FALL 2008 ENROLLMENT REPORT

Action Requested: Receive the Fall 2008 enrollment report.

Executive Summary: During Fall 2008, Regent universities are serving 1,147 more students than during the prior year. The Fall 2008 headcount enrollment is 70,325 students compared to 69,178 students during the prior year, representing a 1.7% increase. The Fall 2008 Enrollment Report addresses the Board’s Strategic Plan strategy (1.1.2) to “continue to improve efforts to recruit, enroll, and retain a qualified and diverse student population.”

HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL
Fall 1998 to Fall 2008

Highlights of Enrollment Report:

- **Headcount Enrollment.** The Fall 2008 enrollment at SUI is 30,561, an increase of 0.5% from the prior year; at ISU, it is 26,856, an increase of 2.7% from the prior year; and at UNI, it is 12,908, an increase of 2.4% from the prior year.

- **FTE Enrollment.** Full-time equivalent enrollments result from converting the total number of credit hours to an equivalent number of full-time students. The total number of credit hours of undergraduates is divided by 15.0; the total number of credit hours of graduate students is divided by 9.0. The full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment at the Regent universities increased by 1,407 (+2.2%) from 63,287 in Fall 2007 to 64,694 in Fall 2008. The index of FTE to headcount enrollment for Fall 2008 increased slightly from 0.91 to 0.92.

- **Residence.** Approximately 68% of all students enrolled at the Regent universities are residents of Iowa. The number of resident students decreased by 466 students (-1.0%) from 48,578 in Fall 2007 to 48,112 in Fall 2008.
Approximately 73% of all undergraduate students at the Regent universities are residents of Iowa. The number of resident undergraduate students decreased by 651 students (-1.6%) from 39,909 in Fall 2007 to 39,258 in Fall 2008.

Diversity. The number of racial/ethnic minority students at the Regent universities increased by 254 students (+4.4%) from 5,795 in Fall 2007 to 6,049 in Fall 2008.

Approximately 58% of the racial/ethnic minority students at the Regent universities are residents. The number of resident racial/ethnic minority students decreased by 28 students (-0.8%) from 3,530 in Fall 2007 to 3,502 in Fall 2008.

The number of undergraduate racial/ethnic minority students at the Regent universities increased by 159 students (+3.6%) from 4,361 in Fall 2007 to 4,520 in Fall 2008.

New Freshmen. The number of new freshmen at the Regent universities increased by 182 students (+1.7%) from 10,625 in Fall 2007 to 10,807 in Fall 2008.

There were 32,716 applicants to the Regent universities for Fall 2008. Of that number, 26,447 (80.8%) were admitted, and 10,807 (40.9%) enrolled as new freshmen.

The mean ACT scores for entering freshmen at the Regent universities in Fall 2008 ranged from 22.9 – 25.2 compared to the national mean of 21.1 and the state mean of 22.4.

Undergraduates. The number of undergraduates at the Regent universities increased by 556 students (+1.1%) from 52,921 in Fall 2007 to 53,477 in Fall 2008.

Graduate Students. The number of graduate students at the Regent universities increased by 423 students (+3.6%) from 11,745 in Fall 2007 to 12,168 in Fall 2008.

Professional Students. The number of professional students at the University of Iowa and Iowa State University increased by 168 students (+3.7%) from 4,512 in Fall 2007 to 4,680 in Fall 2008.

International Students. The number of international students at the Regent universities increased by 468 students (+10.0%) from 4,684 in Fall 2007 to 5,152 in Fall 2008.

Students with Disabilities. The number of self-identified students with disabilities at the Regent universities increased by 67 students (+4.8%) from 1,408 in Fall 2007 to 1,475 in Fall 2008.

Transfer Students. The number of transfer students at the Regent universities decreased by 500 students (-12.1%) from 4,137 in Fall 2007 to 3,637 in Fall 2008. The largest decrease was in the number of transfer students from colleges outside of Iowa.

Enrollment by Gender. The number of women enrolled at the Regent universities increased by 578 (+1.7%) from 34,406 in Fall 2007 to 34,984 in Fall 2008.

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\(^2\) Does not include international students.
Special Schools. The total number of students served on-campus by the Regent Special Schools and Price Lab School (PLS) in Fall 2008 was 476; the number of students served off-campus was 428. This represents a decrease of 20 on-campus students (-4.0%) and a decrease of 93 off-campus students (-17.9%) from the prior year.

- The Fall 2008 on-campus enrollment at IBSSS is 12 and the off-campus enrollment is 376.
- The on-campus enrollment at ISD is 109 (13 are non-resident students) and the off-campus enrollment is 52.
- The on-campus enrollment at PLS is 355. PLS does not offer off-campus services.

Enrollment Projections.

- Enrollment at the Regent universities is projected to decrease by 369 students (-0.5%) from 70,325 students in Fall 2008 to 69,956 in Fall 2018, although increases are projected between Fall 2008 and 2010 and between Fall 2016 and Fall 2018. During the past three years, SUI and ISU under projected their next year’s enrollments while UNI over projected one year and under projected two years. All three under projected the Fall 2008 enrollments.
- On-campus enrollment at the special schools and Price Lab School is projected to increase by 31 students (+6.4%) between Fall 2009 and Fall 2018; the growth is projected to occur primarily at the Price Lab School. Off-campus enrollment at the special schools is projected to increase by 21 students (+4.6%) between Fall 2009 and Fall 2018.

Graduates. During the 2007-08 academic year, there were 14,977 graduates who earned 15,094 degrees at the Regent universities. The number of graduates increased by 472 (+3.3%) from the prior year.

Trends/Changes.

- This is the second consecutive increase in the combined enrollment at the Regent universities during the past six years. All of the universities experienced an enrollment increase. This is the second time that SUI’s enrollment surpassed 30,000.
- During the past ten years, there has been a 4.6% decrease in the number of resident students with a high of 51,516 in Fall 2001.
- After four consecutive years of an enrollment decrease in the number of new freshmen, the Regent universities experienced an increase of new freshmen for three consecutive years. There was an increase of 182 students (+1.7%) in the number of new freshmen in Fall 2008.
- After four consecutive years of an enrollment decrease in the number of undergraduate students, the Regent universities experienced an increase for the second consecutive year. There was an increase of 556 students (+1.1%) in Fall 2008.
- This is the 11th consecutive year of an enrollment increase in the number of racial/ethnic minority students at the Regent universities, resulting in the highest number (6,049) of racial/ethnic minority students. The proportion of racial/ethnic minority students at the Regent universities increased to 8.6%.

3 Off-campus students may receive more than one direct type of service.
The number of degrees awarded at the Regent universities increased during eight out of the past 11 years. The number of graduates at the Regent universities in Fall 2008 was the third highest since 2002-03.

Between 2001 and 2003, there was an increase of 1,084 graduates (+3.2%)\(^4\) from Iowa public high schools. Between 2003 and 2005, there was a decrease of 1,311 graduates (-3.8%). In 2006, the number of high school graduates increased by 146 students (+0.4%) from the prior year. The number of 12\(^{th}\) graders in Iowa public high schools is expected to decrease by 808 students (-2.1%) in 2008 and by 2,845 students (-7.4%) between 2008-09 and 2012-13.

Between 2003 and 2007, there was an average of 34,018 public high school graduates in Iowa. Of that number, an average of 23,117 students (68.0%) took the ACT. Of those who took the ACT, an average of 19,644 had a score of 18 or greater; an average of 14,271 had a score of 21 or better.

Between 2003 and 2007, there was an average of 7,105 new freshmen at the Regent universities who were Iowa residents. This represents 20.9% of the total number of public high school graduates in Iowa. In 2007, there were 7,340 new freshmen at the Regent universities who were Iowa residents. This represents 21.5% of public high school graduates in Iowa.

Between 2001 and 2007, there was an average of 2,619 graduates from Iowa public high schools\(^5\) who were racial/ethnic minorities; during that same period, there was an average of 469 new freshmen at the Regent universities who were Iowa residents and racial/ethnic minorities which represents 17.9% of the graduates.

The data tables prepared for the Fall 2008 Enrollment Report are available on the Board of Regents website.

Institutional highlights regarding the Fall 2008 enrollment are available on pages 5-7.

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\(^5\) Source: Iowa Department of Education.
INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

☑ In Fall 2008, the University of Iowa enrolled 4,246 new first-year students. This is the third largest class ever; last year’s class was larger by 41 students at 4,287.

☑ The total undergraduate enrollment of 20,823 is slightly less than last year’s record undergraduate enrollment level. The total enrollment of 30,561 represents a new enrollment record. The University worked day and night throughout the summer to find classroom and living accommodations to replace space lost to or damaged by the record floods. All students were able to receive a full schedule of courses and a place to live as a result of these efforts. This is a truly remarkable accomplishment, considering the campus conditions in June 2008.

☑ The quality of the incoming freshman class continues to improve as evidenced by a mean ACT composite score of 25.2, another modern record. Undergraduate minority student enrollment also increased; 9.9% of the first-year students (compared to 9.6% during the previous year) identified themselves as racial/ethnic minority students.

☑ All qualified Iowa applicants were admitted; resident students made up 52% percent of the class. The fact that 48% (breaking last year’s record) of the University’s undergraduate students were from states other than Iowa or countries other than the U.S. is testimony to the University of Iowa’s continuing reputation for excellence and value. These students contribute to the diversity of experiences represented among the University’s student body, benefiting all members of the student body.

☑ The number of transfer students entering the University was 1,048, a decrease of 485 students from the previous year. The decrease was the result of fewer undergraduate transfers from colleges outside of Iowa. More than half of the transfer students came from Iowa public two-year colleges. The University expects substantial growth in this category during the next few years as the “2 Plus 2” Program expands. Each participant in the program receives joint advising from University of Iowa staff and his or her community college’s staff, enjoys most of the privileges of University of Iowa students, and is guaranteed graduation in a total of four years. “2 Plus 2” plans have been developed for all Iowa Community Colleges.

☑ In summary, this year’s freshman class represents substantial continued progress on the University’s strategic goals for the level of preparation of our students and the diversity of our student body.
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2008 undergraduate enrollment increased for the fourth year in a row, contributing to the university’s second straight overall enrollment increase and fourth largest overall enrollment on record (26,856). This fall’s enrollment represents an increase of 696 students, nearly 2.7%, over Fall 2007.

The Fall 2008 entering undergraduate class included 4,546 new freshmen - the second largest in history, and 1,537 new transfer students, the largest new transfer class since 2001.

The entering class of freshmen was one of the best classes ever in terms of academic preparation, with an average ACT score of 24.7 compared to 24.5 last year.

Of the entering transfer class, 945 students (61.5%) transferred to ISU from Iowa community colleges. ISU has now signed Admission Partnership Program agreements with all Iowa community colleges.

Fall 2008 enrollment represents an increase from Fall 2007 of 762 non-resident students, and a decrease of 66 resident students.

In Fall 2008, there was an increase of 603 undergraduate students, 39 professional (veterinary medicine) students, and 54 graduate students.

Total Fall 2008 enrollment exceeded earlier university projections to the Board of Regents by 556 students.

Fall 2008 enrollment exceeded the 8.5% minority enrollment goal set by the Board of Regents with an overall minority enrollment of 2,317 students, or 8.6%. ISU’s undergraduate minority enrollment was 1,959 or 9.1%.

ISU enrolled 253 more international students this year than last, with a total international enrollment of 2,497. Undergraduate international student enrollment increased by 29.9%, due in part to an increase of 87.6% in new international freshmen.
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

✔ Fall 2008 enrollment is 12,908. This total represents a 2.4% increase over Fall 2007 enrollment of 12,609.

✔ The number of new freshmen directly from high school totals 2,015 which is an increase of 24 students or 1.2% from the previous year. New transfer students total 1,052 which is a decrease of 25 students compared to Fall 2007. New graduate level students decreased by 24 to a total of 403 which is a 5.6% decrease.

✔ Total non-resident student enrollment (1,346) increased by 15.5%, while the total number of multicultural students (810) increased by 8.7%. Total enrollment of international students is 464 students which is a decrease of 1.7% from Fall 2007.

✔ The increase in overall enrollment is primarily due to two reasons – (1) the retention rate of first-year students at 83.4% is the second highest figure in UNI’s history; and (2) the enrollment of new freshmen students is much higher than projected. New freshmen student enrollment of 2,015 was the highest number since Fall 2001 and 184 more than projected for Fall 2008.

✔ The University will continue its efforts for overall growth of the institution. A particular focus this year will be expanded efforts in recruitment of in-state multicultural students, non-resident undergraduates, and high ability students. In addition, the University will continue to expand its partnerships with Iowa community colleges through joint enrollment programs and specialized articulation agreements. Participation in the Foundations of Excellence Program which focuses on first-year student programming and increasing the retention of new students begins this year.