Council on Retention and Graduation - Understanding the 2008 First-Time Cohort

Fall 2008 IUPUI (Indianapolis Only) First-Time, Full-Time Students

- Only 7% (183) part-time students

- 2551 first-time, full-time students
  - 1639 (64%) University College Admits
  - 912 (36%) Dual admits/Direct School

- 584 (23%) live in campus housing
- 608 (24%) admitted conditionally
  - Average SAT score = 899
  - Average High school GPA = 2.83
  - First-Generation 49%

- 1505 (59%) female
- Only 72 (2%) 25 years of age or older
- 97% In-State Students
- 236 (9%) African American
- 84 (3%) Latino/a
- 1126 (44%) First Generation (neither parent attended college or earned a degree beyond a high school diploma)
- 1438 (56%) First Generation [neither mother nor father completed a 4-year college (bachelor’s) degree]
- 127 (5%) participated in the Full Summer Bridge Program (62 or 15% conditional admits).

Commitment to IUPUI

- 60% reported that they applied to a college or university other than IUPUI.
- 64% reported that IUPUI was their first choice (if applied to other universities).
- 96% reported that it is important for them to graduate from College (agree or strongly agree).
- 82% reported that it is important for them to graduate from IUPUI (agree or strongly agree).
- 89% reported that they made the right choice in attending IUPUI (agree or strongly agree).
- The top three most important reasons impacting decision to select IUPUI: 1) Availability of specific academic programs (majors), 2) Location, and 3) Opportunity to receive an Indiana University or Purdue University degree.

- The top three most important reasons impacting decision to attend college: 1) Acquire knowledge and skills applicable to a specific job or type of work, 2) Fulfill a lifelong goal, and 3) Make more money.

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1 *Note: Sources of Information – 2008 ACT-COMPASS Entering Student Survey (N =2055), 2008 New Student Orientation Entering Student Survey (N =1331), and Institutional Data.*
Academic Goal Commitment

- 96% have a good understanding of their academic goals (agree or strongly agree).
- 82% are certain about their career goals (agree or strongly agree).
- 81% are certain about their choice of educational program or major (agree or strongly agree).
- 95% feel confident that they will complete their degrees in a timely manner (agree or strongly agree).
- 91% plan to earn at least a four-year (bachelor’s degree).

Academic Preparation

- 1060 (43%) completed a high school Honors Diploma.
- 55 students were enrolled in the IUPUI Honors College.
- 202 (8%) received some form of Advanced Placement credit. Based on these students, the total AP credit hours ranged from 3 to 27 (mean = 6.07) and the total exams taken that earned credit ranged from 1 to 9 (mean = 1.82). The most frequently taken exams were 1) Calculus AB, 2) English Language and Composition, and 3) English Literature and Composition.
- 98% reported that they often or very often completed class assignments on time during their last school year (either in high school or at a previous college or university).
- 96% reported that they often or very often were careful in completing assignments (neat work, followed instructions, did any background work) during their last school year (either in high school or at a previous college or university).
- Combined items Complete On Time and Careful significantly predicted first semester GPA, even when entering H.S. GPA, SAT score, and First-generation in the first step in the regression equation ($R^2 = .231$, $p < .0001)$. Completing assignments on time and being careful added accounted for an additional 3% of the variability in fall semester GPA.
- 20% reported that they read 10 or more books outside of required reading during their last year prior to attending IUPUI.
- 85% reported that they have completed a math class recently (within the last year).
- Average Units of High School Math = 8.19. 71% had 8 or greater math credits.

Full-Time Students’ Expectations of Time Use Per Week During Their First Year At IUPUI

- Plan to work 13.72 hours per week off-campus and 6.12 hours per week on-campus.
- Plan to study 18.87 hours per week.
- Plan to spend 7.01 hours per week commuting.
- Plan to spend 6.35 hours per week in co-curricular activities.
- Plan to spend 4.95 hours per week volunteering.
- Plan to spend 12.61 hours per socializing and relaxing.
- Plan to spend 3.62 hours per week volunteering.
- 75% plan to work off-campus for pay.
- 38% of expect to work off-campus more than 20 hours per week.

Students’ Resources

- 54% live with family members (parents, spouse, children, or other relatives).
- 9% live alone.
- 32% live with one or more roommates who are students attending IUPUI.
- 6% live with others not attending this IUPUI.
- 97% reported that they have access to a personal computer that they can use for school work.
- 82% reported that they have High Speed internet access (Cable Modem, DSL, and Satellite).
Students’ Finances

- 2076 (81%) received Financial Aid.
- 755 (30%) offered a Federal Pell Grant.
- 75% reported that they have some or major concerns about their ability to finance their college education.
- 307 (12%) were Eligible to receive the 21st Century Scholarship [241 actually received 21st century Scholarship from the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana (SSACI)].

Academic Achievement and Progress

- The 2008 first-time, full-time one-year retention rate (fall-to-fall semester) was 73.5% representing a 3% increase compared to the 2007 one-year retention rate of 70.5%. Students are retained if they enroll at any IU campus for the semester or complete a degree or certificate after the beginning of the base semester and before the start of the “retained to” semester.
- The fall-to-spring IUPUI retention rate (returned to IUPUI IN or CO) was 86.9%.
- The average fall semester GPA was 2.69.
- The average cumulative first-year GPA was 2.61.
- 21% earned a GPA below a 2.0 in the fall semester.
- The average DFW rate was 20.97.

Risk Factors for IUPUI Students –Associated with Low Levels of Academic Achievement and Persistence

- Gender (Males).
- Being a First-Generation college student.
- Amount of time spent working off-campus for pay (over 20 hours per week).
- Institutional commitment (Intent to Transfer).
- Low levels of academic preparation (High school GPA is a strong predictor).
- Living off-campus.
- Not earning satisfactory academic performance in first-semester (earning below a 2.0)
- Reporting that she/he was not careful in completing high school assignments and did not complete the assignments on time.
- Not participating in early interventions or academic support programs.
- Offered a Pell Grant (proxy for low SES).