

Institutional Research

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH



Summer 2009

About Institutional Research

Our central mission is the collection, organization and analysis of institutional and other data to support institutional management, operations, decision-making and planning functions.

Contacting Institutional Research

We welcome your questions or comments about information in this newsletter.

Contact Denise Gardner, director, at 425-3183 or via email (gardnerd@uga.edu).

Institutional Research
Bank of America Building
110 E. Clayton Street
Suite 505
Athens, GA 30602

P: 706-425-3183
F: 706-425-3200

<http://www.oir.uga.edu>

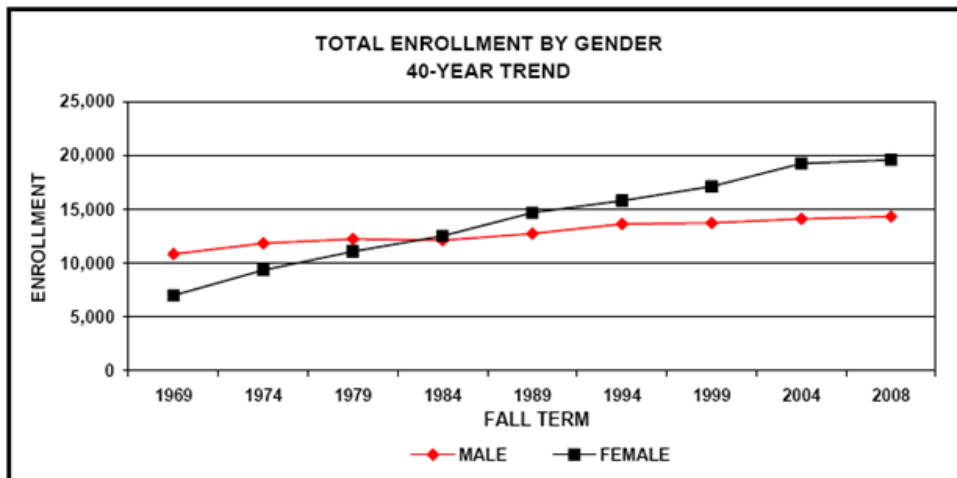
OIR staff participates in national spring conference

The annual Association for Institutional Research Forum was held in Atlanta in the spring. UGA was one of the host institutions and OIR staff served on the local arrangements committee, helping with the welcome and registration booths and assisting with conference special events. OIR staff who also presented and facilitated several sessions included:



- Denise Gardner and Charles Mathies from OIR and Bonnie Joerschke and Anthony Jones of UGA's Office of Student Financial Aid gave a presentation titled: "A Collaborative Decision: One Institution's Use of Academic and Administrative Data in Determining Not to Participate in the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program."
- Charles Mathies and Mauricio Saavedra from OIR gave a presentation titled: "Out of State, Out of Place? An Examination of Non-Resident Persistence and Retention."
- Mauricio Saavedra from OIR, Karen Webber from UGA's Institute of Higher Education and Allan Aycocock from UGA's Office of Institutional Effectiveness gave a presentation on UGA's Faculty Activity and Assessment Reporting system. These and other OIR presentations and studies can be viewed on the OIR web site: <http://www.oir.uga.edu/oirpubs.html>.

The University of Georgia Fact Book is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. The 2008 edition, available online at <http://www.oir.uga.edu/factbks.htm>, includes forty-year trends on selected subjects such as:



	1969	1974	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999	2004	2008
Male	10,867	11,855	12,263	12,135	12,752	13,656	13,768	14,128	14,345
Female	7,021	9,378	11,096	12,559	14,696	15,813	17,144	19,277	19,607
Total	17,888	21,233	23,359	24,694	27,448	29,469	30,912	33,405	34,180

OIR Involvement in University-wide Committees: OIR staff serve on many campus committees, including the CIO's Advisory Council, the Identity Management Functional Team, the Faculty Admissions Committee, several Faculty Activity Repository (FAR) workgroups, the Academic Affairs Staff Representative Group and University Council Staff Council, Faculty Credentialing workgroups, the Space Allocation Advisory Committee, and the University Council Facilities Committee. OIR is also heavily involved with committees and workgroups related to UGA's efforts toward reaffirmation of our SACS accreditation, including the two main Compliance and Quality Enhancement Plan committees.

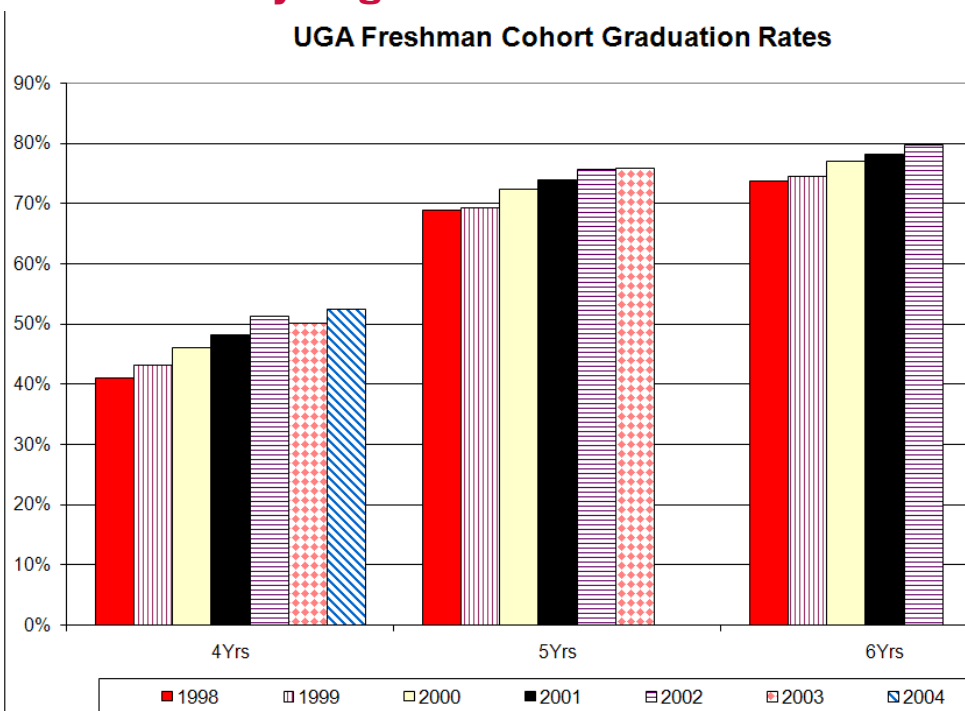
Required Changes for Race/Ethnicity Reporting: Colleges and universities are asked by many entities, including accrediting associations, college guides, newspapers, the federal government, and our own college/university communities to describe the racial/ethnic backgrounds of our students and employees. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget is now using new categories to describe groups to which individuals belong, identify with, or belong in the eyes of the community. Individuals are asked to first designate ethnicity as Hispanic/Latino or not Hispanic/Latino, and are then asked to indicate one or more races from a list.

OIR is overseeing the process to update race/ethnicity information because of our role in reporting campus data to various entities such as Integrated Post-secondary Education Data System (IPEDS), the University System, and external surveys. We are working with many departments across campus, particularly EITS, to comply. The campus community will receive notices in early fall asking everyone to update their information. While responding to this request is optional, we hope all students and employees will take the time to quickly check their data and help UGA maintain and report accurate data.

OIR Website Updates: Our office will unveil a new website in early fall. This redesign will update our web presence while still keeping the same major information areas and links. We are continually updating the data and reports that we offer and will provide an easy way for users to provide constructive feedback.

UGA's six-year graduation rate reaches 80%

UGA Freshman Cohort Graduation Rates



The Importance of Timely and Accurate Data

Because OIR is charged with the responsibility of providing accurate, up-to-date information to senior officials as well as the University System office, it is important that we have the most accurate data possible. In some cases, University funding or data projections are based on the information we provide, thus it is absolutely critical that we have complete and timely information. OIR works closely with other units on campus such as the Registrar's Office, Faculty Affairs, Admissions, and Human Resources to ensure accuracy of data, and we appreciate the efforts of sectioning officers and others across campus who submit information in a timely and accurate way. If you have questions or comments, please call Dr. Gardner at 425-3183 or gardnerd@uga.edu.

The Role of the Office of Institutional Research

OIR is a decision-support unit. What does that mean? An important mission of the Office of Institutional Research is to provide timely information to campus officials so they can make well-informed decisions. We provide information through a variety of publications and reports, as well as web-based information. OIR staff members are constantly collaborating with others on campus. Let us know how we can help you.

