

**Buffalo State College  
State University of New York  
COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING  
April 29, 2008  
4:00 PM  
Cleveland Hall 518**

**MINUTES**

**COLLEGE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vice Chair, Mr. Howard Zemsky; Mr. James Brandys, '71 & '73; Ms. Laurie Brosnahan; Mr. Alphonso O'Neil-White; Mr. Gerald Saxe; Mr. Charles Naughton and Student Representative, Ms. Allison Brady.

**COLLEGE FACULTY & STAFF PRESENT:** President Muriel A. Howard; Provost, Dennis Ponton; Vice President for Finance & Management, Stanley Kardonsky; Vice President for Student Affairs, Hal D. Payne; Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Susanne Bair; Senior Advisor to the President for Equity and Campus Diversity, Dolores Battle; Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the College Council, Bonita Durand; Dean, School of Education, Ron Rochon; Dean, School of Arts & Humanities, Benjamin Christy; Dean, School of Professions Gary Jones; Dean, School of Natural and Social Sciences, Larry Flood; Dean, University College, Janet Ramsey; Associate Vice President for Government Relations, William Benfanti; Associate Vice President for Library & Instructional Technology, Maryruth Glogowski; Associate Vice President for Policy and Planning, Dorcas Colvin; Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, Mark Petrie; Associate Vice President for Housing and Auxiliary Services, Timothy Ecklund; Dean of Students & Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Charles Kenyon; UUP Chapter President & Associate Professor of Technology, Rick Stempniak; Director, Intercollegiate Athletics, Jerry Boyes; Associate Professor, Sociology, Allen Shelton; Students, Yakima Melton, Watoii Rabii and Wendy Hilleren; Staff Assistant, President's Office, Melissa Slisz.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Zemsky called the meeting to order at 4:08 pm.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Zemsky requested approval of the minutes from the March 18, 2008 meeting. Ms. Brady moved that the minutes be approved; Mr. O'Neil-White seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Zemsky asked all members to welcome Mr. Charles Naughton to the Buffalo State College Council. Mr. Naughton is an associate attorney with Clayton and Bergebin in Niagara Falls and a 1985 graduate of Buffalo State College. He has been appointed by Governor Paterson for a term to expire on June 30, 2014.

Mr. Zemsky asked Ally Brady, the student elected representative, to the council to give her report. Ms. Brady reported on the proceedings at the Student Assembly in Albany. Discussion topics included: (1) the 3.5% reduction in state funding ordered by Governor Patterson. (2) The cap on fees to SUNY (3) The Student loan crisis where only 93% of the student loans are backed by the Federal Government. Ms. Brady also reported that there was much discussion about the SUNY Compact, which was viewed as SUNY's solution to budget reductions. The proposal involves a tuition increase of 6% or \$110 per student-per semester. This group will be meeting again to discuss all of these issues in more detail.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Howard asked Vice President Kardonsky to report on the budget. He provided a full briefing on the 2008-09 State Budget for the SUNY's State Operated Campus. He also reported on the capital budget, advising the council that the science building has been funded for 93 million for phases 1 and 2. Buffalo State has also received \$25 million to be dispersed over five years for critical maintenance projects which will include the Bulger Quad, and renovation to Ketchum and Bacon Halls. The renovations to the South Wing of the student and to Coyer Field are underway and will be complete by the fall. The college received several responses to the

request for proposal for the residence hall project; however none fully met the needs of the institution. The college will begin to investigate options to build a new resident hall on campus. The stadium project was not funded however we will continue to advocate for this project. President Howard thanked the government relations committee for their help with advocating for this and all projects.

President Howard reported the college has a very ambitious Spring Semester. On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> the Buffalo State College Foundation hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Scholarship Gala. This was the most successful gala to date, exceeding all expectations. Dr. Howard thanked the co-chairs, Eunice Lewin, and Anthony Baynes, and the members of the College Council for their support. Vice President Bair provided a preliminary report on the Gala.

The 136<sup>th</sup> Commencement Ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The college will recognize many of outstanding graduating students for their exceptional achievements. In addition, several alumni and volunteers will also be honored at each ceremony. At 10 AM Tom Calderone will receive the SUNY Honorary Degree and Congressman Brian Higgins will be recognized as distinguished alumnus. John Hoskins and Howard Zemsky will serve as conveners. At 2 PM Eunice Lewin will receive the President's Distinguished Service Award and Mayor Bryon W. Brown will receive the distinguished alumnus award at this ceremony. Jim Brandys will convene this ceremony. At 6 PM Arlene Kaukus will receive the College Council Medal and deliver the commencement address. Leonard Sikora will receive the distinguished alumni award. Bill Bissett will convene this ceremony. Student recipients of the President's Medal and Chancellor's Award will also be recognized at each of the ceremonies.

Vice President Payne provided an update on enrollment along with Mark Petrie.

(see attached) Mr. Brandys commented that the college has made some excellent changes in the recruitment and retention areas and he commended the admissions department for doing a great job.

Provost Dennis Ponton provided an update on the Middle States Periodic Review, the NCATE Board of Examiners site visit (see attached). He introduced the academic presentation “Learning Communities,” which was presented by Dr. Scott Johnson and Dr. Tim Ecklund. (see attached) Mr. Zemsky thanked all for their reports. Mr. Zemsky recognized Ms. Arlene Kaukus who served this council with distinction. He thanked her for years of service to the Buffalo State College Council and to Buffalo State College. He indicated that she has been a valued member of the council and that her participation and support were truly appreciated. On behalf of Chairman Hoskins and the members of the council, Mr. Zemsky presented Ms. Kaukus with a chair which commemorates her years of service to the Buffalo State College Council. Mr. Zemsky and Vice President Payne then called upon Ms. Ally Brady. Mr. Zemsky said it had also been a pleasure to work with Ms. Brady during this past year. He commented that she has represented the students of Buffalo State College in an exceptional manner. Mr. Zemsky along with Vice President Payne presented Ms. Brady with her name plate to which a plate documenting her year of service as the student elected representative to the Buffalo State College Council had been attached and flowers. The council members wished her all the best in her future endeavors and thanked her again for her service.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Buffalo State College was proud to co-host the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual International Workshop on Combinatorial Image Analysis with SUNY Fredonia on April 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>. This workshop series began in 1991 and since then the meeting has been held on four different continents, representing a total of seven different countries. Image analysis is a scientific discipline providing theoretical foundations and methods for solving problems appearing in a wide range of areas as diverse as medicine, robotics, defense and security. Dr. Valentin Brimkov, professor of mathematics at Buffalo State College, served as chair for this conference.
- Buffalo State College was one of 14 SUNY campuses to receive recognition from the White House for the 2007 Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Approximately 500 institutions across the country were recognized for innovative, effective and exemplary community service programs.

Mr. Zemsky called for a Vote to Move to Executive Session: In accordance with Section 105 of the New York State Open Meetings Law. Ms. Brosnahan moved that the motion be approved; Mr. Brandys seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Zemsky called for a motion for adjournment; it was moved by Mr. Zemsky, and seconded by Mr. Brandys. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m. The council adjourned to executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bonita R. Durand*

Bonita R. Durand, Ph.D.

Secretary to the College Council

# College Council Meeting

April 29, 2008

## Enrollment Management Update

Hal Payne, Vice President, Student Affairs

**Buffalo State**  
*State University of New York*



# Agenda

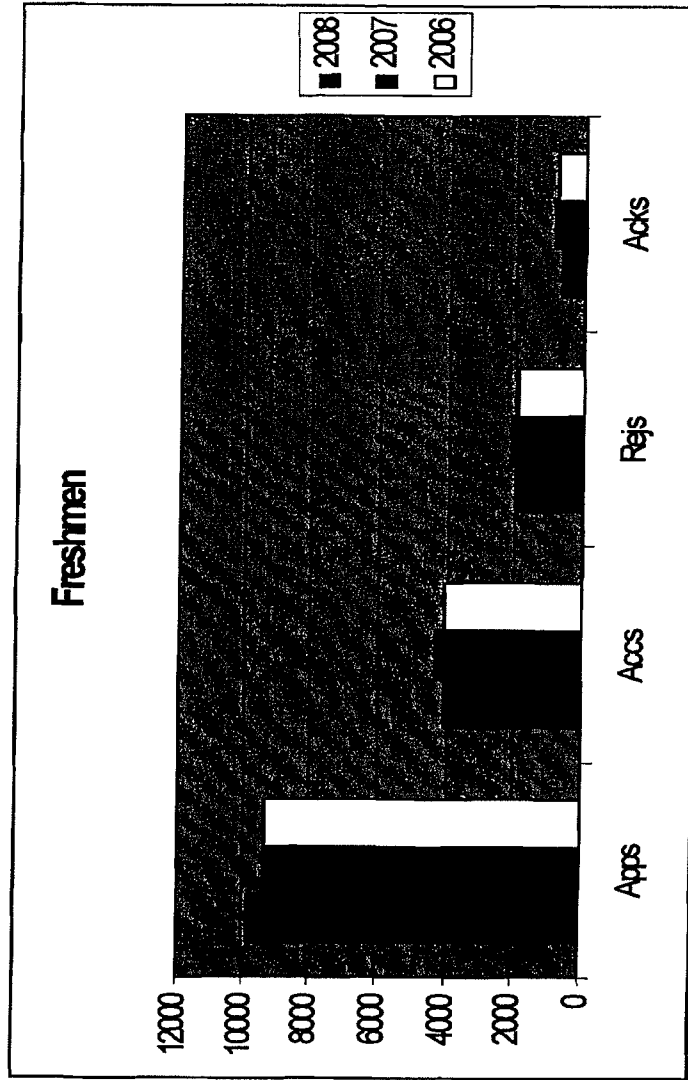
---

## 1. Fall 2008 Update

- a) New Students
- b) Continuing / Returning Students
- c) Recent Recruitment Activities

# New Students - Freshmen

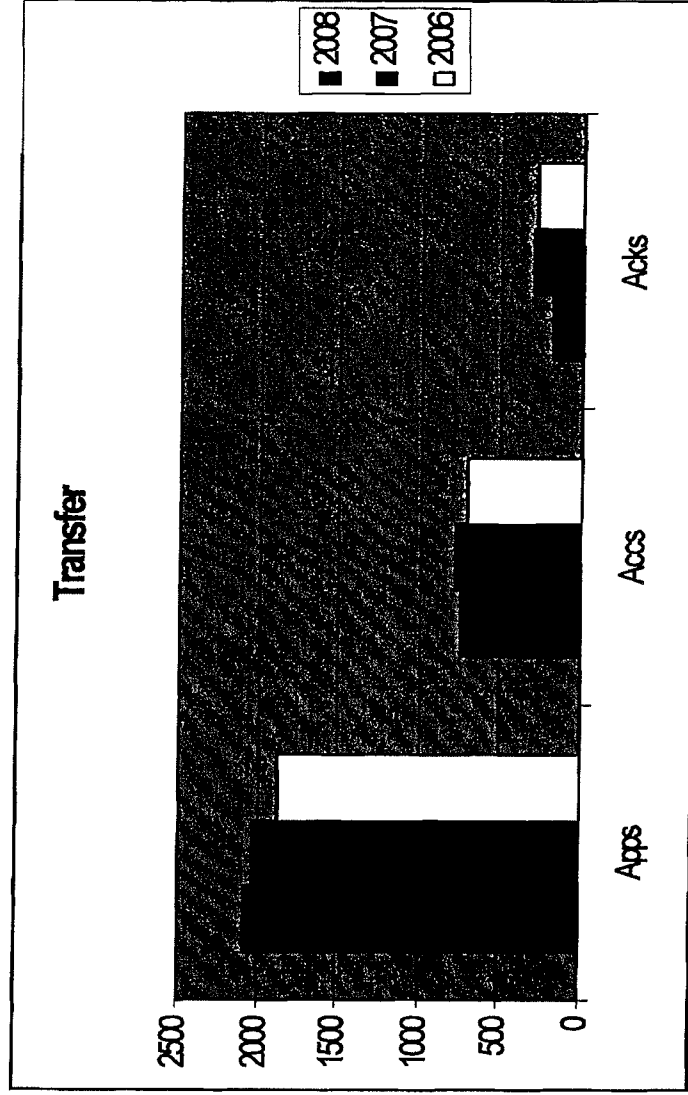
	2008	2007	2006
Apps	9791	9362	9288
Accs	4068	4294	4075
Rejs	1962	2127	1908
Acfs	688	861	831





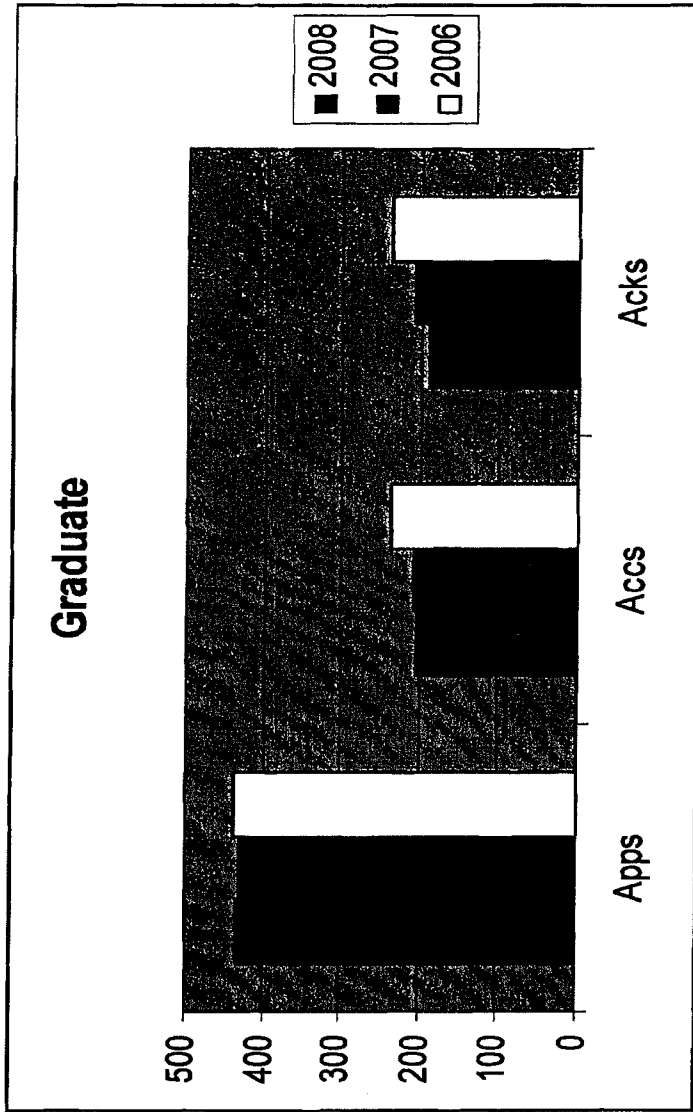
# New Students - Transfer

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Apps	2079	2027	1878
Accs	741	785	713
Acks	188	301	282



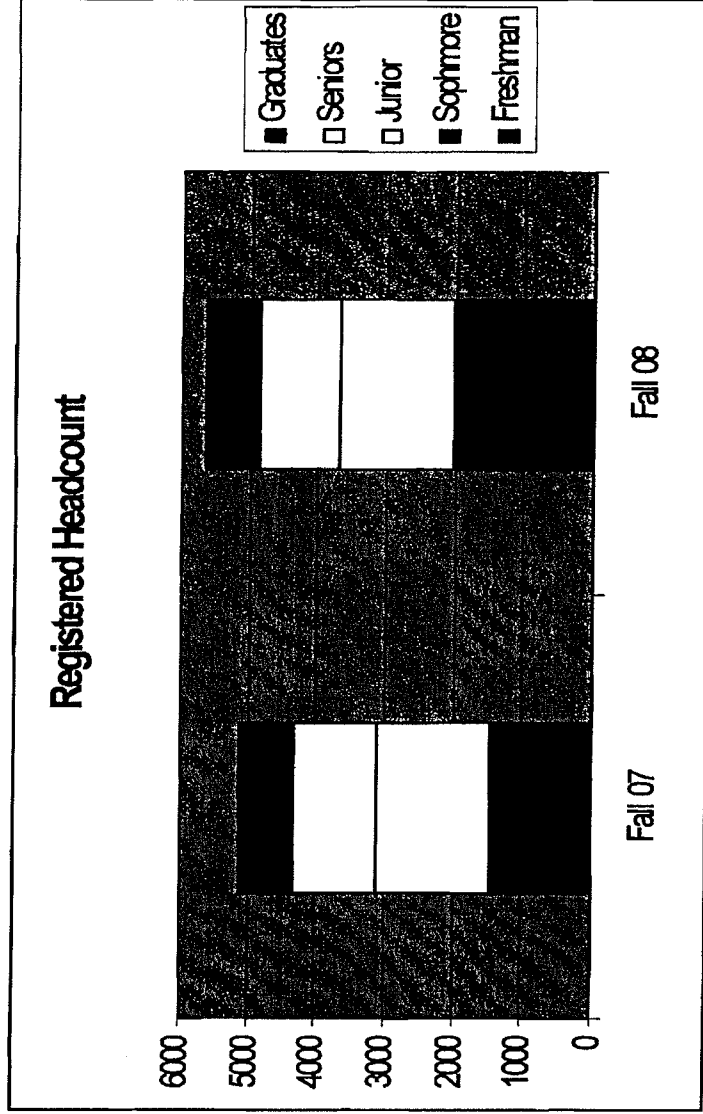
# New Students - Graduate

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Apps	434	428	437
Accs	203	206	235
Acks	188	206	235



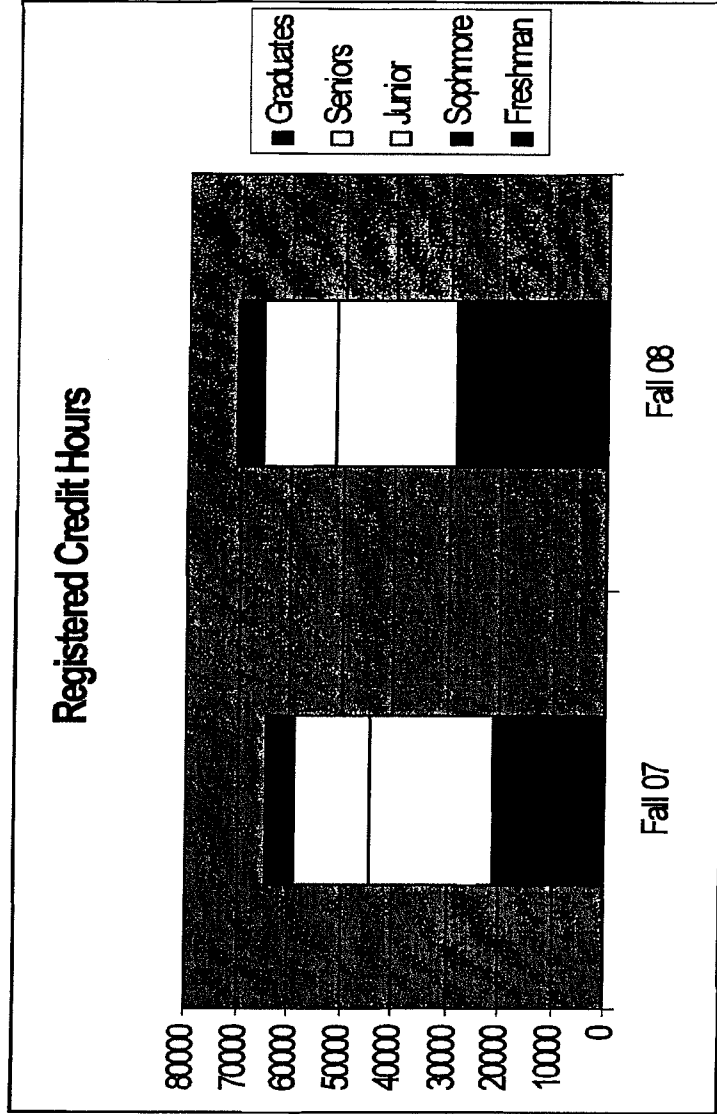
# Continuing / Returning Headcount

	<u>4/25/07</u>	<u>4/23/08</u>
Headcount	5094	5633



# Continuing / Returning Credit Hours

	<u>4/25/07</u>	<u>4/23/08</u>
Credit Hours	64333	70518





# Recruitment Activities

---

- Undergraduate
  - Mailed out Buffalo State flash drives
    - 850 to students with high academic profiles
    - 100 to accepted EOP freshmen
  - Held 3 events in NYC for accepted students
  - Metro New York bus trip to Buffalo State for Accepted EOP freshmen – 48 students participated.

**Buffalo State**  
*State University of New York*



# Recruitment Activities

---

- Undergraduate
  - Spring open house / faculty showcase - 341 students attended
  - Variety of email campaigns to accepted students.
  - Call campaign to accepted All College Honors students



# Recruitment Activities

---

- Undergraduate
  - MNY Counselor Visit to Buffalo State
  - Hosted high school counselors from around the state during their WNY college tour.



# Recruitment Activities

---

## □ Graduate

- Direct Mail Campaign - 21,000 recent graduates from area colleges.
- College Newspaper Advertising – Brockport, Geneseo, UB, Medialle, Buffalo State





Questions?

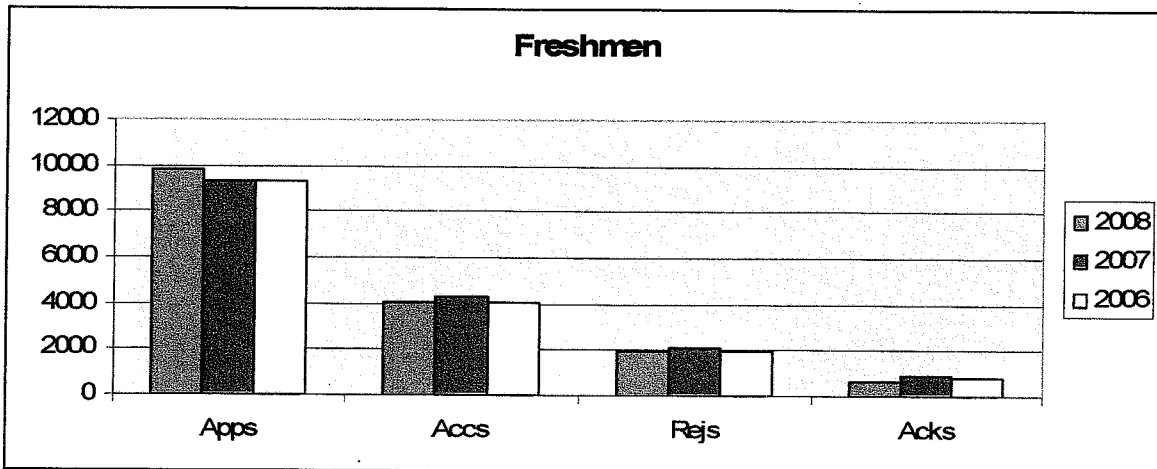
# Fall 2008 Enrollment Report

Enrollment Management Office

## New Students

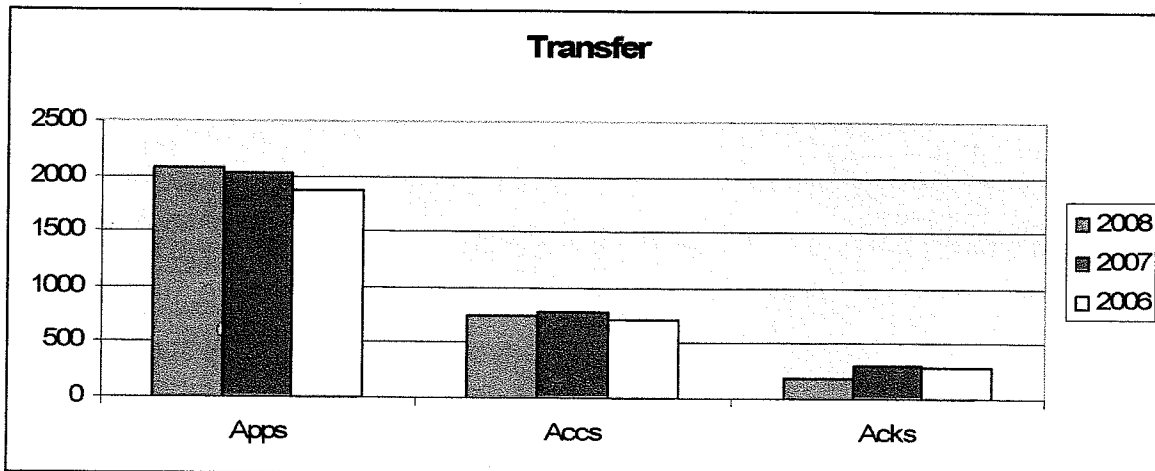
Increase in undergraduate freshmen applications is mainly due to the 21% increase in EOP applications. We are down 3% from 2007 in the general applicant pool. Currently, our overall 2008 numbers are very similar to the 2006 cohort with the exception of acknowledgments, which are lagging behind both 2007 and 2006.

Freshmen	2008	2007	2006
Apps	9791	9362	9288
Accs	4068	4294	4075
Rejs	1962	2127	1908
Acks	688	861	831



Transfer applications are up overall but again, largely due to the increase in EOP applications. We should consider pursuing additional funding from SUNY to increase our EOP transfer goal from 50 to 100.

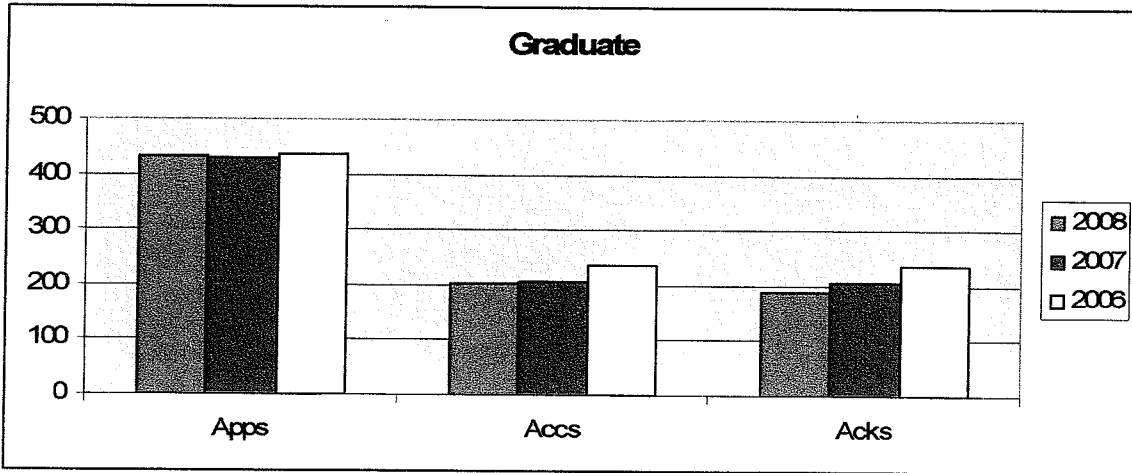
Transfer	2008	2007	2006
Apps	2079	2027	1878
Accs	741	785	713
Acks	188	301	282



# Fall 2008 Enrollment Report

Enrollment Management Office

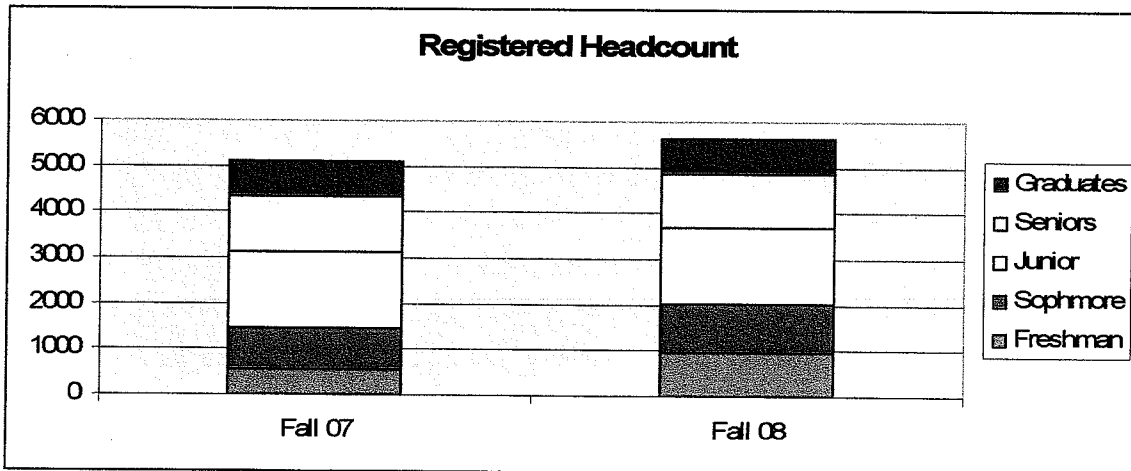
Graduate numbers are running similar to 2007 and slightly behind 2006.



## Continuing / Returning Students

Spring enrollment is down 281 students from 2007 at the start of the fall registration period. Despite the lower starting point, we are up 539 registered students from the same point last year.

Registered Headcount	4/25/07	4/23/08
Freshmen	578	969
Sophomore	887	1053
Juniors	1668	1670
Seniors	1193	1172
Graduates	<u>768</u>	<u>769</u>
Total	5094	5633

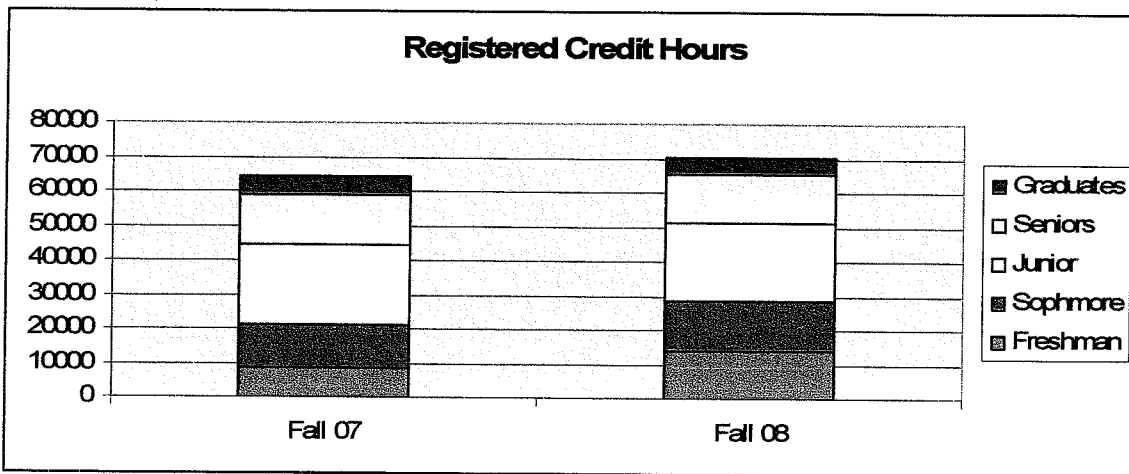


## Fall 2008 Enrollment Report

Enrollment Management Office

We are up nearly 10% in credit hours from this point last year. Because the fall 06 and fall 07 new undergraduate classes were larger than normal, our freshmen and sophomores numbers are strong.

Registered Credit Hours	4/25/07	4/23/08
Freshmen	8534	13826
Sophomore	12652	15027
Juniors	23059	22530
Seniors	14672	13850
Graduates	5416	5285
Total	64333	70518



### Undergraduate Enrollment Activities

The undergraduate staff will begin inactivating incomplete files this week and increase efforts to get accepted students to acknowledge. Recent & upcoming undergraduate admission activities include:

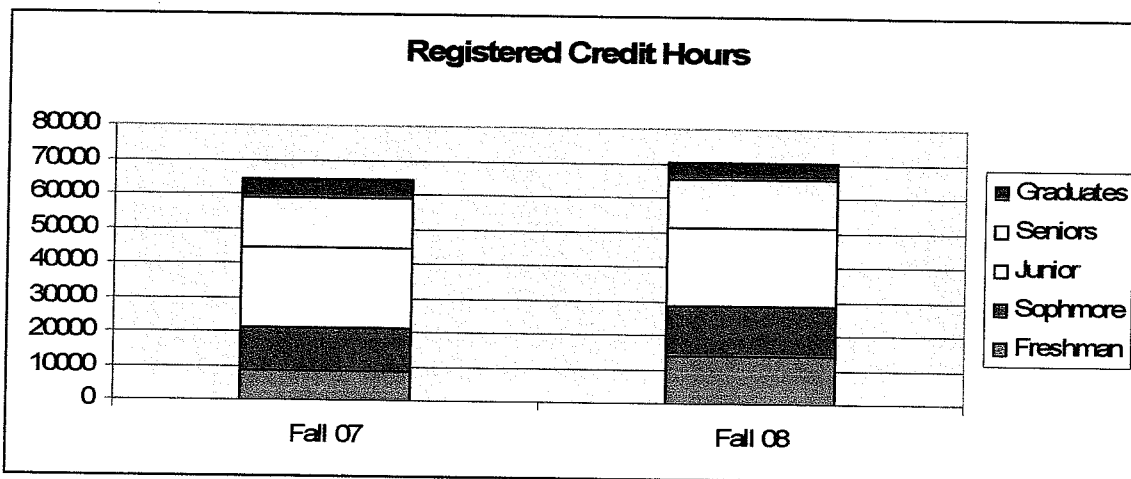
- Mailed out 850 Buffalo State flash drives to accepted students in selectivity groups 1 & 2.
- Held 3 events in NYC for accepted students— Big Apple events Manhattan (NYC, Rockland and Westchester counties) and Long Island (Nassau and Suffolk counties); and an honors reception in Manhattan. 12 students attended the Manhattan event, 36 attended the LI event, and 9 honors students attended the honors reception.
- Mailed out 100 Buffalo State flash drives to accepted EOP freshmen.
- Metro New York bus trip to Buffalo State for Accepted EOP freshmen – 48 students participated.
- Spring open house / faculty showcase was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> – 341 students registered and we accepted 14 deposits for the first time at the open house.
- E-mail to all accepted students reminding them of the deposit deadline.
- 3200 E-mail messages to accepted general freshmen applicants directing them to the welcome and content found on the flash drive.

## Fall 2008 Enrollment Report

Enrollment Management Office

We are up nearly 10% in credit hours from this point last year. Because the fall 06 and fall 07 new undergraduate classes were larger than normal, our freshmen and sophomores numbers are strong.

Registered Credit Hours	4/25/07	4/23/08
Freshmen	8534	13826
Sophomore	12652	15027
Juniors	23059	22530
Seniors	14672	13850
Graduates	<u>5416</u>	<u>5285</u>
Total	64333	70518



### Undergraduate Enrollment Activities

The undergraduate staff will begin inactivating incomplete files this week and increase efforts to get accepted students to acknowledge. Recent & upcoming undergraduate admission activities include:

- Mailed out 850 Buffalo State flash drives to accepted students in selectivity groups 1 & 2.
- Held 3 events in NYC for accepted students— Big Apple events Manhattan (NYC, Rockland and Westchester counties) and Long Island (Nassau and Suffolk counties); and an honors reception in Manhattan. 12 students attended the Manhattan event, 36 attended the LI event, and 9 honors students attended the honors reception.
- Mailed out 100 Buffalo State flash drives to accepted EOP freshmen.
- Metro New York bus trip to Buffalo State for Accepted EOP freshmen – 48 students participated.
- Spring open house / faculty showcase was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> – 341 students registered and we accepted 14 deposits for the first time at the open house.
- E-mail to all accepted students reminding them of the deposit deadline.
- 3200 E-mail messages to accepted general freshmen applicants directing them to the welcome and content found on the flash drive.

## **Fall 2008 Enrollment Report**

---

Enrollment Management Office

- 41 calls made last week to accepted students to the All College Honors Program – 8 deposits collected.
- MNY Counselor tour of Buffalo State took place on April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Hosted 40 counselors from the WNY counselor consortium tour on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Graduate Enrollment Activities**

- Mailed out 6,000 graduate school brochures to active and potential students in our student database.

## **Fall 2008 Enrollment Report**

---

Enrollment Management Office

- 41 calls made last week to accepted students to the All College Honors Program – 8 deposits collected.
- MNY Counselor tour of Buffalo State took place on April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Hosted 40 counselors from the WNY counselor consortium tour on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Graduate Enrollment Activities**

- Mailed out 6,000 graduate school brochures to active and potential students in our student database.

**Middle States  
Periodic Review Committee**

Report to the Buffalo State  
College Planning Council  
April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Presenters: **Stephen Chris**  
**Robert Delprino**

**Middle States PRR Committee**

**Co-chairs:** Rob Delprino and Steve Chris

**Committee members:**

Dorcas Colvin  
Yves Gachette  
Scott Johnson  
Roselyn Lindner  
Maureen Lindstrom  
Maria Pacheco  
David Pomerantz  
Kevin Railey  
Deborah Renzi  
Kerran Sanger



## **Objectives of Today's Presentation**

- **clarify expectations from the Middle States Commission re. the PRR**
- **summary of the PRR preparation:**
  - developing and writing the report
  - campus stakeholder involvement
- **overview of the report**
- **College Planning Council input**

## **The Periodic Review Report: Goals of the Middle States Commission**

- **help institutions gauge their progress**
- **assess the current status, as well as the future prospects, of institutions**
- **fulfill the Commission's accountability**

## **Objectives of Today's Presentation**

- **clarify expectations from the Middle States Commission re. the PRR**
- **summary of the PRR preparation:**
  - developing and writing the report
  - campus stakeholder involvement
- **overview of the report**
- **College Planning Council input**

## **The Periodic Review Report: Goals of the Middle States Commission**

- **help institutions gauge their progress**
- **assess the current status, as well as the future prospects, of institutions**
- **fulfill the Commission's accountability**

## **Objectives of Today's Presentation**

- **clarify expectations from the Middle States Commission re. the PRR**
- **summary of the PRR preparation:**
  - developing and writing the report
  - campus stakeholder involvement
- **overview of the report**
- **College Planning Council input**

## **The Periodic Review Report: Goals of the Middle States Commission**

- **help institutions gauge their progress**
- **assess the current status, as well as the future prospects, of institutions**
- **fulfill the Commission's accountability**

## **Expectations of Middle States Re. Contents of the PRR**

The PRR consists of the following sections:

- 1. executive summary**
- 2. institution's response to recommendations**
- 3. major challenges and/or current opportunities**
- 4. enrollment and finance projections**
- 5. outcomes assessment processes for institutional effectiveness and student learning**
- 6. linking institutional planning and budgeting**

## **PRR Section # 1 The Executive Summary**

- introductory overview of Buffalo State
- **summary of the College's process re. the preparation of the PRR**
- summary of major institutional changes and developments since 2003
- abstract of the highlights of the PRR

## **Expectations of Middle States Re. Contents of the PRR**

The PRR consists of the following sections:

- 1. executive summary**
- 2. institution's response to recommendations**
- 3. major challenges and/or current opportunities**
- 4. enrollment and finance projections**
- 5. outcomes assessment processes for institutional effectiveness and student learning**
- 6. linking institutional planning and budgeting**

## **PRR Section # 1 The Executive Summary**

- **introductory overview of Buffalo State**
- **summary of the College's process re. the preparation of the PRR**
- **summary of major institutional changes and developments since 2003**
- **abstract of the highlights of the PRR**

## **The Process of Developing and Writing the Report**

- **PRR committee selected (early spring 2007)**
- **review of PRR related reports**
- **co-chairs attend workshop on MSPRR**
- **committee responds to PRR section # 2**  
(“ Response to Recommendations offered by Middle States to the 2003 Self Study ”)
- **nine Middle States report areas were assigned to committee members**  
(summer and fall of 2007)

## **The Process of Developing and Writing the Report (Cont'd)**

- **PRR committee met regularly**
- **smaller writing team (Steve Chris, Dorcas Colvin, Rob Delprino, Kerran Sanger) was established (fall, 2007) to:**
  - \* organize committee members' contributions.
  - \* monitor completion of various sections of report by key college members
  - \* synthesize information into a draft narrative report.

## **Including Buffalo State College Stakeholders**

- **PRR committee members selected to:**
  - connect with the 2003 self-study
  - represent a diverse cross-section of College stakeholders.
- **updates at meetings of the CPC**
- **consultations with chairs and committee members of the 2003 Self Study.**
- **PRR Committee members interview and consult with selected staff and faculty**
- **ongoing consultations with the provost and other officers**

## **Including Buffalo State College Stakeholders (Cont'd)**

- **student stakeholder forums**
- **Academic Council focus group**
- **Deans' focus group**
- **Academic Planning Committee (College Senate)**
- **presentation to CPC**
- **website availability of the draft report**

## **Including Buffalo State College Stakeholders**

- **PRR committee members selected to:**
  - connect with the 2003 self-study
  - represent a diverse cross-section of College stakeholders.
- **updates at meetings of the CPC**
- **consultations with chairs and committee members of the 2003 Self Study.**
- **PRR Committee members interview and consult with selected staff and faculty**
- **ongoing consultations with the provost and other officers**

## **Including Buffalo State College Stakeholders (Cont'd)**

- **student stakeholder forums**
- **Academic Council focus group**
- **Deans' focus group**
- **Academic Planning Committee (College Senate)**
- **presentation to CPC**
- **website availability of the draft report**



**PRR Section # 2**  
**Response to**  
**the Middle States Reviewer's**  
**( 2003 ) Recommendations**

- I. Mission, Goals, Objectives and Assessment**
- II. Students**
  - A.) Changes in Our Student Population
  - B.) Removing Obstacles to Student Success
  - C.) Enriching Educational Experiences
- III. Graduate Education**
- IV. Enhancing Faculty Development**
- V. Financial and Physical Plant**
- VI. Planning**

**Recommendations Made by Middle States Commission in 2003**

**Self Study Area I: Mission, Goals, Objectives  
and Assessment ( 3 Recommendations )**

**Area II: Programs and Services for First-Year  
Students ( 7 Recommendations )**

**Area III: Course Scheduling and Availability  
( 5 Recommendations )**

**Area IV: Programs and Services for Commuter  
Students ( 2 Recommendations )**

**Area V: Distinctive and Pivotal  
Undergraduate Educational Experience  
( 6 Recommendations )**

**Recommendations Made by Middle States Commission in 2003 (Cont'd)**

**Area VI: Recognizing Student and Faculty  
Success in the Teaching and Learning Process**  
( 5 Recommendations )

**Area VII: Creating an Intellectually Vital  
Environment for Graduate Studies**  
( 8 Recommendations )

**Area VIII: Financial and Physical Plant**  
( 4 Recommendations )

**Area IX: Planning** ( 1 Recommendation )

**Section 2: Responding to the Middle States' Recommendations**

(Selected **Major initiatives** accomplished in response to  
Middle States Recommendations)

- **Academic and Student Affairs merged**
- **University College**
- **“integrating inquiry and action”**
- **planning and assessment**

( Middle States Standards 7 and 14 )

## **Response to Recommendations**

### **from the Middle States Reviewer's Visit (2003) Expanded Narrative**

#### **I. Mission, Goals, Objectives and Assessment**

- A. Embracing the College's Mission, Goals, Objectives
- B. Incorporating Assessment Information
- C. Assessing learning outcomes

#### **II. Students**

- A. Changes in Our Student Population
- B. Removing Obstacles to Student Success
  - 1. Integrating Student Success into the College's Strategic Plan
  - 2. The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
  - 3. Creation of Intellectual Foundations
  - 4. Creation of University College
  - 5. Changing Policies to Address Student Concerns
  - 6. Using Assessment Data to Drive Changes in Curriculum
  - 7. Creation of a Student-Centered Environment
  - 8. Enhancing Communication with Students
  - 9. Technology Enhancement
  - 10. Improvement in the Quality of Instruction and Course Accessibility
  - 11. Improvement in the Quality of Academic Advisement
  - 12. Addressing Commuter Students' Needs

#### **C. Enriching Educational Experiences**

- 1. Enrichment Through University College and Intellectual Foundations
- 2. Reorganization of the Office of Student Affairs
- 3. Promoting Diversity
- 4. Pursuing 100% Program Accreditation
- 5. Integration of Distinctive Undergraduate Programs
  - a. All College Honors Program
  - b. The Undergraduate Research Office
  - c. International Programs
  - d. Service Learning
  - e. Student Leadership Development

#### **III. Graduate Studies**

- A. Creation of the Graduate School
- B. Services for Graduate Students
- C. Planning for Continued Improvement

#### **IV. Enhancing Faculty Development**

- A. Promoting Professional Development
- B. The Carnegie Academy: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL)
- C. The Buffalo State College Research Foundation
- D. The Scholarship Support Program (SSP)
- E. Promoting Faculty/Student Research Collaborations
- F. Programs to Enhance Teaching
- G. Promoting Faculty Publication

#### **V. Financial and Physical Plant**

#### **VI. Planning**

**PRR Section #3:  
Buffalo States' Major Challenges  
and Current Opportunities**

- A. BSC admissions policy presents both a challenge and an opportunity
- B. Creating an "improvement-oriented ethos".
- C. Improving Retention and Graduation Rates
- D. Planning for retirement of large numbers of "baby-boomers" and taking advantage of the opportunities associated with the infusion of new faculty and staff
- E. Relevant and Distinctive Curriculum
- F. Financial, Physical and Human Resources

**PRR Section # 4  
Analysis of Enrollment and Financial Projections**

- **Enrollment** : current year and the three previous years
- **Projected enrollment** for the period covered by the Buffalo States' financial plan
- Buffalo State's **financial plan** for the current and years covered by the institution's strategic plan
- The two most recent audited **financial statements** and **management letters**
- The financial information submitted to **IPEDS** (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) for three previous years  
(The status and projections of enrollments and finance presented through charts, and diagrams)

**PRR Section # 5**  
**Evidence that Outcomes Assessment Processes**  
**Are in Place and are Utilized**

- **4th Five Year Assessment Plan in Academic and Student Affairs** Buffalo State Assessment Plan (2008-2013)
- **Learning Outcomes assessed in all major programs**
- **Important hallmarks of BSC learning outcomes assessment:**
  - direct measures ... student work evaluated according rubrics or standards ... Indirect measures triangulate with surveys of student engagement, satisfaction, advising, etc... learning outcomes designed by faculty who teach in the area being assessed.

**PRR Section # 5 (Cont'd)**

- **Demonstrating change from learning outcomes assessment ...**
  - Intellectual Foundations program
  - upgrade classrooms and address teaching of basic mathematics
  - focus of freshmen course around critical thinking
- **Institutional effectiveness addressed ...**
  - aggressive use of surveys and benchmarking
  - surveys regularly administered (e.g., CIRP, NSSE / FSSE, SUNY SOS)
  - BSC belongs to the Consortium of Student Retention Data Exchange and Urban Universities Consortium (NSSE)
- **Student Affairs has a robust outcomes based assessment program**

**PRR Section # 6**  
**Evidence that Linked Institutional Planning  
and Budgeting Processes are in Place**

- Buffalo State conducts ongoing planning and resource allocation based on its mission and goals, and utilizes the results of its assessment activities for institutional renewal.
- implementation and evaluation of the success of the strategic plan and resource allocation support the development and change necessary to improve and to maintain institutional quality.
- current institutional planning and budgeting processes are integrated and linked.

Buffalo State Strategic Plan

**Middle States Periodic Review Report**  
**Worksheet**

**Buffalo State College's Major Challenges and Opportunities**

We are now at the mid-point of the 10 year cycle for the Middle States Review process and engaged in writing the Middle States Periodic Review Report. What would you identify as the major **challenges** and **opportunities** for Buffalo State College since the 2003 review by the Middle States Commission and moving forward for the next five years?

Challenges

Opportunities

## Buffalo State

Skip to: [Skip to primary content](#) | [Skip to this section's navigation](#) | [Skip to the main navigation](#)

# FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS

## FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS COUNCIL

### First-Year Programs Council

home : [first-year programs council](#)

The First-Year Programs Council is the means through which Buffalo State examines, articulates, and applies its vision of the first-year experience. All programs engaged primarily with first-year students consider how they can better fulfill Buffalo State's mission, communicate strategies for implementing the mission in their particular contexts, discuss emerging trends among our students, and share best practices. The Council also plans new campus wide first-year initiatives based on their shared vision. This council is a governance body. It is the forum for comprehensive implementation of the College's plan for the first year.

The Council believes the following principles should guide first-year programs at Buffalo State:

- First-Year programs adhere to rigorous academic standards in order to successfully serve our students and accomplish the mission of our institution.
- First-Year Programs will work to help students establish a sense of belonging and connection to Buffalo State.
- First-Year Programs promote ownership by the student of their academic, personal, and social responsibilities.
- First-Year Programs recognize our responsibility in helping students learn college policies and procedures.
- First-Year Programs recognize the importance of the whole person in student development and learning.
- First-Year Programs will emphasize an appreciation of diversity on campus, in our communities, and throughout the world.

The following members of the Buffalo State community comprise the First-Year Programs Council:

Scott Johnson, Assistant Dean of First-Year Programs and Academic Support-Chair

Tim Ecklund, Associate Vice President for Campus Life  
Gail Wells, Director of Student Life  
Doug Koritz, Assistant Dean for Intellectual Foundations  
Susan Leist, Director of the Writing Program  
Christina Carter, Coordinator of MAT 103  
Abdi Hajikandi, Educational Opportunity Program  
Joan McCool, Director of the Counseling Center  
Marie Ferraro, Coordinator of Academic Advisement  
Josephine Adamo, Coordinator of First-Year Initiatives  
Keith Fulcher, INS 207 instructor  
Meg Stevens, Intercollegiate Athletics  
Carol Townsend, First-Year Seminar faculty  
Allen Shelton, Learning Community faculty  
Kathleen O'Brien, Learning Community faculty

The Council also includes four students appointed at the beginning of each academic year.



[Learning Communities](#) | [First-Year Seminars](#) | [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#) | [Peer Mentor Program](#) | [First-Year Awards](#) | [First Year Honor Society](#) | [First-Year Programs Council](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

- [Learning Communities](#)
- [First-Year Seminars](#)
- [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#)
- [Peer Mentor Program](#)
- [First-Year Awards](#)
- [First Year Honor Society](#)
- [First-Year Programs Council](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Buffalo State](#)



## Buffalo State

Skip to: [Skip to primary content](#) | [Skip to this section's navigation](#) | [Skip to the main navigation](#)

# FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS

## LEARNING COMMUNITIES

### Learning Communities

home : [learning communities](#)

The evolution of learning communities in higher education during the last decade is one of the most exciting, academically challenging, student friendly developments in years. A learning community at Buffalo State is a block of courses that explores a complex theme through four or five classes. The faculty in these courses work to demonstrate how their particular course reflects the theme and connects to the learning in the other courses. Beyond this students take all of these courses together. Students form friendships that last beyond graduation because of the strong connections they form. Equally as important, students learn the material at a deeper level because students spend more time discussing ideas and working to master the lessons.

Two floors of a residence hall have been dedicated to the learning communities program and include lounge space, a new kitchen, a computer lab, and an office for learning community professors—so they can spend some time there, too. While many students choose to live in the residence hall designated for learning communities, commuter students are welcome to take part as well. Commuter students have access to the residence hall during certain hours and can consider it a "home away from home."

Each learning community includes a section of CWP 101, the basic writing course required of most freshmen, and three classes that fulfill a portion of the college's Intellectual Foundations requirements. One of the goals of the learning communities program is to encourage students to appreciate the interrelationships between many subjects, despite their apparent differences. Faculty members work together to emphasize these connections and to use the learning community theme as a "thread" to tie them together. Each learning community also includes a one-credit "integrated hour." All of the instructors and students in a learning community meet for an hour each week to talk about connections in the course material. This time is also used to discuss questions or concerns about adapting to college life or to share experiences that advance the theme of the learning community.

Any student in any major can participate in a learning community. Both resident and commuter students can participate in learning communities. Students in special programs such as athletics, honors, EOP, etc, can also participate with their advisor's approval. All of the courses will count toward graduation. While all full time first-year students can participate, a learning community is a particularly good idea for a student if . . .

- you have scheduling flexibility in your degree program.
- you are not working more than 20 hours per week.
- you are new to the Buffalo area.

Learning communities are academically challenging and extremely rewarding. There are few ways to be introduced to a scholarly community and the intellectual life that can match learning communities. Click any of the headings to the left to see the learning communities offered for Fall 2008.



- Da Capo
- In Teachers We Trust
- And Justice For All
- Naked America
- Frequently Asked Questions

[Learning Communities](#) | [First-Year Seminars](#) | [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#) | [Peer Mentor Program](#) | [First-Year Awards](#) | [First Year Honor Society](#) | [First-Year Programs Council](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

- [Learning Communities](#)
- [First-Year Seminars](#)
- [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#)
- [Peer Mentor Program](#)
- [First-Year Awards](#)
- [First Year Honor Society](#)
- [First-Year Programs Council](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Buffalo State](#)

## Buffalo State

Skip to: [Skip to primary content](#) | [Skip to this section's navigation](#) | [Skip to the main navigation](#)

# FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS

## FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

### First-Year Seminars

home : [first-year seminars](#)

First-year seminars allow students to experience of an environment designed especially designed to address first-year concerns while simultaneously delivering the material of a course. Most first-year students will take some classes that have larger enrollments. In addition, these courses will have a mix of upperclassmen and freshmen. First-year seminars have no more than 25 students per class, which allows students to receive personalized attention from the professor. As such, students in first-year seminars get to explore material in greater detail, learn in a more discussion driven format, and discuss concerns related to the first-year. Faculty in first-year seminars serve as their students' academic advisors also.

A first-year seminar is a good idea for a student if . . .

- you are interested in a particular major and would like to know more about it.
- you are a part time first-year student.
- your personal schedule demands considerable time off campus.

First-year seminar instructors are come from diverse backgrounds with degrees from excellent schools. They include published authors, department chairs, members of the administration, and prestigious teaching-award winners. All of the teachers in the first-year seminar program are involved because they have a deep passion for helping new students succeed.

Registering for a first-year seminar is like registering for any other course. You have to look for first-year seminars in the schedule, though. ***Many of the courses offered as first-year seminars are not the only sections of that particular course being offered this semester. So, if you want the seminar, you have to be sure to choose the section designated as a first-year seminar. The best way to do this is to register for only the section of the course with the call number listed on the page to your left. This will ensure you get the section designated as the first-year seminar.***

The schedule for fall 2007 is available by clicking the list on the left.



- [Fall 2007 Schedule](#)

[Learning Communities](#) | [First-Year Seminars](#) | [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#) | [Peer Mentor Program](#) | [First-Year Awards](#) | [First Year Honor Society](#) | [First-Year Programs Council](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

- [Learning Communities](#)
- [First-Year Seminars](#)
- [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#)
- [Peer Mentor Program](#)
- [First-Year Awards](#)
- [First Year Honor Society](#)
- [First-Year Programs Council](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Buffalo State](#)

## Buffalo State

Skip to: Skip to primary content | Skip to this section's navigation | Skip to the main navigation

# FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS

## PEER MENTOR PROGRAM

### Peer Mentor Program

home : peer mentor program

The positive impact of peer assistance programs is well documented in the higher-education research literature. The purpose of University College's Peer Mentor Program is to provide a student to student connection and resource for first-year students in the classroom. Peer Mentors wear many hats as they assist first-year students in their transition from high school to college. These include being a role model of a successful student, a coach for academic skills, a tutor for course content, and a resource for campus information.

The duties of the peer mentor include:

- holding three mandatory sessions with students throughout the semester:
  - - "Getting to Know You" session: The purpose of this meeting is to become acquainted with the student. Goal is to understand a student's academic and social situation.
    - "Pre-advisement" session: Assist new students in understanding the Intellectual Foundations requirements. Peer mentors will review the audit sheet, explaining core, upper division, writing intensive, competency and foreign language requirements. If requested, peer mentors will discuss possible course selection options.
    - "Tutoring" session: Students who have demonstrated problems in class, mid-semester grades below a "C", or request may meet with the peer mentor for additional sessions.
  - meeting with the professor to understand course schedule, material, and goals. In addition, the mentor will discuss the strengths and needs of students in the course.
  - attending at least one session of course per week
  - providing information and support for students as an academic and campus resource.
  - holding regular office hours (minimum of three hours per week)
  - participating in training sessions
  - attending staff meetings during the academic year

**Required qualifications for peer mentors:**

- 3.0 g.p.a
- matriculated student
- minimum 30 credits earned (first-year students may apply in spring to work following year)
- must have attended Buffalo State for at least two semesters
- excellent written and verbal communication skills

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- student has B or better in available course
- prior class experience with teaching professor
- major in discipline of available course
- experience working with diverse groups of people

If this sounds like a challenge you're ready to meet, consider applying. Access the application by clicking this highlighted text. Return the completed form to South Wing 530.

Not all courses in First-Year Programs have peer mentors. If you'd like information on which courses have mentors, use the contact us page to your left.



[Learning Communities](#) | [First-Year Seminars](#) | [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#) | [Peer Mentor Program](#) | [First-Year Awards](#) | [First Year Honor Society](#) | [First-Year Programs Council](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

- [Learning Communities](#)
- [First-Year Seminars](#)
- [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#)
- [Peer Mentor Program](#)
- [First-Year Awards](#)
- [First Year Honor Society](#)
- [First-Year Programs Council](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Buffalo State](#)

## Buffalo State

Skip to: [Skip to primary content](#) | [Skip to this section's navigation](#) | [Skip to the main navigation](#)

# FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS

## FIRST-YEAR AWARDS

### First-Year Awards

home : [first-year awards](#)

To reward students, faculty, and staff that participate in First-Year Programs at Buffalo State, University College has created a program of First-Year Awards.

#### **Outstanding Faculty/Staff Contribution to First-Year Student Success:**

This award would go to a faculty or staff member who demonstrates excellence in teaching and/or advising in learning communities, first-year seminars, BSC 101, or UNC 100 during the current academic year. The committee will give preference to candidates nominated by a student. The winner will receive five hundred dollars for travel to a professional conference or research materials during the 2007 -2008 academic year.

#### **2008 winner: Laurence Shine, College Writing Program**

Laurence Shine has helped first year students develop a love of sophisticated works of literature in addition to college level communication skills. The students who nominated him noted his ability to help them understand complicated ideas in the assigned literature and relate them to the complicated themes of the Naked America learning community. They see his style as essential in making the transition to the rigors college reading, thinking, and writing much less daunting. In 2007 he helped design a study tour of Ireland for students in his learning community.

#### **Outstanding First-Year Student Scholarly or Creative Achievement:**

This award would go to a student that demonstrates superior academic work. The hope is that winner of this award will demonstrate achievement beyond the traditional measure of g.p.a. For example, students who take advantage of opportunities such as service learning, participation in United Nations Day, or Student Research and Creativity Celebration represent the preferred candidates for this award. The student winner will receive two hundred and fifty dollars per semester during the 2007 - 2008 academic year for textbooks or supplies.

#### **2008 winner: Watoii Rabii**

Watoii Rabii is a psychology major with a 3.82 g.p.a. During his first year of college, Watoii developed a theory based his readings of Karl Marx entitled primitive consumption. In addition, he gave three scholarly presentations. He presented to an audience including international scholars at Ethnographic Dreamworlds and the International Conference on the First Year Experience in Dublin, Ireland. Following these presentations Watoii was singled out by faculty from other institutions attending his presentations as original and thoughtful.

### **Outstanding First-Year Student Contribution to Campus Life:**

This award would go to a first-year student who gets involved and makes a significant contribution to a campus organization. This could be a residence hall floor, student club, program (such as SSSP or STAR) or even a workplace on campus. The student winner will receive two hundred and fifty dollars per semester during their sophomore year for books.

### **2008 winner: Christine Santoro**

As a first-year student Chrissy served as secretary for the Buffalo State first-year student honor society. Chrissy's leadership has taken Alpha lambda Delta from a good idea to a healthy Buffalo state student organization with a national affiliation. Her dedication to recruiting new students and keeping students engaged as the national affiliation decisions were made kept the organization moving forward. From her nomination statement, "if it were not for Chrissy Santoro's involvement and the significant contributions she has made to start this important campus organization, it would not be as successful as it is.

## **CONSIDER NOMINATING A DESERVING STUDENT OR COLLEAGUE**

**The nomination process usually begins in early April.**

**Watch for announcements here and across campus.**



Learning Communities | First-Year Seminars | UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment | Peer Mentor Program | First-Year Awards | First Year Honor Society | First-Year Programs Council | Events | Contact Us | Home

- Learning Communities
- First-Year Seminars
- UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment
- Peer Mentor Program
- First-Year Awards
- First Year Honor Society



## Buffalo State

Skip to: [Skip to primary content](#) | [Skip to this section's navigation](#) | [Skip to the main navigation](#)

# FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMS

## FIRST YEAR HONOR SOCIETY

### First Year Honor Society

home : [first year honor society](#)

Alpha Lambda Delta is a national first-year honor society that has existed since 1924 and is well established at many colleges and universities. Our goal is to create a chapter of this fraternity at Buffalo State. Our hope is that the Buffalo State chapter will assist our students by helping them find scholarships, opportunities for advanced learning, and community with other high achieving students. For more information on Alpha Lambda Delta visit their website: [www.nationalald.org](http://www.nationalald.org). Buffalo State was installed as a chapter of National Alpha Lambda Delta on February 16, 2008.

The Buffalo State Chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta is holding general interest meetings for students interested in membership. To be eligible a student must

- have achieved a 3.5 grade point average as full time Buffalo State student during the fall 2007 semester
- have not yet earned thirty credits toward a Buffalo State degree

The interest meetings will be held:

**Monday, March 17, 2008, in Butler Library 210 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 18, 2008 in B119 Classroom Building at 4:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, March 20, 2008 in B 119 Classroom Building at 12:15 p.m.  
(Bengal Pause)**

The students of Buffalo State's First Year Honor Society committed to pursuing programs on scholarship opportunities, advanced academic opportunities, and community service opportunities. ***Even if you are not able to attend one of our general interest meetings, please join us now!*** Contact Dr. Scott L. Johnson at [johnsosl@buffalostate.edu](mailto:johnsosl@buffalostate.edu) for more information.



- Officer Elections

[Learning Communities](#) | [First-Year Seminars](#) | [UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment](#) | [Peer Mentor Program](#) | [First-Year Awards](#) | [First Year Honor Society](#) | [First-Year Programs Council](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

- Learning Communities
- First-Year Seminars
- UNC 100 - Mastering the Academic Environment
- Peer Mentor Program
- First-Year Awards
- First Year Honor Society
- First-Year Programs Council
- Events
- Contact Us
- Home
- Buffalo State