

Calvin College

2010 Fall Day 10 Report Highlights

Overall Enrollment Trends (Table 1)

The total number of students enrolled at Calvin for the fall of 2010 is 3,991, a decrease of 101 students from last fall and 180 from the year before. The Traditional Undergraduate Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment stands at 3,812, which is outside the optimal enrollment range of 3,900-4,100 Traditional Undergraduate FTE as established in the college's strategic plan. (Traditional undergraduates are students working on their first bachelor's degree and are not enrolled in a degree program at another institution.) Over 95% of Calvin students are enrolled full time, while the number of part-time students stands at 184 (4.6%), one of the smaller percentages in the past ten years.

Table 1 also shows that the male/female ratio of Calvin students has become somewhat more balanced this year compared with last year—coming in this year at 47 percent male and 53 percent female. Calvin's gender composition is slightly more balanced than at comparable four-year private (not-for-profit) institutions nationwide, where the undergraduate female percentage is roughly 57 percent.

The number of AHANA, or ethnic and racial minority, students increased by over 20% from last year. A sizeable portion of this increase is due to changes in how the federal government requires us to collect and report on race/ethnicity. The 388 AHANA students represent 9.7% of our student body. This compares with only 187 AHANA students (4.3%) enrolled nine years ago.

Roughly one-half of our students are from outside the state of Michigan (47%), with a substantial percentage (upwards of 9%) from outside the United States. The number and percentage with Canadian citizenship has decreased this year (now comprising 3.3% of the student body). As recently as 1993, Canadian representation, at eight percent of the student body, was more than double what it now is.

The percentage of students from the Christian Reformed Church also decreased about a percentage point from last year, down from 45.9% to 44.8%. The percentage of students with at least one parent being a Calvin alum increased slightly to 41%.

Student Majors (Table 3)

The top five **programs** of study this fall, as measured by overall student enrollment in specific majors, programs, or concentrations are Engineering (8.1%), Secondary Education (6.9%), Business (6.8%), Nursing (6.2%), and Elementary Education (5.9%). Other top choices include Biology (5.1%), Psychology (5.0%) and English (4.2%).

The **departments** with the largest number of students in majors/programs are Education (12.8%), Business (11.0%), Engineering (8.1%), Communication Arts & Sciences (7.2%), Nursing (6.2%), Biology (5.7%), Psychology (5.0%), English (4.2%) and HPERDS (3.5%). Departments showing steady increases over the past few years, including this year, are Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Mathematics and Statistics and Psychology. In addition, substantial one-year increases from 2009 to 2010 can be seen in the number of majors in Biology, Business, Chemistry, Geography, Interdisciplinary, and Speech Pathology and Audiology.

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Merit Scholarships (Table 4)

The overall percentage of our incoming FTIAC class (First Time In Any College) awarded one of our merit scholarships increased slightly, from 76% in 2009 to nearly 78% in 2010. The number of National Merit scholars in the class is 17, down from 27 last year. The Trustee and Presidential numbers remained relatively constant, while a shift occurred of students from the Honors and Faculty Honors categories up to the Deans level, reflective of some adjustments made in the criteria for awarding scholarships. Of the 3,834 traditional degree-seeking undergraduates enrolled, 2,383 (62.2%) are receiving one of these merit scholarships. Our National Merit Scholars, at 73 overall, represent roughly 2% of our degree-seeking undergraduates.

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

Both students' place of residence and their citizenship provide insight into the regional distribution and international flavor of our student body. For detailed counts of students by residence see Table 5. This table shows that Calvin students come from 43 different states plus the District of Columbia, 6 Canadian provinces and 54 other foreign countries. After Michigan (53.5% of all students), the top five states/provinces represented are Illinois (8.4%), California (3.3%), Indiana (3.2%), Ontario (2.7%) and Ohio (2.7%). South Korea is the country outside of North America sending us the most students (48), with China next at 25 students, Ghana with 19, Hong Kong with 17, and Indonesia with 15.

The 127 Canadian citizens reported in Table 6 represent 3.2% of our student body, a percentage that has decreased from last year's 3.5% (142 Canadians). The top five non-North American countries represented by our International students based on their citizenship are South Korea (84 students), China (22 students), Ghana (18 students), and Nigeria (15 students). The international flavor of Calvin's student body also benefits from the presence of over 100 U.S. students who come to Calvin with recent experience living abroad, as well as an additional 43 U.S. students with dual citizenship.

The distributions of U.S. students by race/ethnicity are also shown in Table 6. The number of AHANA students (Ethnic and Racial minorities) at the college is 388, up from 293 last year, and up from 7.2% to 9.7% of the student body. This year, the college implemented some changes in the way we collect and report this information, based on new federally mandated standards. These changes are part of the reason the overall AHANA numbers increased from last year, owing to students of two or more races now being included in these counts. Nonetheless, increases from 2009 to 2010 can also be seen in each ethnic/racial minority group, with 20 additional Hispanics and 20 additional Asians representing the largest numeric gains.

Religious affiliations of students (Table 7) show Christian Reformed students comprising just under 45% of the student body, down roughly one percentage point from last year. The second largest group of students is affiliated with a nondenominational church (12.3%). Other denominational families most frequently represented are Reformed and Presbyterian, each accounting for roughly 7% of the student body, while Baptists represent slightly less than 6%.

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Retention and Graduation Rates (Table 8)

This year's FTIAC retention rate of 87.0% has rebounded from last years' ten-year low of 85.7%. The highest retention rates (based on four-year averages) can be found among the following subgroups: alumni children (91.9%), top scholarship recipients (91.1%), students who are Christian Reformed (90.6%), students from Christian High Schools (89.4%) and International students (88.1%). AHANA retention, at 80.4% this year, is similar to last year, and continues to lag about ten percentage points behind these high retention rate groups. While Access program participant retention is relatively low (77.1%), it has also made some steady gains over the past five years.

The six-year graduation rate of the 2004 FTIAC class, at 76.5%, increased nearly two percentage points from the previous cohort's (2003) rate of 74.6%. This years' graduation rate is the highest of the past ten years, eclipsing the previous high of 75.8% among the 1998 FTIAC class. Higher than average graduation rates among the 2004 cohort are found among Top Scholarship recipients (84.2%), Alumni children (79.9%), and Christian Reformed students (78.7%). Graduation rates for AHANA students climbed substantially, to 73%, compared to a 63% rate last year and 59% the year prior to that. Access program participants struggle to graduate, with just under 40% of the 2004 cohort graduating within six years.

New Students: FTIAC and Transfer (Table 9)

The class of 2010 FTIACs numbers 935, a decrease of 10 students from last year's class of 945 and 1 fewer than the 2008 class of 936. Incoming transfers number 100, down ten from last year's 110 but up from 92 in 2008. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs that are Christian Reformed is steady compared with last year (40.6% in 2010 vs. 40.8% in 2009), but substantially lower than the 2008 class (46.4%). A slightly larger percentage of the class has one or more parents that are alumni (39% this year vs. 37% last year). In terms of where the new class of FTIACs comes from geographically, a slightly lower percentage are from Michigan than last year (51% in 2010 vs. 52% in 2009).

The number of Canadian citizens in the FTIAC class (22) remained steady compared with last year, but decreased substantially, from 43 in 2008, while other International Citizens decreased slightly to 62 this year, from last years' high of 69 students. AHANA students represent nearly 12% of the class compared with 10% last year and 8% the year before. The number of Access Program students increased from 70 last year to 85 this year.

Enrolled to Admitted Yields (Table 10)

Our yield of FTIACs this year dropped slightly, to 39.5% this year compared with 40.3% last year. This compares to a 46% yield in 2008. The highest enrollment yields among FTIACs this year are among West Michigan Christian High School students (66%), Alumni children (64%), Christian Reformed Church members (61%) and International citizens (53%).

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FTIAC GPAs and Test Scores (Table 11 & 12)

The academic strength of the entering first-year class has held fairly steady compared to last years' class. Mean GPA and mean ACT remained at 3.60 and 26.0, respectively. The mean combined SAT score decreased slightly from last year--1,199 last year and 1,185 this year. The middle 50% of GPAs improved slightly while the upper end of the middle 50% of test scores also improved. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs graduating in the top 10% of their high school class increased from 29% last year to 31% this year.

Faculty Composition (Tables 13 & 14)

The number of full-time teaching faculty at Calvin in 2010 is 319, down from 326 last year. An additional 69 part-time faculty this fall (equal to last year's part-time figure) brings the total faculty number to 388. Faculty FTE (a rough measure of the full-time teaching equivalent which adjusts for part-timers and reduced loads) decreased from 320 last year to 311 this year.

The ratio of female to male faculty remains steady compared with last year, with female faculty representing just over one-third of the full-time teaching faculty (33.9%). The number of AHANA (ethnic minority) faculty remained the same as last year at 32, which is up from 28 in 2008, now representing 10% of the full-time teaching faculty. The percentage of full-time faculty with a terminal degree remained steady at 82%, and the college-wide student to faculty ratio based on teaching duties is 13.8 to 1, a slight uptick from 13.7 to 1 last year.