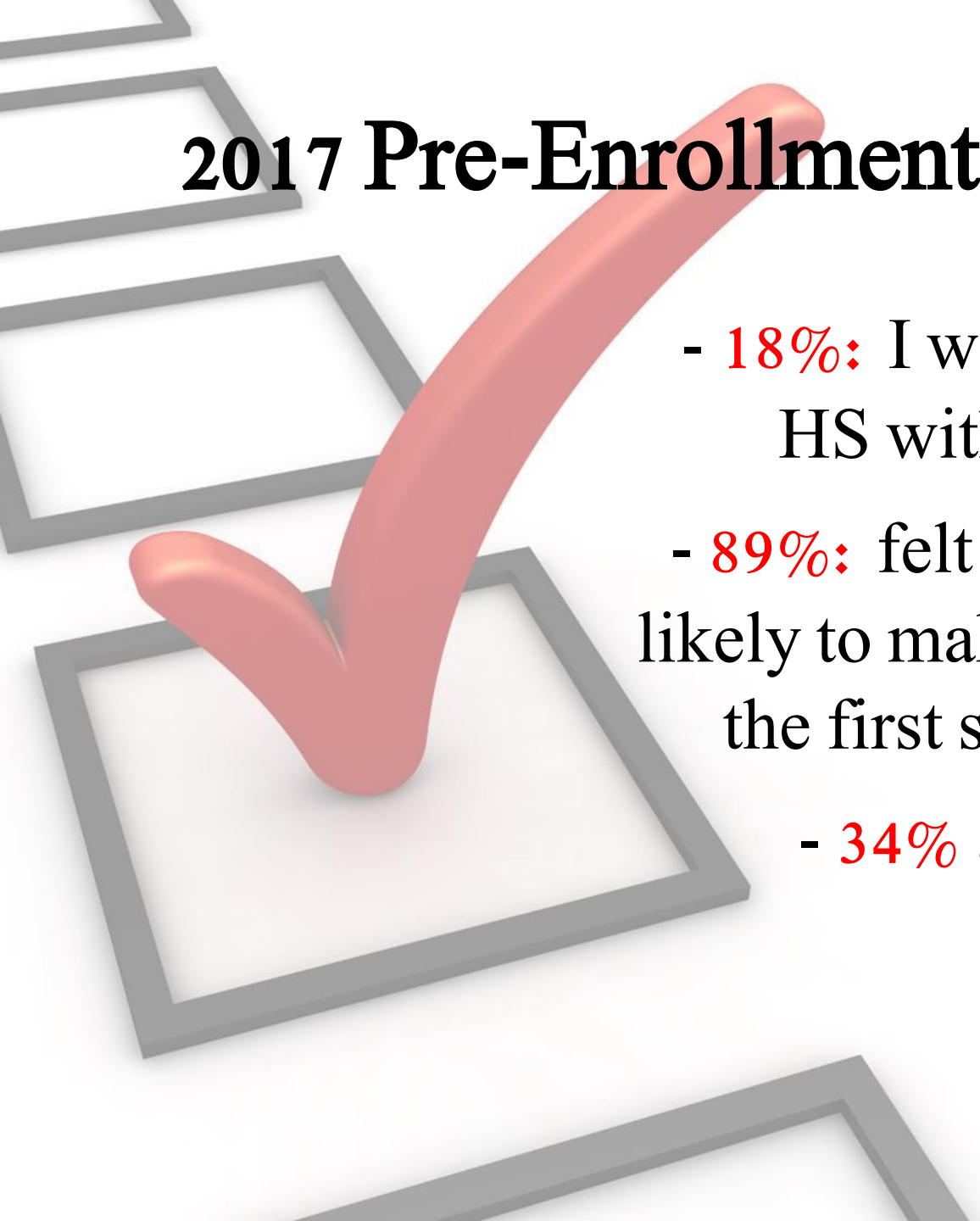
Transferred & Enrolled: Other Institution

Current Status Unknown

view detail data for graph »

Starfish
by HOBSONS

Academic Information



2017 Pre-Enrollment Survey Data

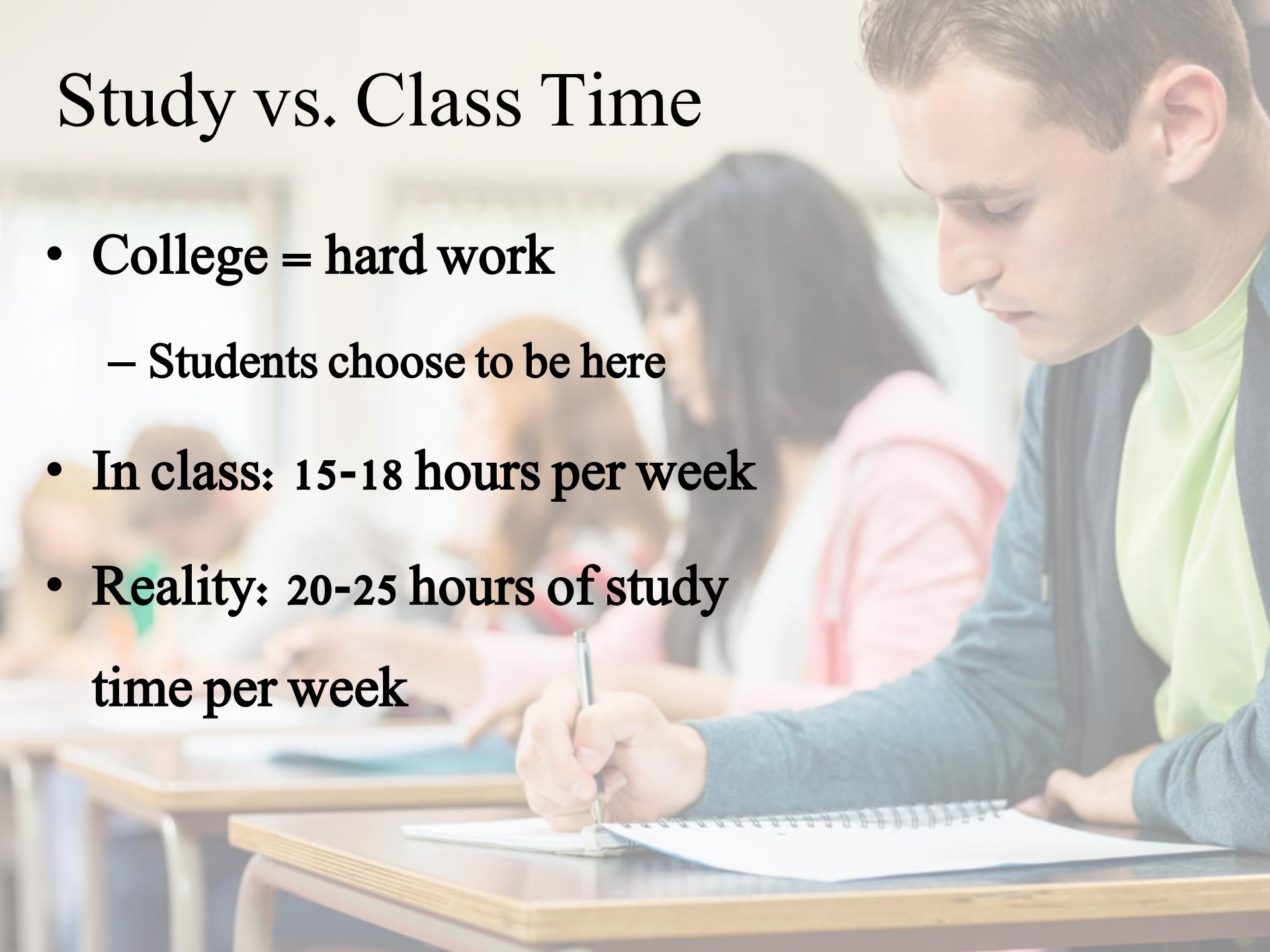
- 18%: I was able to do well in HS with minimal effort

- 89%: felt it somewhat or very likely to make Dean's List during the first semester (3.5 GPA)

- 34% actually made Dean's List

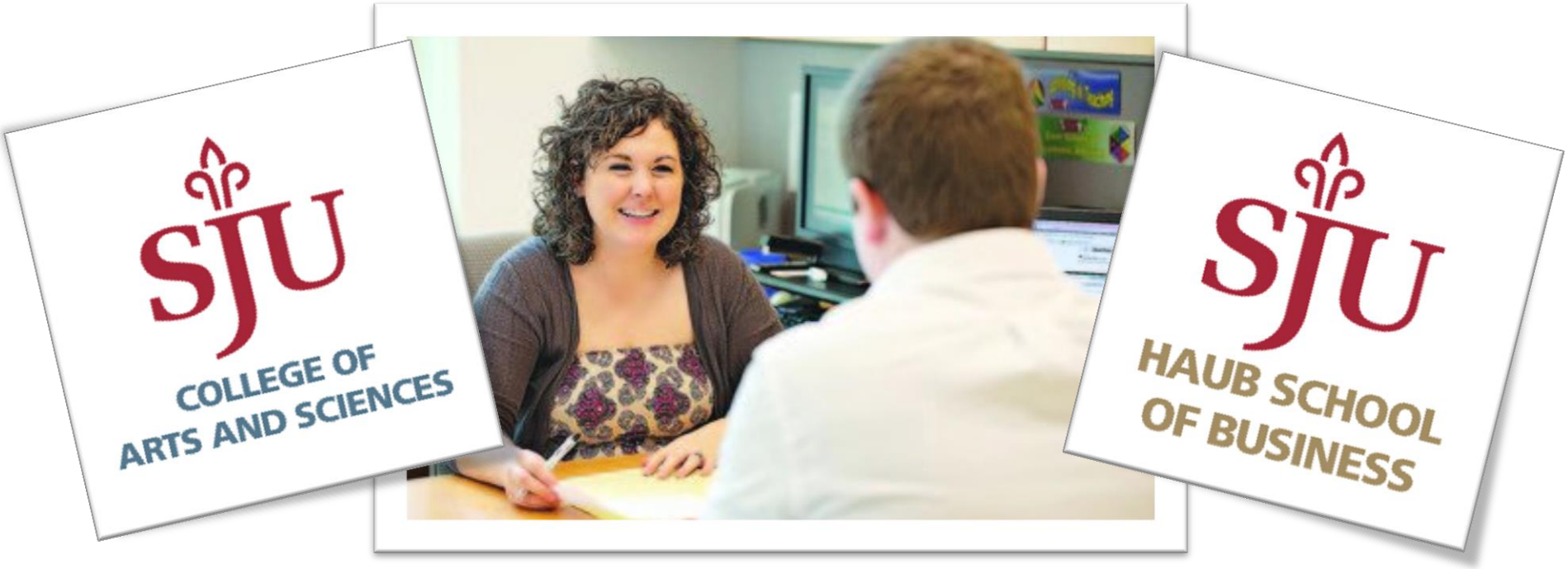
Study vs. Class Time

- College = hard work
  - Students choose to be here
- In class: 15-18 hours per week
- Reality: 20-25 hours of study time per week



Academic Advising

- Academic Advisor: declared vs. undeclared major
- Academic Advisor vs. the Advising Center



Support Services on Campus

- Office of Learning Resources
- The Writing Center
- Counseling & Psychological Services
- Office of Student Success
- Student Outreach & Support
- Student Disability Services
- Career Development Center
- Inigo First Year Experience

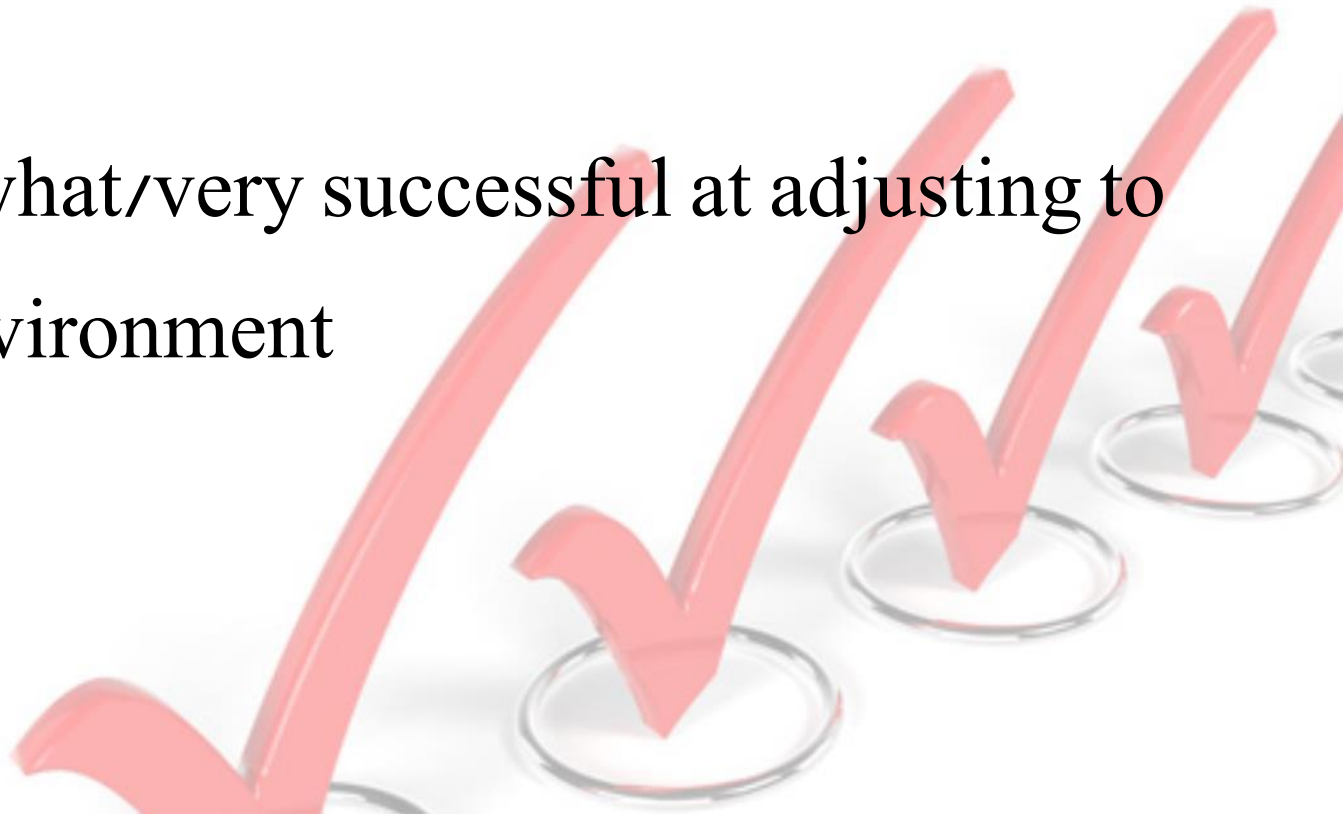
Other Academic Information

- Add/Drop (Sept. 4) vs. withdrawal from a class (Oct. 25)
- Taking 4 classes vs. 5 classes
- Accommodations with Student Disability Services need to be renewed each year

Social Information

Checking-In Survey (Class of 2021)

- 58%- Social transition was somewhat/very easy
- 76%- Somewhat/very successful at making friends
- 72%- Somewhat/very successful at adjusting to the social environment



Meeting People at College

- 1,000+ Facebook friends but no one to eat lunch with
- Talk to people (limit Facebook, texting, etc.)
  - Ex. Cellphones in class, not meeting classmates
- Put themselves out there
- Keep making friends, don't limit themselves
- Video game console in dorm room (not a great idea)

Early Arrival Programs

AIM

Extended orientation focused on the academic and social transition for first year students.

BEAGLE

Biology Experience Aimed at Growth, Learning & Excellence

For incoming Biology, Chemical Biology and Environmental Science majors focused on engaging students with the pace and rigor of college-level academics.

PSIP

Philadelphia Service Immersion Program

A creative engagement of Philadelphia area communities through service, reflection and cultural learning.

Running Start

Focused on engaging traditionally underrepresented and diverse students with social activities and success seminars to support the acclimation to college.

Greek Life

- Recruitment takes place in the Spring semester for first year students
- ~22% of undergrads are involved in Greek Life
- Minimum GPA- 2.5; minimum of 12 credits completed

- Iñigo vs. In. I. Go.
- Goal is to create a sense of belonging for all first year students
- Day of Service, Spark Retreat, 4 Halls (commuters included), Basketball game reception, SOAR peer mentoring, etc.

Financial Information

Tuition Bills

- Emailed to the student's "sju.edu" email address
- Students can assign access to Ebill through the New Hawks Portal
  - Parent/Guardian email address

Opportunities to Lower Costs

- Loyola Scholarship
- Apply to become an RA
- Become “The Hawk”
- www.sju.edu/careers

Office of Veterans Services

Supporting: Veterans, Family members, Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve components

Client Services: GI Bill and Post-9/11, Yellow Ribbon, Counseling, VA Benefits, Vocational Rehab, Co-Op, and Career Development Services

Contact: Mandeville Hall, Room 206 – veterans@sju.edu – www.sju.edu/veterans

Hank Gillen x3263 **Kevin Gelzhiser x3329**

Financial Holds

An unpaid tuition balance greater than $500 prevents students from registering for classes and receiving a transcript.

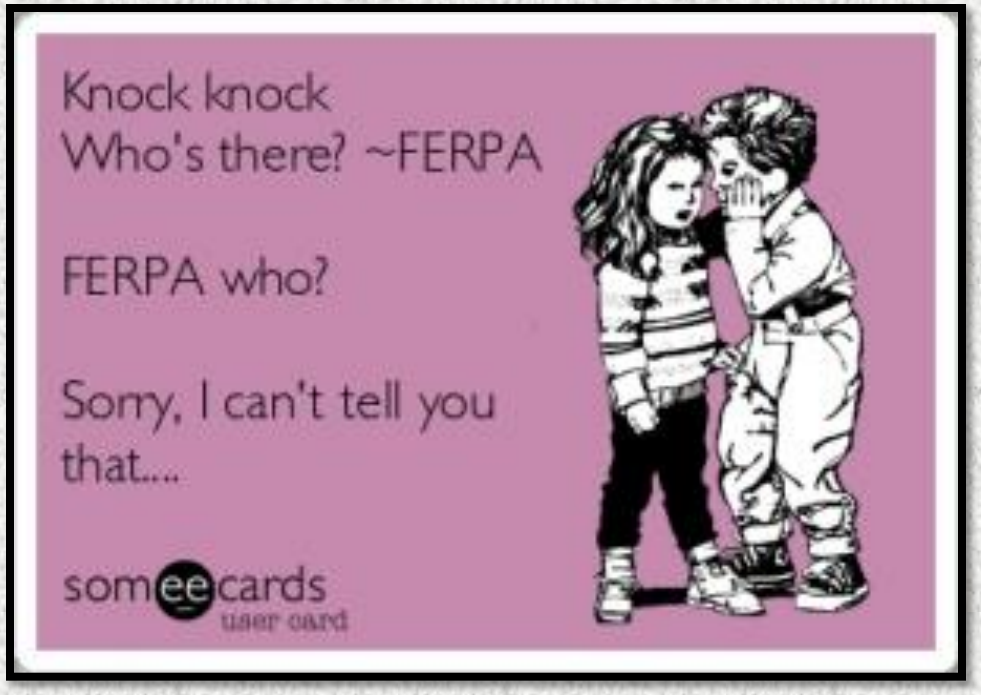
Tuition Refund Schedule
(20% reduction each week)

- Applies to WD all classes or WD from SJU
- Before the end of Add/Drop (Sept. 4) = 100%
- Each subsequent week = 20% less
- After the 5th week = 0%

Tuition insurance is available
(www.sju.edu/bursar)

FERPA- Parent Access to Information
(Yes or No- students select)

- Account/Billing
- Financial Aid
- Academic Information



Allows SJU employees the opportunity to speak with parents.

Family/General Information

Extended Absence

(Notification policy for students missing extended class time)

- Send an email to success@sju.edu
- Professors, Academic Advisor, Associate Dean, Advising Center, and Student are all notified
- Others as appropriate

PRIVACY

Public Transportation

- Overbrook Train Station
- SEPTA Buses

Discount Tickets Available

Fall Semester Dates to Know

- HawkFest (September 21-23)
  - Showing you their "home away from home"
- Fall Break (October 15-16)- Monday and Tuesday
- Thanksgiving Break (Begins November 21st)
  - Coming home to see their friends

Top 3 Takeaways from Today

- Encourage your student to get involved early at SJU
  - Activities Fair: Thursday, 8/30
  - Freshmen Day of Service: Saturday, 9/1
  - Spark Retreat: Friday- Sunday, 9/28-9/30 (2 overnights)
- Have a conversation this summer to set expectations and get everyone on the same page
  - Don't forget to pick up your purple paper before leaving
- We're all here to help your student succeed
  - When in doubt… success@sju.edu

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