

Calvin College

2006 Fall Day 10 Report Highlights

Overall Enrollment Trends (Table 1)

The total number of students enrolled at Calvin this fall is 4,199, an increase of 10 students from last fall and 13 from the year before. The Traditional Undergraduate Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment stands at 3,977, still within the optimal enrollment range of 3,900-4,100 Traditional Undergraduate FTE as established in the college's strategic plan, but down slightly from 3,986 last year. Traditional undergraduates are students working on their first bachelor's degree and are not enrolled in a degree program at another institution.

The number of part-time students increased by over 10% from last fall (from 217 in 2005 to 241 in 2006), after steadily decreasing over the past 5-6 years. The increase is primarily evident among Traditional Undergraduates, where part-timers increase from 69 in 2005 to 100 in 2006.

Table 1 also shows a continuing trend toward fewer female and more male students. Females represent 53.9% of the student body in 2006 compared to 54.3% in 2005 and 56.6% in 2002. The number of AHANA (African-, Hispanic-, Asian-, and Native-American) students increased from last year, from 227 to 235. They now represent 5.6% of our student body. Nearly half our students are from outside the state of Michigan (47%). The percentage of students from the Christian Reformed Church dipped slightly from last year, from 48.7% to 48.1%, while the percentage of students with at least one parent who is a Calvin alum increased from 38.6% in 2005 to 39.5% in 2006.

Student Majors (Table 3)

The top four **programs** of study this fall, as measured by overall student enrollment in specific majors, programs, or concentrations are Elementary Education (7.0%), Secondary Education (6.8%), Business (6.3%), and Nursing (5.9%). Other top choices include Psychology (4.0%), English (4.0%), and Biology (3.9%).

The **departments** with the largest number of majors/programs are Education (13.8%), Economics and Business (11.6%), Communication Arts & Sciences (8.3%, including Business/CAS group majors), Engineering (7.4%), Nursing (5.9%), Biology (4.4%), Psychology (4.0%), English (4.0%), and Sociology & Social Work (3.8%). Just under one-fifth (18.8%) of all declared majors are enrolled in one of the programs in Education.

Departments showing steady increases over the past few years, including this year, are Communication Arts & Sciences, Economics and Business, Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies, HPERDS and Nursing. In addition, substantial one-year increases from 2005 to 2006 can be seen in the number of majors in Business/CAS Group, Economics, Engineering, English, International Development Studies, Music, Rhetoric, Speech Pathology, Psychology and Sociology. Increases in pre-professional programs are primarily evident in Pre-Physical Therapy and Pre-Seminary.

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Merit Scholarships (Table 4)

Twenty-nine National Merit Scholars are part of the new entering class, the highest in the past five years and the second highest ever. The overall percentage of our incoming FTIAC class (First Time in any College) awarded top merit scholarships remained steady at around 62%. The number and percentage with the Presidential and the Dean's scholarships increased while the number and percentage with the Faculty Honors decreased. In addition, 99 FTIACs were awarded the newer Knollcrest award, nearly twice as many as last year. Of the 4,026 traditional undergraduates enrolled, 1,926 (47.8%) are receiving one of the top six merit scholarships (Honors and above).

Demographic Characteristics of Students (Tables 5, 6 & 7)

Calvin students come from 49 different states plus the District of Columbia, 7 Canadian provinces and 48 other foreign countries. After Michigan (53.1% of all students), the top three states/provinces represented are Illinois (8.5%), Ontario (3.5%), and Indiana (3.3%). California and Ohio are not far behind, each with 2.8% of the student population. South Korea is the country outside of North America sending us the most students, with 35 (0.8%). For detailed counts of students by residence see Table 5.

The distributions of students by race/ethnicity and citizenship are shown in Table 6. The number of AHANA students (African-, Hispanic-, Asian- and Native-American) at the college is 235 (5.6%), up from 227 (5.4%) last fall and up from 187 (4.3%) in 2002. The largest group of U.S. ethnic minorities enrolled at Calvin is Asian-American, at 113 students (roughly the same percentage as last year, at 2.7%). Fifty-seven African-American, 56 Hispanic-American, and 9 Native-American students are enrolled. Compared with last year, the African-American number is up by 2, the Hispanic-American number is up by 10 and the Native-American number is down by 3. The number and percentage of AHANA FTIACs decreased slightly from last year, from 57 (5.6%) to 50 (4.9%). FTIACs of other ethnicity have increased from 14 last year to 19 this year.

The 164 Canadian citizens reported in Table 6 represent 3.9% of our student body, a percentage similar to last year. The top four non-North American countries represented by our International student based on their citizenship are South Korea (60 students), India (12 students), Nigeria (10 students) and Ghana (8 students). The total number with citizenship from an African country is down substantially from four years earlier (dropping from 48 to 25 students), while the number from Asia has risen from 79 to 99 students.

Religious affiliations of students (Table 7) show Christian Reformed students comprising roughly 48% of the student body, with the second largest group of students affiliated with a Nondenominational church (11.7%). Other denominational families most frequently represented are Reformed and Presbyterian, each accounting for roughly 7-8% of the student body. A rather substantial jump in the percentage of the FTIAC class (as compared with the total student body) coming from other Reformed and Nondenominational groups is a trend worth watching.

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Retention and Graduation Rates (Table 8)

This year's FTIAC retention rate of 87.8% is, once again, the highest ever for Calvin, inching up from last year's rate of 87.7%. The highest retention rates (based on four-year averages) can be found among the following subgroups: top scholarship recipients (91.5%), alumni children (90.5%), and International students (91%). Somewhat disappointing are the drops in AHANA retention (85.5% last year to 78.9% this year) and Access program participant retention (71.7% to 67.3%).

The six-year graduation rate of the 2000 FTIAC class, at 74.5%, is also one of the highest ever for Calvin. It is second only to the rate of 75.8% among the 1998 FTIAC cohort. Higher than average graduation rates among the 2000 cohort are found among Top Scholarship recipients (84%) and Alumni children (82%). Graduation rates for AHANA students increased from a disappointing 55% last year to 71% this year, the highest ever. Particularly large increases in the graduation rate from last year to this year are also seen among Males (up from 66% to 74%), Michigan students (up from 69% to 75%), Christian High School grads (up from 73% to 78%), Christian Reformed students (up from 73% to 80%) and Access Program FTIACs (up from 31% to 42%). A perennial sticking point is the graduation rate among students from Other denominations, which lags behind that of Christian Reformed students by 8-10 percentage points.

New Students: FTIAC and Transfer (Table 9)

The class of 2006 FTIACs numbers 1,027, an increase of 20 students from last year's class of 1,007 and 125 from the 2004 class. Incoming transfers number 92, down from last year's 101. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs that are Christian Reformed decreased slightly, from 47.1% last year to 46.6% this year, although more CRC students, in raw numbers, are a part of the class. In terms of where the new class of FTIACs comes from geographically, a lower percentage are from Michigan than last year (48% in 2006 vs. 52% in 2005) and a corresponding higher percentage are from the nearby Great Lakes States of Illinois and Indiana.

The number of conditionally admitted Access Program students went down substantially, from 55 last year to 32 this year. This continues a nearly decade-long decline, where this group has dropped as a percentage of the class, from 9.3% in 1997 to 3.1% this year. The number of Canadian citizens in the FTIAC class increased, from 31 last year to 37 this year and other International Citizens also increased, from 29 to 39.

Enrolled to Admitted Yields (Table 10)

Roughly 47% of admitted FTIACs this year chose to enroll, resulting in an incoming class of 1,027 students out of 2,173 admitted. The number admitted this year is, once again, the highest ever for the college. The highest enrollment yields among FTIACs this year are among West Michigan Christian High Schools (73%), Alumni children (70%) and Christian Reformed Church members (68%). Yields in the mid to upper thirty percent range are common among AHANA students, from those outside the CRC, and among Public High School students. The yield for transfers dropped significantly, from 61% last year to 51% this year.

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FTIAC GPAs and Test Scores (Table 11 & 12)

The academic strength of the entering first-year class has edged up slightly compared with last years' class on nearly all measures. Mean GPA stands at 3.60, higher than last year's 3.57, while mean ACT Composite scores increased from 25.8 to 25.9. The mean combined SAT score also increased, from 1213 last year to 1217 this year. The middle 50% of GPAs and test scores also continue to rise compared with previous years. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs graduating in the top 10% of their high school class increased from 26% to 29%, although the 29% is fairly consistent with percentages from some earlier years.

Faculty Composition (Tables 13 & 14)

The number of full-time teaching faculty at Calvin in 2006 is 313, up 4 from last year. An additional 90 part-time faculty this fall brings the total faculty number to 403. Faculty FTE (a rough measure of the full-time teaching equivalent which adjusts for part-timers and reduced loads) decreased slightly, from 307 last year to 302 this year.

The number of full-time female faculty remained steady at 98, representing just under one-third of the full-time teaching faculty (31.3%). The number of AHANA (ethnic minority) faculty has increased from 22 to 23. The percentage of full-time faculty with a terminal degree increased from 81.6% last year to 83.4% this year, and the college-wide student to faculty ratio based on teaching duties is 14.7 to 1, also a slight increase over last year.