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“In Motion”

International and Transfer Students Seek Out Webster

Webster University is known for making itself accessible to a wide variety of students, who, in turn, bring in new ideas and cultures from different parts of the world.

The ability to study abroad and the easy environment to learn and adapt are the main motivators for many international students applying to Webster.

Emmanuel Olandi, a student from Congo, attended the Webster campus in Ghana.

“I went to Ghana because I wanted to learn English, and it was the closest English-speaking country,” Olandi said.

Additionally, Olandi said that because Webster held his desired area of study, he found no need to leave the university after learning the language.

“Since I was there already, I was like, ‘Let me just stay here and study,’” Olandi said.

Lotus Van Bodegom, a student from the Netherlands, also cited Webster’s accessibility as an international school as her motivation for choosing ~~it.~~ the Leiden campus.

“I picked Webster because I was really looking for an international program … and they still had the opportunity to enroll me in one university to get my credits all in one place,” Bodegom said. “Credits aren't really something you can pass over very easily in-between schools.”

Webster’s global presence has been a strong motivator for international students, making easy credit transfers one of the main reasons for students moving into the community.

“Webster in Leiden … you get professors from all over the world. They teach you different things,” Bodegom said. “I had a professor from India teach me economics, and he had a completely different outlook than another guy who came from Kansas City. That international experience and those different points of views, I really loved.”

An international student from Cote d’Ivoire, Rebecca Tchie came across the university’s outreach program through a college fair in high school. Despite Webster not being the most

financially accessible option for her, Tchie used the financial gap as motivation for her to continue her education at the university.

“Webster is expensive, so I have to work hard to be able to get my degree,” Tchie said.

While international students were moved to join Webster because of its programs and flexibility, transfer students said that they have been pulled toward the community because they wanted to dive into a specific field after receiving general education credits at local colleges and universities.

Student Emma Lake transferred to Webster after two years at Jefferson College in order to follow her desired career path.

“I just did my [general education] because I had my A+ program with my high school,” Lake said. “I came here because I wanted to do game design, and I liked the look and feel of [it].”

Another transfer student, MacArthur Moten, came to Webster from Saint Louis University.

“At SLU, my major was philosophy, and [st. Louis Community College] was just general education,” said Moten, who now studies film, television, and media production.

Matthew King commented on this, stating that it was the realization of a new ambition that led him to Webster.

“At Maryville, I was just going with the flow… I didn't know I wanted to do animation, so I finally figured that out at year three,” King said. “My teacher literally looked at me and was like, ‘If you want to do animation, why the hell are you here?’ She recommended Webster.”