CONCLUSION

This issue of Profiles is a snapshot of student enrollment at one of Orange County’s major universities. It touches upon the enrollment patterns of CSUF, attracting students from a wide geographic area though still remaining a largely commuter campus. Though CSUF has its own unique characteristics, the impact of the university on the surrounding community is not limited to CSUF alone. Universities in general can have major impacts on their communities in areas such as student and staff housing, transportation infrastructure, and nearby employment services. While many changes have occurred at the CSUF campus, other local institutions have their own enrollment patterns that may be unique and of interest to investigate as well.

INTRODUCTION

In 1957, California State University Fullerton became the 12th State College in California and is now one of several major universities in Orange County. The campus has grown in both facilities and programs and now enrolls over 35,000 students. These changes have an impact on surrounding communities as well as those it educates. Issues such as transportation, housing, and employment, can all be affected by the location of a university and the characteristics of the students it enrolls.

This Orange County Profiles focuses on the student enrollment of incoming undergraduate students at Cal State Fullerton. There are two distinct groups of incoming students profiled in the following report: first-time freshmen (students who are beginning at CSUF immediately following graduation from high school) and undergraduate transfer students (students who enter CSUF in either fall or spring from another institution where they have earned college credits). Both groups include only students who are accepted into degree-seeking undergraduate programs. This Profiles will look at the institutes of origin and characteristics of these two groups.

FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN

First-time freshman accounted for 11.3% (2,772) of the total number of students enrolled in Fall 2000. According to the Fall 2005 enrollment figures, there were 35,040 students enrolled at CSUF and first-time freshmen accounted for 9.8% (3,493). Though the number of first-time freshman students increased between 2000 and 2005, their share of total enrollment dropped by 1.5 percentage points.

First-time freshman enter CSUF after their senior year in high school. With attractions such as central location and diverse course offerings, there are many high schools in Southern California where they have earned college credits. Both groups include only students who are accepted into degree-seeking undergraduate programs. This Profiles will look at the institutes of origin and characteristics of these two groups.

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<th>High Schools</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
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DISTRIBUTION IN CSU SYSTEM

There are 23 CSU campuses in the State of California. Table 2 shows CSUF accounted for 2,772 (7.5%) of all of the incoming first-time freshmen in Fall 2000, the fifth largest group of incoming freshmen for that year in all of the CSU campuses. That number increased by 42.2% to 3,943, or 8.6% of all first-time freshmen in 2005. CSUF is currently ranked third in the number of first-time freshmen enrolled at CSU campuses. Only CSU Long Beach and CSU San Diego had more first-time freshmen enrolled in 2005.

Community College transfer patterns at CSUF are somewhat unique to the campus. CSUF has a large number of new transfer students enrolling in both Fall and Spring, where the majority of campuses have much lower Fall enrollment figures, there were 1,394 (35%) students who enrolled at CSUF from Orange County high schools. Orange County was followed by Los Angeles (34%), Riverside (10%), San Bernardino (9%), and San Diego (4%). Though the raw numbers have changed, the distribution has remained similar from 2000 to 2005.

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Table 2 highlights the top three feeder schools each year and their average number of first-time freshmen enrolled at CSUF between 2000 and 2005. The first-time freshmen students from Orange County averaged 58 first-time freshmen students, followed by Ayala High School from San Bernardino County with an average of 55 students.

NEW UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFERS

Of the 35,040 students enrolled at CSUF in Fall 2005, new undergraduate transfers accounted for 10.4% (3,659) of the student body at CSUF. That number was higher than the 2,932 new transfer students enrolled in Fall 2000. While the share of first-time freshman enrollment saw a decline from Fall 2000 to 2005, the undergraduate transfers remained at about 10% of the student body.

Undergraduate transfer students reflect a similar distribution as their first-time freshman counterparts (Figure 2). In Fall 2000, a majority (60%) of all incoming transfer students were from Orange County institutions, followed by Los Angeles (24%), San Bernardino (6%), Riverside (4%) and San Diego (2%). According to Fall 2005 enrollment figures, there were 2,126 (56%) students who transferred to CSUF from Orange County institutions. Orange County was followed by Los Angeles (22%), Riverside (6%), San Bernardino (6%), and San Diego (2%) Counties.

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CONCLUSION

This issue of Profiles is a snapshot of student enrollment at one of Orange County’s major universities. It touches upon the enrollment patterns of CSUF, attracting students from a wide geographic area though still remaining a largely commuter campus. Though CSUF has its own unique characteristics, the impact of the university on the surrounding community is not limited to CSUF alone. Universities in general can have major impacts on their communities in areas such as student and staff housing, transportation infrastructure, and nearby employment services. While many changes have occurred at the CSUF campus, other local institutions have their own enrollment patterns that may be unique and of interest to investigate as well.

INTRODUCTION

In 1957, California State University Fullerton became the 12th State College in California and is now one of several major universities in Orange County. The campus has grown in both facilities and programs and now enrolls over 35,000 students. These changes have an impact on surrounding communities as well as those it educates. Issues such as transportation, housing, and employment, can all be affected by the location of a university and the characteristics of the students it enrolls.

This Orange County Profiles focuses on the student enrollment of incoming undergraduate students at Cal State Fullerton. There are two distinct groups of incoming students profiled in the following report: first-time freshmen (students who are beginning at CSUF immediately following graduation from high school) and undergraduate transfer students (students who enter CSUF in either fall or spring from another institution where they have earned college credits). Both groups include only students who are accepted into degree-seeking undergraduate programs. This Profiles will look at the institutes of origin and characteristics of these two groups.

FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN

First-time freshman accounted for 11.3% (2,772) of the total number of students enrolled in Fall 2000. According to the Fall 2005 enrollment figures, there were 35,040 students enrolled at CSUF and first-time freshmen accounted for 9.8% (3,493). Though the number of first-time freshman students increased between 2000 and 2005, their share of total enrollment dropped by 1.5 percentage points.

First-time freshman enter CSUF after their senior year in high school. With attractions such as central location and diverse course offerings, there are many high schools where they have earned college credits). Both groups include only students who are accepted into degree-seeking undergraduate programs. This Profiles will look at the institutes of origin and characteristics of these two groups.

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