MERCED COLLEGE



Made in Merced. Built for the World.

Building an Integrated Transfer Eco System

Merced Community College District (MCCD)

Career and Transfer Center

The Panel

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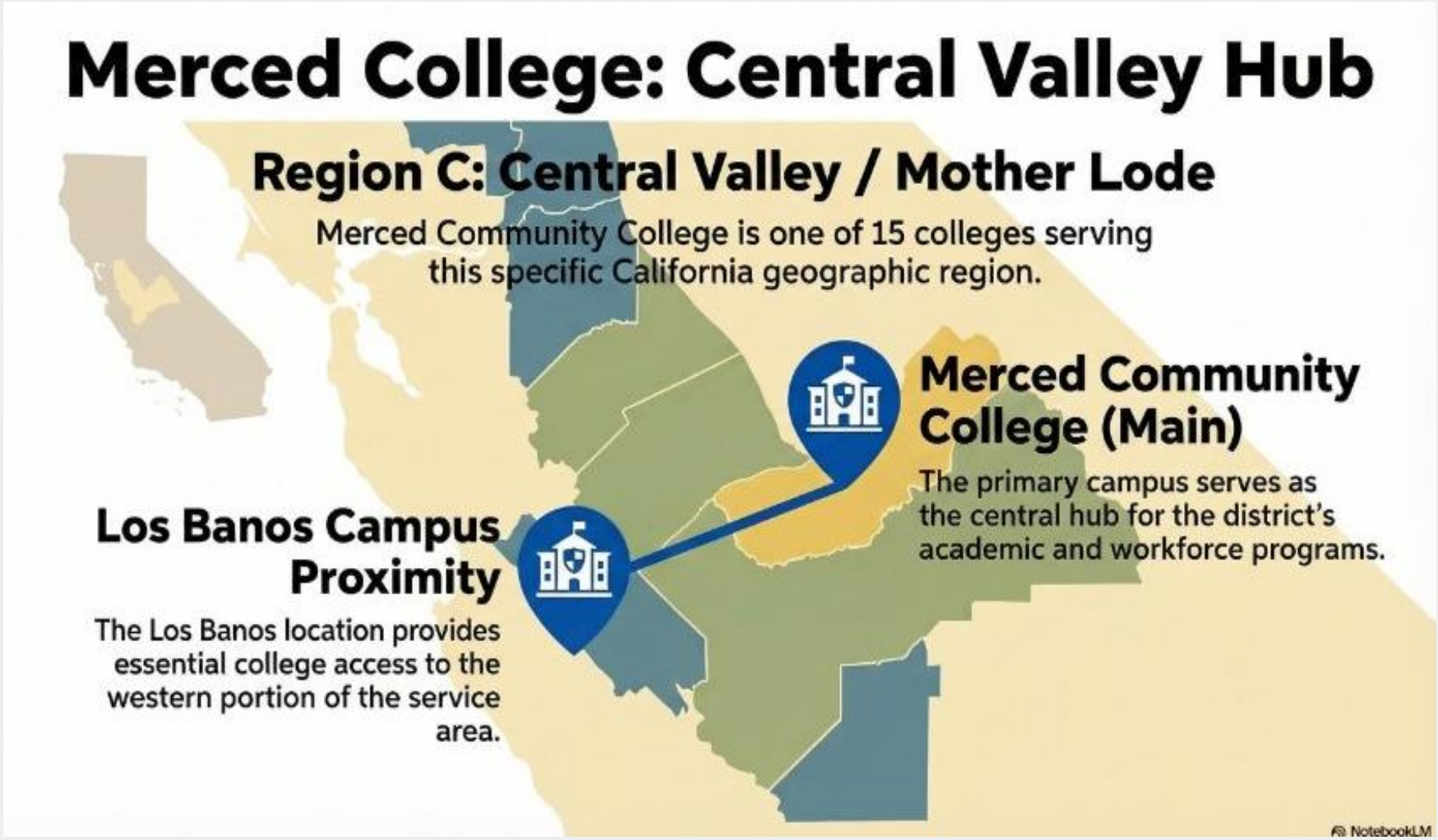
Session Learning Outcomes

- **Structural Synergy**: Identify how formal MOUs, cost-sharing, and co-located offices allow CCC, CSU, and UC partners to function as a single, unified professional team.
- **The Partnership Experience**: Understand how embedded CSU and UC partners provide seamless student support by sharing physical space, and data assets, and 32 hours of advising appointments on-site at MCCD campuses.
- **The Counseling Perspective:** Learn how integrated data practices, such as shared transcript access and UC TAP collaboration, empower counselors to provide the proactive, coordinated support students want.
- **Student-Centered Belonging**: Describe how co-planned programming and new transfer housing initiatives at UC Merced promote long-term student immersion and success.

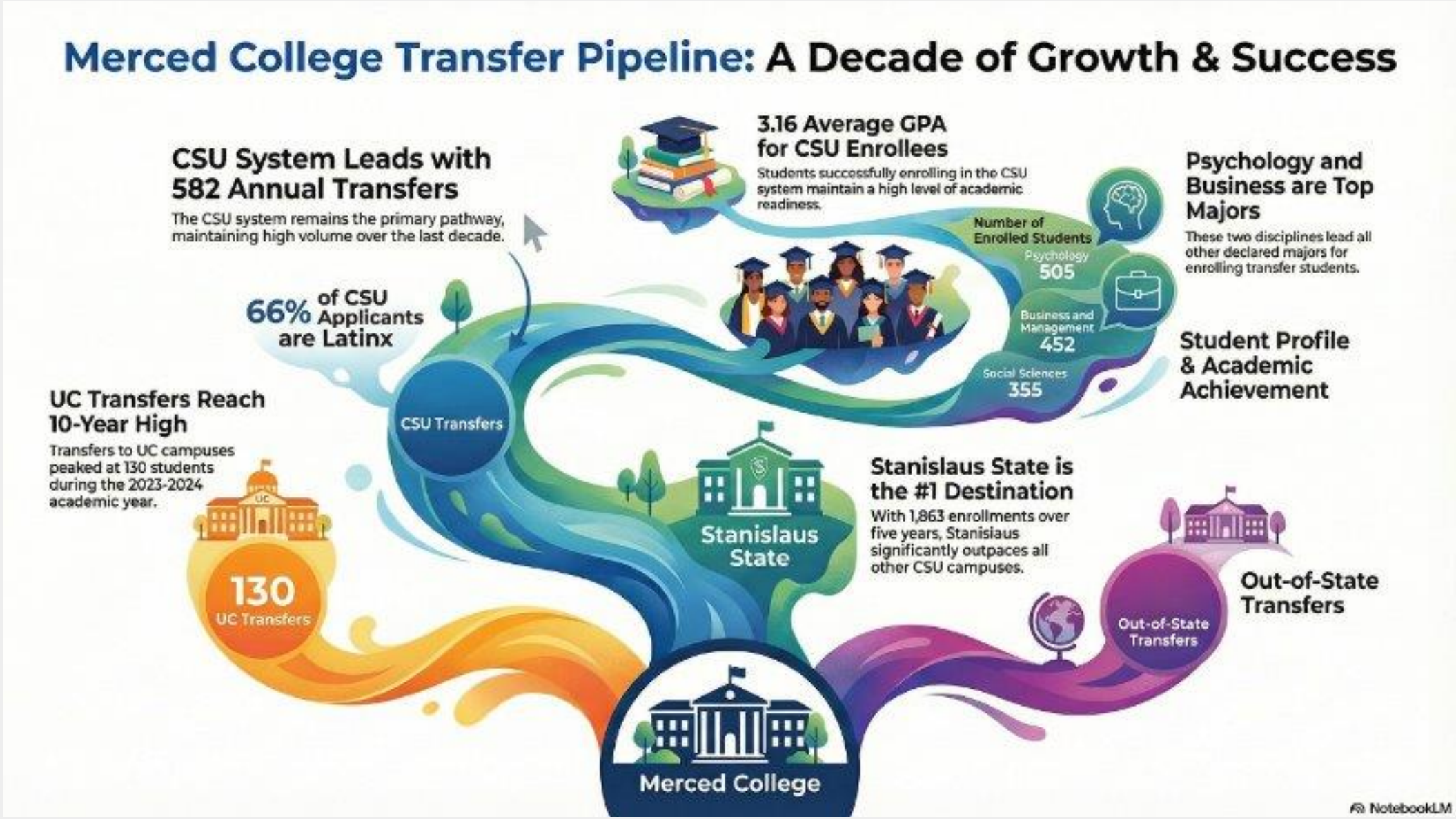
Setting the Context

- Merced College is in the *Central Valley* of the San Joaquin Valley.
- MCCD has two campuses. Merced (Main) and a campus in Los Baños.
- MCCD is mid-sized (10,000 – 20,000 students) as defined by Total Computational Revenue (TCR) for the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF).

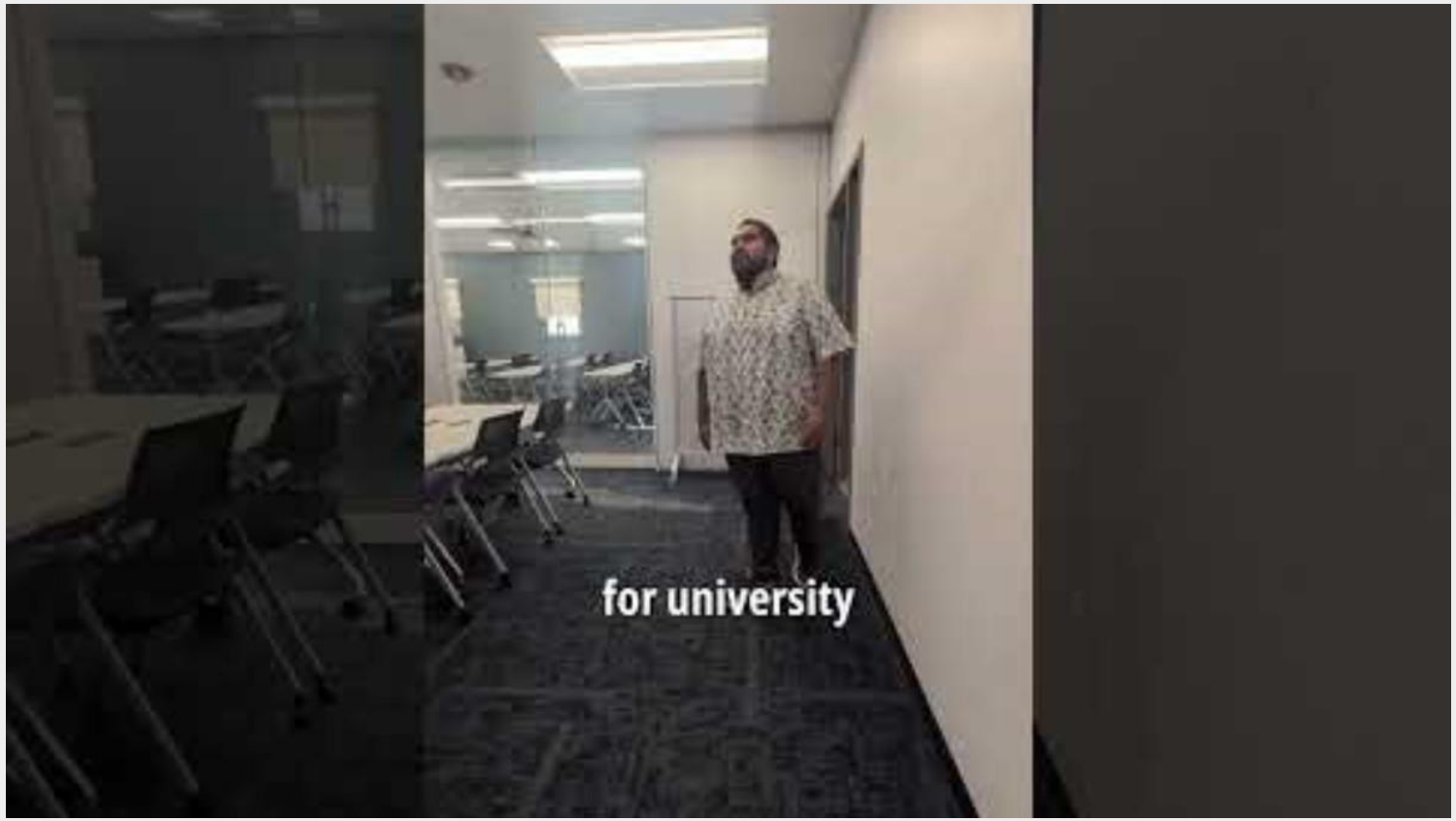
Central Valley Mother Lode Region C



Setting the Context: Transfer Trends



Experience the Eco System





Stanislaus State: Warriors on the Way (WOW)

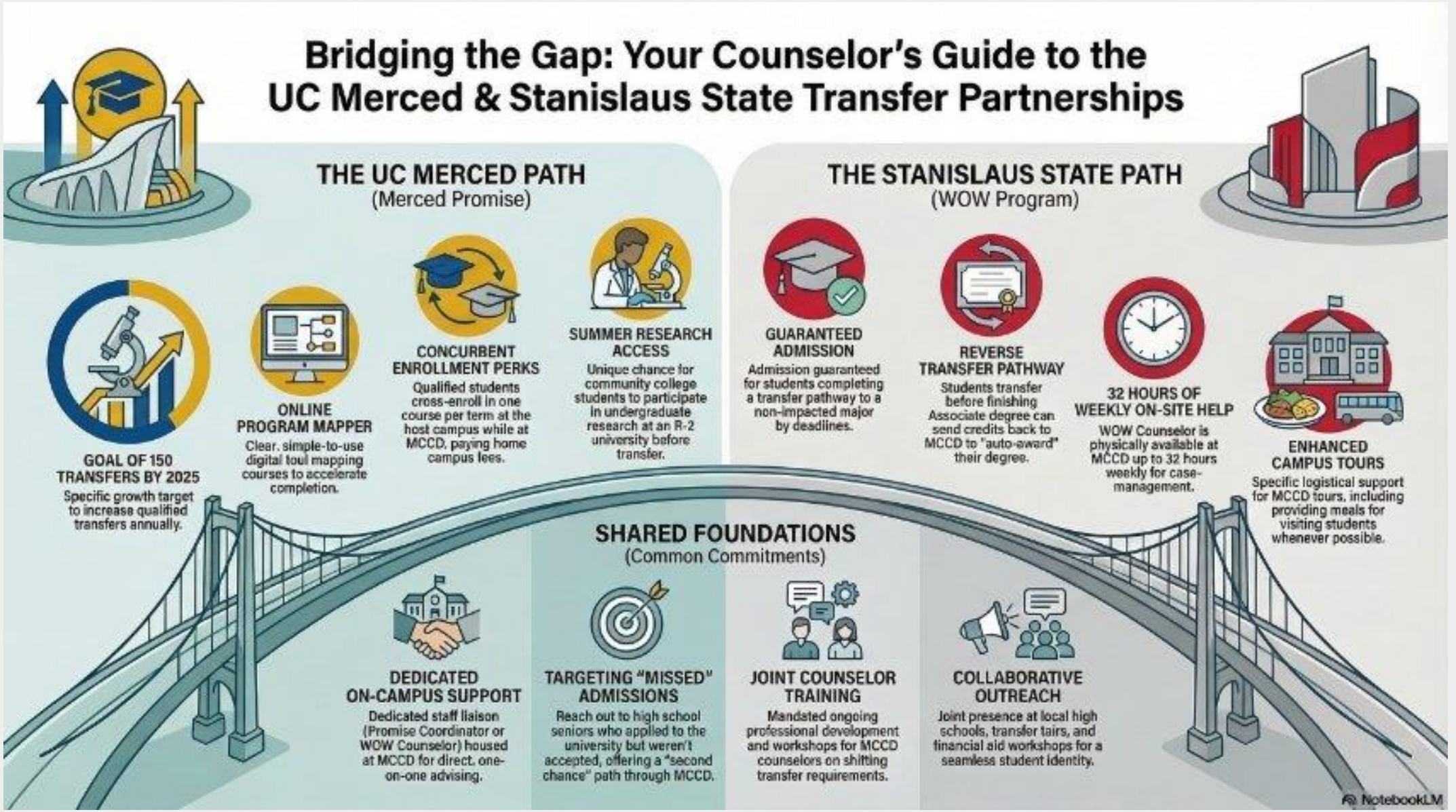
- **Thirty-two** advising & coordinating **hours** offered on-site at the Merced Community College District (MCCD).
- Stanislaus State has its own private office in the MCCD Career and Transfer Center (CTC).
- Data Sharing: Transcript sharing to Stanislaus State to streamline admissions for students who opt-in to avoid admission offers being rescinded and to support upper-division and lower-division transfer preparedness.
- Data Sharing: Applicant list from MCCD.
- Co-coordinated programming on site at MCCD (both campuses).
- Coordinated tabling visits and updates to MCCD.
- Stan State Application Support (Cal State Apply).
- MCCD Canvas Page & MCCD Website.

The Merced Promise: UC Merced Promise



- **Three days** of advising and coordination on-site at MCCD.
- Cost-sharing to develop a MCCD and UC Merced split position with access to internal MCCD systems.
- Coordination: field trips, UC transfer programming, tabling coordinated by UC, classroom presentations, and MCCD faculty and UC Merced faculty mixers.
- UC Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) and UC Application support.
- MCCD Website & Canvas page.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Details



The "How" to Develop the Eco-System

Design & Architecture:

- Institutional & Leadership is needed for capital outlay and real estate development.
- Transfer goals and Transfer Center programmatic goals need to be integrated in the Education Plans, Facility Plans, Student Equity Plans. Strategic plans must prioritize transfer.
- Braided funding with allowable funding sources. One-time resource allocation request and program review requests for furniture and the exterior patio.

The "How" Continued

MOU Development with Four-Year Partners

- Cybersecurity/Information Technology/Admissions and Records involvement to read through data-sharing agreements and language.
- Commitment by both institutions to use braided funding to fund the role(s) and annual commitments to send over general ledger documents to provide evidence of funding availability.
- MCCD to serve on hiring committees for the selection UC Merced and Stan State positions.
- Braided funding (SEA-P; one-time strategic funds; K-16 grants) to support position control.
- Facilities Plan: A commitment to offer private spaces to university partners.

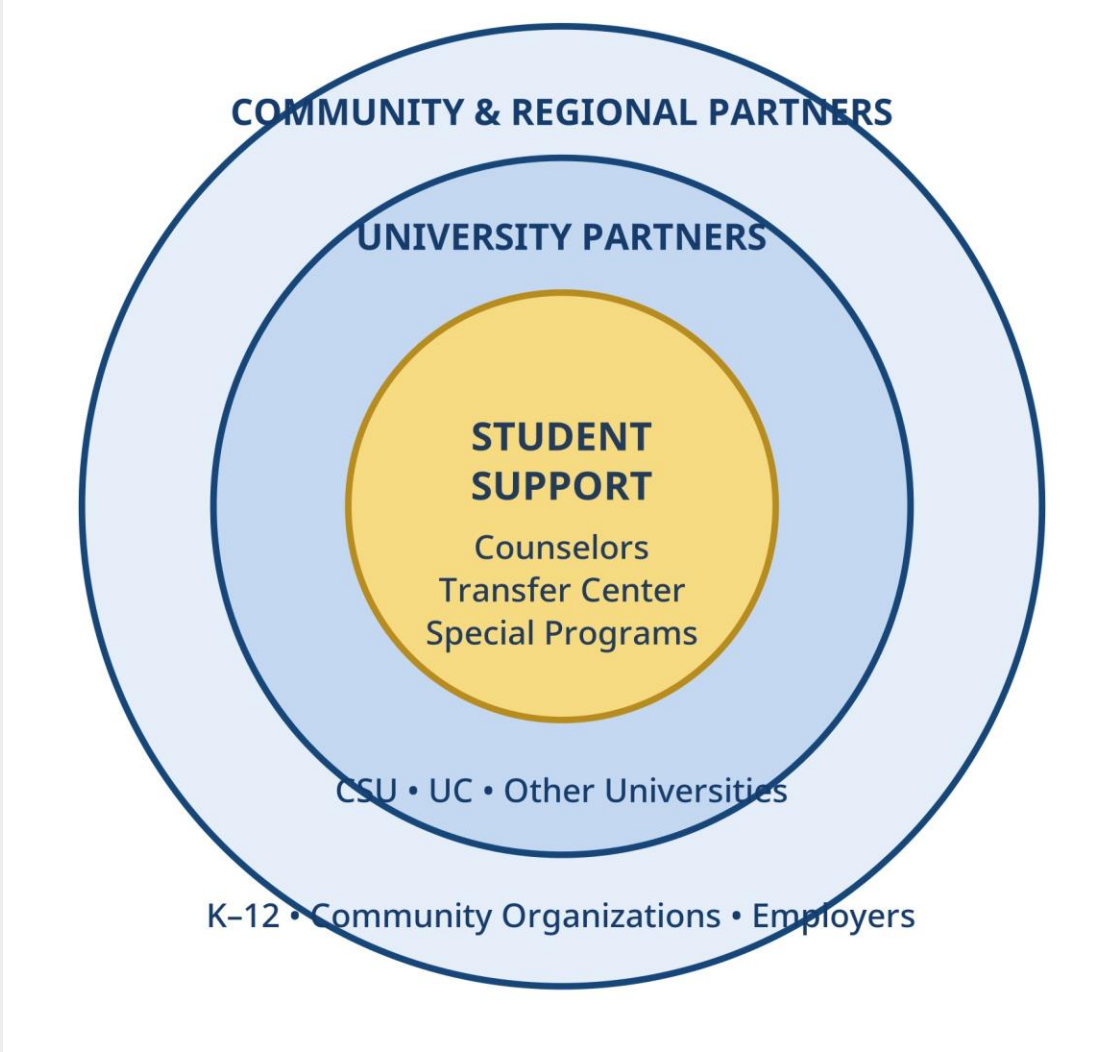
The next ventures ahead to enhance the "Transfer Eco-System at MCCD"

- **Fresno State: Bulldog Bound**
  - Monthly Visits
  - Transfer Guarantees
- **Promise Housing (Spring 2027)**
  - 191 Beds for MCCD students on the UC Merced campus
  - Embedded Transfer Resource Center in Promise Housing
  - MCCD can have easier streamline to SB1914 Cross-Enrollment (MC2UCM); access to UCM events; access to UCM amenities such as the library and recreation center.
- **UC Merced Center for Educational Partnerships (EAOP)**
  - Embedded coordinator to facilitate high-school to transfer education.
  - Cost-share on programming and summer academies.

The New Transfer Frontier: Embedded Transfer Housing for MCCD Students



Let's Build Your Transfer Ecosystem!



From Barriers to Bridges: Let's Chat!



Counseling Experiences: Embedded University Partners

- Warm handoffs to university representatives for continued support
- Real-time updates on changing policies, requirements, and new majors
- University representatives become part of the community college student success team.
- Collaborative support for troubleshooting issues, articulation and transcript evaluations
- Shared planning retreats.



Stanislaus State Perspective

- Provide personalized advising to students throughout their time at Merced College and after they transfer.
- Build strong relationships with student support staff at both campuses, including faculty, counselors, and special programs.
- Expand outreach and support efforts in areas such as Nursing, EOP, CaPE, Financial Aid, and Pre-Health.
- Offer one-on-one advising for transfer applicants who were initially deemed ineligible.
- Organize personalized campus tours, “Next Steps” presentations, application workshops, and transfer celebration events.



Stanislaus State Programming Efforts:

- **On-Site Support** – Having a Warriors on the Way (WOW) advisor stationed at Merced allows us to address student concerns more effectively and provide immediate, personalized support.
- **Clear Pathways to Transfer** – Students gain a tangible understanding of their next steps toward transfer, allowing them to see their academic pathway and future at Stanislaus State within reach.
- **Student-Centered Admissions Approach** – When reviewing applications from WOW partner schools, students are not automatically denied if a requirement is missing. Instead, our advisor works with them to identify solutions and guide them through the next steps.
- **Comprehensive Campus Connections** – WOW advisors actively connect students with key Stanislaus State departments such as Financial Aid, Advising, Registration, and New Student Orientation to ensure a smooth and supported transition.
- **Collaborative Institutional Partnership** – Through our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), both institutions share student transcripts to better support transfer planning and academic preparation.
- **Prepared Before Arrival** – Using shared transcripts, incoming transfer students have their Stanislaus State Degree Progress report built before their New Student Advising and Registration appointment, allowing them to begin with a clear academic plan.



UC Merced: Why We Created Merced Promise

A Regional Commitment to Transfer Success

- Address persistent **transfer barriers and unclear pathways**
- **Strengthen alignment** between community colleges and UC Merced
- Increase **equitable access to a UC degree** for Central Valley students
- Create a **more predictable, transparent transfer experience**
- Build a **regional pipeline** from K–12 → community college → UC





UC Merced: Our Goals as a Partnership

From Access to Outcomes

- **Streamline pathways** through faculty collaboration
- Provide tools like a **Program Mapper** to guide efficient progress
- Expand **early UC engagement** (research, coursework, summer programs)
- Enable **cross-enrollment** to reduce time to degree
- Deliver **guaranteed admission + scholarship support** for eligible students
- **Strengthen outreach** through K–12 and community partnerships

What is the Merced Promise Program

Key Focus Areas

- Academic planning & transfer pathway development
- UC application (UC TAP & TAG) guidance
- Major preparation & admission requirements
- Transition support from community college to UC Merced



Merced Promise Program at Merced College

- **A partnership between UC Merced and Merced College**
- **Designed to support transfer students pursuing admission to UC Merced**
- **Provides personalized, on-on-one advising from first interaction to enrollment**
- **Focused on increasing transfer success, access, and equity for Central Vallely transfers**

UC Merced- Merced Promise Program

How We Support Students

- Individual Advising Appointments
  - Education plans aligned with UC admission requirements
- Workshops & Presentations
  - UC TAP & TAG completion
  - UC application support
  - UC general presentations
  - Next steps after admission
- Campus Collaboration
  - Partner with counselors, faculty, and programs (EOPS, MESA, UMOJA)
  - Classroom presentations & outreach
- Student Engagement Opportunities
  - Enhanced UC Merced campus tours
  - Faculty connections
  - Cross-enrollment access
  - Research/Internship opportunities



Counseling Perspective: Continuous Improvement Ideas

- **Transfer Cohort**
  - Dedicated transfer cohort for each of our local feeder schools that provides Guidance 45 – Pathways to Transfer courses (learning communities)
  - Personalized one-on-one support with Transfer Counselors and Admission Representatives
  - Peer mentor program
  - UC PIQ preparation and review, and a built-in community to support students throughout the transfer process.
- **Summer Experience/Academy**
  - Students gain exposure to CSU and UC campus life, build community, participate in research opportunities, earn transferable credits, and access support through a campus resource fair, financial aid presentations/workshops, and academic advising.
- **Transfer Champions**
  - Identify former transfer students to serve as peer mentors and ambassadors, supporting current students with applications, sharing their transfer experiences, and providing guidance throughout the transfer process.



Thank you for attending the session!