

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 11, 2021

Report No. 21.6/7 Enrollment Update

- Summer headcount enrollment will be up modestly, increasing for the first summer since 2013
- This has been a very, very challenging year to draw conclusions by comparing enrollment data to the previous year, as COVID changed everything about 2020 data flow
- Despite those challenges, and continued uncertainties, there are some positive indicators that things may move in the right direction during the summer months:
 - Fall freshmen offered admission has already surpassed the total for all of the fall 2020 recruitment cycle (5,080 vs. fall 2020 final of 5,049)
 - Fall transfers offered admission are currently +7.06%
 - Fall graduate students offered admission is up more than double last year, largely due to international enrollments being delayed through COVID, with no guarantee that they will materialize this fall
- Academic quality of fall freshmen applicants (measured by HS GPA) is up, while academic quality of freshmen admitted is equal to last year.
- Communication frequency is up 41% with freshmen, and 51% with transfers compared to last year
- Overall headcount for fall started this week -5.78% vs. fall 2020. However, our current registration also started the week only -0.56% below fall 2019. Fall 2019 ended up higher than fall 2020 by census day
- Continuing student registration for fall is running modestly ahead of last year

- All categories of new student registrations are running well below fall 2020, but above fall 2019
- ***Thank you to the Board of Trustees for your interest in, and support of, the new Division of Enrollment Management over these past 18 months!***