



# Board Meeting

June 26-27, 2025

Plymouth State University - Merrill Place Conference Center

14 Merrill Street

Plymouth

# University System of New Hampshire

2025 June 27 - Board Meeting

Board of Trustees Agenda

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## I. Zoom Meeting Information

Meeting URL: <https://unh.zoom.us/j/95357961216>

Or Telephone:

Dial: + 1 301 715 8592 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 953 5796 1216

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## II. Call to Order

A. Determination of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business

B. Take attendance of all meeting participants

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## III. Chair's Welcome & Remarks

8:30 - 9:00 am

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## IV. Host Campus Presentation

President Birx

A. PSU Orientation - 4

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## V. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the Minutes

MOVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 21, 2025, be approved as presented.

1. Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2025 - 13

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## VI. CAO Update

Cathy  
Provencher

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## VII. Legislative Update

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## VIII. Presidents Reports

A. Presidents Reports - 18

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## IX. Committee Reports

A. Educational Excellence Committee

1. Faculty Appointment with Tenure

MOVED, on recommendation of President Chilton and the Educational Excellence Committee, that the Board of Trustees approve the award of tenure to a newly appointed professor within the Department of English at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material. (Educational Excellence meeting materials)

B. Audit Committee

C. Governance Committee

D. Investments and Capital Planning Committee

E. Financial Affairs Committee

1. Motion to Approve Systemwide FY26 Operating and Capital Budgets

MOVED, on recommendation of the Financial Affairs Committee, that the BOT, approve the operating and capital budgets, for the University System applicable to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026 (FY26) as presented in the attachments;

AND FURTHER, in the event revenues are lower than currently

anticipated in the attachments, require PC to make budget adjustments to reduce expenses to the lower revenue levels to meet the systemwide Operating Margin; if unable to do so, PC will seek amended approval from BOT for the revised FY26 budgeted OM by August 2025.

AND FURTHER, in the event material expense savings targets are incorporated into the proposed budgets (across the board reductions, planned initiatives, etc.), require PC to provide and updates to the Executive Committee of the BOT to include detailed plans for achieving the savings.

AND FURTHER, require the use of available restricted and external funding prior to the use of any USNH funds with exceptions requiring the approval of the institutional CFO or CFO designee.

#### **F. Nominations Committee**

##### **1. Approval of Proposed Slate of FY 25-26 Officers**

MOVED, upon recommendation of the Nomination Committee, that the Board of Trustees elect Board Officers and Nomination Committee members as specified in the attached report.

##### **a. Slate of Officers & Nominations Committee Members - 37**

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#### **X. NonpublicSession(ifneeded)**

MOVED, pursuant to RSA 91-A:2.I(b) and RSA 91-A:3.II(j), that the Committee enter nonpublic session for the purposes of discussing matters affecting collective bargaining strategy and/or considering confidential personnel, financial or commercial information.

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#### **XI. Wrap-up and Next Steps**

##### **A. Welcomes & Goodbyes**

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#### **XII. Adjourn**

## OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



*Welcoming New Panthers  
into Our Campus Community*

# OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



Student Life is committed to cultivating a community of love and belonging. Through our transformative co-curricular learning experiences, we provide students the opportunities to develop their sense of purpose, embody compassion, and grow into conscious leaders who actively shape the world they live in.

## Student Experience

- Orientation and new student programming
- Student club/orgs, programs & activities
- Campus-wide traditions & events

## Community Impact

- Service learning, community engagement, volunteerism
- Student Support Foundation
- Campus Ministry
- Military Services

## Campus Recreation

- Fitness Center & Courtroom
- Intramurals & Club Sports
- Outdoor Center
- eSports Facility



# OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## *Forming Connections with Students & Families*





# OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## *Learning in Community*

- Human beings need each other
- Social connection is required for learning\*
- Belonging supports student success, academic achievement, engagement & mental health

### Five Components of Student Belonging

Students' sense of belonging on campus is one of the top factors in their retention and persistence. But belonging is hard to define and even harder to measure. Through a review of academic literature and conversations with university leaders, EAB has broken down student belonging into five specific, defined components—each with specific best practices that leaders can put in place. Students who have all five components are much more likely to feel they belong and to stay engaged with the university even after they graduate.



1	2	3	4	5
Seamless Student Experience	Mental Health and Wellbeing	Active and Engaged Learning	Cocurricular and Social Engagement	Faculty Mentoring and Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Policy and process audits to reduce pain points</li><li>• Single point of contact for holistic student needs</li><li>• Improved virtual student service experience</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Institutional culture of wellbeing and prevention</li><li>• Evidence-based activities to develop resiliency</li><li>• Help for students facing food/housing insecurity</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Active learning pedagogy and classroom design</li><li>• Opportunities for small-group learning</li><li>• Incentives for faculty to scale learning innovations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engagement options for every student and major</li><li>• Skill-building opportunities for student leaders</li><li>• Virtual community building for distance learners</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structured faculty-student mentoring programs</li><li>• Events that foster connections with faculty</li><li>• Resources for faculty to support student wellbeing</li></ul>



Visit the [Student Belonging Resource Center](https://eab.com/StudentBelongingResourceCenter)  
[eab.com/StudentBelongingResourceCenter](https://eab.com/StudentBelongingResourceCenter)

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\*Lieberman, M. D. (2014). Social: Why our brains are wired to connect. Broadway Books.

## OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## *A Look at Loneliness*

### The New Epidemic Gripping College Campuses: Loneliness

- Loneliness is most prevalent among young people- 27% of individuals ages 19-29 indicated feeling lonely in a study conducted by Meta and Gallup, released Oct. 2023
- Covid-19 Pandemic compounded this public health issue, but it was present prior to 2020
- Distinction between social isolation and loneliness
  - Social isolation- lack of social interaction
  - Loneliness- psychological state of feeling that need for love and belonging is not met
- It is our ethical and social obligation to provide ample opportunities for students to develop meaningful connections on campus and throughout the broader community

Alonso, J. (2023, November 8). The New Epidemic Gripping College Campuses: Loneliness. Inside Higher Ed Higher Education News, Events and Jobs.



## OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



# *The Purpose of Orientation & New Student Programming*

### ORIENTATION TIMELINE

PRE

Deposit at Plymouth State

1

Online Orientation

2

Summer Orientation

3

Panther Days

POST

First Day of Classes

- Build strong social connections and healthy practices that support wellbeing
- Foster a sense of belonging to campus and the broader community
- Establish shared values and expectations
- Prepare students for applied academic and co-curricular engagement opportunities that develop career competencies
- Provide a strong foundation of support for students to thrive academically, professionally, and personally throughout their time at PSU

# OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## *2025 Orientation Coordinators*



*Daniel Donahue*  
*Class of 2026*



*Natalia Guay*  
*Class of 2027*

# OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



## THE LOOP PLYMOUTH STATE FAMILY PORTAL

- It takes all of us to support the success of students: faculty, staff, family, friends, the broader community
- PSU supports the individual development of students, which advances the development of the State of NH
- We all play a pivotal role in shaping the future



THE LOOP  
PLYMOUTH STATE FAMILY PORTAL



### Current Families Communities

- Plymouth State News >
- Parent and Family News >
- Plymouth State Alumni >
- Student Success >

### I'd like to...

- ★ View Favorite Posts
- 🔍 Discover Communities
- ➕ Add a new Post
- ➕ Add a new Event
- 📅 View my Posts
- 📅 View my Events

### NEW ENGLAND DIVISION II-III ALL-STARS FOUR PANTHERS HONORED BY NEHWA



#### MH: Four Panthers chosen as New England All-Stars by NEHWA

Posted about 22 hours ago in Athletics, Student Success.

**PLYMOUTH, N.H.** – Four members of the Plymouth State University men's ice hockey team were among a group of student-athletes honored by the New England Hockey Writers Association (NEHWA) when the organization recently announced its annual awards recipients.

Senior **Kalle...** read full article

Search Posts...

### Calendar

MAY 06	Finals Week
MAY 10	
MAY 10	Graduate Commencement Exercises
MAY 11	Undergraduate Commencement Exercises
MAY 13	Start of Summer Semester, Individual/Independent Enrollment Term, and First Half Term
MAY 21	Course Withdrawal Begins - Summer Semester and First Half Term

## OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE



*Sincere Gratitude*

Daniel Donahue

Orientation Coordinator

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Natalia Guay

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MARCH 21, 2025 REGULAR MEETING

Meeting Held at University of New Hampshire  
Memorial Union Building, Strafford Room, Durham, NH

### Meeting Minutes (DRAFT for review and approval)

**In Attendance:** Trustees present at meeting location: Chair Mike Pilot, Vice Chair Kass Ardinger, Secretary Kevin Knarr, Maureen Beauregard, Donald Birx, Jamie Burnett, Elizabeth Chilton, MJ Condon, Jeremy Dupuis, Jackie Eastwood, Cathy Green, George Hansel, Shawn Jasper, Rick Ladd, Brian McCabe, Mackenzie Murphy, Catherine Provencher, Wayne Semprini, Gregg Tewksbury, Melinda Treadwell, and David Westover. Trustees participating by videoconference: James Gray, Patrick Griffin. Trustees not in attendance: Frank Edelblut, Isabella Falcetti, Joel Nkounkou, Peter Paul.

**Call to Order:** At 8:30 am, Chair Pilot called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum sufficient for the conduct of business.

**Chair's Remarks:** The Chair praised the robust discussions that took place during the previous day's committee meetings and encouraged trustees to continue those efforts in today's new, more open afternoon discussion period. The Chair also welcomed Durham Town Administrator Todd Selig to the meeting.

**Host Campus Presentation:** UNH President Chilton updated the Board on the status of the ongoing Provost search, which is expected to conclude in the coming weeks, and thanked Interim Provost Cyndee Gruden for her strong leadership. President Chilton then introduced UNH AVP for Facilities and Operations Bill Janelle, who presented on UNH's energy generation and sustainability program. After reviewing the history of the program, he explained how UNH's longstanding district heating infrastructure produces electricity as well. Beginning in the mid-2000s, UNH invested in an additional turbine that allowed UNH to self-produce 85% of the electricity consumed on campus. Currently, UNH uses a mix of natural gas, diesel, and purified liquified gas from a nearby landfill (this last item accounting for nearly 2/3 of the energy provided to campus) to power its cogeneration facility to produce steam which is re-used multiple times to create energy and heat and cool campus facilities. UNH has also continued to seek out new technologies to support sustainability, including things like a new woodchip-powered heating facility. The cogeneration facility currently generates 100% of UNH's electricity and, via net metering, helps reduce Keene State's costs as well. The program saves, on average, roughly six million dollars per year in fuel costs.

**Recess:** At 9:20 am, the Chair recessed the Board until 9:45 am.

**Return to Order:** At 9:45 am, the Chair called the meeting back to order and noted the continued presence of a quorum.

**Public Comment:** Steph George, a representative of the UNH Graduate Students' Union, spoke regarding the status of its negotiations with UNH and delivered a petition with the union's proposed contract terms.

**Consent Agenda:** By motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by Trustee Hansel, the Board unanimously voted by roll call to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

***VOTED***, that the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the meeting held on October 24-25, 2024 as presented.

**Chancellor's Update:** Chancellor Provencher updated the Board on news reports of a complaint involving UNH; UNH has not yet formally received the complaint but is looking into the matter and will have more information next week. The System is also continuing to work with the Community College System. This includes co-locating the System office on the campus of NHTI beginning later this year and, as noted by Trustee Murphy, launching a new campaign designed to inform New Hampshire high schools about the combined public higher ed options in the state and expand direct admissions programs.

**PSU President's Report:** President Birx presented on the recently announced plan for academic program changes. President Birx explained that, as discussed at past board meetings, projections show the System operating at a financial deficit over the coming years without more changes being made. PSU plans to address that challenge by refocusing on clusters and helping students navigate the transition period between college and the workforce. This could include integrating the existing liberal arts majors into a new cluster to educate students across disciplines and support applied clusters and eliminating some liberal arts majors. Humanities and the liberal arts would still be taught but the surrounding administrative structure would be reframed. A working group at the campus, including faculty representatives, is discussing details now. The goal is for the System as a whole to provide the broadest possible set of options for New Hampshire students, with PSU differentiating itself as part of that system. Trustees articulated their support for President Birx and the proposal. Trustees and the presidents then extensively discussed how the board could support all of the institutional presidents as the System faces the challenges ahead.

**KSC President's Report:** President Treadwell reflected on the efforts made to reset Keene State during her tenure as president and the challenge between responding with sufficient urgency to preserve financial viability and preserving an organization's identity and mission as it does so. For Keene that means a continued commitment to the liberal arts, which is the differentiating feature of American higher education and contributes equally strongly to the careers of Keene students in majors more immediately focused on workforce development.

**Educational Excellence Committee Report and Related Board Action:** Committee Chair Eastwood presented the report of the committee's March 20, 2025 meeting. The Chair noted that the trustees had all attended the Committee meeting making a detailed report unnecessary. However, she specifically praised the outstanding work of the USSB and the presentation on artificial intelligence.

Following the report, the Board took the following action on recommendation of the committee.



Appointment of Faculty with Tenure at UNH: By motion made by Trustee Murphy and seconded by Tewksbury, the Board unanimously voted by roll call as follows to approve appointments of tenure at UNH as described in the supporting materials for the Educational Excellence Committee agenda:

***VOTED***, on recommendation of President Chilton and the Educational Excellence Committee, that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of one individual with the rank of professor with tenure at the University of New Hampshire, as presented in the supporting material for the Educational Excellence Committee.

**Audit Committee Report and Related Board Action**: Committee Vice Chair Eastwood presented the report of the Committee's March 20, 2025 meeting. The Committee reviewed the results of the FY 24 Uniform Guidance Single Audit, which revealed no material issues requiring Board intervention. The Board also received reports on environmental health and safety and Title IX, which showed stability from previous years. Following the report, the Board took the following actions on recommendation of the committee.

First, by motion made by Trustee Knar and seconded by Trustee Eastwood, the Board unanimously voted by roll call as follows:

***VOTED***, on recommendation of the Chancellor, that the University System of New Hampshire Auditors' Reports from CLA for the year ended June 30, 2024, as required by Title 2 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and Government Auditing Standards and Related Information, be accepted.

Second, by motion made by Trustee Green and seconded by trustee Jasper, the Board unanimously voted by roll call as follows:

***VOTED***, on recommendation of the Chancellor, that CliftonLarsonAllen LLP be confirmed as the external auditor for the University System of New Hampshire to provide audit services related to activities of fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

**Investment and Capital Planning Committee Report**: Committee Chair Knarr presented the report of the committee's March 20, 2025 meeting. The Committee received a report from Prime Buchholz; results remain favorable, with the endowment at a high-water mark. However, recent market pullbacks have likely had negative effects since the report was generated. The Committee also conducted its annual review of the System's investment guidelines with an eye to balancing investment returns against the need for liquidity. Given the System's rate of cash burn, the guidelines will likely need to be amended to permit greater use of excess cash for ordinary operations. The Committee also reviewed the asset allocation of the endowment. The Committee determined that the System should pause investment in private capital markets to ensure that liquidity of the portfolio remains appropriate. The Committee also plans to review the use of gift funds, received first looks on a proposed renovation of the Whittemore Center, the Morse Hall project, and a fire safety project at the Paul Center for the Performing Arts and approved one capital project related to heating systems at UNH.

**Governance Committee Report:** Committee Chair Ardinger presented the report of the committee's March 20, 2025 meeting. The Committee approved the forms for the Board's annual self-evaluation; the Chair reminded trustees of the importance of those surveys to the operation of the Board. The Committee also received reports on the enterprise risks assigned to it by the Audit Committee. For future work, the Committee plans to review the election processes for student trustees and the Bylaw setting out expectations for trustee attendance at meetings.

**Nomination Committee Report:** Committee Chair Green presented the report of the committee's March 20, 2025 meeting. She noted that the slate of proposed Board officers was discussed and would be forwarded to the Board in advance of the June meeting. Chair Green also thanked trustees for their suggestions for potential future Board nominees.

**Financial Affairs Committee Report:** Committee Chair Tewksbury presented the report of the Committee's March 20 meeting. The Committee received a report from the CFOs on current year financial projections. Current projections show a roughly \$1.2 million shortfall compared to the approved budget, which the campuses are working to remediate. The Committee also approved the lease providing for the co-location of the System office on the campus of NHTI. The Chair closed by noting that the need for leadership is heightened during challenging times and appreciated the work of the institutional leaders in that regard.

**Presentation on How Trustees Can Show "Care" in Decision-Making:** USNH General Counsel Chad Pimentel presented on the scope of care required in trustee decision-making, with examples taken from principles of fiduciary responsibility. Trustees were encouraged to ask questions, remain open to competing viewpoints, and rely on the input of experts where needed.

**Recess:** At 11:58 am, the Board recessed for lunch

**Return to Order:** At 12:17 pm, the Board returned to order and Chair Pilot noted the continued presence of a quorum.

**Presidents' Council Strategic Work Update:** Chancellor Provencher and the institutional presidents updated the Board on the status of the ongoing work to position the System for the projected challenging financial times ahead. The Presidents' Council is working with campus leadership and outside expertise to further the six goals set by the Board at the beginning of the year. System representatives also attended the conference of the National Association of Systems of Higher Education for insight into industry best practices. Presidents' Council discussions have included the structure of the system, the role of the Chancellor, and the possibility of single accreditation. In their discussions, the Presidents' Council's focus has been on how best to support the student experience, particularly in how students could more easily move credits between institutions. Discussions have specifically included how the System can help students by allowing for multiple instructional modalities. The Board then discussed how the need to make these changes was challenged by the System's need to preserve cash given local, state, and federal budget concerns. The Board also discussed what the public-facing role of the Board should be in communicating about difficult decisions in financially challenging times. Chancellor Provencher then presented on a set of more tactical topics, including the ongoing review of shared services and the possible extension of shared services beyond pure back-office functions. The Board and presidents then discussed the possibility for reuse of facilities and other capital assets. The Presidents Council acknowledged the Board's request for bold and transformative ideas for how to address the System's projected financial challenges in the coming year and the expectation that, by the June board meeting, the presidents'

council will have options with financial implications on the five-year path forward. Trustees also expressed the need for engagement with legislature and the need to communicate funding challenges more broadly.

**Chair's Closing Remarks:** Chair Pilot re-emphasized the need for strong action, promised Board support for those plans, and praised trustees for their engagement during the meeting.

**Adjourn:** At 1:42 pm Chair Pilot called for further business and, hearing none, adjourned the meeting.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE USNH BOARD OF TRUSTEES—JUNE 2025

### Opportunities and Challenges

- University leadership continues active engagement with faculty and staff to address the long-term demographic and funding challenges facing PSU. A working group, formed earlier this year, has been meeting weekly since March 14 to explore strategic responses. A preliminary framework is being developed for presentation at the June board meeting, aligning with systemwide planning efforts.
- A university-wide Town Hall was held on March 28, featuring a new format emphasizing extended Q&A sessions. The event was well-attended both in person and online and generated thoughtful dialogue, highlighting campus-wide engagement and commitment.

### Enrollment, Marketing, and Retention

Admissions continues to demonstrate positive trends for Fall 2025:

- **Undergraduate deposits** are up year-over-year with Fall 2025 deposits currently 1,055 – up from 1,049 at the same time last year (as of 6/12/2025).
- **As of 6/12/2025 applications** have been received for PSU's inaugural **96-credit, three-year degree Applied Bachelor's degree programs** launching in Fall 2025. Initial program interest includes:
  - Cybersecurity – 28 applicants
  - Outdoor Adventure Leadership – 8
  - Police Studies – 10
  - Robotics and Automation Engineering – 26
  - Small Business Administration – 109
- **Graduate applications** have increased by 7% year-over-year. Graduate acceptances are up 21%, with a 5% increase in deposited/enrolled students.
- In terms of **advertising**, we will complete the first year of our new digital campaign on June 30, 2025. Preliminary results for the year:
  - Search campaign began July 2024
  - Paid social and display began January 2025
  - Open house campaigns were run on Meta throughout schedule
    - **July 1, 2024 – June 11, 2025**
      - Total Impressions: 12,331,035
      - Total Link Clicks: 44,030
    - **Sept. 1, 2024 – June 11, 2025**

- Meta Reach – 952,192
- TikTok Reach: 190,340
- DV 360: 5/2/25 - 6/11/25  
(Note: DV360 only extends reach reporting back to May 2nd)  
DV360 Display Reach: 16,017  
DV360 Native Reach: 6,178

### Campus Highlights

- I'm proud to share that PSU has earned the coveted *Military Friendly School* Gold ranking for 2025–2026, signifying implementation of best practices and policies to recruit, develop, and support student veterans. The designation recognizes excellent programs and services for military-connected students
- PSU held its **154th Undergraduate Commencement** on Saturday, May 10, awarding degrees to approximately **740 students**. An additional **222 graduate and doctoral degrees** were conferred at a separate ceremony on Friday, May 9.
  - Keynote speakers included:
    - **Chris Gloninger**, Emmy Award-winning meteorologist and 2006 PSU alumnus, who was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree.
    - **Dr. Sheryl Shirley**, professor emerita and former NH Commissioner for Human Rights, addressed graduate students, sharing insights from her work in regional transportation and advocacy.

### University Advancement and External Relations

- The 10th annual Students, Scholarships, and Service Dinner was held on June 5
  - Plymouth State University Alumni Association (PSUAA) presented the prestigious Robert Frost Contemporary American Award to The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu.
  - The Raymond S. Burton '62 Public Service Award was presented to Barbara Ashley '61.
  - The evening raised over \$30,000 for student scholarships. Since its inception a decade ago, over \$300,000 has been raised for the PSUAA Scholarship and The Ray's Angels Scholarship Fund.

### PSU's Broader Impact

- Our students, faculty, and programs continue to receive regional and national recognition:
  - **MAPS (Marketing Association of Plymouth State)** earned multiple awards at the AMA International Collegiate Conference, including second place in Marketing Strategy and the launch of a new Digital Marketing competition, led by Professor Raj Sachdev and sponsored by McGraw Hill.

- **Sales Institute Teams** achieved strong competitive success across New England.
- **Psychology students** claimed the **Psych Cup** at the NH Psychological Association convention, along with first place in the undergraduate research competition.
- A powerful **poverty simulation** event, jointly hosted by Social Work and Nursing, provided students with immersive learning on economic hardship and systemic inequity.





### **Commencement 2025**

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The University of New Hampshire celebrated commencement weekend on May 16 and 17 with three packed ceremonies in Durham and one at the UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law in Concord. Nearly 3,500 graduates received their degrees in Durham, while 176 law students graduated from the law school, all celebrated by crowds of proud family and friends.

### **UNH Names Jeannette E. Riley Provost, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs**

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Jeannette E. Riley '91G has been named the University of New Hampshire's next provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, effective June 30. Currently dean of the University of Rhode Island's College of Arts and Sciences, Riley brings extensive experience in academic leadership, strategic planning, and student success. A UNH alumna with a doctorate in English, she has held leadership roles at UMass Dartmouth and URI, where she elevated programs, expanded partnerships, and championed innovation. As provost, Riley will oversee UNH's academic operations and play a key role in advancing the university's mission across all campuses.

### **Undergraduate Research Conference Showcases Work of More Than 1,700 Students**

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UNH recently hosted its 26th annual Undergraduate Research Conference (URC), featuring the work of over 1,700 students from all schools, colleges, and a wide variety of majors. The URC included more than 20 events across the Durham and Manchester campuses, such as symposia, panel discussions, poster sessions, performances, and competitions. The conference highlighted student research across numerous disciplines, supported by mentorship from over 300 faculty members and research advisors.

### **UNH Students Shine in 'The College Tour' First Look Event**

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UNH recently hosted a special watch party in April to premiere its episode of The College Tour, an Amazon Prime series highlighting student stories and campus life. The 30-minute episode, filmed on the Durham campus and airing nationally on May 27, 2025, features a diverse group of Wildcats sharing their UNH experiences. Students, families, and faculty celebrated alongside host Alex Boylan.

## **Extension Celebrates 100 Years of Partnering with Granite State Forest Landowners**

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For 100 years, UNH Cooperative Extension has partnered with the state to support private forest landowners across New Hampshire. With foresters in every county, Extension connects thousands of residents each year to expert guidance, helping manage over 100,000 acres and offering hands-on workshops and resources. This unique, community-based approach links local needs with university expertise, promoting healthy forests, informed stewardship, and a thriving forest economy.

## **Spaulding Hall Opening, Partnership with Lonza Biologics**

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The newly renovated and expanded Spaulding Hall was officially opened with a ribbon cutting that included U.S. Sen. Maggie Hassan, former New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu, and members of the UNH community. The new Spaulding Hall enhances research and learning in the life sciences through state-of-the-art laboratories, modernized teaching spaces, collaborative study areas, and specialized facilities such as an aquatic research core and tissue culture labs. Made possible by \$35 million in state support and \$60 million from UNH and USNH, the 130,000-square-foot facility is the largest capital project in UNH history and strengthens our commitment to research, innovation, and student success across fields like biotechnology, environmental science, and human and animal health.

Earlier in the semester, Lonza Biologics leadership visited Spaulding Hall to celebrate a growing partnership that gives COLSA students hands-on research experience in biomanufacturing. Supported by equipment donations from Lonza's Portsmouth facility, students are collaborating with company scientists on real-world projects. The visit also highlighted the new Lonza Scholars program, launching in 2025, which will provide scholarships and career opportunities to top incoming students in the life sciences.

## **UNH College of Professional Studies Earns 'Gold' Military Friendly School Designation**

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UNH's College of Professional Studies has earned a 2025–2026 Military Friendly School “Gold” designation, recognizing its strong support for servicemembers, veterans, and military families. As UNH's online, adult-focused college, CPS was honored for exceeding standards in areas like student support, retention, and career outcomes. This recognition places CPS among the top military-friendly colleges nationwide, reflecting its commitment to fostering a welcoming, success-driven environment for the military community.

## **Freshman Distance Runner Ruth White has Record-Setting Year**

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In her freshman season, University of New Hampshire distance runner Ruth White earned All-America Second Team honors by finishing ninth in the 10,000 meters at the NCAA Division I nationals. Competing against 24 runners in Eugene, Oregon, White clocked a personal and school-record time of 32:20.60, her fourth 10K record this year, cementing her place among the top 10 collegiate runners in the country.

## **UNH Helps Feed Seacoast by Donating Locally Grown Fish to Gather Food Pantry**

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The University of New Hampshire's Center for Sustainable Seafood Systems donated nearly 60 pounds of smoked steelhead trout to Gather, a nonprofit organization addressing hunger in the Seacoast region. The fish was raised in UNH's sustainable AquaFort system and processed locally. This partnership provides nutritious, ready-to-eat food to those in need, supporting both food security and UNH's mission to promote sustainable, locally sourced seafood.

## **UNH Partnership Helping NH High Schoolers Build and Race Submarines**

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Sanborn Regional High School's human-powered submarine team is thriving thanks to a unique partnership with the University of New Hampshire. Formed in 2022, the student-led team includes 15 scuba-certified students who design, build, and race submarines, with support from UNH's School of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering. Through training at UNH's Chase Ocean Engineering Lab, students gain hands-on STEM experience that has helped them succeed in international competitions and explore future careers in science and engineering. The team was featured on WMUR's NH Chronicle on June 17.

## President's Report to the Board of Trustees, June 2025

Our presentation to the Board will demonstrate that Keene State College continues to deliver on its projections and commitments. We have included slides in Board materials comparing our October 2023 projections with current performance metrics. Years of hard work to right-size our enterprise, adapt to demographic shifts, and invest in our areas of promise and distinction have resulted in successful philanthropy, strategic initiative achievements, continued increases in retention rates, and more upper-year students opting for on-campus housing. We have continued to sharpen efficiency in academic affairs with curriculum reform, improved section utilization, yielding increased fill rates and average class sizes. Thanks to a lean and effective faculty, our student-to-faculty ratio has gone from 14:1 in 2018 to 17:1 currently, exceeding our goal of 16:1 by Fall 2025.

### Building External Support:

#### Keene State College's First-Ever Comprehensive Campaign Draws to a Close

We are proud to announce that our Comprehensive Campaign, which concludes on June 30, 2025, has raised \$27.3 million against a goal of \$20 million. We are enormously grateful to our alumni, students and families, current employees, friends, foundations, and business partners for helping us reach more than 137% of our goal.



#### Comprehensive Campaign Gifts Summary

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2025

As of 04/30/2025

Category	Goal	% of Goal Committed	Total Committed	Cash and Pledges	Planned Gifts*	Received to Date	Outstanding Pledge Balance
<b>Endowment</b>							
Student Support			\$ 6,441,562	\$2,866,562	\$ 3,575,000	\$ 2,657,780	\$ 208,782
Workforce Readiness			\$ 11,402	\$11,402	\$ -	\$ 11,402	\$ -
Programmatic Support			\$ 13,030,010	\$12,760,010	\$ 270,000	\$ 7,200,010	\$ 5,560,000
Other			\$ 950	\$950	\$ -	\$ 950	\$ -
	\$ 10,000,000	195%	\$ 19,483,924	\$ 15,638,924	\$ 3,845,000	\$ 9,870,142	\$ 5,768,782
<b>Current Use</b>							
Unrestricted			\$ 764,537	\$479,337	\$ 285,200	\$ 477,657	\$ 1,680
Student Support			\$ 2,405,769	\$2,405,769	\$ -	\$ 2,206,000	\$ 196,769
Workforce Readiness			\$ 36,500	\$36,500	\$ -	\$ 21,500	\$ 15,000
Programmatic Support			\$ 3,864,473	\$3,844,260	\$ 20,213	\$ 3,394,235	\$ 450,025
Other			\$ 42,473	\$42,473	\$ -	\$ 42,473	\$ -
Athletics			\$ 711,946	\$711,946	\$ -	\$ 677,591	\$ 37,955
	\$ 10,000,000	78%	\$ 7,825,698	\$ 7,520,285	\$ 305,413	\$ 6,819,456	\$ 701,429
	\$ 20,000,000	137%	\$ 27,309,622	\$ 23,159,209	\$ 4,150,413	\$ 16,689,598	\$ 6,470,211
Verbal Commitments	\$1,170,000						
Planned Gifts < 70 **	\$269,872						

\* **Planned Gifts** | Remaining Deferred for 70+ (age based on age on 6/30/2025)

\*\* **Planned Gifts < 70** | Unrealized planned gifts for constituents < 70 (age based on age on 6/30/2025)

\*\*\* **Diff** | This is the difference between **Total Committed Gifts** (Cash & Pledges only) and **Received to Date & Outstanding Pledge Balance**

There are still several active conversations with donors, so the ultimate amount of our total campaign achievements will likely be more. The Keene State College Endowment (Keene Endowment Association) has also been growing – 66% across three funds (Total Return; Income Only; and SRI) over the life of the campaign – from \$7 million in FY17, to \$15 million in FY21, to more than \$25 million as of May 2025. Our endowment will surpass \$30 million solely through scheduled pledge payments by FY28.

## **Pipelines to Enrollment – Outreach to Middle Schools and Beyond**

Keene State College has deep roots in the region’s public schools, having trained many generations of its classroom teachers and administrators. Our student teachers are living examples of a successful Keene State education, in classrooms from pre-K through 12th grade.

Of course, we visit area high schools to talk with students about their college search, and we attend career fairs across the state (as well as in neighboring states.) Our partner schools are starting to include middle schoolers in these career and college fairs, opening up options for the future.

Recently, at a science, technology, engineering, and math–focused fair (STEM), where we promoted out optics programs, middle schoolers had their own visiting hours. At many of the career and technical education center fairs, parents bring younger children to family nights to learn about post-high school options.

Our direct outreach to area schools begins even earlier. Professors visit elementary and middle schools, and they don’t simply carry information about Keene State and its broad array of majors. For instance, this spring, one of our faculty did a hands-on workshop with middle schoolers to help them think about accessible playground design for their school.

Keene State College faculty, staff and current students attend science fairs like New Hampshire Wicked STEM and the Governor’s Robotic Cup, held at Plymouth State University.

Perhaps the longest-running and most well-known events for middle school students is MATHCOUNTS, a national program that strives to engage middle school students of all ability and interest levels in fun, challenging math programs.

Since 1984, Keene State College has proudly hosted the chapter-level MATHCOUNTS competition. Aided by current students in math and education, two students who participated in our local Keene chapter competition went on to the state and national competitions. Only one team in the entire competition posted a higher score than New Hampshire in the written round of the competition!

Middle school students exist at a critical juncture, and their love of learning must be nurtured.

MATHCOUNTS and other outreach efforts enhance critical thinking and problem solving, encourage collaborative learning, and model the very skills these middle schoolers will need in the working world. In short, making sure that Keene State College students, staff, faculty, and alumni are a presence in middle schools simply showcases all sorts of possible futures.



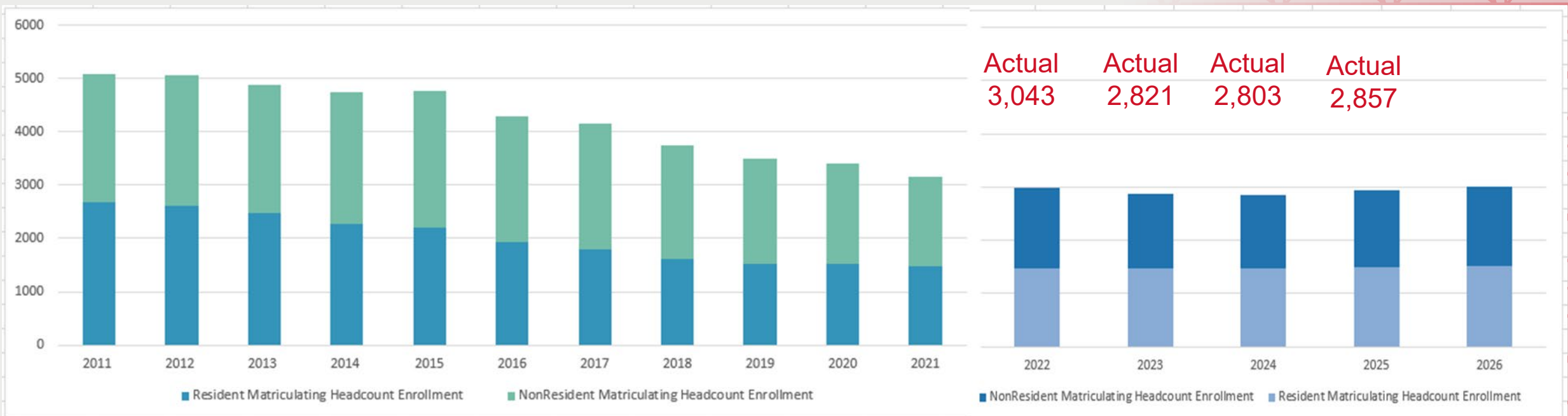
# President's Presentation

USNH Board of Trustees Meeting  
June 2025

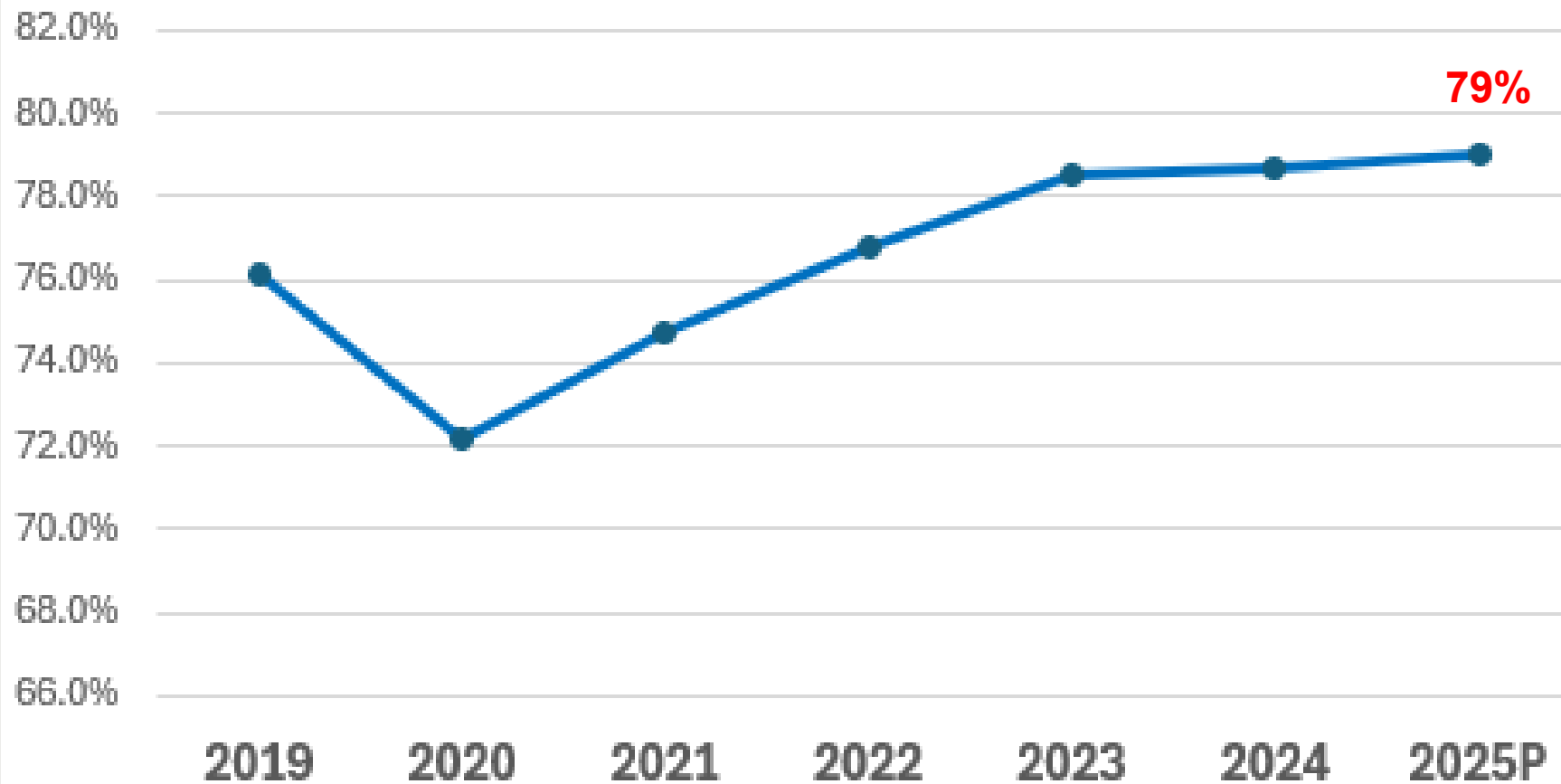




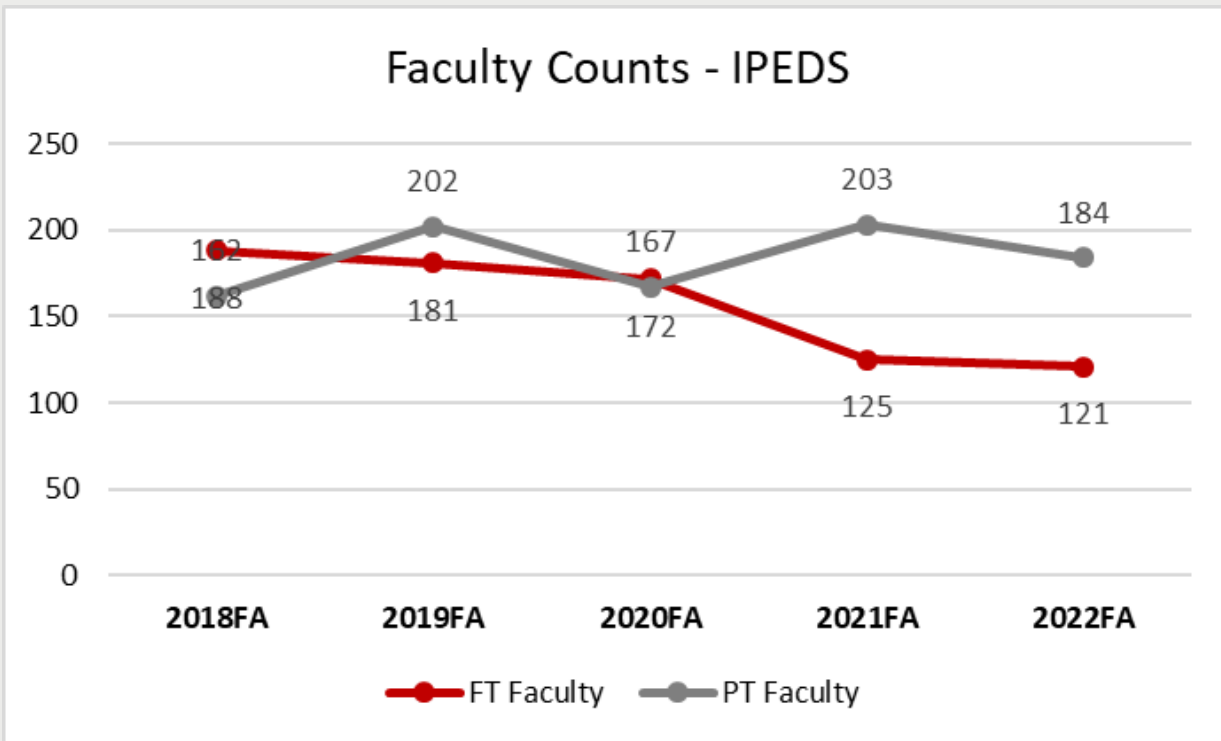
Growing accuracy in setting and reaching projections.  
Enrollment achieved in 2024 and 2025 (as of R+30)  
is consistent with levels projected in 2021



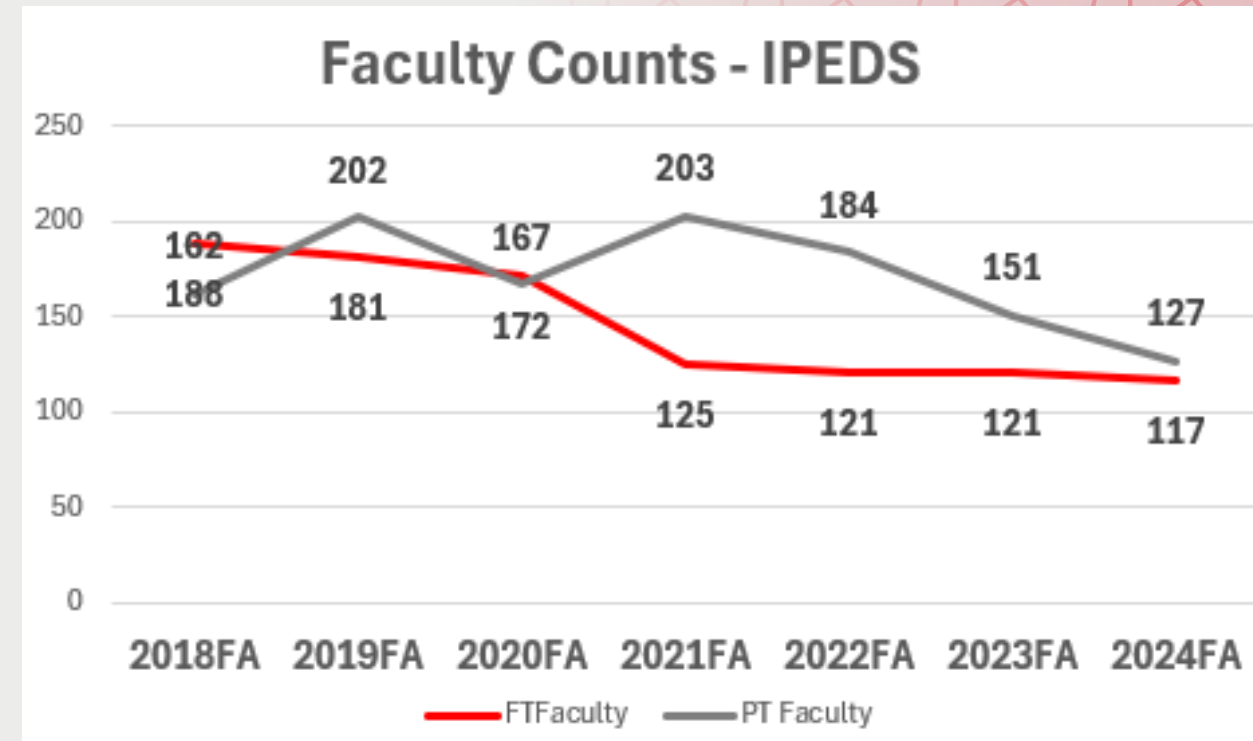
## Retention Rates 2019 - 2025



## As presented in 2023

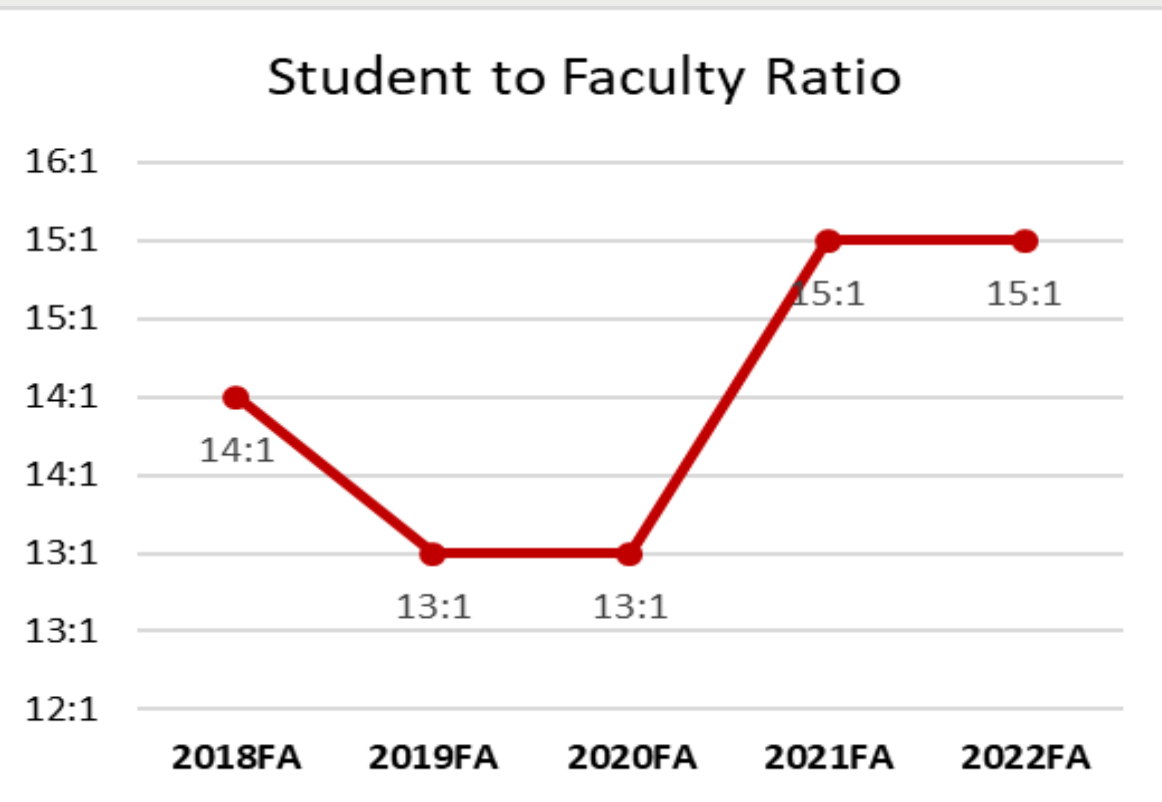


## Current

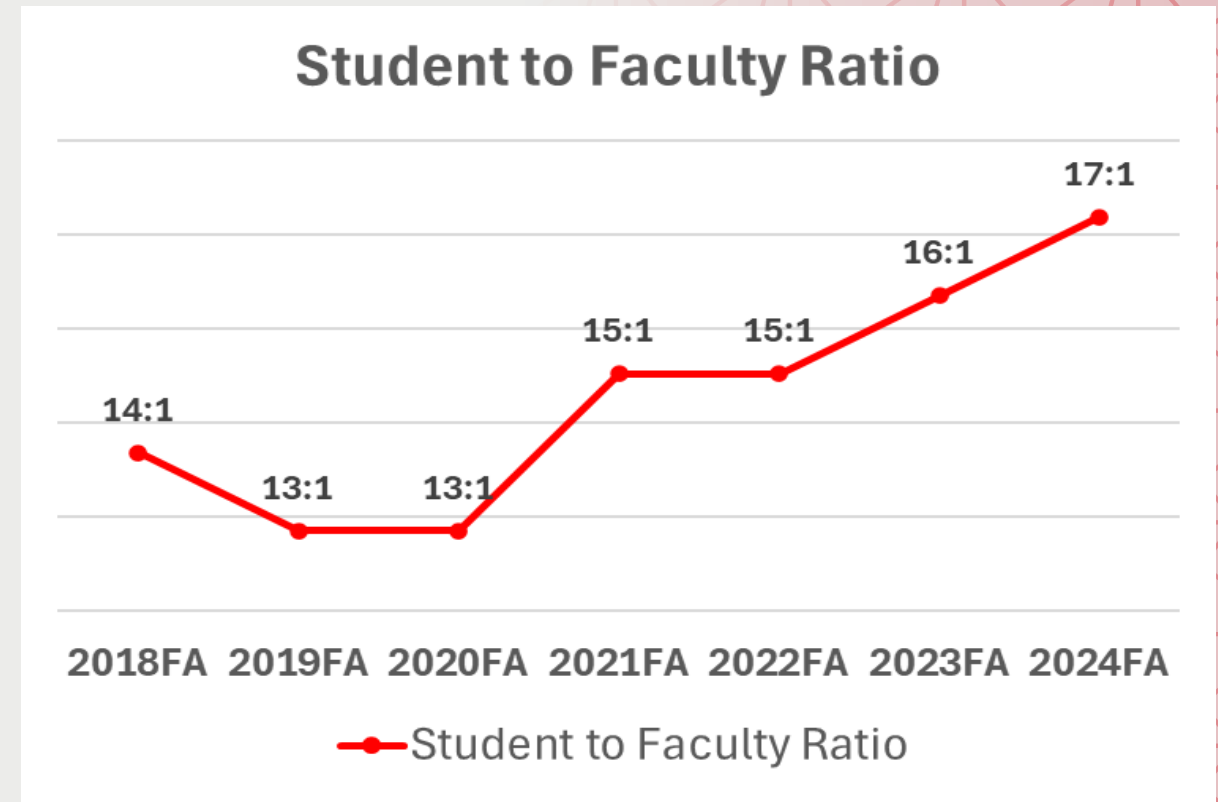


# Student to Faculty Ratios

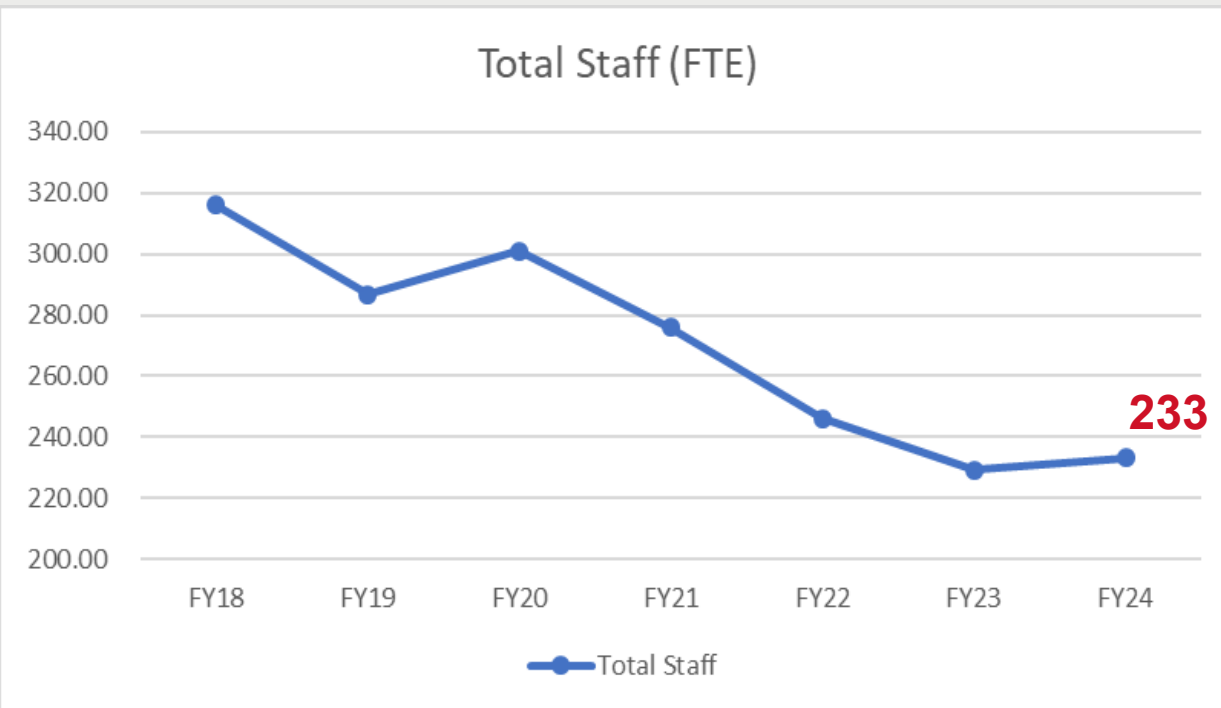
**As presented in 2023**



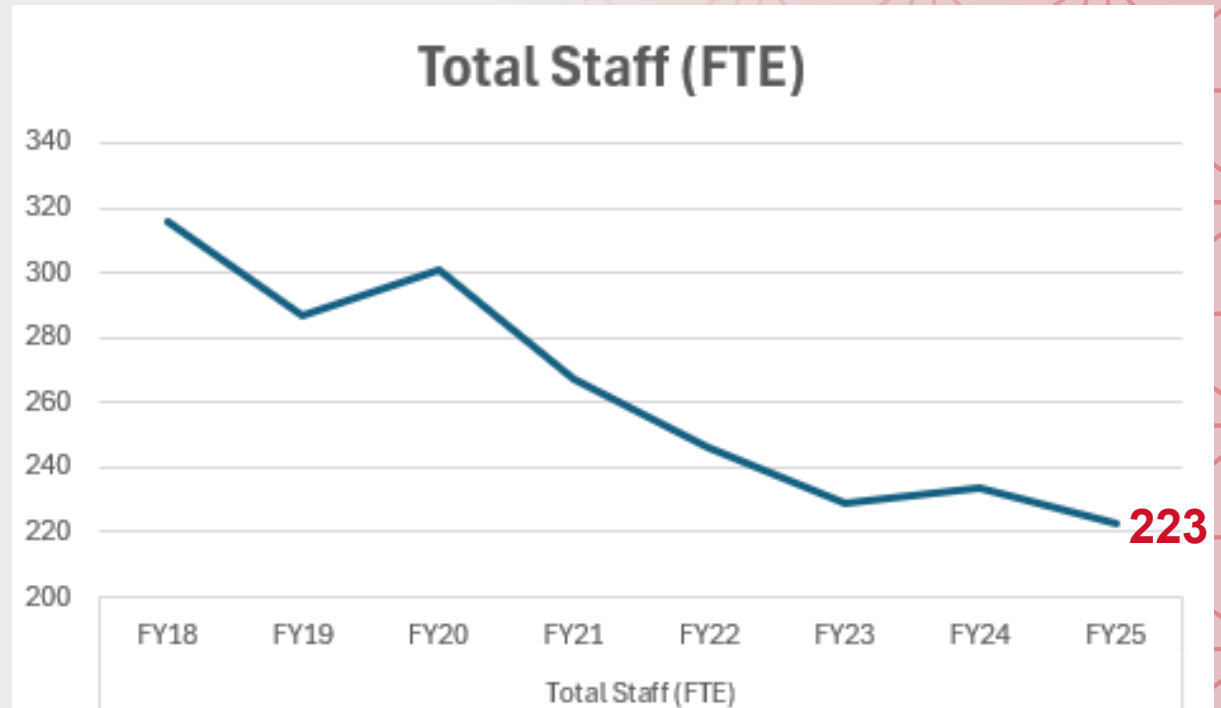
**Current**



## As presented in 2023

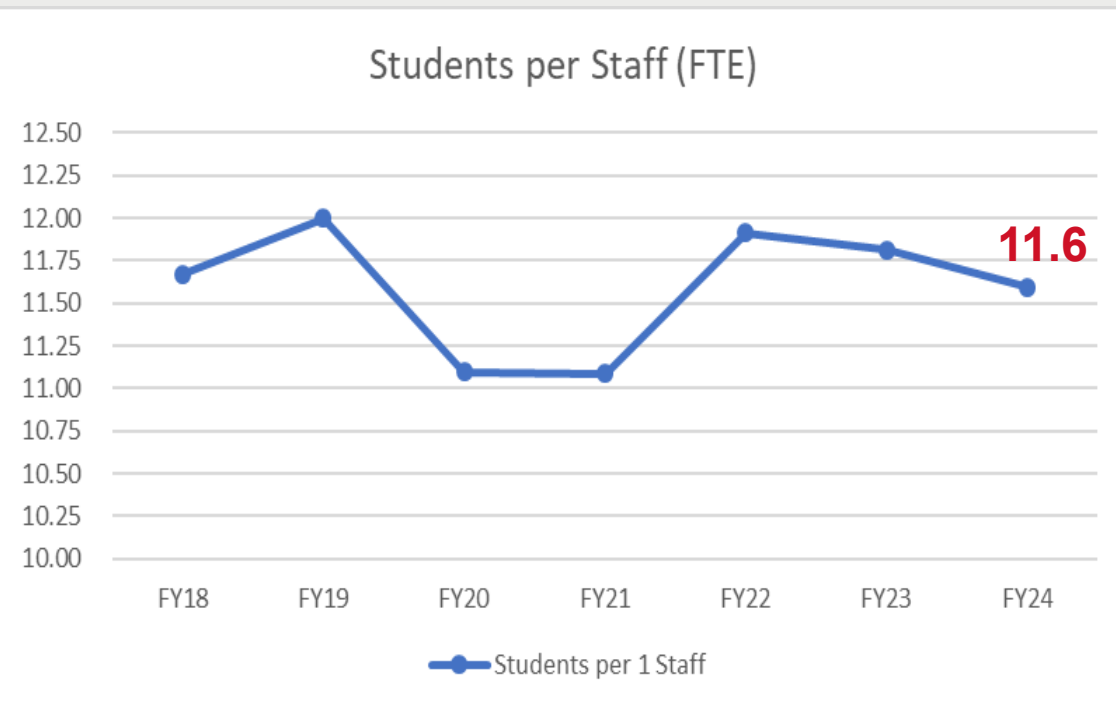


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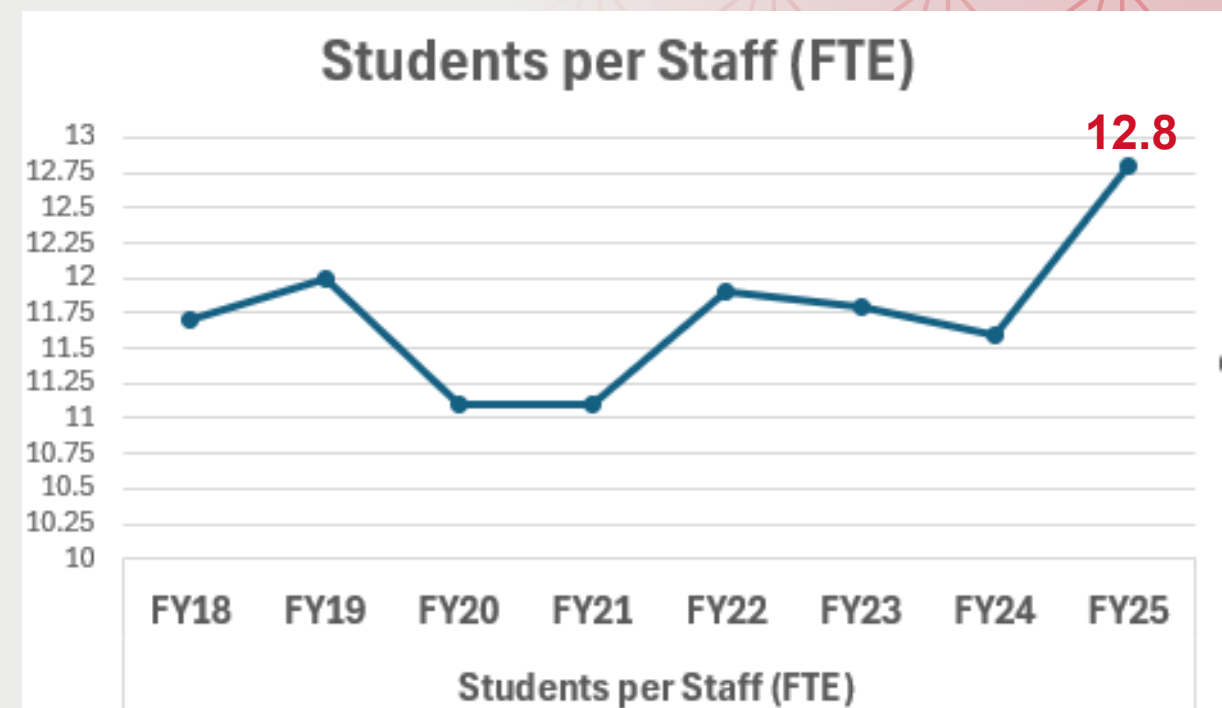


# Staff to Student Ratios

**As presented in 2023**



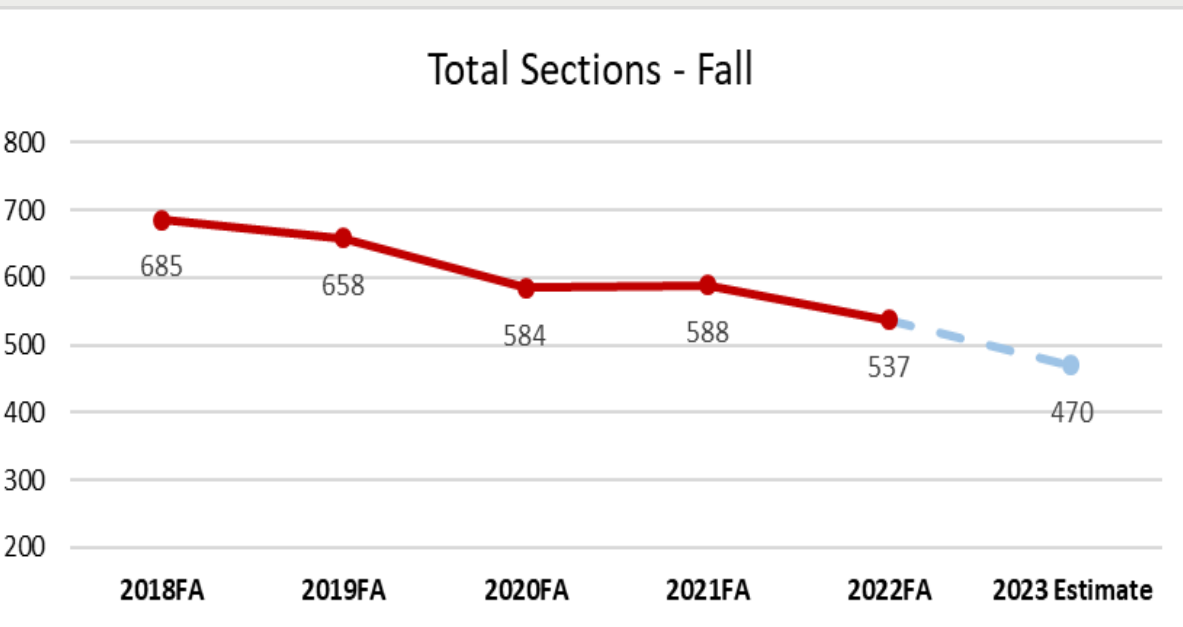
**Current**



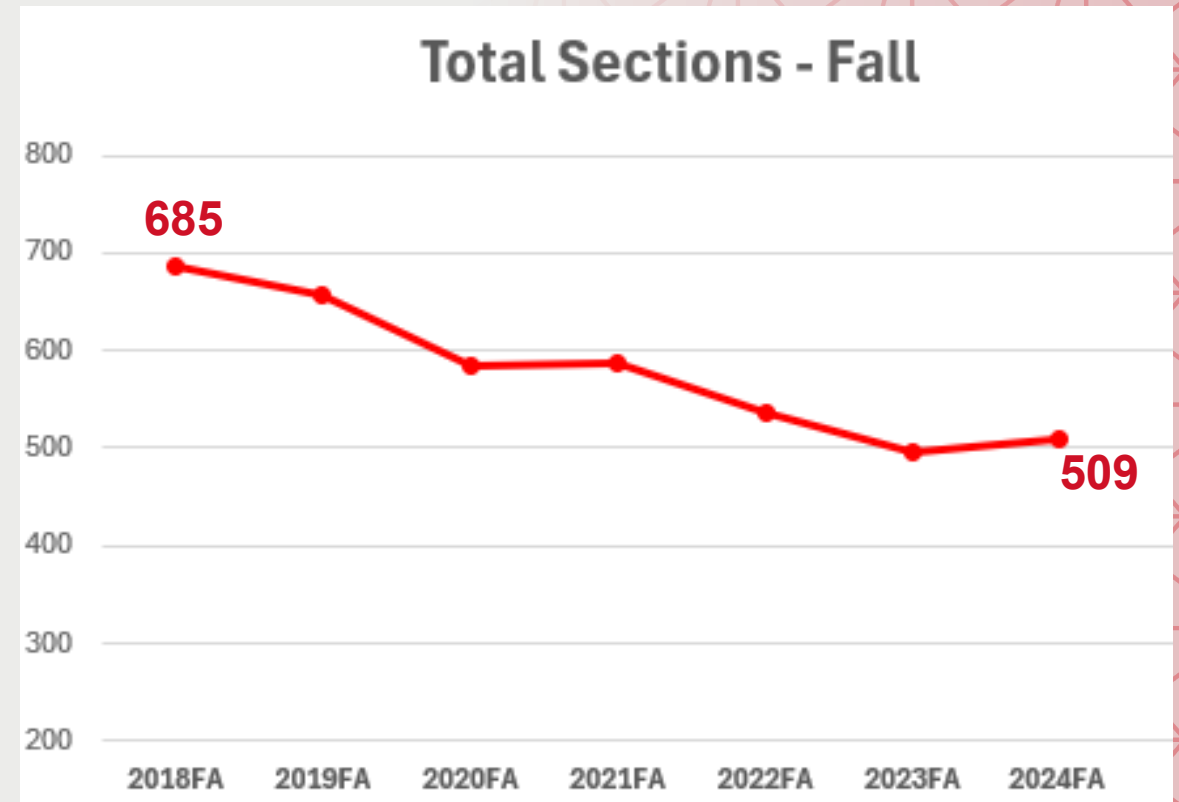
	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
<b>Total Staff FTE</b>	316.0	286.8	300.9	267.0	246.3	229.2	233.3	223.0
<b>Undergrad Matriculated Enrollment</b>	3688	3441	3340	3060	2934	2709	2705	2857
<i>from Factbook at R+30</i>								
<b>Students per 1 Staff FTE</b>	11.7	12.0	11.1	11.5	11.9	11.8	11.6	12.8



## As presented in 2023

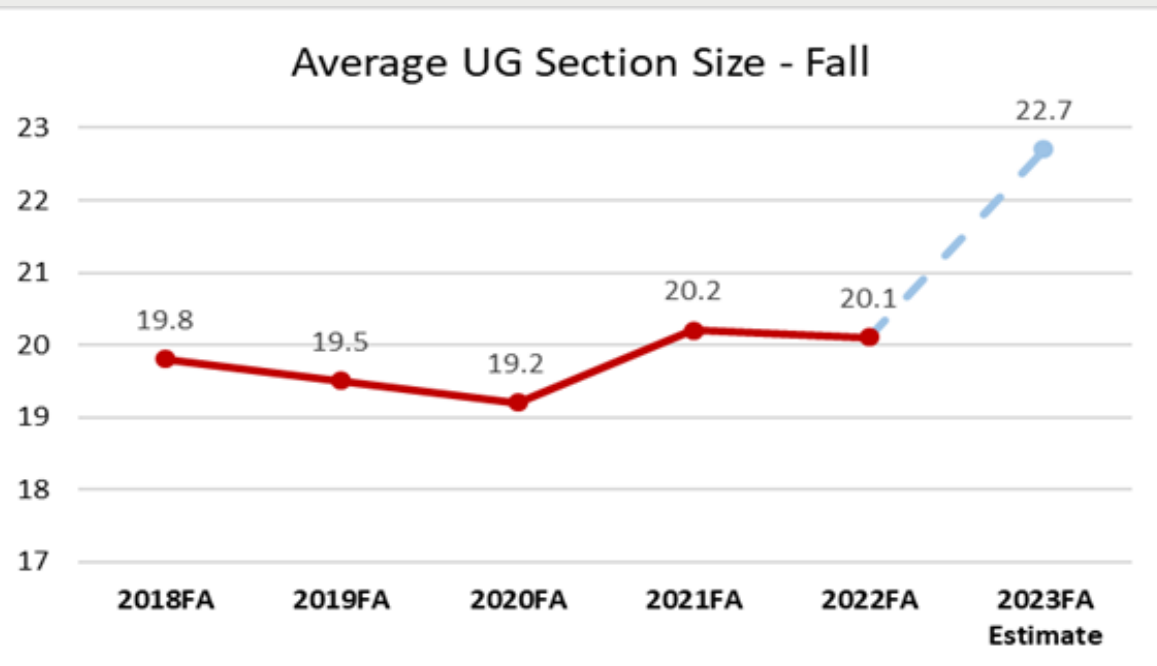


## Current

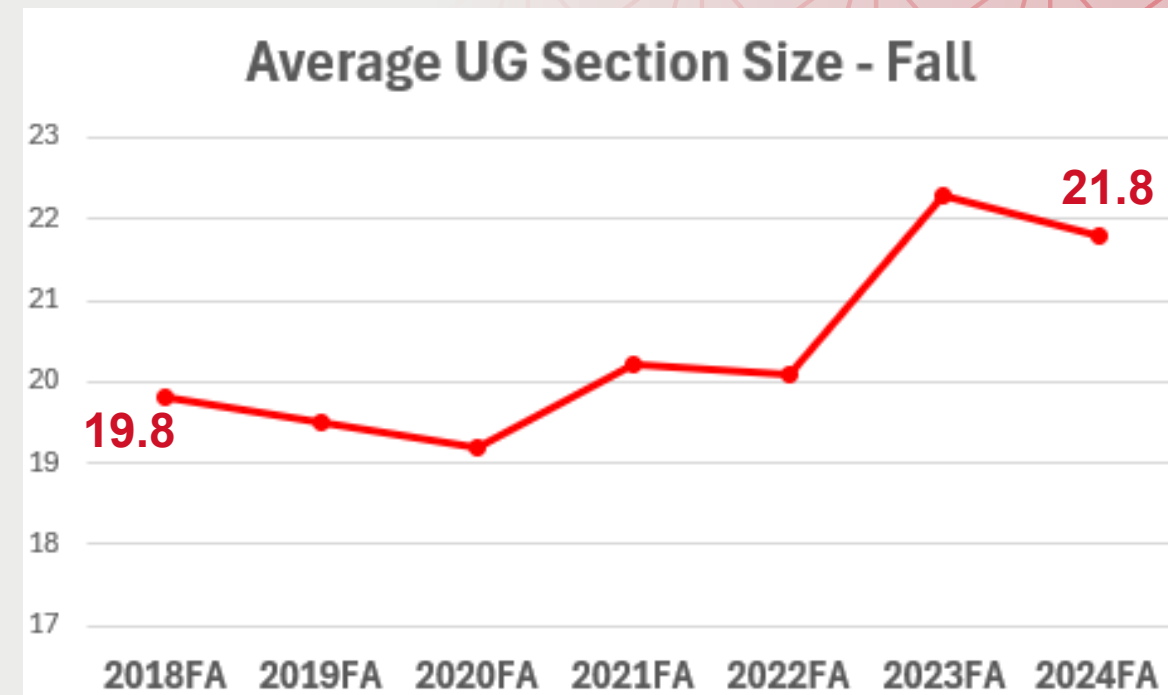


# Average Class Size

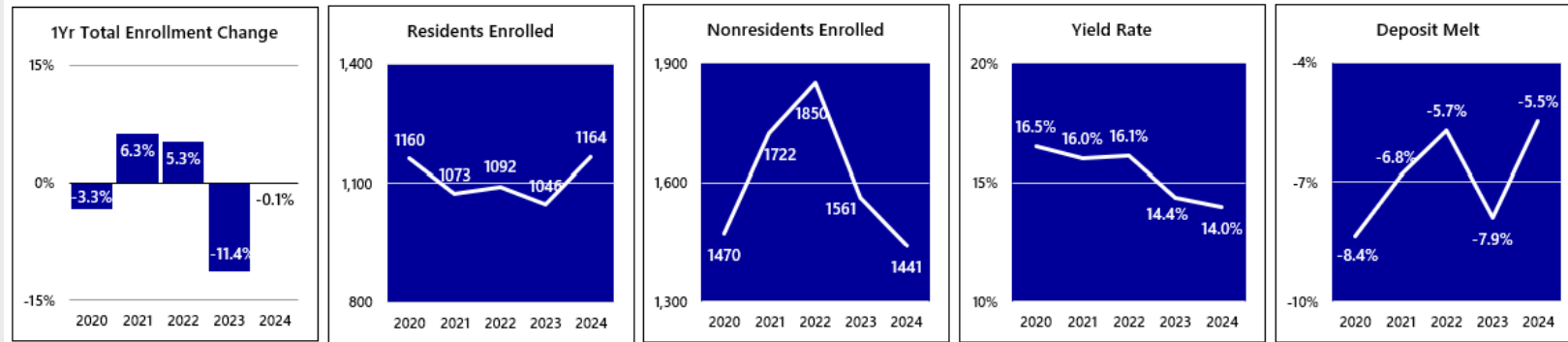
As presented in 2023



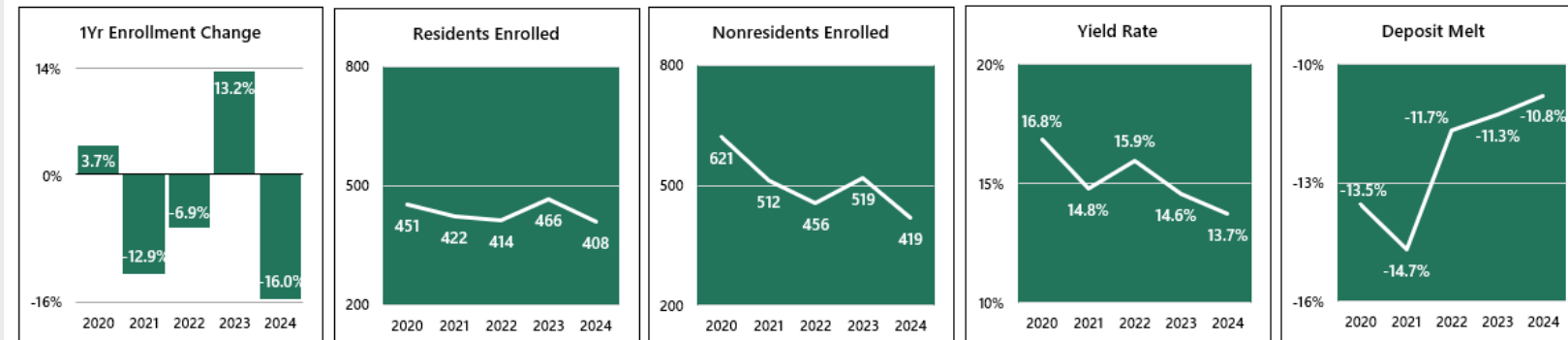
Current



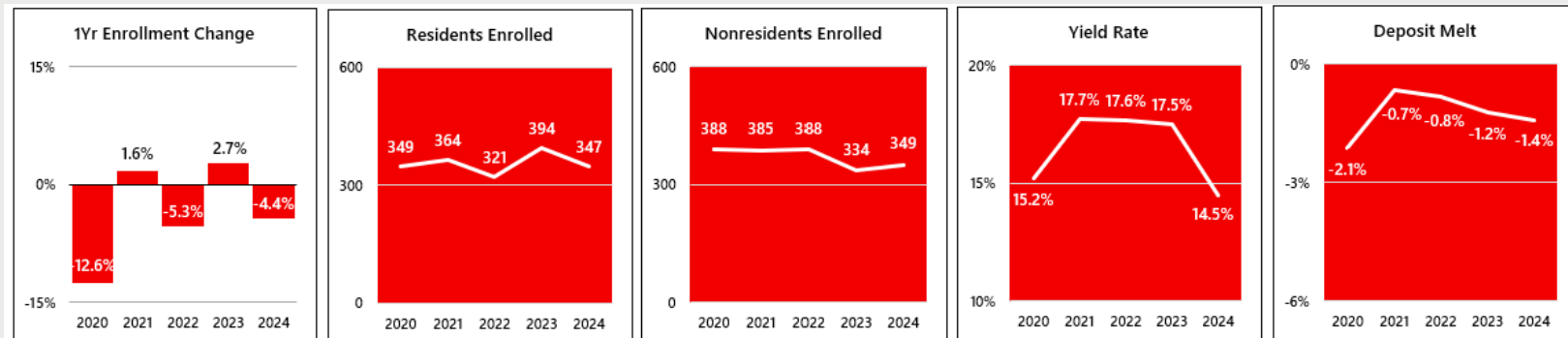
UNH



PSU



KSC



## Fall 2024 Enrollment Decisions: NH RESIDENT Admitted First-Year Applicants

## Competition\*

USNH and Top 10 Non-USNH Destinations	KSC Admits		Enrolled	
			#	% of Tot
KSC			347	19%
UNH			251	13%
PSU			145	8%
UNHM			15	1%
SNHU NH			87	5%
St Anselm NH			39	2%
Colby Sawyer NH			38	2%
NHTI NH			33	2%
FPU NH			26	1%
Merrimack MA			22	1%
USM ME			22	1%
Univ New Engl ME			21	1%
Endicott MA			20	1%
GBCC NH			20	1%
MCC NH			20	1%
Rivier NH			20	1%
URI RI			20	1%
Subtotal			799	43%
All other*			483	26%
No NSC record			240	13%
Total			1869	100%

\* 171 institutions

PSU Admits			Enrolled	
			#	% of Tot
PSU			408	19%
UNH			305	14%
KSC			130	6%
UNHM			17	1%
SNHU NH			89	4%
St Anselm NH			48	2%
NHTI NH			42	2%
Colby Sawyer NH			32	2%
FPU NH			29	1%
Univ New Engl ME			25	1%
MCC NH			24	1%
Rivier NH			21	1%
GBCC NH			20	1%
NEC NH			20	1%
Subtotal			802	38%
All other*			604	29%
No NSC record			302	14%
Total			2116	100%

\* 195 institutions

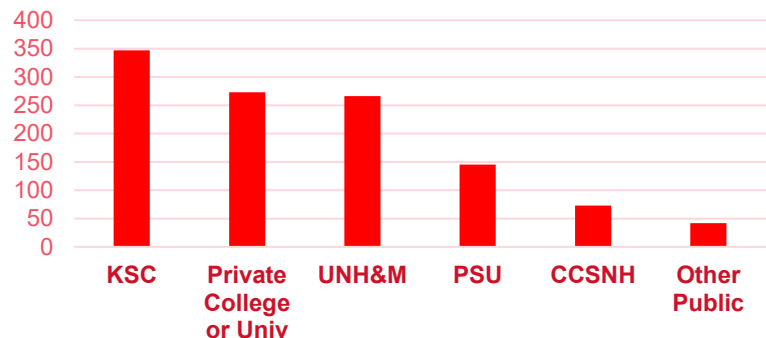
UNH Admits			Enrolled	
			#	% of Tot
UNH			1164	30%
PSU			107	3%
KSC			71	2%
UNHM			2	0%
St Anselm NH			79	2%
SNHU NH			70	2%
WPI MA			59	2%
UConn CT			55	1%
UVM VT			55	1%
URI RI			51	1%
Endicott MA			46	1%
Univ New Engl ME			45	1%
Northeastern MA			38	1%
Merrimack MA			37	1%
UMass Amhst MA			37	1%
Subtotal			752	20%
All other*			1489	39%
No NSC record			429	11%
Total			3834	100%

\* 321 institutions

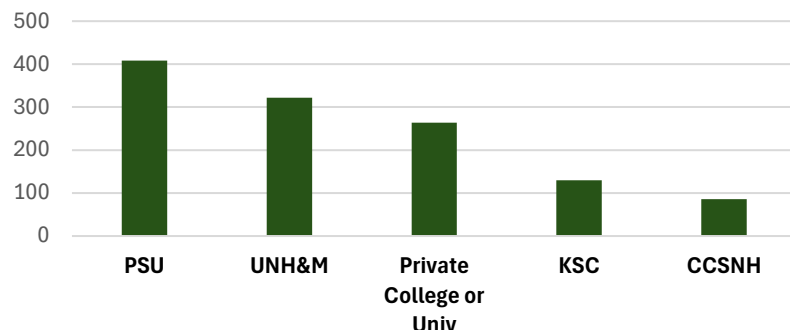
Enrollment at USNH admitting institution as reported by campus IR at fall R30/census (UNH Durham admits, UNHM enrolled includes CPSO). All other counts reflect record-level applicant data where applicant type is first-year and admissions decision is affirmative; total admit above may vary from R30 report. Non-USNH destination per National Student Clearinghouse. Analysis by USNH system office IR.

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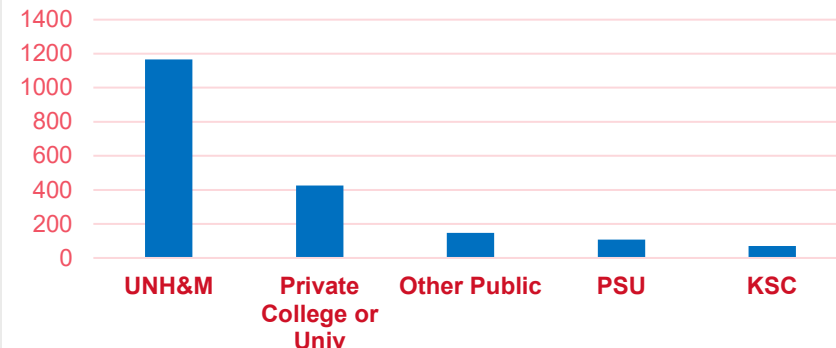
### Fall 2024 Enrollment Decisions NH Students who applied to KSC



### Fall 2024 Enrollment Decisions NH Students who applied to PSU



### Fall 2025 Enrollment Decisions NH Students who applied to UNH





## USNH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 27, 2025

### **Nomination Committee Report on Proposed Slate of Board Officers for GY2026**

#### **Nomination of Officers:**

As published to the Board on June 3, 2025 pursuant to Article III, Sections 3 and 4 of the Board Bylaws, the Nomination Committee has proposed the following slate of nominees for the indicated Board Officer positions for the coming governance year (GY2026):

**Chair:** Michael Pilot  
**Vice Chair:** Kassandra Ardinger  
**Secretary:** Kevin Knarr

#### **Nomination of Nomination Committee Members:**

The Nomination Committee has further proposed the following nominees for service on the Nomination Committee for the coming Governance year. (Per Board Bylaw Art. 5 section 3(g), the terms of trustees on the committee must have staggered expirations.)

**Nomination Committee Chair (two years):** Jamie Burnett  
**Nomination Committee Members (one year):** Gregg Tewksbury, Maureen Beauregard