

## Southern Illinois University Edwardsville University Congress Session I Recap

### 1. Should SIUE continue to grow enrollment while operating with fewer state resources?

The reasons for continuing to grow enrollment are:

- Meets the mission to serve the people of Illinois
- Enhances reputation, visibility, and prestige
- Enhances political leverage and advantage
- Increases income fund revenue
- Increases revenue for fee units

The reasons for not continuing to grow enrollment are:

- Lack of supporting resources for direct and indirect instruction
- Lack of space and capacity
- Lack of sufficient infrastructure
- Increase costs
- Impact on class size
- Impact on quality

Options for Action:

1. No growth
  - Allows SIUE to be more selective in admissions, which would help retention and graduation rates
  - Enhances SIUE's reputation by being selective in admissions
2. Selected growth
  - Grow online, especially grad programs
  - Grow the number of international students (higher tuition rates)
  - Grow through increase retention
  - Grow only selected programs
  - Grow only selected populations, e.g. Hispanic students, non-traditional students, Bosnians, etc.
  - Do not lower admission standards or target under-prepared students
3. General Growth
  - Pursue all students in all academic areas and levels
  - Pursue students on multiple fronts (program, grad, online)

**STRATEGIC CONCLUSION: SIUE should continue to grow enrollment**

CONSIDERATIONS AND STRATEGIES (Note: Some of these items may be contradictory. Additionally, the listing of strategies does not constitute endorsement or agreement--only acknowledgement that they were suggested.)

- Grow selectively in terms of specific programs and/or specific populations
- Examine infrastructure and instructional staffing required to support growth
- Short term strategies
  - Better scheduling of classroom space
  - Change curriculum and course caps
  - Reward faculty who opt for higher teaching load (e.g., 4 course load)
- Develop new programs in areas of demand and need
- Expand online programs
- Expand Winter and May term sessions

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Update and expand the SIUE capacity study in order to better understand the University's fixed costs and the net revenue gained by increasing enrollment across programs. The goal of this study is to analyze space and staffing constraints as well as the net revenues that programs generate. Work on this study will begin by February 15.
2. Develop a plan for the growth of online programs. The goal of this plan is to identify a small number of online programs that would be appropriate for SIUE and attract new student populations while leveraging existing strengths. The plan should identify constraints associated with our existing infrastructure and current faculty resources. An ad-hoc committee that engages faculty, enrollment management, marketing, ITS and the Office of the Provost will be formed by March 7.