

Dear Colleague,

I'm very pleased to share that we have entered now a second semester of increased enrollments at our small college. While many colleges and universities across the nation are struggling with enrollment post-pandemic, our enrollment for the spring 2023 semester has exceeded our projections.

Highlights include:

- An increase of 6.4% in our headcount and 10.1% in credit hours.
- A 13% increase in our Under 20 headcount, excluding Early College students.
- An 11.3% increase in the number of male students who've enrolled.
- An 8.9% increase in enrollment from Allegany County residents.

It goes without saying that we hope this is a trend that continues for semesters to come.

LIVING WITH COVID

One trend we'd prefer to see on the permanent decline is COVID-19 and its squad of variants. We continue to ask that you stay home if you are not feeling well for any reason.

Contact your supervisor regarding your absence, as you are not required to contact HR. We ask that you follow the guidance of your physician and/or urgent care center and review the COVID-19 [CDC protocols](#) if you have questions about isolation standards. Your health matters to us.

VALUING YOU

This current academic year has been challenging in our region due to inflation and other economic uncertainty. We have seen the impact directly within the communities we serve.

The administration is currently working on the logistics of a one-time salary bonus proposal for this spring using additional revenue from the enrollment increases this fiscal year that were neither anticipated, nor budgeted. As we prepare the preliminary FY24 budget, I can assure you that the Board and ACM leadership are striving to increase the salary scales and are committed to significantly increasing the annual funding for salaries to be more competitive and further show that you are valued.

As always, please reach out to your supervisor, program director or division chair, or my office if you have any questions.

Wishing you well,

Dr. Bambara