
Graduate College

Graduate Faculty Meeting 4-22-21

Presented by:
Cindy Forehand
Dean of the Graduate College
University of Vermont Graduate College

Agenda

- Welcome
- Approval of the November 12, 2020 Minutes
- Dean's Report – Cindy Forehand
 - Commencement
 - Postdoctoral associates/fellows
 - Pandemic response update
- Student and faculty resources – Becky Prigge
- Academic Reorganization - David Jenemann
- Admissions Report – Kimberly Hess
- Activities of the Graduate Executive Committee – Cindy Forehand
- New business
- Adjourn

Dean's Report

- Commencement - Streamed live
 - 5:30-6:30 pm Thursday May 20,2021 – Athletic Fields
 - Masking, distancing, and other health and safety protocols; all grads and staff/faculty supporting program must test for Covid 2 days before the ceremony
 - In Person – in regalia, processional, walk across stage (alphabetical), pick up diploma cover, photo; no hooding
 - Virtual – photo with name and program displayed on screen
 - NameCoach – partner gathering RSVPs and reading names- FIRM deadline of April 28th to participate in person or virtual
 - 2 ticketed, vaccinated guests allowed per grad
 - Faculty attendance only as one of these guests – not in regalia or processional

Dean's Report

- Postdoctoral associates/fellows – now one class with equal benefits
 - Research grants support Associates' benefits through fringe rate (now ~31.5%) included in budget
 - Fellows' benefits paid by the college/school of their advisor
 - Key benefits added for fellows in this process
 - Pay their contribution to health insurance with pre-tax dollars
 - Dental insurance
 - Voluntary participation in the retirement savings plans (no UVM contribution)
 - Long-term and short-term disability coverage
 - Life insurance available
 - Tuition remission for full-time postdocs (not family)
 - Retiree Health Savings Plan (RHSP)—with UVM contribution
- Pandemic response update

Dean's Report

- Pandemic response update
 - https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/UVM-Policies/policies/travel_addendum.pdf
 - <https://www.uvm.edu/ovpr/covid-19-guidelines-research>
 - Summer required testing and exemptions currently being worked out
 - Currently – any student coming to campus tests twice weekly unless fully vaccinated and then it is once weekly





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Student and Faculty Support Resources

Presented by

Rebecca "Becky" Prigge, M.Ed.

International Student Services

General Student Support, Student/Faculty Liaison

Identifying and Supporting Students of Concern

How to identify a student of concern:

- Expressing thoughts of self-harm or harming others
- Missing classes/research hours
- Unresponsive to program outreach
- Change in personality (withdrawn, irritable, sad, excessively tired)
- Change in appearance
- Extreme/uncontrolled emotions in interactions



Resources for Supporting Students of Concern

- Emergency – 911, [First Call](#) (24/7), [Crisis Text Line](#) (Text “VT” to 741741)
- [UVM Police Services](#)
- [CARE form](#)
- [Bias Response/AAEO](#) – sexual & harassment, discrimination based on protected categories
- The Center for Health and Wellbeing:
 - [SHS](#) – primary care, mental health management, sexual health, transgender care
 - [CAPS](#) – short-term counseling, psychiatry, same-day urgent appointments, referrals off-campus, support groups
 - [Living Well](#) – Let’s Talk Drop-In Hour, yoga, meditation, sexual health



Resources for Supporting Students of Concern, continued

- [Ombudsperson](#) – general issues in graduate education
- Student Identity Groups – [Mosaic Center](#), [Prism Center](#), [Interfaith Center](#)
- Graduate College Student Services – student outreach, connection with on-campus and off-campus resources, liaison between student and program, advising on options for enrollment changes (LOA, Withdrawal, Medical Withdrawal, Incomplete)

Becky Prigge

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Resources for Faculty

- [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) – 24/7
 - Family
 - Mental Health
 - Legal/Financial
 - Workplace
 - Health



Graduate College

University Reorganization – David Jenemann

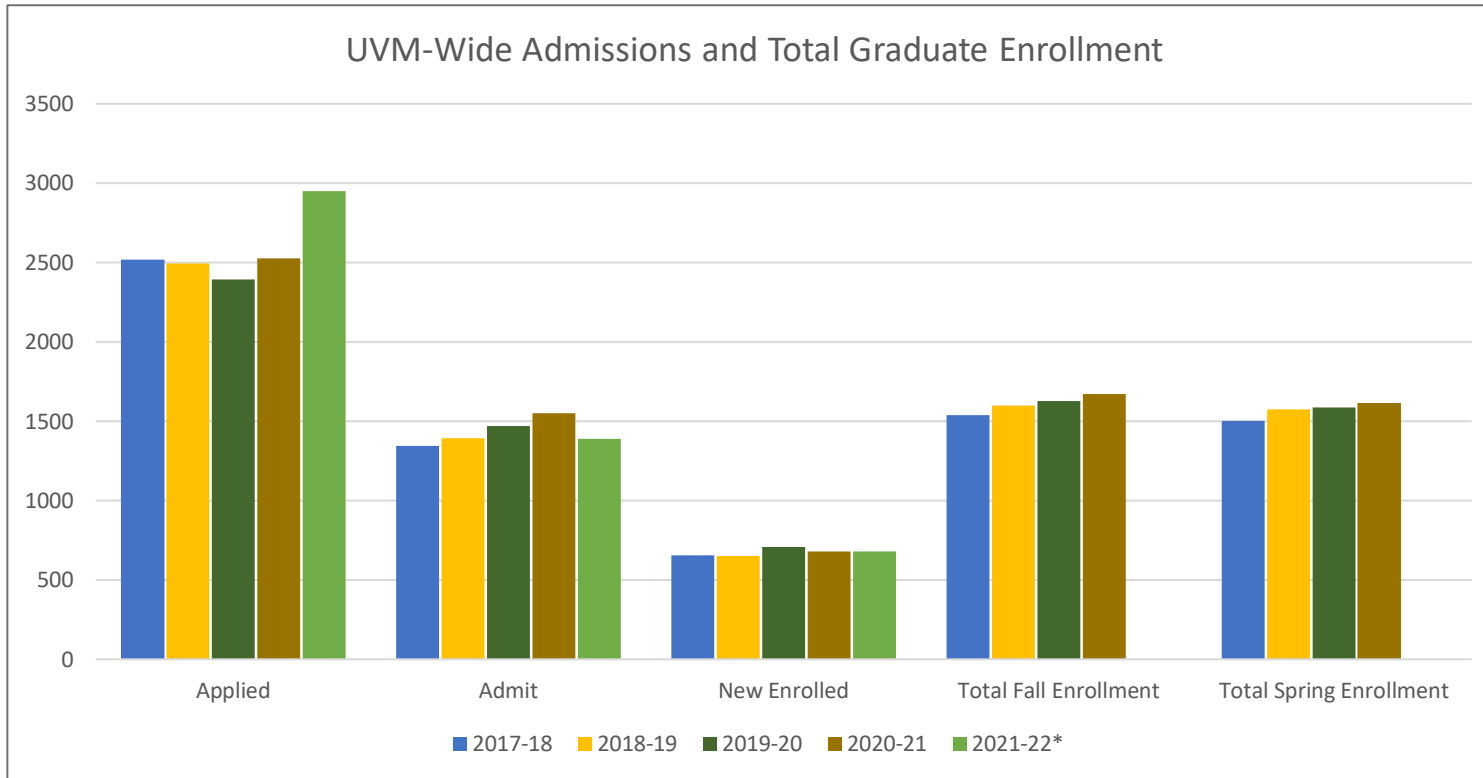


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Admissions & Enrollment Management Update Spring 2021

Presented by
Kimberly L. Hess, M.S.
Director of Graduate Admissions & Enrollment Management
University of Vermont Graduate College

Graduate Admissions and Enrollment AY Comparison



As compared to AY 19-20, for AY 20-21 this represents:

6% Increase in Applications

5% Increase in # Admitted

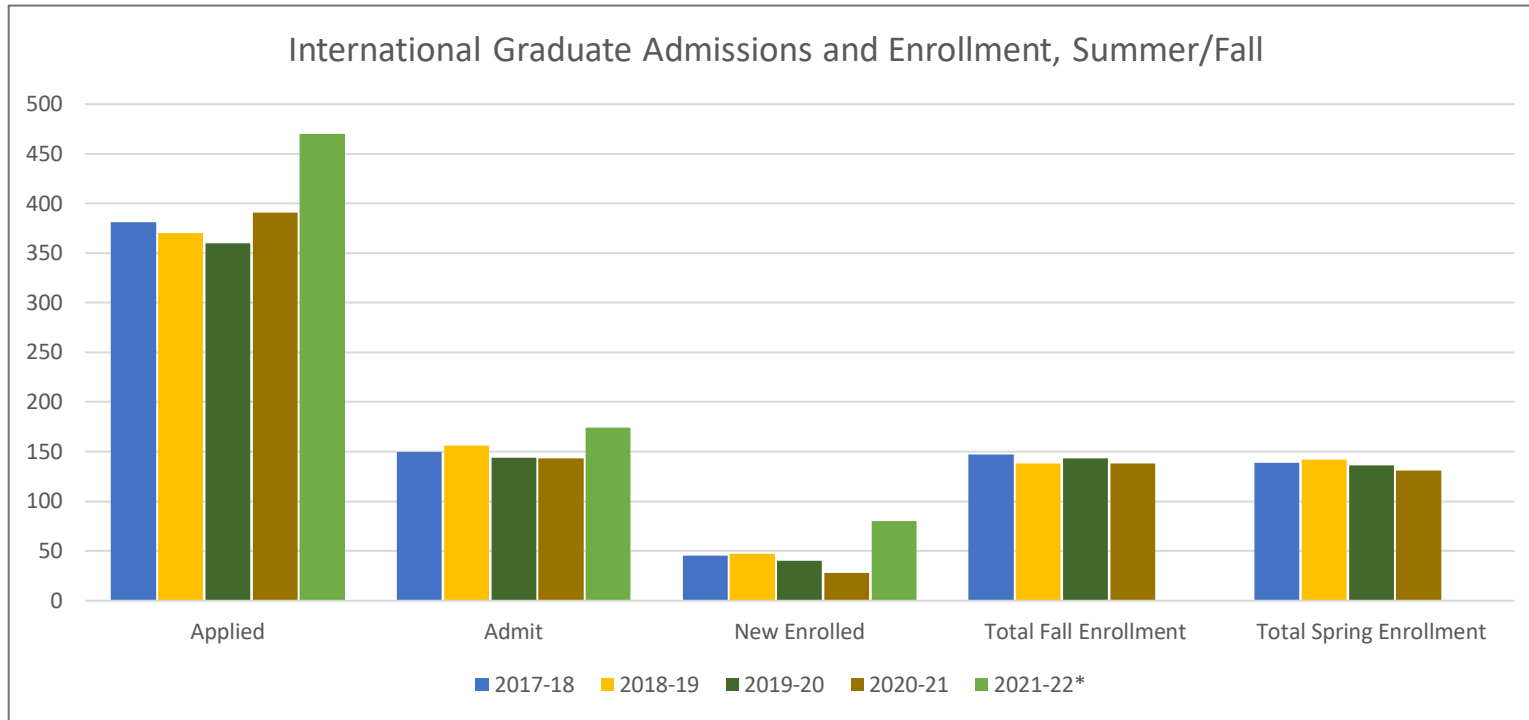
4% Decrease in New Enrollment

No change in Admit Rate

4% point lower Yield Rate

*2021-22 values are for admissions cycle in progress: applications are still arriving, not all programs have made admit decisions, nor all students made enrollment decisions. New enrollment is based on applicant responses. Typically 8% of positive responses do not go on to enroll in that term.

International Graduate Admissions and Enrollment AY Comparison



As compared to AY 19-20, for AY 20-21 this represents:

9% Increase in Applications

1% Decrease in # Admitted

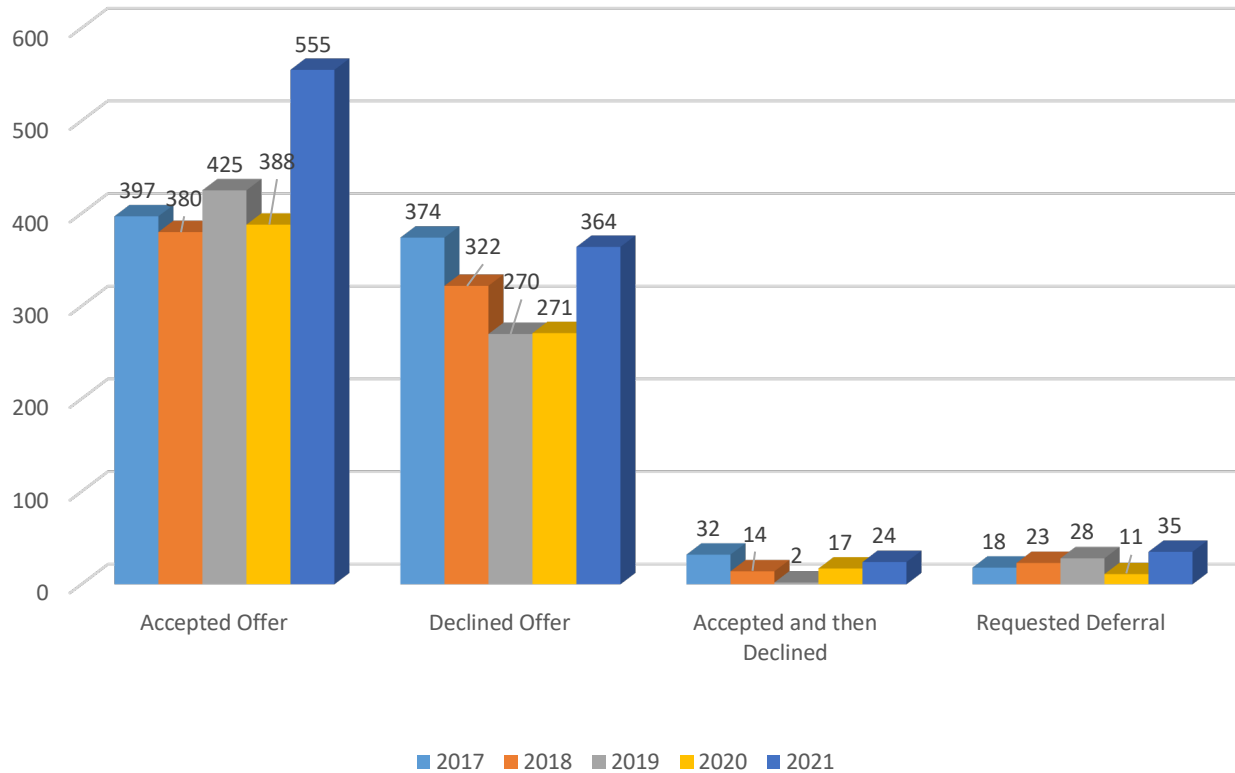
30% Decrease in New Enrollment

3% point lower Admit Rate

8% point lower Yield Rate

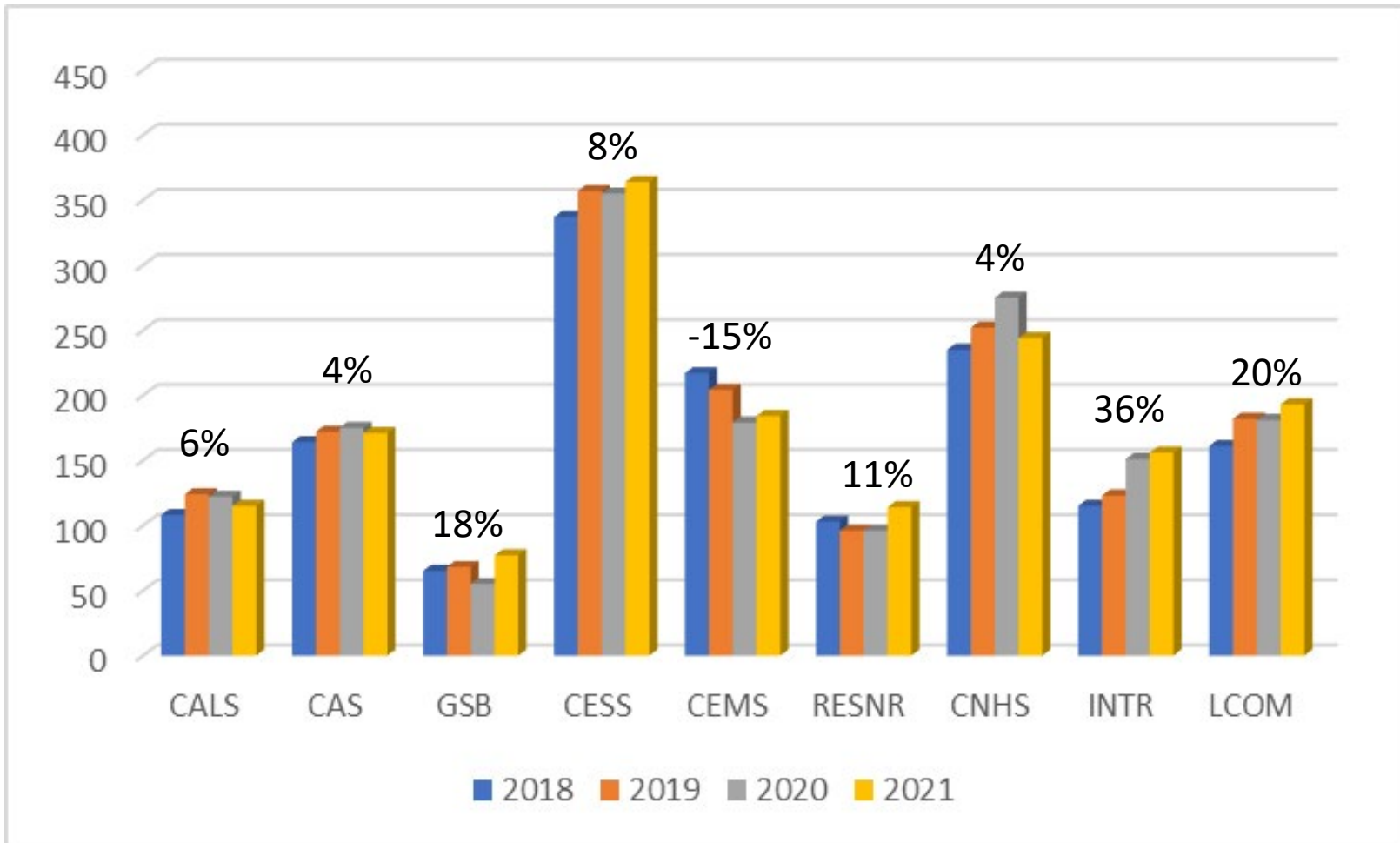
*2021-22 values are for admissions cycle in progress: New enrollment is based on applicant responses & includes those scheduled to come after deferring in prior year. Last year 45% of positive int'l responses did not enroll in that term. In 2019 this figure was 37%.

Summer/Fall Student Responses to Admission Comparison 2017-2021



All data as of April 15th of the corresponding year

Spring 4 Year Enrollment Comparison By College



Graduate Executive Committee Actions

Meetings

- 10 meetings subsequent to last Graduate Faculty meeting

Reviewed

- 27 new or significant change course proposals
- 80 minimal change, deactivation delete course proposals
- 13 graduate faculty applicants

Reviewed applications/nominations for student awards

- Rodney L. Parsons Anatomy and Neurobiology Award
- Thomas J. Votta Scholarship
- Roberto Fialho Award
- GTA of the Year Awards
- Thesis and Dissertation of the Year Awards

Graduate Executive Committee Actions

Approved

- Certificate of Graduate Study for Resiliency-Based Approaches to Families, Schools, and Communities
- Deactivation of MS in Athletic Training
- Name change for the M. Ed. in Educational Leadership to the M. Ed. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
- Certificate of Graduate Study in Education for Sustainability – provisional
- Micro-certificate of Graduate Study in Agroecology
- Deactivation of MS in Engineering Management
- AMP in Community Development and Applied Economics

Graduate Executive Committee Actions

Other

- Grade changes no longer require an explanatory note, but Incomplete grades still do
- Reorganization...
- Reappointment to the Graduate Faculty – down to 26 faculty who have not responded

Graduate Executive Committee Actions

Other

- FY 22 Stipends: Set goal to bring the overall average stipend level to the 50th percentile relative to the OSU schools database (30 R1 and 18 R2 public institutions)
 - At absolute value, our (FY20) stipend average was at the 69th percentile with disciplinary range from 50th to 79th percentile
 - With correction for high cost of living (housing!) the stipend average is only 45th percentile with disciplinary ranges from 32nd -54th percentile
 - Relatively small increases required to move the percentile rank but moving target since others change as well
 - Exploring setting minimum FY 23 doctoral stipend at Living Wage for Chittenden county
- **New Business**
- **Adjourn**