

Inside IR

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Average GPA Trends

In 2010-11, an ad hoc enrollment management committee requested research on MCC students' registration and academic outcomes. For the study, the IR Office looked at data on matriculated fall students' first course registration date and their end-of-term GPA in their full-term courses.

The findings showed a relationship between the two variables. As a result, the committee recommended implementing

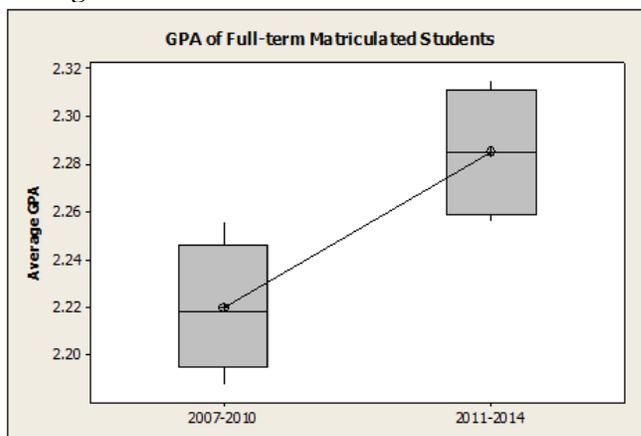
a registration deadline beginning in fall 2011.

Table 1 shows the data that was originally analyzed (i.e., fall 2007-2010), as well as the data that was analyzed since the registration deadline was implemented (i.e., fall 2011-2014). As illustrated in Figure 1, the average GPA from 2007-10 is statistically less than the average GPA from 2011-14.

Table 1. GPA of Full-Term Matriculated Students

Fall Term	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
GPA	2.218	2.256	2.218	2.188	2.256	2.270	2.315	2.301
Average GPA	2.220				2.286			

Figure 1. GPA of Full-Term Matriculated Students



The average GPA from 2007-10 is statistically less than the average GPA from 2011-14.

Figure 2 (p. 2) illustrates the results of a trend analysis of the data. As shown, there was a statistically significant increasing trend in the average GPA after the registration deadline was implemented. However, the registration deadline was not the only procedure implemented in fall 2011. That semester was also

the first time that: (1) the College performed seven drops for non-payment (which became five until fall 2015), and (2) FACE (Financial Aid Course Eligibility) was utilized.

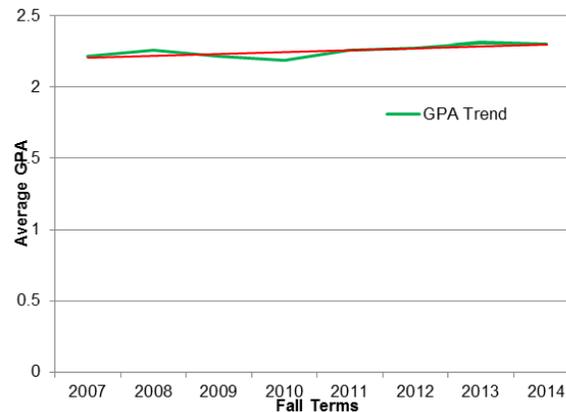
Therefore, because three new processes were implemented in fall 2011, we
(Continued on p. 2)

Average GPA Trends (continued)

can't show a clear causal relationship between the registration deadline and an increase in GPA. It's possible that all three new processes had an effect on academic

outcomes. Further, we can't conclude which process was significant, how it was so, or whether other business processes may have had an impact.

Figure 2. Trend Analysis of GPA of Full-Term Matriculated Students†



†This analysis was done by the non-parametric Mann-Kendall and Sen's slope estimates. Statistical significance was set at 0.1.

Because three new processes were implemented in fall 2011, we can't show a clear causal relationship between the registration deadline and an increase in GPA.

What Helps Students Stay Until Census?

There are several steps accepted MCC applicants may take before starting class, including attending Orientation, completing a financial aid application, and taking placement tests. The IR Office recently analyzed these steps to see if there were particular ones that increase the likelihood of an accepted applicant starting classes and remaining until census.

students in the study were counted only once). For example, students in the "FA app, placement" grouping did not attend Orientation.

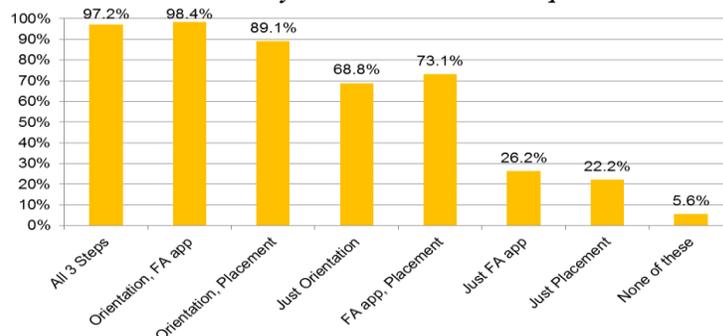
Students are progressively more likely to be enrolled by fall census as each step is completed. But attending Orientation, completing a financial aid application, and taking placement tests do not cause a student to enroll. All three steps are

Figure 3 shows the results. Each grouping is mutually exclusive (i.e., all of the accepted

(Continued on p. 3)

Students are progressively more likely to be enrolled by fall census as each step is completed.

Figure 3. Students Enrolled by Fall Census Who Completed Certain Steps



What Helps Students Stay Until Census? (continued)

“process indicators” that a student is intending to enroll at MCC.

Because approximately two-thirds of MCC applicants apply for financial aid, we also focused our attention on the steps that this group of students takes with regard to their financial aid application.

Table 2 shows the trajectories of fall 2013 and fall 2014 applicants from the time they

were accepted through the fall census.

What isn’t shown is that we had 4,385 first-time, accepted students at MCC who did not enroll here in the fall or spring, or anywhere else in the fall. This type of student represents the largest opportunity to increase enrollment at MCC. IR is currently looking more deeply into the characteristics of these students.

Process indicators are trackable, intermediate steps in a process that predict completion of the entire process.

Of the 4,366 accepted students that did not apply for financial aid and did not enroll, 1,752 enrolled elsewhere, 36 enrolled in the spring, and 2,578 (59.0%) did not enroll at any college.

Table 2. Financial Aid Application Status and Enrollment, Fall 2013 and Fall 2014

	Financial Aid Application Started?	Financial Aid Application Completed?	Enrollment Outcome
Accepted Students 17,314	Applied for Financial Aid 11,591 (66.9% of accepted)	Application Completed 9,640 (83.2% of applied, 55.7% of accepted)	7,488 Fall Enrolled 77.7% of app completed 64.6% of FA applied 43.2% of accepted
			2,152 Other* 22.3% of app completed 18.6% of FA applied 12.4% of accepted
		Application Incomplete 1,951 (16.8% of applied, 11.2% of accepted)	304 Fall Enrolled 15.6% of incomplete apps 2.6% of FA applied 1.7% of accepted
			1,647 Other* 84.4% of incomplete apps 14.2% of FA applied 9.5% of accepted
	Did not apply for financial aid 5,723 (33.1% of accepted)	-	1,357 Fall Enrolled 23.7% of non-FA-appliers 7.8% of accepted
			4,366 Other* 76.3% of non-FA-appliers 25.2% of accepted

* “Other” students enrolled at MCC in the spring, enrolled at a different school, or did not enroll anywhere.

“What Happened to the Class of 2014?”

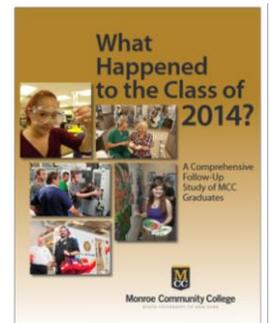
The “What Happened to the Class of 2014?” book and brochure are being distributed to our on- and off-campus constituents. They are also posted on the [IR website](#).

During the 2013-14 academic year, MCC awarded 2,478 associate degrees and 224 certificates. The report is based on the survey responses of 1,191 graduates and data from the National Student Clearinghouse. Some of the highlights include:

- 2,702 students graduated
- 1,762 (65%) of graduates had been in

a transfer (A.A. or A.S.) program.

- 716 (27%) of graduates had been in a career (A.A.S.) program.
- 224 (8%) of graduates had been in a certificate program.
- 62% of graduates are employed and/or continuing their education.
- Local employers continue to hire the majority of our graduates who enter the workforce. Of the career and certificate program graduates indicating present full-time employment, 88% are employed in Monroe or an adjacent county.
- 74% of the graduates who transferred are attending SUNY/CUNY institutions.



Upcoming Large-Scale Surveys

There will be three big surveys taking place at MCC this spring:

1. An Employee Survey

Each year, the journal *The Chronicle of Higher Education* surveys the faculty and staff of American colleges to assess their satisfaction with and opinions of their workplace. The results are published online as a list called "Great Colleges to Work For."

This year, *The Chronicle* has contracted with a company called "Modern Think" which will randomly select MCC employees to take the survey. Those employees will then be emailed a link to the survey in March or April.

The "[Great Colleges to Work For 2015](#)" list is available online.

2. The SUNY Student Opinion Survey ("SOS")

Since 1985, the SOS has been administered every three years by SUNY. Its purpose is to assess current students' opinions of and satisfaction with various aspects of their MCC experience, as well as their engagement at MCC. One of the benefits of the survey is that SUNY community colleges can compare their findings with those of their peer institutions.

This spring, IR will randomly select a

sample of courses, then the students in those courses will be asked to complete the survey in class.

The results of the 2013 SOCF are available on the [Internal Data](#) section of the IR web pages. The survey report links are located at the bottom of the screen.

3. Student Opinion of Course & Faculty ("SOCF")

The SOCF is administered every even year (e.g., 2014, 2016), but the semester in which it does so alternates (e.g., fall 2014, spring 2016).

This March or April, all MCC students will be emailed a link to the SOCF for each course they're taking. The IR Office will send each survey link to students using our web-based survey software.

Once students complete their surveys, the data will be transferred to the Computing Office so reports for faculty members can be generated.

One final note...

The IR Office recognizes that there are other surveys that MCC faculty and staff plan to do in the spring. If you or your department plan to send out a survey and the IR Office hasn't been notified yet, please review [MCC's Survey Protocol](#) and follow the necessary steps.

The list of fall 2015 and spring 2016
MCC surveys can be viewed at
www.monroecc.edu/depts/research/surveyprotocol.htm

For more information about the Institutional Research (IR) Office, you can visit [our pages](#) on the MCC website or contact an IR staff member:

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Previous issues of *Inside IR* are available on our homepage:
<http://www.monroecc.edu/depts/research/>

