

Academic Affairs Council Meeting  
May 23, 2023

Summary and Action Items

1. **Merit Eligibility Updates** – Ms. Carole Clerie announced HR has added a question about whether employees have completed three training courses required by state and federal laws in the performance management system. This change was implemented because of a recent audit by the Texas Workforce Commission. To be eligible for merit raises, all employees will have until September 1, 2023 to take outstanding training modules. Failure to complete required training will result in employees losing merit raise eligibility. HR will work on communications. The Provost’s Office will develop a similar question in Faculty Qualifications for the faculty annual evaluation cycle that begins January 2024. Ms. Clerie will send Council members the list of employees who need to complete the required training courses over the next three months.

2. **Undergraduate Admissions Report** – Mr. Gary Ray provided the Council with an undergraduate admissions report.

Milestones this week:

- We are now at 28,384 or 99.6% of the new FTIC admit target (28,500) to reach the goal of 8,000 freshmen. Last year, we accepted 501 more first-year students from May 22 to September 11.
- As of this morning: NSO FTIC paid registration 6,549 (2023) vs. 6,663 (2022). An additional 224 freshmen who have signed up for registration but have not paid or are being counted yet.

Fall freshmen application record

First Year Applications	Year to Date Comparison	%	Current Apps to 2022 Final Apps	%
2023	41,911		41,911	
2022	33,638		34,294	
Difference	8,273	24.6%	7,617	22.2%

Fall and summer registration as of May 21, 2023

Fall	2022	2023	Difference
Overall Headcount	24,610	26,741	2,131 or 8.7%
Overall Credit Hours	285,583	320,649	35,066 or 12.3%

Summer	2022	2023	Difference
Overall Headcount	12,395	12,097	(298) or (2.4%)
Overall Credit Hours	75,863	74,584	(1,279) or (1.7%)

One-year retention rate as of May 21, 2023

Fall to Fall retention	2022	2023	Difference
First-year retention	4,772 (77%)	5,713 (77.7%)	941

Transfer retention	1,734 (71%)	1,633 (75.1%)	(101)
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Fall 2023 transfer class

Transfer Class	2022	2023	Difference
Merit Scholarships Offers	1,112	1,041	(71)
Merit Scholarships Accepted	418	449	31

First-year housing contracts are up 7.8% or 517 more than last year for this week; 512 housing exemptions have been approved; 1,800 students have housing contracts but have not signed up for NSO.

**3. Graduate Admissions Report** – Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with a graduate admissions report. Five applications for the summer were received this past week. For fall 2023, 50-70 applications are submitted per week. For a variety of reasons, a number of 2022/2023 merit fellowships have been canceled so The Graduate College is reaching out to programs admitting students for the summer for nominations for one-time scholarships. There is about \$20,000 available to distribute.

Summer 2023

Enrollment: New master's: 149 (7 more than last year)  
New doctoral: 37 (34 more than last year)

Fall 2023

Enrollment: New master's students: 598 (100 more than last year)  
New doctoral students: 51 (3 fewer than last year)

**OFF AGENDA**

Dr. Cynthia Hernandez has the following announcements:

- the RFP for the Student Success platform has been finished
- the search for the AVP for Student Success will be launched soon
- Student Health Center Pharmacy will be closing May 25, 2023 due to a decline in demand; TXST partnered with Walgreens and prescriptions have been transferred to Walgreens.

The Council discussed legislation pending final vote in the Texas Legislative.

Dr. Kelly Visnak asked deans for feedback on whether library hours need to change when the finals schedule includes weekend dates.