# Enrollment Updates – Fall 2022

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# Northern Illinois University Your Future, Our Focus.



## **National Enrollment Narratives**

### COVID Impacts

- Challenges present pre-COVID have been exacerbated and the impacts will remain for years
- Mental health
- Belonging and social engagement
- Financial stress
- K-12 learning and academic preparation

"Since the pandemic began in spring 2020, [total] enrollment has declined by 5.1 percent across the board, with 937,500 fewer students enrolled at American colleges and universities." InsideHigherEd.com (January 2022)

- Enrollment declines at community colleges (transfer)
- Strong job market



# Fall 2022 Enrollment Outcomes – Total Enrollment

- Down 3.6% in total enrollment (585) 15,649
- Down 3.4% in total undergrad enrollment (405) 11,429
  - 65% first-year retention rate (down from 67% last year)
- Down 4.2% in total graduate enrollment (171) 3,908
- Flat in total law enrollment 312
- Up 30% in total international enrollment (223) 966



# Fall 2022 Enrollment Outcomes – New Students

- Up 7% in new freshmen (155) 2,440
  - Most diverse class in history 70% students of color
  - Avg. HS GPA 3.42 highest on record
  - 56% first-gen students
  - 50% increase in new Honors students (95) 283
- Down 16% in new transfers (240) 1,252
- Flat in new graduate students 974
- Up 33% in new international (80) 326



## Access, Equity & Affordability

- Eliminated out-of-state tuition (2018)
- Huskie Pledge (2020)
- Test-free merit scholarships (2020/21)
- Test-free admission (2021)
- Eliminated application fees (2021)
- The Common App (2021)
- Rockford Promise (2021)
- Hope Chicago (2022)











## Access, Equity and Affordability

#### **Admission**

 15% increase in freshman applications (~ 26,000)

#### Scholarships/Financial Aid

- ~ 80% of freshmen received merit awards (1,910)
  - 67% students of color (54% in 2020)
  - Almost 40% with 3.7 GPA or higher (~ 20% with 4.0)
- Huskie Pledge
  - Increased from 877 to 987 (40% of total class)
- Rockford Promise
  - Increased from 96 to 133



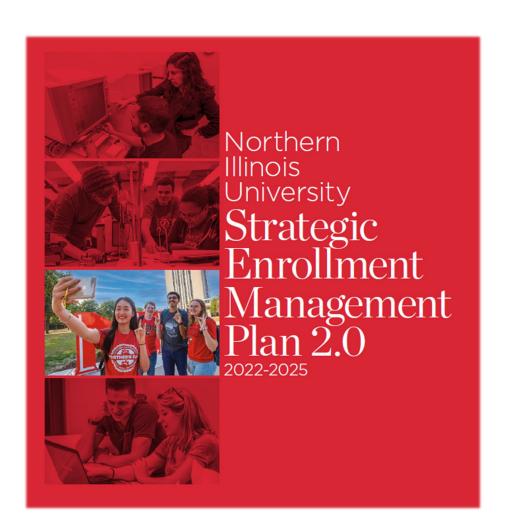


## **Academic Retention & Progression**

- Week of Engagement and Week of Welcome
- Huskie First Survey and Response
- Mental and Emotional Health Initiatives
- Quality Initiative for Engaged Teaching
- Re-enrollment Support and Advising



### SEM Plan 2.0



"Resilient institutions will be those who transition out of pandemic responsiveness with clear plans to become stronger and more sustainable."

-Lewis Sanborne, Ph.D.

Vice President
Student Success and Enrollment
Ruffalo Noel Levitz



## **Key Elements of SEM Plan 2.0**

- Stable total enrollment projections updated annually
- Focus on improving retention, graduation, student success and reducing achievement gaps
- Continued focus on DEI and belonging
- Alignment with president's university goals, ILEA 2020-2025 Plan, HLC Quality Initiative and multi-year budget planning





# **Questions**



