

As Each Week of Registration Passes, The Concentration of Non-returning Students Increases in the Pool of Not-Yet-Registered Students

Nathan Dickmeyer
Professor Jeffrey Weintraub
Institutional Research & Assessment
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Before registration begins in the next Spring semester, we know 30% of current degree students who could have earned fewer than 60 credits will not return. As registration continues, the pool of not-yet-registered students becomes smaller and more concentrated with non-returning students. By the 16th week of registration 98% of not-yet-registered students will not be returning.

As shown in Figure 1, beginning in the 10th week (end of 9th week), an outreach program to not-yet-registered students has more than a 50% chance of targeting a student who is on a non-return track. Also the size of the pool will have decreased from 14,566 to 7,720 (see Table 1).

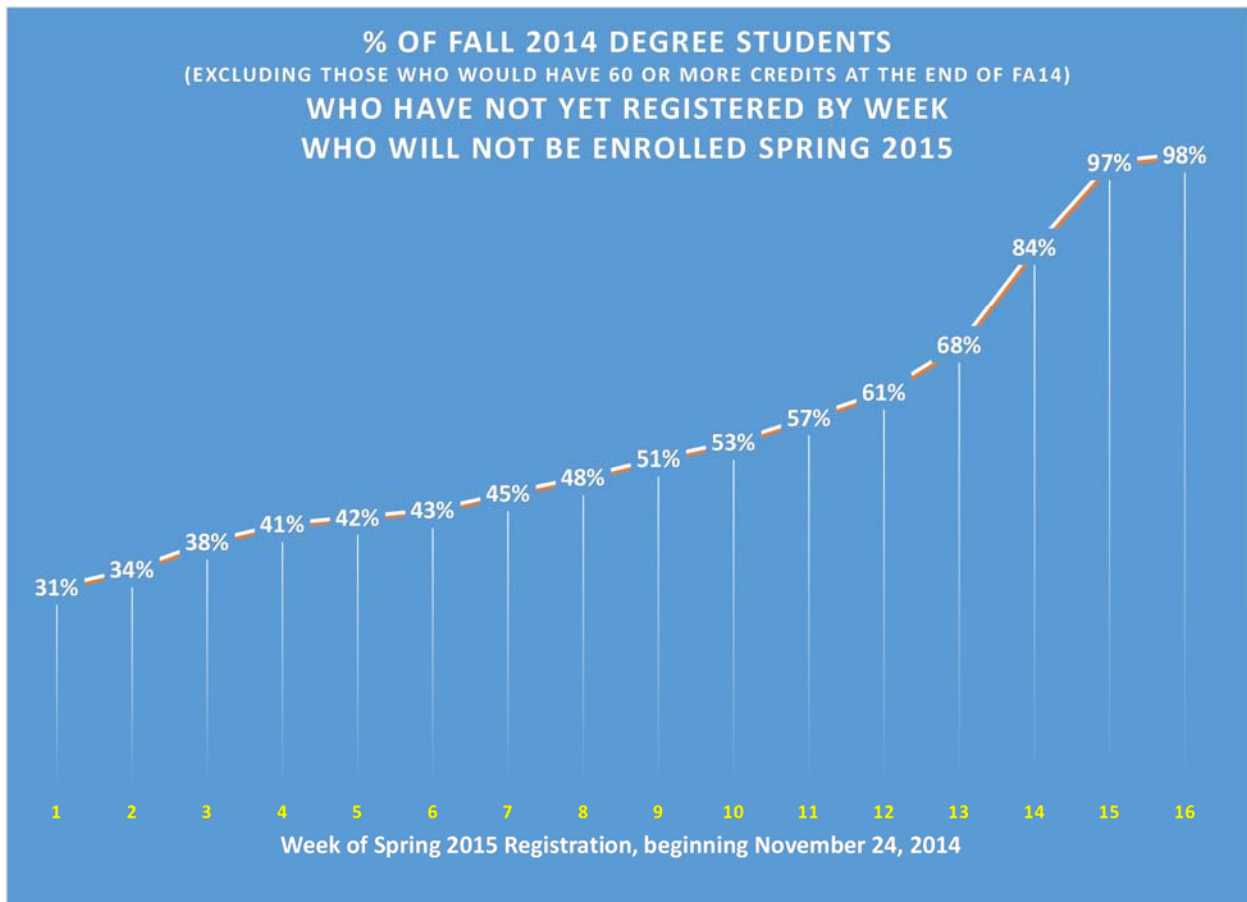


Figure 1

Week of Spring 15 Registration-First Monday 11-24-14	% Not Registered Who Will Not Return	# Not Registered Who Will Not Return	# Not Registered Who Will Return	Total Not Registered Pool
1	31%	4,491	10,075	14,566
2	34%	4,385	8,688	13,073
3	38%	4,241	6,977	11,218
4	41%	4,143	6,070	10,213
5	42%	4,104	5,751	9,855
6	43%	4,072	5,455	9,527
7	45%	4,009	4,830	8,839
8	48%	3,959	4,316	8,275
9	51%	3,915	3,805	7,720
10	53%	3,861	3,398	7,259
11	57%	3,812	2,877	6,689
12	61%	3,751	2,402	6,153
13	68%	3,685	1,714	5,399
14	84%	3,531	697	4,228
15	97%	3,435	119	3,554
16	98%	3,421	76	3,497

Table 1

The changes by week in Table 1 are shown graphically in Figure 2. Note that 76 not-yet-registered students after 16 weeks of registration later registered and were counted as returned. These students could have registered later for session II only.

Table 2 explains why the number of not-yet-registered students decreases from 4,491 to 3,421. These 1,070 students (plus the 28 who registered in week 1, giving the 1098 shown in Table 2) are students who register (taking them out of the “not-yet-registered” group) but then do not return. Some of these students dropped all courses, while others may have simply not returned without officially dropping their registered courses.

Table 2 also shows the increasing likelihood that a student registering later will not return. Still, even the last registering group has approximately the same return rate (33%) as the beginning 100% not-yet-registered group (30%).

We also investigated whether looking at only those who had been attending in the not-yet-registered group helped isolate non-returning students. That is, we excluded students who had not yet registered in any week who also had not attended any class in the last two weeks. Excluding absent students, however, decreased our accuracy of prediction because more 14-day-absent students returned than did not return. We thus excluded many of the wrong students.

Findings

- Beginning in the 10th week of registration for Spring 2015, more than half of the not-yet-registered students do not return (excluding students who, if they pass all Fall 2014 courses, will have earned 60 or more credits).
- Beginning in the 10th week of registration for Spring 2015, the pool of not-yet-registered less than 60 credit students declines from 7,720 to 3,497.
- 10% of students who registered for Spring 2015 do not return—do not attend any classes in Spring 2015. Later weeks of registration have higher concentrations of non-returning students who register.
- Excluding two-weeks-absent students decreases the percentage of students who will not return in the not-yet-registered pool.

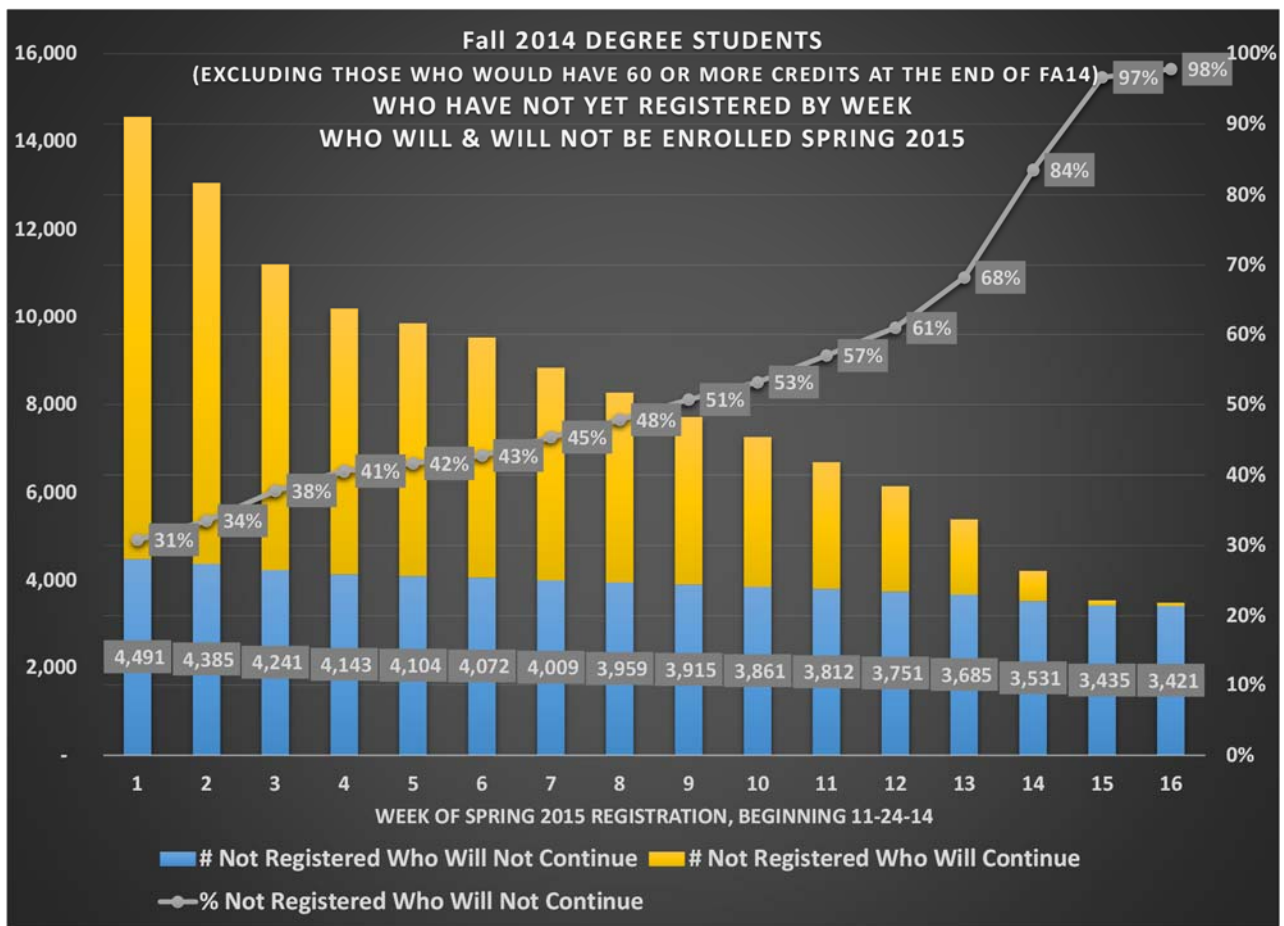


Figure 2

Week of Spring 15 Registration-First Monday 11-24-14	Registered This Week but Do Not Return	Registered This Week and Return	% of Registered This Week Who Do Not Return
1	28	528	5%
2	106	1,387	8%
3	144	1,711	8%
4	98	907	11%
5	39	319	12%
6	32	296	11%
7	63	625	10%
8	50	514	10%
9	44	511	9%
10	54	407	13%
11	49	521	9%
12	61	475	13%
13	66	688	10%
14	154	1,017	15%
15	96	578	17%
16	14	43	33%
Totals	1,098	10,527	10%

Table 2