**FALL 2017 ENROLLMENT REPORT**

**Action Requested:** Receive the Fall 2017 Enrollment Report

**Executive Summary:** During Fall 2017, Iowa’s public universities enrolled 203 fewer students than during Fall 2016. This represents a -0.3% decrease in enrollment over one year but a +9.5% increase over five years. The total headcount (i.e., number of students) of 80,066 is the second highest enrollment in the history of the Regent universities.

From Fall 2016 to Fall 2017, the University of Northern Iowa saw an increase of two students, the University of Iowa saw an increase of +155 students and Iowa State University saw a decrease of -360 students (see “Enrollment by Regent University” graphic below). Note: the numbers for both Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 below do not include post-doctoral scholars or medical residents.
Highlights of the Enrollment Report:

- Change in definition of enrolled students: Starting with the Fall 2017 Enrollment report, post-doctoral scholars and medical residents will no longer be included in enrolled student totals. Additionally, this report shows adjusted numbers for any past years shown (post-doctoral scholars and medical residents were removed from total counts). The Board Office made the decision to align BOR enrollment counts with federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) definitions.

- Post-doctoral scholars and medical residents are a critical component of the operation of both Iowa State University and the University of Iowa, but they do not enroll in classes nor are IPEDS define them as students. This change creates an apparent drop in enrollment for Iowa State University of about 300 post-doctoral scholars per year, and a drop of about 300 post-doctoral scholars and 1,000 medical residents per year for the University of Iowa. The University of Northern Iowa does not have post-doctoral scholars or medical residents. For example, in Fall 2016, the BOR reported a total enrollment of 81,899. After removing post-doctoral scholars and medical residents, the adjusted enrollment for Fall 2016 is 80,269. For detailed numbers see “Trends in Post-Doctoral Scholars & Medical Residents” graphic below.
- **Education level**: From Fall 2016 to Fall 2017, the number of graduate students and professional students increased by +114 and +20, respectively, while the number of undergraduate students decreased by -337 (see “Headcount Enrollment by Education Level” graphic below).

![Headcount Enrollment by Education Level](image)

- **Residency**: The number of Iowa residents and out-of-state students increased last year by +110 and +220, respectively, while the number of international students decreased by -533 (see “Enrollment by Residence” graphic below). This drop is largely due to 518 fewer students from China in Fall 2017, a one-year decrease of -12.2%.

![Enrollment by Residence](image)
- **New freshman**: The number of new freshman undergraduate students is down for all three universities from one year ago. Iowa State University experienced a -6.0% decrease, the University of Iowa had a -10.9% decrease, and the University of Northern Iowa saw a -8.3% decrease in new freshman undergraduate students (see “New Freshman Enrollment” graphic below).

![New Freshman Enrollment](image)

- **Undergraduates**: Iowa State University had a one-year decrease of -0.9% in undergraduate enrollment, the University of Iowa had an increase of +0.1%, and the University of Northern Iowa had a decrease of -1.0%. (see “Undergraduate Enrollment Trends” graphic below).

![Undergraduate Enrollment Trends](image)
• **Graduate students**: The University of Iowa had a one-year increase of +2.1% in the number of graduate students enrolled, Iowa State University had a decrease of -2.1%, and the University of Northern Iowa had an increase of +5.6% (see “Graduate Student Enrollment Trends” graphic below).

![Graduate Student Enrollment Trends](image)

• **International students**: The University of Iowa had a decrease of -516 international students or -14.2% from Fall 2016 to Fall 2017. The decrease resulted predominately from a one-year loss of -407 students from China. Iowa State University had a one-year decrease of -134 students from China, but with growth from other countries saw only an overall decrease of -0.4%. University of Northern Iowa had a decrease of -0.2% in international student enrollment but increased the number of students from China from 116 in Fall 2016 to 135 in Fall 2017 (see “International Student Enrollment Trends” graphic below).

![International Student Enrollment Trends](image)
- **Resident students**: Iowa State University had a one-year decrease of -4.2% in Iowa resident enrollment, the University of Iowa had an increase of +5.6%, and the University of Northern Iowa had an increase of +0.2%. (see “Iowa Resident Enrollment Trends” graphic below).

- **Out-of-state students**: Iowa State University had a one-year increase of +4.6% in the number of students from outside the state of Iowa. The University of Iowa had a one-year decrease of -2.6%, and the University of Northern Iowa had a decrease of -1.7% (see “Out-of-State Student Enrollment Trends” graphic below).
• Transfer students: Iowa’s public universities have seen a -4.7% decrease in the total number of transfer students enrolling from Fall 2011 to Fall 2017. The largest group of transfers come from the Iowa community colleges, which saw a -6.1% decrease in enrollment during that same period (see “Undergraduate Transfers into the Regents” graphic below).

![Undergraduate Transfers into the Regents](image-url)

• The number of students transferring from an Iowa community college decreased by -1.9% at Iowa State University and -3.2% at the University of Iowa. However, the University of Northern Iowa experienced an increase of +3.2% in Iowa community college transfers (see “Iowa Community College Transfers into the Regents” graphic below).

![Iowa Community College Transfers into the Regents](image-url)
• **STEM majors**: The number of students enrolled in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) majors at Iowa’s public universities has grown significantly over the past 10 years. From Fall 2008 to Fall 2017, the number of undergraduate STEM majors grew by +58.6%, the number of STEM graduate students grew by +11.5%, and professional student STEM enrollment grew +6.2% (see “Percent Increase in the Number of STEM Majors” graphic below).

![Percent Increase in the Number of STEM Majors](image)

• **Women**: For the third straight year, women comprise more than half of the undergraduate enrollment at the three public universities (see “Percent of Regent University Undergraduates Who are Women” graphic below).

![Percent of Regent University Undergraduates Who are Women](image)
• Race/Ethnicity: Students who identify as a racial or ethnic minority continue to grow in both numbers and as a percent of the student population. Fall 2017 established the largest total number (11,516) and percentage (14.4%) of racial/ethnic minority students enrolled at the three public universities (see “Number of Regent University Students Who are a Racial or Ethnic Minority” graphic below).

• State of origin: Large numbers of students continue to come from outside of Iowa to enroll in our public institutions. Illinois and Minnesota contributed the most with 10,646 and 4,210 students in Fall 2017, respectively (see “Student State of Origin for Fall 2017” graphic below).
- **Iowa county of origin**: Students from all 99 Iowa counties enrolled in our public universities in Fall 2017. Enrollment numbers tend to be higher in counties with major metropolitan areas (see “Iowa Counties Sending Students to Regent Universities in Fall 2017” graphic below).

![Iowa Counties Sending Students to Regent Universities in Fall 2017](image)

- **University enrollment by Iowa county**: Proximity to home is one factor that influences university choice. While each Regent university draws students from the entire state, the graphic below shows the preferred university destination by Iowa county. The percentage shown = the percent of students who attend the preferred university in that county / the total number of students in that county who attend any Regent university (see “University Enrolling the Most Students by County” below).

![University Enrolling the Most Students by County](image)
• **Top university college enrollment:** The table below shows the top four colleges by enrollment at each of the three public universities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>Fall 2014</th>
<th>Fall 2015</th>
<th>Fall 2016</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U. of Iowa</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
<td>17,674</td>
<td>17,877</td>
<td>18,457</td>
<td>18,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>2,679</td>
<td>2,811</td>
<td>3,044</td>
<td>3,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>2,639</td>
<td>2,982</td>
<td>3,143</td>
<td>2,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>1,394</td>
<td>1,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISU</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>8,789</td>
<td>9,312</td>
<td>9,645</td>
<td>9,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
<td>8,126</td>
<td>8,437</td>
<td>8,526</td>
<td>8,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agriculture &amp; Life Sciences</td>
<td>5,205</td>
<td>5,375</td>
<td>5,395</td>
<td>5,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>4,082</td>
<td>4,485</td>
<td>4,772</td>
<td>4,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNI</td>
<td>Humanities, Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
<td>3,836</td>
<td>3,830</td>
<td>3,820</td>
<td>3,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2,775</td>
<td>2,845</td>
<td>2,751</td>
<td>2,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>2,014</td>
<td>2,047</td>
<td>2,090</td>
<td>2,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>1,911</td>
<td>1,880</td>
<td>1,868</td>
<td>1,871</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• **Veterans:** In Fall 2017, the number of students at the public universities who received Veterans Affairs (V.A.) benefits increased by 108 students (see “Students Receiving Veterans Benefits” below). In Fall 2017, 355 veterans attended the public universities and did not receive benefits (down from 410 veterans not receiving benefits in Fall 2016).
Special Schools: Over the past 15 years, Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (IESBVI) has doubled the number of students served while the Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD) has decreased by half its number of students served (see "Special School Enrollment" below).
INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

- In Fall 2017, the University of Iowa enrolled 5,027 new first-year undergraduate students, the third-largest first-year class in University of Iowa history.

- The University’s reported total enrollment is 32,166. This enrollment among other categories includes 24,503 undergraduate, 5,816 graduate, and 1,847 professional students. The University’s reported total enrollment reflects a change in the total student count compared to past years, as (beginning Fall 2017), post-doctoral scholars, and medical residents (1,398 for Fall 2017) are not counted as enrolled students.

- The quality of the first-year undergraduate class continues to be strong as evidenced by an average high school GPA of 3.69, and an average ACT score of 25.6.

- Students who identify themselves as underrepresented minorities represent 18.5% of the incoming first-year undergraduate class. Nearly twenty-three percent of the first-year class are first-generation students.

- The first-year undergraduate class includes students from 96 Iowa counties, 40 states, and 21 countries.

- All qualified Iowa applicants were admitted; 57.8% of the first-year undergraduate class are Iowa residents. Overall, 56.2% of the University’s total enrollment are resident students.

- In summary, this year’s first-year class represents a continuing commitment to the University’s strategic goals for serving the state of Iowa by encouraging and promoting the enrollment of resident students, while being an attractive option for non-resident and international students. New academic programs attract extremely talented students to the University. The University continues its long-standing commitment to making progress on first-year retention, timely degree completion and the diversity of our student body, through implementation of the 2016-2021 strategic plan, coordinated recruitment efforts, and a variety of student success, academic support, and first-year programs.
INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

- Iowa State University’s Fall 2017 enrollment is 35,993, the second-largest in school history. This represents a decrease of about one percent (0.9 percent of 360 students) over the university’s enrollment record of 36,353 (adjusted from the previously reported 36,660) in Fall 2016. The enrollment number reflects a “leveling off” university leaders have predicted over the past year following eight consecutive years of record enrollment. In the last decade, overall enrollment at Iowa State has grown 35 percent. Enrollment of Iowa undergraduates at Iowa State continues to be strong: 18,246 students, or 60 percent of the 30,406 undergraduates, are Iowans. Overall, 19,843 Iowans attend ISU, which equals 54.6 percent of the student body. Iowa State’s freshman class of 5,944 students includes 3,174 Iowans; Iowa State’s transfer class of 1,806 students includes 1,050 Iowans. Iowa State is proud to remain the top choice for more Iowa high school and Iowa community college students than any other university or college.

- The Fall 2017 student body represents all 99 Iowa counties, all 50 U.S. states, and 127 countries. Total U.S. multicultural and international enrollment is 8,789, which surpasses the previous record set in Fall 2016.

- Iowa State University’s Fall 2017 enrollment records demonstrate the diversity of students enrolled and include:
  - Record diversity. Total U.S. multicultural and international enrollment is 8,789, or 24.2 percent of the student body
  - U.S. multicultural enrollment is 4,674 (12.9 percent of total enrollment), an increase over last fall’s 4,617 students.
  - Record total U.S. nonresident enrollment of 12,363, up 854 students from last year’s record of 11,509 students.
  - Record U.S. nonresident undergraduate enrollment of 10,029, up 519 students from last year’s record of 9,510.

Fall 2017 enrollment by college:

- Agriculture and Life Sciences: 5,333
- Business: 4,921
- Design: 2,039
- Engineering: 9,669
- Human Sciences: 4,640
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: 8,284
- Veterinary Medicine: 765
- Interdepartmental Units and Graduate Undeclared: 342
- Total Enrollment: 35,993

Iowa State University continues to serve over 700 students receiving Veterans educational benefits.
INSTITUTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

- The University of Northern Iowa’s Fall 2017 enrollment remains stable at 11,907, which is similar to last fall’s enrollment of 11,905.
- 88.6% of UNI students are Iowa residents and come from all 99 counties. UNI students also hail from 39 other U.S. states and 65 different countries.
- Students who identify themselves as racial minority represent 9.72 percent of the student body, or 1,157 students; a new UNI record. There are 547 international students enrolled at UNI this fall.
- 31.2 percent of UNI students are first-generation students (neither parent has received a four-year degree).
- This year’s incoming Freshman class set a new record in non-resident attendance. The Freshman class includes 1,651 Iowa residents and 183 non-residents (158 domestic non-residents and 25 international).
- The average ACT composite score of the freshman class is a 23.03, an increase from last fall’s average of 22.91. This marks the first class since Fall 2012 that the average ACT has been a 23 or above.
- 895 students are entering UNI transferring from another institution. This is an increase from last fall’s 876, including 33 more Iowa resident transfers. 87.2 percent of this year’s transfer students or 780, transferred to UNI from other institutions in Iowa.
- New graduate students comprised 39.4 percent (751) of the total graduate students enrolled. This is a new record for UNI. Graduate students represent 16 percent (1,902) of UNI’s total enrollment, which is higher than last year’s 15.1 percent.
- The trend of UNI students taking less time to graduate and earn their degree continues for the 4th year in a row. The four-year graduation rate increased by over 3 percent points, the largest increase in a single year. 43.28 percent of the 2013 cohort graduated in four years or less, which is a new UNI record. UNI’s six-year graduation rate also went up to 67.32 percent, 2.27 percentage points more than last year and the second highest rate ever.
- Overall, UNI’s enrollment figures reflect UNI’s commitment to its Strategic Plan and commitment to student success.