

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Annual Governance Report on Regional Study Centers
Date: May 6, 2002

Recommended Action: Receive the report.

Executive Summary:

The Regent universities participate in two independent graduate study centers located in the Quad Cities and Sioux City. The universities also cooperatively provide a resource center in Council Bluffs for citizens in the southwest area of the state. Regent universities also provide offerings at the downtown Des Moines Higher Education Collaborative.

Quad Cities
Graduate Study
Center

The Quad Cities Graduate Study Center, in Rock Island, Illinois, is an independent consortium of 13 educational institutions in Iowa and Illinois that collaborate with business and industry leaders from Scott County in Iowa (Davenport and Bettendorf) and Rock Island and Henry Counties in Illinois (Rock Island and Moline).

Headcount
Enrollment

During FY 2002, the unduplicated headcount enrollment was 6,080, an increase of 552 students (+10.0%) from the prior year. The total registration¹ count was 10,939, an increase of 700 students (+6.8%) from the prior year. The number and proportion of Iowa residents enrolled grew from 1,228 students (35.7%) in FY 1995 to 3,115 students (51.2%) in FY 2002; this represents an increase of 1,887 students (+53.7%) during that time period.

Programs

The Quad Cities Graduate Study Center added four degree programs and nine certificate programs to its offerings during 2001-2002. One of the new degree programs and one of the new certificate programs were from Iowa Regent universities. The total enrollment at Regent universities was 1,252 students, an increase of 327 students (+35.4%) from the prior year.

Tri-State
Graduate
Center

The Tri-State Graduate Center in Sioux City, an independent consortium, brings together business and community leaders and the leadership of 19 educational institutions and agencies in three states to provide graduate education to northwestern Iowa, northeastern Nebraska, and southeastern South Dakota.

¹ Duplicated headcount enrollment.

Headcount Enrollment Total student headcount enrollment for FY 2002 was 1,526², an increase of 132 students (+9.5%) from the prior year³. The increase resulted primarily from the new programs implemented this year. Iowans accounted for 48.2% of the enrollment. The total registration count⁴, which includes professional development courses offered by AEA 4 and AEA 12, was 3,466 during FY 2002⁵, a decrease of 781 students (-18.4%) from the prior year.

Programs The Tri-State Graduate Center added ten degree programs to its offerings during 2001-2002. Two new degree programs were from Regent universities. The total enrollment for Regent university programs during FY 2002 was 461, a decrease of 129 students (-21.9%) from the prior year.

Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center Located on the Iowa School for the Deaf campus in Council Bluffs, the Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center, a Regent university-sponsored center, provides citizens in southwest Iowa an opportunity to access services provided solely by the Regent universities.

Headcount Enrollment Enrollment for FY 2002 totaled 500, which was an increase of 33 students (+7.1%) from the prior year. A share of the increase resulted from the addition of new degree programs or cohorts by the Regent universities. A study of the Center requested by the Board of Regents during FY 2002 also caused the Regent universities to match more closely the needs of the region with the offerings provided.

Programs Unlike the other two centers, the Resource Center offers baccalaureate programs in addition to graduate and certificate programs. During 2001-2002, the Resource Center added six new degree programs or cycles and one new certificate program. The Regent universities offer all of the programs at the Center.

Service Areas of Regional Study Centers Chart 1 on page 19 shows the service areas of the Regional Study Centers. These are the areas that provide the largest number of Iowa students to each center. The service areas do not restrict students in other parts of the state from attending classes; however, for face-to-face classes, which generate a large portion of the enrollments at the centers, students normally travel short distances to attend classes.

² Does not include AEA 4 and AEA 12 enrollments.

³ Prior year data are incomplete.

⁴ Duplicated headcount enrollment.

⁵ Does not include AEA 4 Winter/Spring 2002 data.

Budgets The Quad Cities Graduate Study Center is funded by line appropriations from the State of Iowa (funneled through the Board of Regents), and by funding from the State of Illinois (funneled through the Board of Higher Education). The Tri-State Graduate Center is funded by the State of Iowa (funneled through the Board of Regents), the State of Nebraska, and participating institutions in South Dakota. For both graduate centers, the Board of Regents is the conduit of funds appropriated by the state legislature. The Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center is funded by state appropriations and by contributions from the Regent universities.

Des Moines
Higher
Education
Collaborative In addition to their efforts at the Regional Study Centers, the Regent universities also provide educational offerings at the Des Moines Higher Education Collaborative. During FY 2002, the enrollment for University of Iowa programs was 36; the enrollment for Iowa State University programs was 307. Together, these enrollments represent 48.7% of the total Des Moines Higher Education Collaborative enrollment.

Link to Strategic Plan:

These efforts are part of the institutional activities which help the Board of Regents achieve its objective to improve access to the Regent institutions as stated in its Strategic Plan:

KRA 2.0.0.0 Provide access to educational, research, and service opportunities within the missions of the Regent institutions.

Objective 2.2.2.0 Evaluate annually and, where appropriate, make recommendations to meet relevant educational and service needs of the state.

Action Step 2.2.2.7 Encourage development of strategic alliances to increase access to services as measured by annual reports of individuals served.

Background:

**Quad Cities
Graduate Study
Center**

The GradCenter, as it is known locally, is an independent consortium of 13 colleges and universities in Iowa and Illinois whose mission is to provide graduate-level educational opportunities to the Quad Cities area. The GradCenter, which was created by the Quad City Development Group in 1969 at the request of local businesses seeking graduate training for their employees, maintains offices on the Augustana College campus. Although Augustana provides no graduate education programs, it provides the library, classrooms, and computer labs to the GradCenter and its participating institutions.

Member Institutions of the Quad Cities Graduate Study Center

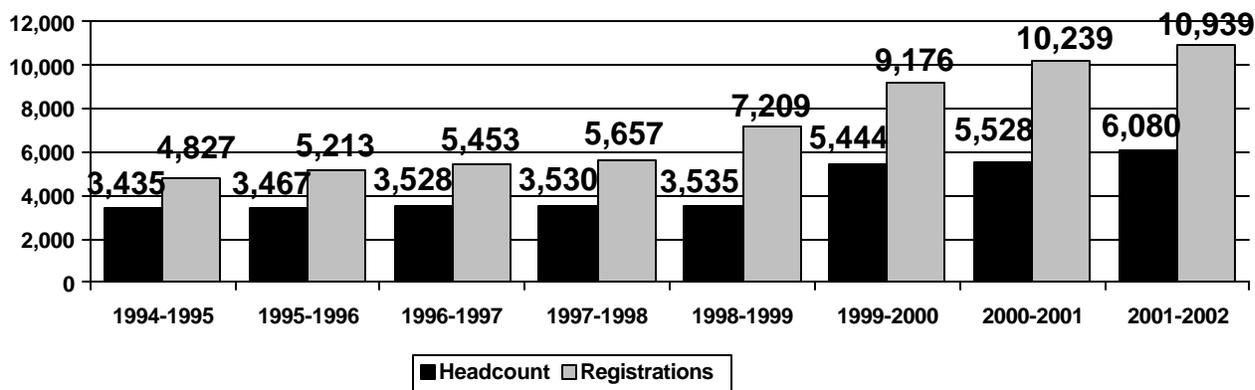
Illinois	Iowa
Augustana College Rock Island	Iowa State University Ames
Bradley University Peoria	Marycrest International University ⁶ Davenport
Illinois State University Normal	St. Ambrose University Davenport
Northern Illinois University DeKalb	Drake University Des Moines
St. Xavier University Chicago	University of Iowa Iowa City
University of Illinois Chicago and Urbana	University of Northern Iowa Cedar Falls
Western Illinois University Macomb	

Enrollment

During FY 2002, the unduplicated headcount enrollment in the GradCenter was 6,080, an increase of 552 students (+10.0%) from the prior year. Sixty-five percent of the enrollment (3,952) is female and 35% (2,128) is male. During Spring 2002, there were five Regent university students who indicated that they were racial/ethnic minority students.

Total registrations increased by 700 students from 10,239 to 10,939; this represents a 6.8% increase and an all-time high enrollment. Improved marketing, including print advertisements, radio announcements, feature articles, and the coordinated efforts with member institutions, helped increase overall enrollment.

UNDUPLICATED HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT AND REGISTRATIONS



⁶ Marycrest International University will cease to exist on June 30, 2002.

FY 2002
Planning
Goals

The following planning goals, which were approved by the GradCenter's Governing Board, guided FY 2002 activities:

- * Increase community awareness of the GradCenter and its role for bringing the graduate programs of member institutions to the attention of residents of the Quad Cities.
- * Identify unmet service needs of students and member institutions and develop strategies to meet those needs.
- * Identify unmet graduate education needs in the communities served and negotiate with member institutions to meet these needs.

GradCenter
Activities

In order to meet their goals, the GradCenter initiated the following new activities:

- * Development of a long-range strategic plan.
- * Creation of three citizen advisory committees – K-12 Education, Corporate Sector, and Information Technology.
- * Increased access to a diverse array of graduate programming.

Enrollment in
Education
Programs

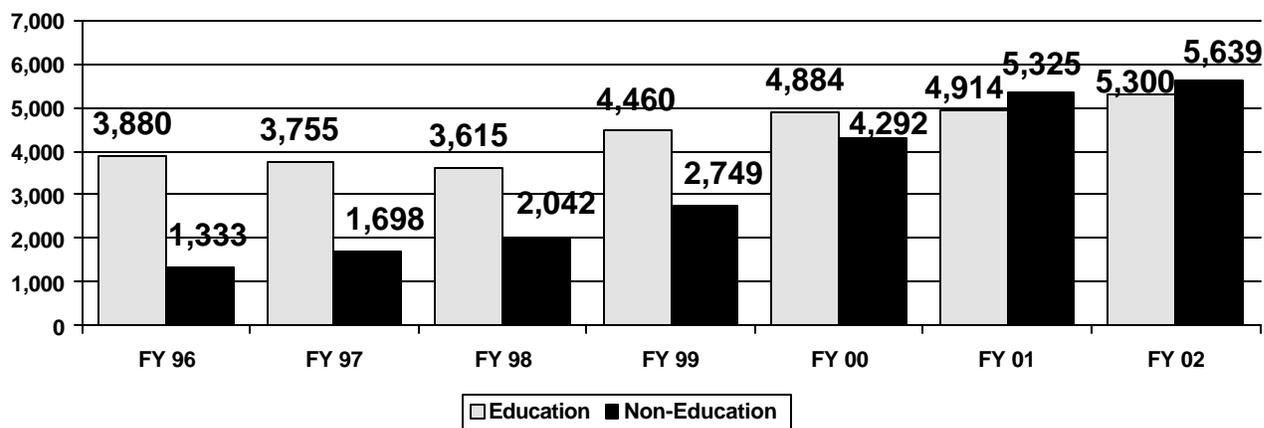
During FY 2002, enrollments in education programs accounted for 48.5% of the total enrollment. The FY 2002 enrollment in education programs was 5,300, an increase of 386 students (+7.9%) from last year.

Enrollment in
Non-Education
Programs

During FY 2002, the enrollment in non-education programs (accounting, business administration, social work, and others) was 5,639, an increase of 314 students (+5.9%) from the prior year.

One of the reasons for the increase in non-education enrollments is the increased level of course and program offerings. For example, in the area of business administration, enrollments increased by 16.9% from 2,605 to 3,045. Another reason for the increase is the delivery formats, e.g., institutions are offering more courses through the ICN. Without the strict class size minimum required for on-site courses, more students have been served in a variety of courses.

EDUCATION AND NON-EDUCATION ENROLLMENTS



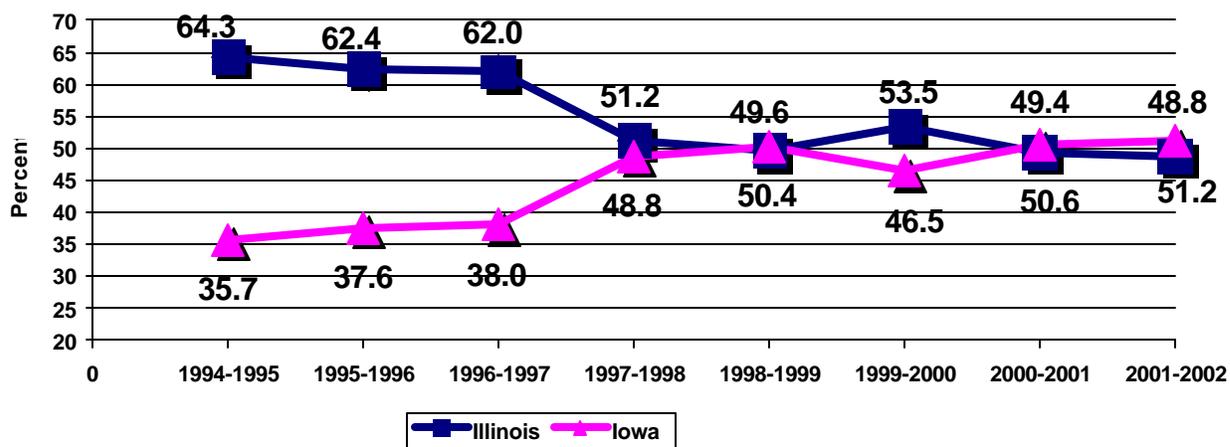
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- Programs** Of the four degree programs added at the GradCenter during 2001-2002, two were from Iowa institutions and one was offered by a Regent institution. Regent universities offered 19 degree programs at the GradCenter during FY 2002. The three universities also offered five certificate programs, one of which was new in 2001-2002.
- SUI Program Offerings** During FY 2002, the University of Iowa offered six degree programs in business administration, library science, nursing, pharmacy (Pharm.D.), public health, and social work. SUI also offered one certificate program in community college teaching licensure⁷. The total enrollment was 937 students, an increase of 215 students (+29.8%) from the prior year.
- ISU Program Offerings** During FY 2002, Iowa State University offered seven degree programs in agriculture, computer engineering, electrical engineering, family and consumer sciences, mathematics education, microbiology, and systems engineering. ISU also offered three certificate programs in financial counselor, public management, and superintendency. The total enrollment was 130 students, an increase of 57 students (+78.1%) from the prior year.
- UNI Program Offerings** During FY 2002, the University of Northern Iowa offered six degree programs in educational leadership (new), educational technology, library science, middle school education, music education, and public relations. UNI also offered a new certificate program in gerontology during FY 2002. The total enrollment was 185 students, an increase of 55 students (+42.3%) from the prior year.

⁷ Recent Iowa legislation has eliminated the licensure requirements for community college instructors.

Enrollment by State

During 2001-2002, the number (3,115) and proportion (51.2%) of Iowa residents enrolled at the GradCenter was at an all time high.

PERCENT HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT BY STATE



2002-2003 Planning Goals

The Governing Board of the GradCenter approved the GradCenter's Strategic Plan, which includes the following goals for 2002-2003.

- * Effectively governing the GradCenter.
- * Effectively financing the GradCenter.
- * Marketing programs offered through the GradCenter.
- * Meeting the service needs of students.
- * Meeting the service needs of member institutions.
- * Monitoring unmet graduate education needs in the Quad Cities.
- * Maintaining organizational productivity, efficiency, and accountability.

Delivery Format

There was an increase in the number of programs that were delivered by a traditional format, from 37 to 47 (+27.0%) in FY 2002; approximately 57% of the programs were delivered by a traditional format. More than 87% of the enrollments were obtained from a traditional delivery format.

Budget

The current budget for the GradCenter is \$383,202. The State of Iowa appropriated \$161,756 (42.2%) toward that budget; this represents a decrease of \$13,930 (-7.9%) from the prior year. The State of Illinois provided \$220,000 (57.4%) for the operation of the GradCenter; this represents an increase of \$8,200 (+3.9%) from the prior year. Earnings of \$1,446 generated by the GradCenter provided the remaining portion of the budget.

**Tri-State
Graduate
Center**

The Tri-State Graduate Center was founded in 1990 as an independent consortium of educational institutions in Iowa and South Dakota. It was established at the request of the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Strategic Council (SIMPCO) to facilitate delivery of graduate education and other training opportunities to the residents of Siouxland. Currently, 19 educational institutions from three states (Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota) cooperatively provide educational experiences to the area.

Membership in the Tri-State Graduate Center

Iowa	Nebraska
Briar Cliff College Sioux City	Bellevue University Bellevue
Des Moines University Des Moines	Creighton University Omaha
Drake University Des Moines	University of Nebraska Lincoln
Iowa State University Ames	University of Nebraska Omaha
Morningside College Sioux City	Wayne State College Wayne
Northwest Iowa Community College Sheldon	
University of Iowa Iowa City	South Dakota
University of Northern Iowa Cedar Falls	Dakota State University Madison
Area Education Agency 4 Sioux Center	South Dakota State University Brookings
Western Hills Education Agency 12 Sioux City	University of South Dakota Vermillion
Western Iowa Tech Community College Sioux City	

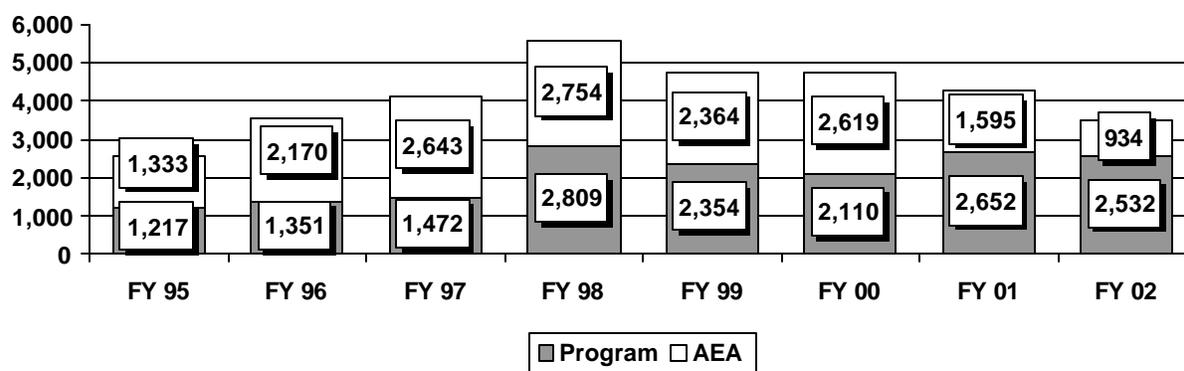
**Professional
Development
Courses**

From FY 1991 to FY 1994, credit enrollment included enrollments in professional development courses offered by the Western Hills AEA and for which several local colleges granted academic credit. Beginning with FY 1995, the Tri-State Graduate Center has also reported credit enrollments specifically for courses offered by the participating colleges and universities.

Enrollment

The unduplicated headcount enrollment was 1,526, an increase of 132 students (+9.5%) from the prior year. The increase resulted primarily from the new programs implemented during the academic year. Seventy-five percent of the enrollment (1,139) is female and 25% is male⁸. There were 19 students who indicated that they were racial/ethnic minority students. During FY 2002, the total registration count⁹, which includes professional development offerings by AEA 4 and AEA 12, was 3,466¹⁰, a decrease of 781 students (-18.4%) from the prior year.

TOTAL DUPLICATED HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT BETWEEN FY 1995 AND FY 2002



Enrollment in Regent University Programs

During FY 2002, the Tri-State Graduate Center registration count in Regent university programs was 461, a decrease of 129 students (-21.9%) from the prior year.

- * The University of Iowa registration count was 299, an increase of 27 students (+9.9%) from the prior year.
- * The Iowa State University registration count was 31, a decrease of 40 students (-56.3%), resulting primarily from the conclusion of the educational administration and microbiology cohorts.
- * The University of Northern Iowa registration count was 131, a decrease of 116 students (-47.0%), resulting primarily from the completion of a cohort in education (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages/English as a Second Language).

⁸ Gender data were not available from all institutions.
⁹ Total registrations include duplicated headcount enrollment.
¹⁰ Does not include AEA Winter/Spring 2002 data.

Program Delivery

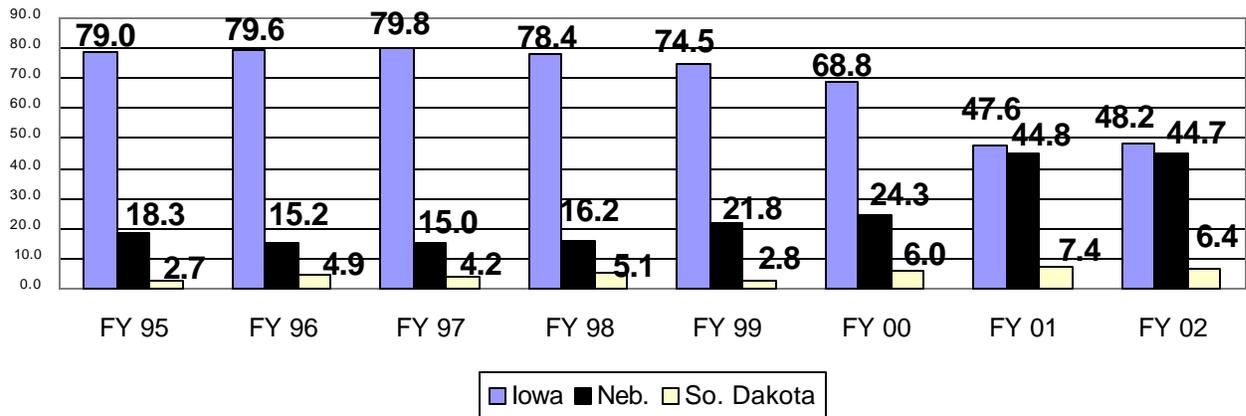
Approximately 79% of the programs made available through the Tri-State Graduate Center during the current fiscal year were delivered through distance education technologies and accounted for 30.6% of the registrations. Twenty-one percent of the programs were delivered through a traditional format and accounted for 69.4% of the registrations. All programs offered by the Regent universities make use of the distance education technologies to offer the programs.

Enrollment by State

Iowa continues to provide the largest number of enrollments in the Tri-State Graduate Center. There were 735 Iowa residents enrolled at the Center, which accounted for 48.2% of the enrollment. However, except for the current fiscal year, the proportion of Iowa residents enrolled at the Center has decreased annually from a high of 79.8% in FY 1997 to a low of 47.6% in 2000-2001.

Nebraska residents accounted for 44.7% of the enrollment (682); except for the current fiscal year, the proportion of Nebraska residents enrolled at the Center has increased annually from a low of 15.0% in FY 1997 to a high of 44.8% in FY 2001. South Dakota residents accounted for 6.4% of the enrollment (97) and individuals from other states accounted for the remaining 0.8% of enrollments (12).

**PERCENT ENROLLMENT BY STATE
1994-1995 to 2001-2002**



Programs During 2001-2002, 42 degree programs¹¹ and five certificate or endorsement programs were available at the Tri-State Graduate Center. Thirty-seven courses in 15 academic areas that were not part of a degree program also were available at the Center. Iowa Regent universities offered 16 degree programs and four certificate or endorsement programs. In addition, Regent universities offered courses in 25 academic areas.

SUI Program Offerings SUI offered masters programs in library and information science, social work, and advanced adult and older adult nursing; the University also offered a doctor of pharmacy program.

SUI offered courses in aging studies, anthropology, counselor education, civil engineering, environmental engineering, geology, higher education, philosophy, psychology, public health, science, science education, sports, health, leisure, and physical studies, and talented and gifted education.

ISU Program Offerings ISU offered masters programs in agriculture, agronomy, education leadership (new in 2001-2002), systems engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, family and consumer sciences, school mathematics (inactive), and microbiology (inactive).

ISU also offered certificate programs in public management, advanced studies – superintendent certification, financial counselor, and Siouland Non-profit Management Institute, as well as courses in community and regional planning, education, English, higher education, non-profit management institute, public administration, public management, and special education.

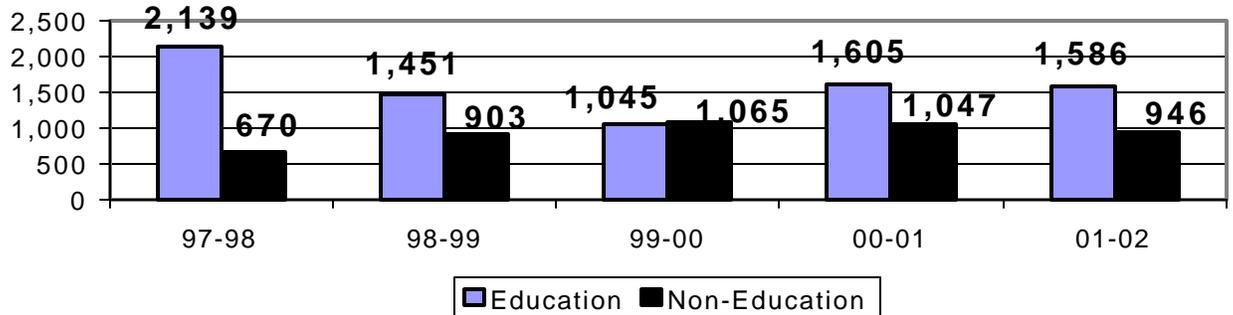
UNI Program Offerings UNI offered masters programs in educational leadership, English (ESL/TESOL) (new in 2001-2002), school library media studies, and public relations. UNI also offered a superintendency endorsement program, as well as courses in communication education, education, and history.

Enrollments in Education Programs During 2001-2002, enrollments in education programs that are offered by the Colleges of Education at participating colleges and universities once again accounted for a significant majority of enrollments. There were 1,586 students (62.6%) enrolled in education programs.

Enrollments in Non-Education Programs During 2001-2002, there were 946 students enrolled in non-education programs; this represented 37.4% of the total registrations. The largest non-education programs included business administration, social work, administrative studies, and nursing. There has been a decrease in non-education program registrations for the past two years.

¹¹ There was 0 enrollment in nine programs.

EDUCATION AND NON-EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS



FY 2002 Goals

The Center undertook the following goals in FY 2002:

- * Expand marketing programs and increase visibility of the Tri-State Graduate Center as an educational resource in the community.
- * Continue to identify graduate education needs for prospective students in Siouxland.
- * Build a base of support uniting students, member institutions, employers, and community groups.

FY 2003 Goals

The Center identified the following goals for FY 2003:

- * Expand marketing programs and increase visibility of the Tri-State Graduate Center as an educational resource in the community.
- * Communicate on a more regular basis with institutional representatives, program directors, and/or academic deans.
- * Continue to expand awareness of Tri-State Graduate Center services among students.

Budget

The Tri-State Graduate Center has a FY 2002 budget of \$145,552; this represents a decrease of \$2,330 (-1.6%) from the prior year. The State of Iowa appropriated \$79,187 (54.4%) toward that budget; this represents a decrease of \$6,749 (-7.9%) from the prior year. The State of Nebraska provided \$45,907 (31.5%); this represents an increase of \$888 (+2.0%). The State of South Dakota provided \$9,478 (6.5%); this represents an increase of \$6,101 (+180.7%). The Center also generated earnings of \$10,980 (7.5%) for its FY 2002 Budget.

Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center

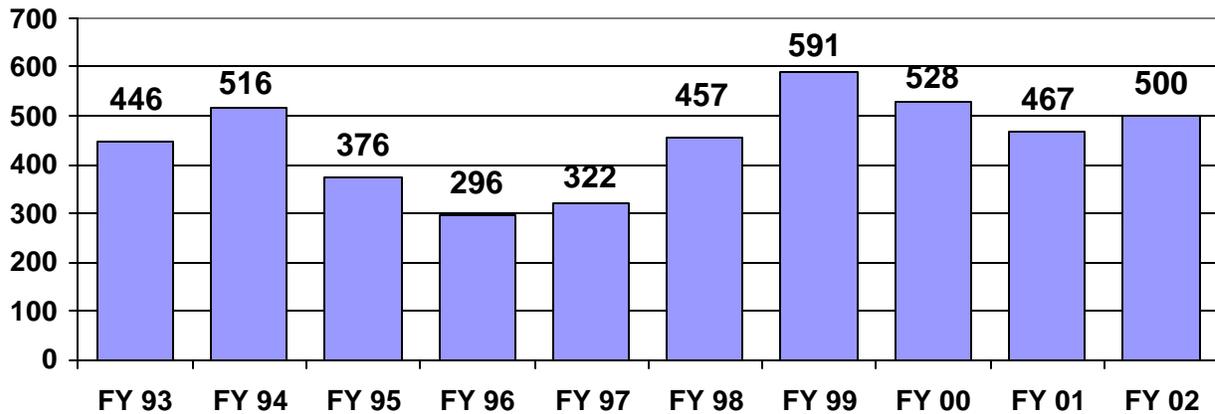
The Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center has served the people in eight counties in the southwest corner of Iowa by offering programs and service provided by the three Regent universities for more than ten years. The Regents Resource Center maintains offices on the campus of the Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs and uses facilities throughout the southwest corner of the state.

Total Enrollment

Total enrollment through the Regents Resource Center was 500, an increase of 33 students (+7.1%), resulting in part from the new degree programs or cohorts offered by the Regent universities. Seventy-two percent of the enrollment (359) is female; 28% (141) is male.

UNI's enrollment of 247 was the highest of the three universities; however, this enrollment represented a decrease of 22 students (-8.2%) from the previous year. SUI reported an enrollment of 91, which was an increase of 20 students (+28.2%); and ISU reported an enrollment of 162, which was an increase of 35 students (+27.6%).

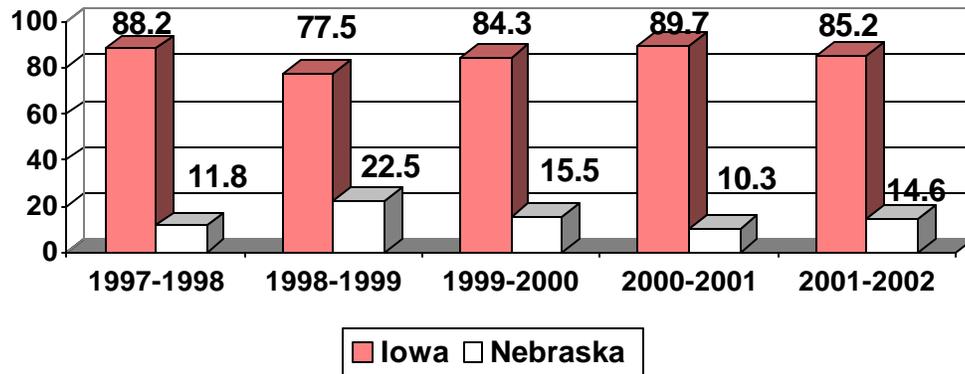
SOUTHWEST IOWA REGENTS RESOURCE CENTER ENROLLMENT



Enrollment by Residence

Iowa residents accounted for 426 (85.2%) of the enrollments during the current year. Nebraska residents accounted for 73 (14.6%) of the enrollments. During the current year, the proportion of Iowa residents decreased from 89.7% to 85.2% and the proportion of Nebraska residents increased from 10.3% to 14.6%.

PERCENT HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT BY STATE



Program Offerings During FY 2002, the Regents Resource Center offered four undergraduate programs, 24 graduate programs, and 14 certificate/endorsement programs. Six new degree programs and one new certificate program were initiated; in addition, three certificate/endorsement programs and three masters programs were completed.

SUI Program Offerings The University of Iowa's offerings include the bachelor of liberal studies; doctor of pharmacy; higher education community college certificate; and masters programs in library science, public health, and nursing.

ISU Program Offerings Iowa State University's offerings include bachelors program in liberal studies and professional agriculture and certificate programs in advanced studies (superintendency), advanced medical nutrition therapy, information assurance (new), dietetics communication and counseling, dietetics management, public management, and financial counseling.

Also included are masters programs in agriculture, community and regional planning (new), educational leadership, systems engineering, family and consumer sciences, school mathematics, agronomy, computer engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and microbiology.

UNI Program Offerings The University of Northern Iowa's offerings include the bachelor of liberal studies, certificate programs in technology management, gerontology, and higher education community college; and endorsement programs in driver education, ESL/masters, and talented and gifted.

Also included are masters programs in early childhood education, educational administration, elementary education (new), literacy education (new), middle level education (new), mathematics for the middle grades, educational technology (new), science education (new), and music education.

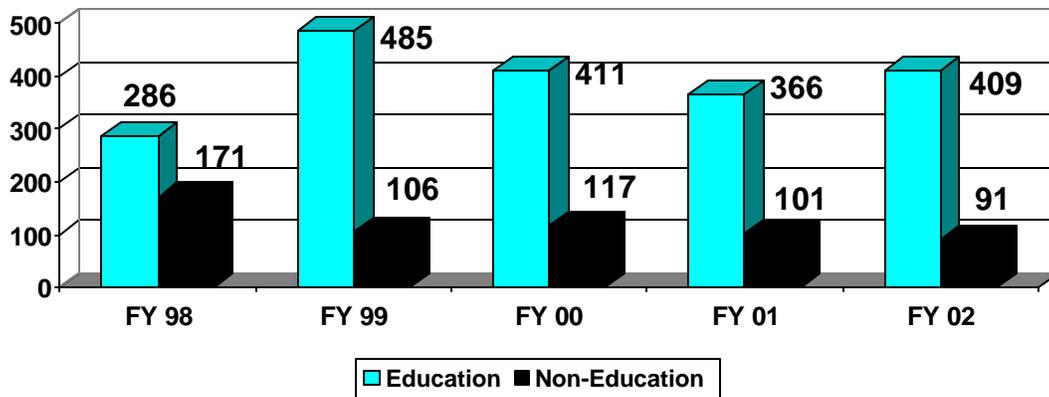
Enrollment in Education Programs

Over the years, enrollments in education programs offered by the Regent colleges of education have accounted for a significant majority of enrollments. During FY 2002, enrollments in education programs accounted for 81.8% of the total enrollment.

Enrollment in Non-Education Programs

During FY 2002, enrollments in education programs accounted for 18.2% of the total enrollment and included coursework in agriculture, mathematics, and engineering.

EDUCATION AND NON-EDUCATION ENROLLMENTS



Delivery Format

Forty-one of the programs and certificates (97.6%) were delivered through distance education formats during 2001-2002 and accounted for 74.4% (372) of the enrollments through the Regents Resource Center. On-site, face-to-face instruction occurred in only one program (2.4%) offered, but accounted for 25.6% of the enrollments (128). A variety of distance education formats were used in 2001-2002, including the ICN, World Wide Web, Iowa Public Television, videotapes, satellite transmissions, and combinations of several media.

FY 2002 Goals

The mission of the Regents Resource Center is to provide increased access to undergraduate and graduate education and other Regent universities' resources for area residents. The Center formulated the following goals for FY 2002:

- * Continue implementation of the Center marketing plan for the purpose of increasing enrollments and awareness of Regent university educational opportunities available in the region.

- * Assist Regent universities with outreach and continuing education initiatives consistent with their strategic plans. The priority for FY 2002 is to support the BLS Across Iowa initiative in the Iowa Western Community College and Western Iowa Tech regions.
- * Expand graduate program offerings in a wide range of curricular areas.
- * Expand opportunities for cultural arts programming, including non-credit educational programs such as workshops and conferences.
- * Serve as an advocate for the educational needs of the citizens of western Iowa.

FY 2002
Center Activities

During FY 2002, the Center developed and implemented a number of activities that supported its goals.

- * *Unified Master Programs (UNI)*: Four masters programs are being delivered through the ICN to six southwest Iowa sites – Educational Technology (Council Bluffs and Elk Horn), Literacy Education (Council Bluffs), Elementary Education (Council Bluffs), and Middle Level Education (Glenwood and Shelby). The Center assisted in promoting the program and developing the ICN sites. Twenty-one students were enrolled during FY 2002.
- * *Library and Information Science (SUI)*: Several courses were offered in the sequence to continuing and new students.
- * *Workshops for Education Professionals (SUI)*: Five topical workshops for education professionals emphasized development of effective skills in such areas as helping children cope with stress, strategies for dealing with disruption in the classroom, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.
- * *Iowa Communications Network*. The Center scheduled the two ICN classrooms at the Iowa School for the Deaf for the ISD sign language classes, advisory committee meetings, and other ISD events; developed weekly schedules for the classrooms; and coordinated arrangements with ISD to ensure that ICN classrooms were open for all scheduled ICN transmissions. The two classrooms are used primarily for delivery of credit courses.
- * *Guided Correspondence Study/Guided Independent Study Courses*: The Center promoted the University of Northern Iowa's Guided Correspondence Courses (GCS) and the University of Iowa's Guided Independent Study (GIS) courses and distributed GCS/GIS catalogues. Enrollments in these courses are not included in the Center enrollment report.

- * *Student Services and Support.* The Center assisted with a variety of support services related to the delivery of distance education classes, including assistance in registering students for ICN classes, referring students for advising and financial aid, resolving any issues with ICN sites, and obtaining videos of missed telecourse classes. The Center administered 25 exams for guided correspondence, telecourse, and ICN courses. The Center arranged a Graduate Record Exam strategy and information session that was delivered on the ICN by ISU.
 - * *Cultural Outreach.* The Center's role included support for cultural outreach from the Regent universities. The Center supported efforts of area arts organizations by providing information on Regent university cultural arts outreach opportunities. University of Iowa Arts Share was instrumental in arranging the performance and workshops by *Dancers in Company* at the new Southwest Iowa Arts Center.
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FY 2003
Goals

The Center formulated the following goals for FY 2003:

- * Continue implementation of the Center's marketing plan for the purpose of increasing enrollments and awareness of Regent university educational opportunities available in the region.
 - * Assist Regent universities with outreach and continuing education initiatives consistent with their strategic plans.
 - * Expand graduate program offerings.
 - * Expand opportunities for cultural arts programming, including non-credit educational programs such as workshops and conferences.
 - * Serve as an advocate for the educational needs of the citizens of western Iowa.
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Budget

The Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center has a budget of \$139,698 for FY 2002; this represents a decrease of \$8,902 (-6.0%) from the prior year. The State of Iowa's appropriation for the Center was \$108,644 (77.8%). The Regent universities provided \$31,054 (22.2%) in support.

Special Problems
or Concerns

Quad Cities
Graduate Center During the past six years, as the degree programs available through the GradCenter from member institutions has grown from 18 to more than 70, the number of Center staff has remained constant. At the same time, the cuts in the Center's FY 2002 budget have required that staff examine proposed activities for FY 2002, eliminate some activities, develop a plan to accommodate the budget cuts, and continue to serve member institutions and their students.

Tri-State Graduate
Center While reduced state funding is a concern, the uncertainty of revenue from year to year presents the greatest challenge.

Southwest Iowa
Regents
Resource
Center Budget constraints are the biggest challenge for the coming year. This not only affects the Center's operations directly, but also the ability of the universities to deliver needed programs and courses due to reduced availability of faculty and the costs of course delivery.

Regent Exhibit
Book A copy of the reports from the regional study centers is available in the Regent Exhibit Book.


Diana Gonzalez

Approved: 
Gregory S. Nichols