



**Final Enrolment Report
as of Census Day, October 11, 2006
Prepared for University Council**

Enrolment planning is about consciously shaping the University's future and making fundamental choices about the student body, including the number of students admitted to programs as well as the characteristics these students bring. Enrolment planning acknowledges that understanding and responding to changes in the demographic environment is necessary for any university wishing to attract and retain a strong and diverse student body.

On November 20, 2003 University Council approved the institution's first enrolment plan: *University of Saskatchewan Enrolment Plan: Bridging to 2010*. The *Enrolment Plan* was developed based on the following realities of the demographic environment in which the University must operate:

- an aging provincial population characterized by a stable or slightly declining 18-24 age cohort in Saskatchewan until 2010, followed by a dramatic decline in high school graduates after 2010
- increased migration from rural to urban communities; urban high school graduates are more likely to attend university than rural graduates so there may be a counterbalancing increase in demand for University spaces because of this trend
- continued growth in the provincial Aboriginal population and a very high demand in society for Aboriginal university graduates

Since the *Enrolment Plan* was drafted, we have noticed the following trends in the post-secondary environment:

- much more vigorous recruiting by universities from across the country
- more aggressive scholarship programs, which is intensifying the competition for academically talented students
- changing enrolment patterns and increasing competition for international students, combined with a stronger Canadian dollar
- neighbouring provinces adding significant numbers of new postsecondary spaces
- economic prosperity and appealing employment opportunities for young people in a number of regions, particularly Alberta
- growing opportunities in, and promotion of careers in the trades and technologies
- individual students increasingly considering their work and study options, and more critically assessing their choices
- considerable voluntary attrition in direct entry colleges at this University¹

In addition, we are seeing changes in the kind of students we see participating in post-secondary education. Universities are encountering an increasingly diverse student body comprised of:

- traditional high school graduates
- transfers from other post-secondary institutions
- those active in the workforce
- those returning to finish programs or pursue second degrees
- mature students
- first generation attendees
- people with more diverse support needs
- students from rural communities, global communities, Aboriginal communities, etc.

Additionally, the characteristics of the "traditional" student body are changing. Literature describes students of the millennium as follows²:

¹ U of S Retention Study found that 75% of the attrition observed in the five direct entry colleges between 1993 and 2003 was voluntary.

- students are younger (17 -21 year old)
- viewed and treated as “special”
- tend to come from smaller families with older, better educated parents
- more first and only borns
- these students are more confident and optimistic, team oriented, and sheltered
- students are more focused on achievement and experience more pressure to achieve
- exposed to advanced technology in every aspect of their lives

As we move forward into the next planning cycle, Student and Enrolment Services has been tasked with updating the *Enrolment Plan* to reflect the rapidly changing post-secondary environment. In addition, as the University community digests the outcomes of our first ever *Retention Study* and the wealth of data now available on our students’ experiences of the University, we anticipate a more holistic plan that includes more than just targets. All of this is integral in ensuring the University has strategic and highly effective recruitment and retention programs that not only attract students, but also increase their likelihood of success once they are enrolled.

The current *Enrolment Plan* gives direction and overarching goals regarding the size and composition of the student body and this report provides with an overview of our progress towards the implementation of these goals.

Overall Enrolment

Key dimension: By 2010, the University will grow to an overall size of 21,000 students in undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Baseline data: Total headcount enrolment declined to a low of 18,629 in 1997-98 and has increased slowly (<1%) to a total of 19,482 in 2001-02.

The Provost’s Committee on Integrated Planning has set a target for the University to achieve between 65% to 75% of the overall growth target identified in the *Enrolment Plan* – in other words to increase its total student body, undergraduate and graduate, by approximately 1800 students – by the end of this planning cycle (2006-07). This translates into a total degree enrolment this year of 20,300.

Table I
Student headcount totals for the 200609/200701 Terms as of October Census Day
(see Appendix I for a detailed breakdown by College/School)

Session	Level	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W	Change	%Change (2005 to 06)
Regular	Undergraduate	16,993	16,915	16,620	16,565	-55*	-0.33%
	Graduate	1,848	1,969	2,089	2,145	+56	+2.7%
	Total degree enrolment	18,841	18,885	18,709	18,710	+1	+0.005%
	Post-Grad Clinical	231	221	240	257	+17	+7.1%
	Non Degree	652	658	585	533	-52	-8.9%
Total for Session		19,724	19,763	19,534	19,500	-34	-0.17%

Data that is included in each level:

- Undergraduate includes all undergraduate colleges and Open Studies.
- Graduate includes students enrolled in Doctoral, Master’s, and post-graduate diploma programs as well as those who have not yet declared a program.
- Post-Grad Clinical includes Medicine and Dentistry Postgraduate Clinical students.
- Non-degree includes students registered in non-degree certificate programs and diploma programs.

² N. Howe and W. Strauss, *Millenials Rising: The Next Generation* (New York: Vintage Books, 2000).

*No new students were admitted to the undergraduate degree program in Physical Therapy this year as they are transitioning to a new graduate degree program; traditionally, the School would admit 30 new students into first year.

Key dimension: The approach to growing the institution will be selective and focused on strategic institutional interests.

Table II
Preliminary breakdown of selective growth strategy (headcount)

Graduate growth objectives	
2010 target	2,500
Current enrolment	2,145
Required growth	355
Undergraduate growth objectives	
2010 target	18,500
Current enrolment	16,565
Required growth	1,935
Growth from recruitment target is 12% by 2010 (Approximately 600 more new students than in 2005). Retention rate increases will provide for the balance of required undergraduate growth.	

The University will adopt a selective approach to overall growth, with primary emphasis on increasing graduate student enrolment, particularly at the Doctoral level, across the University. At the undergraduate level, emphasis will be on increasing enrolment in the Colleges of Agriculture and Bioresources, Arts & Science, Engineering, Pharmacy & Nutrition, and Nursing through both recruitment and retention strategies. To date, graduate enrolment is outpacing the target rate of growth; however, there has been a decline in overall student numbers at the undergraduate level.

Graduate Enrolment

Size and composition of the graduate student body

Key dimension: Increase our graduate student population by about 70 students per year to a headcount of 2,500 by 2010.

Baseline data: Graduate headcount declined to a low of 1,763 in 1997-98 and has remained relatively stable since; enrolment in 2001-02 was 1,767.

Key dimension: Greater emphasis will be placed on recruiting students into doctoral programs

Baseline data: Significant shifts in Ph.D. and Master's enrolment occurred during the 1990's. Ph.D. enrolment declined steadily to a low of 369 in 2001-02. During the same time period, enrolment in Master's programs climbed to 1,447.

Table III
Graduate Enrolment Summary (headcount)

Session*	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Doctoral	495	556	630	687
Master's	1,287	1,353	1,403	1,397
Post-graduate Diploma	36	31	30	33
None	30	29	34	28
TOTAL	1,848	1,969	2,096	2,145

*For 200609/200701 Terms as of October Census Day.

Over the last three years, the College of Graduate Studies and Research has experienced considerable enrolment growth. Doctoral enrolment has grown by 38.8%; Master's student enrolment has grown by 8.6%; and, overall enrolment is up 16.1% over 2003 enrolment. The goals outlined for graduate student growth appear to be within reach.

Table IIIa
Master's in Professional Accounting Summary (headcount)

Session	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
M.P.Acc.	114	127	129	130

Historically, activity that occurs in Spring and Summer terms is not captured in Census day statistics; one consequence of this is that students registered in the Master of Professional Accounting (M.P.Acc.) program have not been accurately reflected in our reporting because the program is taken over two consecutive summer semesters.

Undergraduate Enrolment

Size of the undergraduate student body

Key dimension: Increase our undergraduate student population to a headcount of 18,500 by 2010.

Baseline data: Full-time headcount undergraduate enrolments declined in the mid part of the decade and recovered to a level of 13,698 by 2001-02. A more dramatic decline occurred in part-time enrolment in the latter part of the 1990's followed by a partial recovery to 2,999 by 2001-02. Total undergraduate headcount in 2001-02 was 16,697.

Table IV
Undergraduate Student Body

Summary	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Direct entry college enrolment	11,730	11,688	11,877	11,910
Open Studies enrolment	1,858	1,880	1,308	1,060
Non-direct entry colleges/school enrolment	3,405	3,347	3,435	3,595
Total Registered	16,993	16,915	16,620	16,565

The desire to increase the student population in an environment where recruiting students to university continues to become more competitive dictates that we must attract significantly more applicants: furthermore, retention of the students we already have is of equal importance to the institution.

Table V
Recruitment and Retention Summary for the Direct Entry Colleges

Summary	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Applications	8,422	8,122	9,250	8,189**
Offers	6,320	6,172	6,740	6,214
Continuing	7,152	7,236	7,216	7,811***
Internal			748	523
Returning			422	212
Upper Year New			718	699
First Year New			2,773	2,665
Historical New*	4,578	4,452		
Total Registered	11,730	11,688	11,877	11,910

*New students are defined as students new to the college, including first year students, upper year students, returning students, internal and external transfer students.

** Historically, all applications, including those which were never completed by the applicant, were included in the applications reported. With the implementation of the admissions module in SiRIUS we have changed our business practices and only completed applications are reported.

***Continuing numbers for 2005 and 2006 reflect an additional 100 students that would have been captured as Returning in previous years.

Table VI
Recruitment and Retention Summary for Open Studies

Summary	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Applications	851	941	348	342
Offers	1,151	1,187	752	693
Continuing	1,160	1,207	763	722
Internal			22	24
Returning			11	14
Upper Year New			167	163
First Year New			345	137
Historical New*	698	673		
Total Registered	1,858	1,880	1,308	1,060

*New students are defined as students new to the college, including first year students, upper year students, returning students, internal and external transfer students.

Composition of the undergraduate student body

Key dimension: By the end of the decade or sooner, the University will be recruiting 15% of non-international undergraduate students from outside of the province.

Baseline data: In 2001-02, only 6.6% of the undergraduate student body came from the Western provinces (excluding Saskatchewan) and Ontario.

Key dimension: International student enrolments will increase to 7-8% of the overall enrolment targets for the University by 2010.

Baseline data: Saskatchewan has established itself as an attractive destination for international students. International enrolment at the undergraduate level was approximately 4% in 2001-02.

We are unable to report out-of-province data at this time.

Table VII
International Students in Direct Entry Colleges and Open Studies

College	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Agriculture	27	28	33	21
Arts & Science	424	428	414	401
Commerce	33	56	69	76
Engineering	81	86	97	97
Kinesiology	4	6	3	3
Open Studies	50	50	33	23
Total	619	654	649	621
% of Student Body	4.36%	4.60%	4.92%	4.79%

Table VIII
New International students entering Direct Entry Colleges and Open Studies

College	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Agriculture	6	5	10	4
Arts & Science	103	107	127	105
Commerce	7	19	22	22
Engineering	23	19	20	18
Kinesiology	2	5	2	2
Open Studies	5	11	2	2
Total	146	166	183	153

While the University will need to recruit a significant number of students from outside of Saskatchewan, special effort will be made to recruit the best and brightest Saskatchewan students. Student and Enrolment Services Division

will work, in collaboration with the colleges, to build a strong provincial, national, and international recruitment presence.

Education Equity Data

The University is committed to addressing the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal students. The University continues to provide students with opportunities to identify as being of Aboriginal ancestry.

Table IX

Aboriginal Student Enrolment	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Indian	883	926	919	827
Inuit	28	30	18	15
Métis	760	869	818	748
Total	1,671	1,825	1,755	1,590

It is important to note that we have only been collecting education equity data since 2002. Changes in these figures should not necessarily be interpreted as representing an increase or decrease in participation rates of Aboriginal students. The fluctuations may be reflective of changes in students' willingness and ability to self-identify. The University has committed to a number of program initiatives both at the college level and at the University level to increase Aboriginal student recruitment and retention over this planning cycle.

Students may also self-identify as having a disability or being a member of a visible minority.

Table X

Visible Minority Enrolment	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Total	1,047	1,149	1,192	1,178
Students having a disability	2003W	2004W	2005W	2006W
Total	428	457	421	421

Respectfully submitted by:

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Appendix I

200609/200701 Term Data as of October Census Day

UOFS_EDUC_LEVEL	COLL	Oct 2003/2004	Oct 2004/2005	Oct 2005/2006	Oct 2006/2007
GR	GS	1,848	1,969	2,089	2,145
	LevelTotal	1,848	1,969	2,089	2,145
ND	COLL				
	AG	183	167	189	176
	CO	295	290	242	222
	ED	32	41	33	34
	OS	142	160	121	101
	LevelTotal	652	658	585	533
PG	COLL				
	DE			2	2
	ME			238	255
	LevelTotal	231	221	240	257
UG	COLL				
	AG	515	560	544	569
	AR	7,772	7,701	7,677	7,681
	CO	1,564	1,536	1,704	1,728
	DE	107	107	112	111
	ED	1,175	1,120	1,201	1,193
	EN	1,395	1,392	1,470	1,473
	KI	484	499	482	459
	LA	325	322	316	333
	ME	225	237	241	244
	NU	785	757	752	919
	PH	417	433	444	453
	PT	91	88	87	61
	OS	1,858	1,880	1,308	1,060
	VM	280	283	282	281
LevelTotal	16,993	16,915	16,620	16,565	
Totals		19,724	19,763	19,534	19,500