

Variables and Considerations for Projecting Enrollment Based On Institutional Capacity

- A Working Draft -

Capacity for students has multiple dimensions. Among them are:

- Facilities:
 - Number of square feet, e.g., E&G square feet/FTE student
 - Configuration of square feet, i.e., functional design of buildings and rooms
 - Condition of existing facilities
 - Utilization of current space

- Facilities Standards from which to evaluate the facilities factors:
 - How many square feet of space per student is sufficient in view of the institution's mission and program mix?
 - How do the available functional types of buildings and rooms match up with existing academic program and course needs? With planned academic programs? With the programs that are planned or anticipated to grow the fastest?
 - What is the present condition of the institution's facilities, functional type to functional type, and how does that affect the assessment of the two preceding factors.
 - How are current facilities used in relation to an objective standard, e.g., what percentage of classrooms are in use based on a standard 40 (or 50, or 60) hour operating week?
 - How do current academic, administrative and student services support space match up with present and anticipated enrollment?

- Campus Size:
 - Is the campus circulation, recreational and aesthetic space adequate for the current student body?
 - Does the land/community surrounding the campus offer opportunities for expansion as necessary?

- Academic Programs
 - Does the current mix of academic programs promote or impede enrollment growth? Are some programs growing and some declining?
 - Does the mission and the strategic plan of the institution address strategies to change current patterns?
 - What is the mix of lecture and laboratory courses in relation to facilities and equipment ?

- Student Body Composition
 - Is the student body growing at all student levels or are some levels growing and others remaining steady or declining?
 - What is the Upper Division-Lower Division-Graduate mix?
 - What is the number of Majors by College/School/Division/Department?
 - Does the strategic plan of the institution address strategies to change current patterns?
 - Would it be in the institution's interest to address any imbalances in composition/growth?