

10-7-1980

Edwardsville Bulletin: October 7, 1980

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

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Recommended Citation

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, "Edwardsville Bulletin: October 7, 1980" (1980). *SIUE "Bulletin"*. 280.
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Edwardsville Bulletin

To the Faculty and Staff of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Vol. 12, No. 21
October 7, 1980

MEMO TO: The University Community
FROM: Earl Lazerson *E. Lazerson*
SUBJECT: Fall Quarter Enrollment, 1980

It is with a great sense of satisfaction that I report to you the achievement of one of our primary goals announced a year ago. An 8 percent increase in the number of new freshmen, transfer students, and graduate students attending the University this Fall and other encouraging developments have convinced me that we are reaching our objective of stabilizing enrollment.

The Office of Institutional Research and Studies had predicted that on-campus enrollment for Fall would be 9,033. In fact, on-campus enrollment, which includes the Alton and East St. Louis centers and resident centers at Greenville, Litchfield and Scott Air Force Base, is 9,832, while last year it was 9,790.

A substantial gain has been recorded in extension courses. Last year there were 163 enrolled and this year the Office of Continuing Education is projecting enrollment of 350 to 400 in extension courses. Approximately 175 of the gain is credited to the extension courses being offered at Mt. Vernon and Marion by the School of Nursing.

Thus, total enrollment this Fall, combining on-campus and extension programs, exceeds the goal of 10,000 we had hoped to reach.

Major increases are in the new freshman and transfer student categories. This year there are 1,303 new freshmen and 761 transfer students, compared with 1,223 new freshmen and 725 transfer students last Fall. New graduate students number 330 as compared to 274 last Fall.

The enrollment figures are especially gratifying because they reflect an earnest effort on the part of many dedicated people to accomplish the goal we set for ourselves a year ago. Now that we have reached that objective, I urge each and every member of the University community to accept with the same resolve a second but equally important goal: Let us work to retain the students who have come to us.

With student enrollment stabilizing, the University will be able to move ahead in both the scope and quality of its educational programs and research and public service activities. We have proved that we have the capability to respond to the problems that have adversely affected enrollments and programs in the past. Continuing to find solutions to these problems will enable the University to direct its emphasis toward scholastic achievement, providing a richer educational experience for all students, both on and off campus.