

Dear Colleague,

It's been a while since I've enjoyed *tempered* enthusiasm when discussing our enrollment numbers. While all is not restored to pre-pandemic levels, there's a glimmer of hope expressed in our fall enrollment data worth sharing.

- An increase of **6.3%** in our headcount and **8.8%** in credit hours.
- An **8.5%** increase in our Under 20 headcount.
- A **21%** increase in our number of first-time students, excluding Early College students.
- A **16.5%** in the number of male students who've enrolled.

While undergraduate enrollment continues to decline nationally, [community colleges like ours are faring better](#) in enrolling first-time students than four-year institutions. I hope, as many of you would agree, this trend continues.

But for now, and for each of our current **2,537 students taking 21,714 credits** this semester, their success is intrinsically linked to our success. If you're able, inquire if your students are prepared to register for the spring semester when registration opens Nov. 7. If financial assistance is needed to help them stay in school, please reach out to Vicki Smith at ext. 5354 or David Jones at ext. 5200.

On a personal note, I've enjoyed seeing more students from all disciplines studying and collaborating in the Learning Commons and the Welcome Center. This is partly due to an effort between Athletics and the Learning Commons to help student-athletes achieve academically no matter the season. Athletes complete five hours of in-person study each week and the [Navigate app](#) helps track their study hours.



If you haven't already, please sign up or check to see that you're enrolled in [eSAFE to receive text alerts](#) about weather delays or closings. On a final note, the college wants to continue to pay you for all that you do on behalf of our students. Be sure to use [Self-Service](#) in lieu of WebAdvisor for your timecards and kindly remind your students that support to WebAdvisor ends Oct. 31.

Wishing you well,

Dr. B