

SUBJECT: Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee Meeting Report for September 28, 2022

The Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee of the Board of Trustees met remotely via Zoom on Wednesday, September 28, 2022, pursuant to Governor Baker’s executive order of March 10, 2020, entitled “Order suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law, G.L., ch. 30A, section 20,” to allow public remote participation and participation of the public body remotely.

Present for the Committee were Trustees Contreras, Chisholm, Lampassi (vice chair), Lutts (chair), Maldonado, Morales, Walsh; Chair Butts (ex-officio); President Keenan (ex-officio); Provost Silva and Vice President Bryant (committee liaisons); and staff associate Machado.

Trustee Lutts called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. The following items were discussed:

Introduction of New Trustees: Trustee Lutts introduced Trustee James Lampassi and Billy Walsh as new members of the Committee.

Student Data: Enrollment, On-Campus Residency, Student Success

Associate Vice President Galinski provided an update on the enrollment data (Attachment A). It was reported that many institutions across the nation are experiencing dips in fall enrollment due to pandemic concerns and students questioning the value of a college education and choosing to work instead of attend college. Vice President Galinski reported the launch of the Common application, which is a single online app form used by many students as well as looking at opportunities in other states, such as PA, NJ, MD, DC and VA.

Dean of Student Shawn Newton reported an increase in housing occupancy and reported rooms converted to single and double to accommodate student demand post Covid. It was also reported that due to the sale of South Campus, housing will not be offered in that area. (Attachment B).

Instructional Context: Updated COVID-19 Responses in Academics

Provost Silva reported on the four-year and six-year graduation rates and noted Covid had an adverse effect on students who would have graduated spring 2022. Course delivery formats continue to survey students for their preference and Dr. Eliza Bobeck, Director of Center for Innovation working with faculty to develop teaching excellence. Dr. Barbara Layne, Dean School of Education, reported on a new initiative, Credit Recovery Program and the success of the program which offers a discount to students to retake a failed courses during the summer semester. (Attachment C)

Transforming the Student Experience for Increased Academic Success

Vice President Bryant reported on transforming the student experience and reported the receipt of \$1 million grant, the creation of first-generation scholars' program and persistence grants to assist students. (Attachment D)

Student Wellness

Dean Newton reported the receipt of a grant to expand case management and additional training and programming for telehealth community. Utilizing case management to assist students connect with resources on campus. SSU 24/7 mental health hotline available to student and counseling center providing same and next day visits. Health Services will also continue to provide care, immunizations and Covid testing as well as other resources. (Attachment E).

Committee Q&A

Provost Silva and Vice President Bryant held a brief question and answer discussion.

There being no further business to come before the committee and upon a motion made duly by Trustee Lutts and seconded by Trustee Contreras. it was unanimously:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 4:00 pm.

**Voting in the affirmative: Contreras, Chisholm, Lampassi (vice chair), Lutts
(chair), Maldonado, Morales, Walsh**

Voting against: None

Prepared by: M. Machado, staff associate, Student Success

Attachment A:

Fall 2022 Undergraduate Day, Headcount

	2021	2022	diff
Returning Students	3493	3245	-248
New Students	1300	1187	-113
Total	4793	4432	-361
Budget Goal	4600	4484	
% of Goal Reached	104%	99%	

Funnel Strategy 2022/23

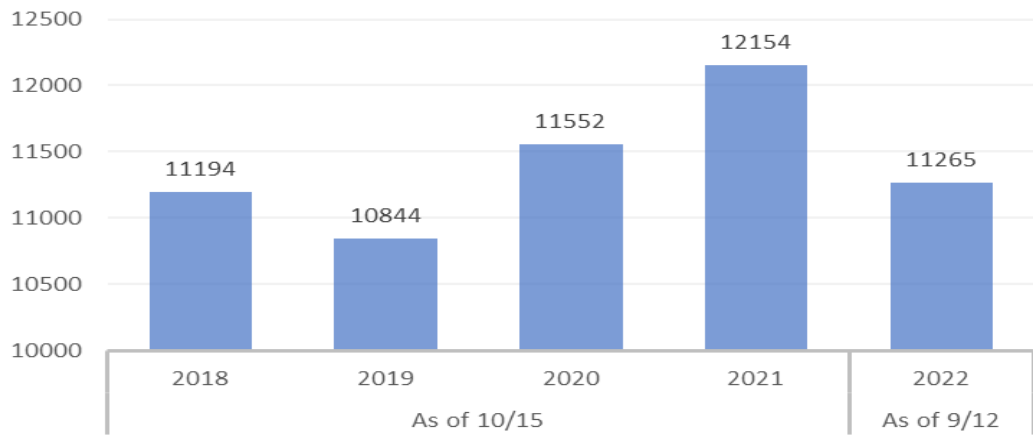
Expand Reach → Increase Applications

- Common application
- Expand list purchase and outreach in our immediate catchment area
- Develop out of state territories and supplement with GeoMobile, social and digital strategies
 - NH, ME, CT, RI, NY, VT
 - PA, NJ, MD, DC, VA - *new*
- Grow Community Based Programming and Outreach
- Additional in person events and tours
- Subscribe to *best of* lists
- Enhanced parent messaging

Messaging

- *Academic strength*
- *Affordability education*
- *Value of a Degree/ROI*
- *Internships/experiential*
- *Civic Engagement*

Graduate Enrollment in Credit Hours



Gradua	12154	11265	-889
<i>Budget</i>	11899	12041	
<i>%ofGoal</i>	102%	94%	

As of 9/12

Housing Occupancy

6 years

Semester/ Year	Occupancy	SSU beds offered	% of SSU beds filled based on beds offered	MSCBA Design	% of beds filled based on MSCBA Design
FA 17	2,243	2, 282	98%	2,282	98%
FA 18	2,120	2,282	93%	2,282	93%
FA 19	1,881	2,282	82%	2,282	82%
FA 20	934	1,253*	75%	2,282	41%
FA 21	1,511	1,586**	95%	2,282	66%
FA 22	1,595	1,706**	93%	1,928***	83%

* FA 20 SSU beds offered is due to COVID (all singles offered)

** FA 21 & FA 22 SSU beds offered is due to COVID

***MSCBA Design changed due to the discontinuation of Bates

Housing Occupancy

Fall 2022

- FALL 2022
 - 1,706 residents = approved budgeted residential population
 - Projections and design based on trend data and student feedback
 - Single rooms (always a demand)
 - Double rooms (post-COVID demand)
 - Based on demand, Residence Life converted 2 floors in Bowditch Hall to be premium singles for upper-class students. Resulting in a reduction of first-year availability based on the projection of a smaller incoming class.
 - Housing applications and cancellations are still coming into Residence Life

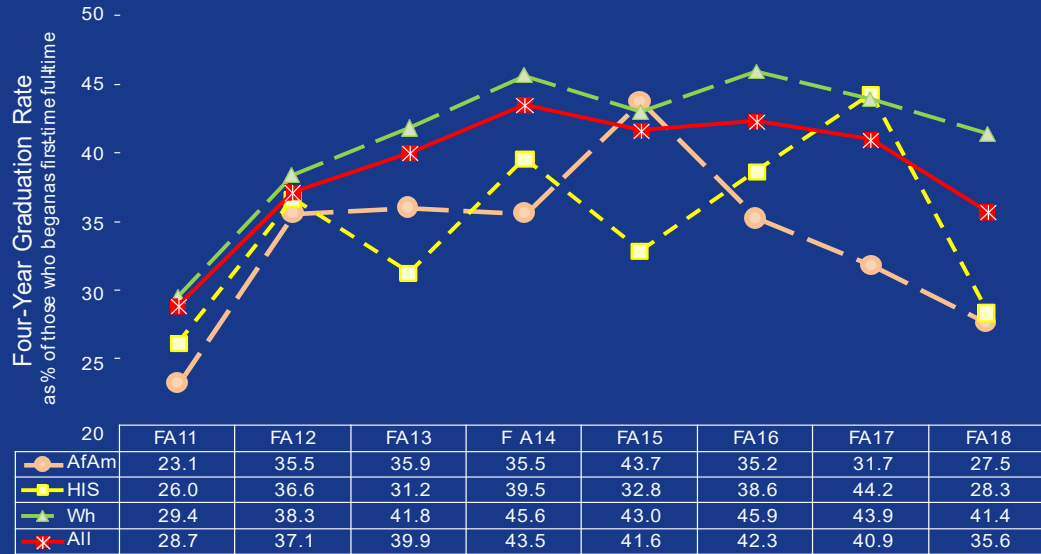
Housing Options

- Graduate Housing:
 - Premium single (4 person apartments) in Atlantic Hall
- Upper-Class Options Include:
 - Singles and doubles in apartments in Atlantic Hall
 - Singles and doubles in suites in Viking Hall
 - Premium singles and doubles in Peabody Hall
 - Premium singles in Bowditch Hall
 - Doubles in Marsh Hall
- First Year Options Include:
 - Single and doubles in Marsh Hall
 - Single and doubles in Bowditch Hall

Attachment C:

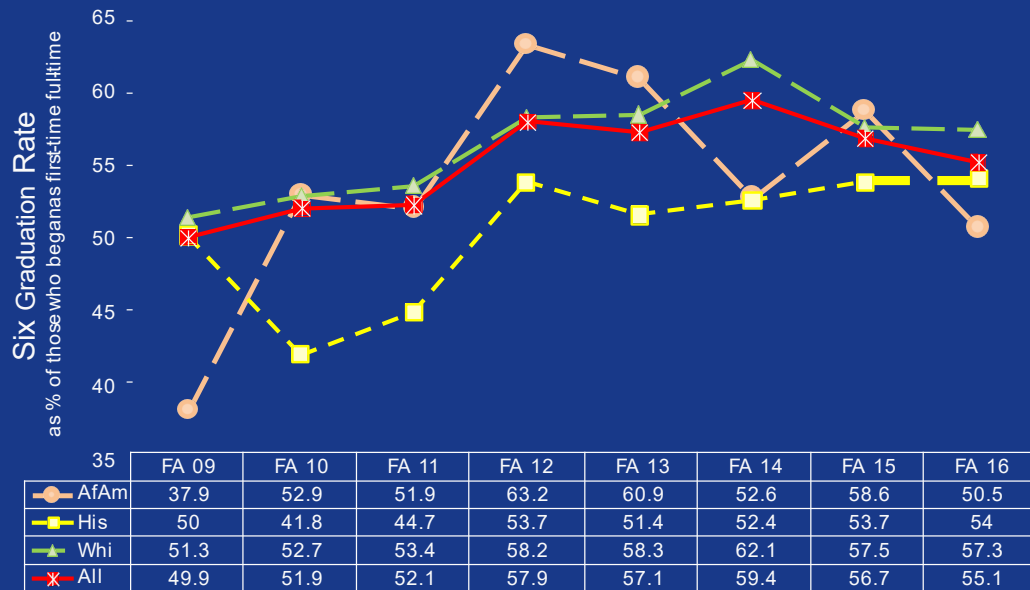
SSU Four-Year Graduation Rates

Percentage of first-time full-year students who began in the fall indicated and graduated in four years



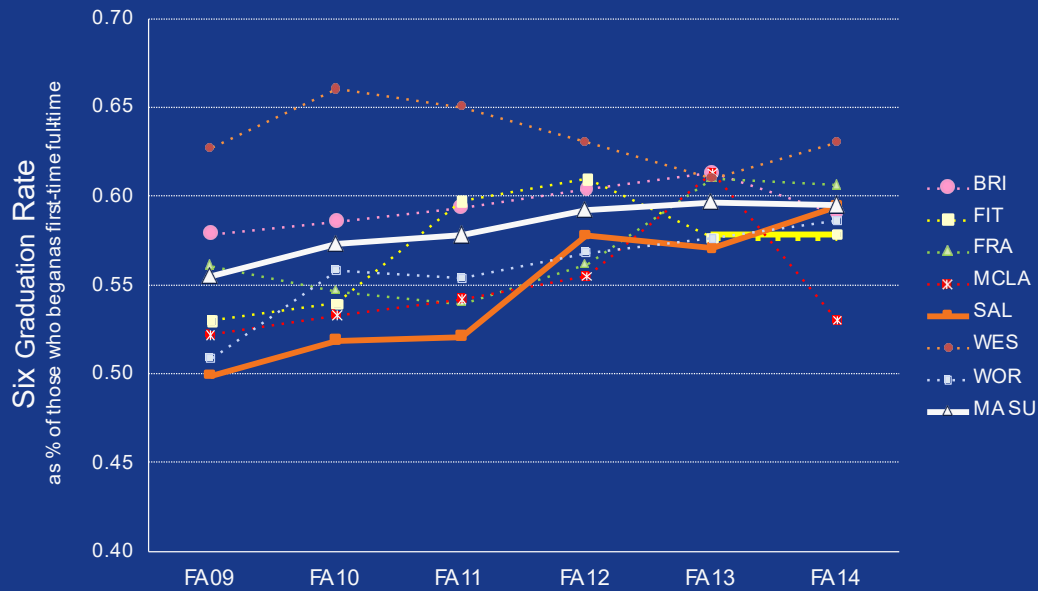
SSU Six-Year Graduation Rates

Percentage of first-time full-year students who began in the fall indicated and graduated in six years



MA State Universities 6-Year Graduation Rates

Percentage of first-time full-year students who began in the fall indicated and graduated in six years

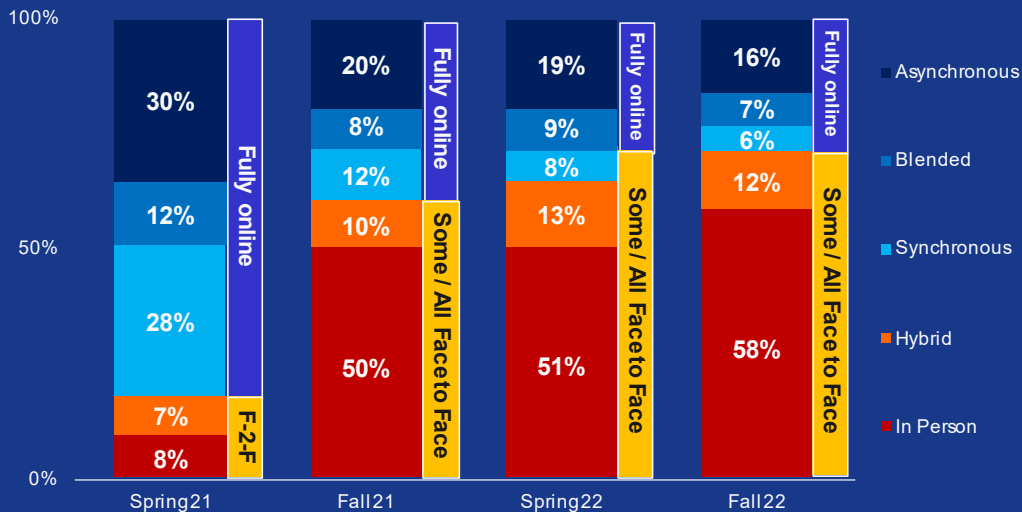


Excludes MA College of Art & Design and MA Maritime Academy



Course Delivery Formats

SP21-FA21-SP22-F22, University-Wide

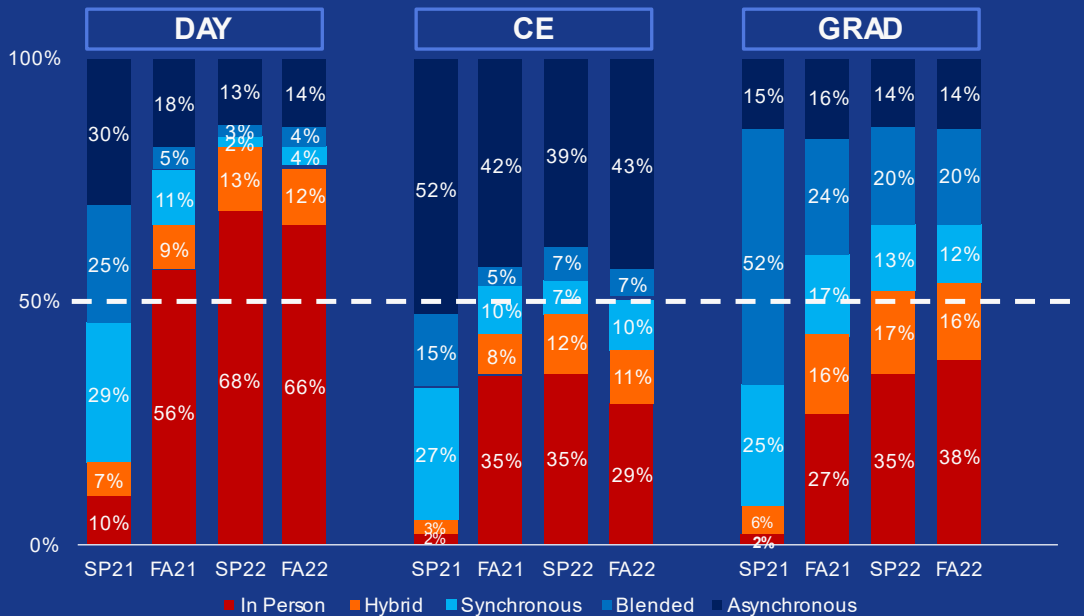


* Excludes independent studies, internships, and "off campus" sections



Course Delivery Formats

SP21-FA21-SP22-FA22 × Division



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Credit Recovery Program

Summer '21, '22

- Invite students who earned a grade of W, D, or F (or NP) to re-take that course (if offered) during the summer at a 50% discount.
- Students able to "make up" the poor grade and get themselves "back on track."

	SM '21	SM '22
Invitations Sent	2,250	865
Invitations Accepted	67 (3.0%)	83 (9.6%)
Success Coaches Deployed?	No	Yes
Passing Grades Earned	42 (62%)	66 (80%)
Number Enrolled for Fall	63	59
# Graduated end of Summer	3	8
Total Retained	66 (98%)	67 (89%)
Cost to SSU	\$36,602	\$45,342

Transforming the Student Experience for Increased Academic Success

- March 2022, received an inquiry from a private (anonymous) family foundation applauding our retention work with underserved populations.
- Submitted eight (8) initiatives; the Foundation particularly impressed with our work involving cohorts/coaching and persistence grants.
- In July, notified of a \$1,000,000 grant over two years.
- First time giving to a public university
- Typically fund personnel or small capital projects (not financial aid for students)

Transforming the Student Experience for Increased Academic Success

- Cohorts and coaching:
 - Creation of a First-Generation Scholars Program
 - 35-40% new students are first-generation students
 - Provide one-on-one coaching for 200 students
 - Creation of a FGS Center
- Persistence grants:
 - Juniors and seniors at-risk of dropping out due to finances
 - Provide financial assistance to maintain progression
 - Hire college completion coaches
 - Proven results with our Viking Completion Grants (VCG)
 - 96 students received VCG; 97% graduated

Student Wellness: How we are supporting our students 2022-23

- This year students are thrilled to be back on campus and are already more engaged in campus life.
- At the same students are struggling with mental health in ways that impact their social and academic life.
- Student Wellness area is expanding services to help meet the need.
 - SSU received a (3 year) Tower Foundation Grant to expand our case management services.
 - A (1 year) Behavioral Health Grant from BHE/ ARPA funds to increase mental health training, programing and telehealth services.

Student Wellness

- Case Management
 - Helps respond to concerns and connect students with resources and supports
- Counseling Center (CHS)
 - Provides same and next day visits, as well as on-going counseling
 - SSU 24/7 Mental Health Support Line
 - 5 free counseling sessions with off campus provider
 - Self-guided mental health resources (Silver Cloud)

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