Beginning with the Spring 2022 semester, Sac State has experienced a decline in new transfer enrollment. This decline aligns with the California Community Colleges' downward enrollment trends. While Sac State was able to increase the number of first-year students for Fall 2022, enrollment challenges such as the lower transfer population slightly decreased our total Spring 2023 headcount by 0.3% compared to last Spring's enrollment (pending final review). To boost retention, a number of campus-wide initiatives are taking place. Amongst these initiatives, Sac State has been reviewing student administrative barriers, deploying proactive call and chatbot campaigns, and developing a more sustainable and targeted support model via early alerts.

Sacramento State met and exceeded the Chancellor's Office Resident Full Time Equivalent Students (FTES) target by approximately +1.4% with an annual Resident FTES of 24,711*. While we exceeded our CO target, our total headcount (HC) did decrease slightly compared to Spring 2022 as our entering student population continues to be affected by the lower enrollment numbers at the Community College level. The FTES and HC data highlight how our students are beginning to enroll in more units than in past years as we also saw a higher Average Unit Load (AUL) for our undergraduate population. The Enrollment Management team, in partnership with Academic Affairs, and OIREP, will monitor these enrollment trends with the goal to ensure that our students continue timely progress to graduation while also ensuring continuous enrollment growth in what we anticipate being an increasingly competitive region.

In Spring 2023, our Hornet Launch 2022 cohort had a preliminary AUL of 13.86 units at census with a total HC of 3166. *Preliminary Spring 23 AULs. ACE Enrollment is not included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUL</th>
<th>Freshmen</th>
<th>Sophomore</th>
<th>Junior</th>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>Total UG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SP 23*</td>
<td>13.31</td>
<td>13.59</td>
<td>12.80</td>
<td>12.21</td>
<td>12.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td>+0.07%</td>
<td>+1.49%</td>
<td>+1.41%</td>
<td>+1.01%</td>
<td>+1.03%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Preliminary Spring 2023 Census Numbers. ACE Enrollment not included.

Fig. 1 Visualization of Res FTES by Semester
*Based on preliminary Spring 2023 Census Numbers without accounting for ACE Student Enrollment

Fig. 2 Visualization of Headcount from 2017 to 2023
*Preliminary Spring 2023 Census Numbers. ACE Enrollment not included.
Similarly to Fall 22, Spring 23 has seen a noticeable delta (-711) in Juniors while retaining a larger (+407) First Year class (Fig. 3). As we look back towards the start of the pandemic, Sac State saw a decline in student retention, paired with a lower number of incoming first-year and transfer students, created what we have been calling “the pandemic wave”. The chart in figure 4 visualizes the pandemic wave as it moves through our student class levels at the start of each academic year.

Additionally, the Enrollment Management and Admission & Outreach offices have been monitoring the lower enrollment at the community college level which persisted post-pandemic and will likely continue to impact our transfer junior population. To counter this trend, and to help stabilize enrollment, Sac State has been building strategic partnerships with local Community Colleges to boost our transfer applicants while removing administrative barriers that may impact the transfer to a four-year campus.

**Next Steps**

**Enact and Maintain the Strategic Enrollment Plan**

**Collaborate with Academic Affairs, OIREP, and the Region on Enrollment Plans**

**Focus on Retention, Recruit Back, and Eliminating Administrative Barriers**

For questions please contact Enzo Vernone, Director of Enrollment Management and Student Systems (Interim) at enzo.vernone@csus.edu.