

Calvin College 2011 Fall Day 10 Report Highlights

Overall Enrollment Trends (Table 1)

The total number of students enrolled at Calvin for the fall of 2011 is 3,967, a decrease of 24 students from last fall and 125 from the year before. The Traditional Undergraduate Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment stands at 3,762, which is below 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.) Ninety-five percent (95%) of Calvin students are enrolled full time, while the number of part-time students stands at 198 (5.0%), up slightly from last years' 184 (4.6%).

Table 1 also shows that the male/female ratio of Calvin students is steady compared with last year and somewhat more balanced than in prior years—coming in this year at 46.7% male and 53.3% 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 nearly 20% for the second year in a row, from 388 in 2010 to 456 in 2011. The 456 AHANA students represent 11.5% of our student body. This compares with only 187 AHANA students (4.3%) enrolled nine years ago, in 2002.

Roughly one-half of our students are from outside the state of Michigan (47%), with a substantial percentage (upwards of 11%) from outside the United States. The number and percentage with Canadian citizenship has decreased this year (now comprising 3.0% 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 from last year, down from 44.8% to 42.5%. The percentage of students with at least one parent being a Calvin alum decreased slightly, from 40.7% to 39.7%.

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 (8.0%), Business (7.0%), Nursing (6.4%), Secondary Education (6.3%), and Elementary Education (5.8%). Other top choices include Biology (5.4%), and Psychology (5.1%).

The **departments** with the largest number of students in majors/programs are Education (12.1%), Business (11.0%), Engineering (8.0%), Communication Arts & Sciences (7.5%), Nursing (6.4%), Biology (6.1%), Psychology (5.1%), English (4.3%) and Kinesiology (4.0%). Departments showing steady increases over the past few years, including this year, are Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Political Science. In addition, substantial one-year increases from 2010 to 2011 can be seen in the number of majors in Biology, Biochemistry, Environmental Studies, Kinesiology, International Relations, Spanish, 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 decreased slightly, from 78% in 2010 to 74% in 2011. The number of National Merit scholars in the class is 11, down from 17 last year and 27 two years ago. The number of students with a Trustee is up while Presidential numbers remained relatively constant, reflective of some adjustments made in the criteria for awarding the Trustee scholarship. Of the 3,788 traditional degree-seeking undergraduates enrolled, 2,438 (64.4%) are receiving one of these merit scholarships. Our National Merit Scholars, at 61 overall, represent 1.6% 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 46 different states plus the District of Columbia, 6 Canadian provinces and 53 other foreign countries. After Michigan (53.2% of all students), the top five states/provinces represented are Illinois (8.4%), California (3.5%), Indiana (2.9%), Ontario (2.6%) and Ohio (2.5%). South Korea is the country outside of North America sending us the most students (79), with China next at 33 students, Indonesia with 25, Nigeria with 21, and Ghana with 18.

The 116 Canadian citizens reported in Table 6 represent 2.9% of our student body, a percentage that has decreased from last year's 3.2% (127 Canadians). The top five non-North American countries represented by our International students based on their citizenship are South Korea (110 students), China (24 students), Ghana (20 students), and Nigeria (20 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 42 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 456, up from 388 last year, and up from 9.7% to 11.5% of the student body. Last 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 prior years, owing to students of two or more races now being included in these counts. Nonetheless, increases from 2010 to 2011 can also be seen in each ethnic/racial minority group, with 18 additional Hispanics, 18 additional Asians and 26 students of two or more races representing the largest numeric gains.

Religious affiliations of students (Table 7) show Christian Reformed students comprising 42.5% of the student body, down over two percentage points from last year's 44.8%. The second largest group of students is affiliated with a nondenominational church (12.8%). Other denominational families most frequently represented are Reformed and Presbyterian, each accounting for roughly 8% 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 86.5% is slightly lower than last years' rate of 87.0%. The highest retention rates (based on four-year averages) can be found among the following subgroups: alumni children (91.6%), top scholarship recipients (90.8%), students who are Christian Reformed (90.5%), and students from Christian High Schools (89.0%). AHANA retention, at 82.6%, is up slightly from last year, and continues to lag about five percentage points behind the overall student body. Access program participant retention came in at a somewhat disappointing 69.4% after having made some steady gains over the past five years.

The six-year graduation rate of the 2005 FTIAC class, at 76.4% is steady compared with last years' 76.5%, but continues a positive increase from the 2003 cohort's rate of 74.6%. This years' graduation rate is the second highest of the past ten years. Higher than average graduation rates among the 2005 cohort are found among Top Scholarship recipients (86.2%), International Students (81.5%), Christian High School students (81.4%), Alumni children (81.3%), and Christian Reformed students (79.7%). Graduation rates for AHANA students dropped substantially, to 56%, compared to a 73% rate last year and 63% the year prior to that. Access program participants struggle to graduate, with only 40% of the 2005 cohort graduating within six years. Males exhibited a rather low showing compared with females, with the male rate coming in at 72% compared with 80% for females.

New Students: FTIAC and Transfer (Table 9)

The class of 2011 FTIACs numbers 961, an increase of 26 students from last year's class of 935 and 16 more than the 2009 class of 945. Incoming transfers number 106, up six from last year but down 4 from 2009. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs that are Christian Reformed is down 6 compared with last year (38.9% in 2011 vs. 40.6% in 2010). Roughly the same number of students in the class has one or more parents that are alumni (360 vs. 361), but the percentage dropped slightly because of the larger class (37.5% this year vs. 38.6% last year). In terms of where the new class of FTIACs comes from geographically, a slightly lower percentage are from Michigan than last year (50% in 2011 vs. 51% in 2010).

The number of Canadian citizens in the FTIAC class (21) remained steady compared with the last two years (22), while other International citizens increased substantially, from 62 last year to 93 this year. AHANA students represent nearly 16% of the class compared with 12% last year and 10% the year before. The number of Access Program students increased slightly, from 85 last year to 89 this year, the highest number in the past ten years.

Enrolled to Admitted Yields (Table 10)

Our yield of FTIACs this year increased slightly, to 40.1% this year compared with 39.5% last year. The highest enrollment yields among FTIACs this year are among West Michigan Christian High School students (69%), Alumni children (64%), Christian Reformed Church members (64%) and International citizens (60%).

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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 in some areas but has edged slightly downward in other areas. Mean GPA remained at 3.60 while mean ACT score edged down from 26.0 to 25.8 and mean combined SAT score decreased from 1,185 last year to 1,172 this year. The 25th percentile of HS GPAs dropped slightly from 3.37 to 3.33, closer to where it had been previously, while the 25th and 75th percentiles of SAT scores also dipped a bit. The middle 50% of ACT test scores remained unchanged. The percentage of enrolled FTIACs graduating in the top 10% of their high school class decreased slightly, from 30% last year to 28% this year.

Faculty Composition (Tables 13 & 14)

The number of full-time teaching faculty at Calvin in 2011 is 312, down from 319 last year. An additional 72 part-time faculty this fall (slightly higher than last year's part-time figure) brings the total faculty number to 384. Faculty FTE (a rough measure of the full-time teaching equivalent which adjusts for part-timers and reduced loads) decreased from 312 last year to 303 this year.

The number and percentage of female faculty ticked up this year, with female faculty representing 35% of the full-time teaching faculty, the percentage increase due primarily to attrition and retirements among male faculty, whose numbers dropped from 211 to 202. The number of AHANA (ethnic minority) faculty remained steady at 31, still representing 10% of the full-time teaching faculty. The percentage of full-time faculty with a terminal degree remained fairly steady at 83%, and the college-wide student to faculty ratio based on teaching duties is 13.8 to 1, exactly the same as last year.