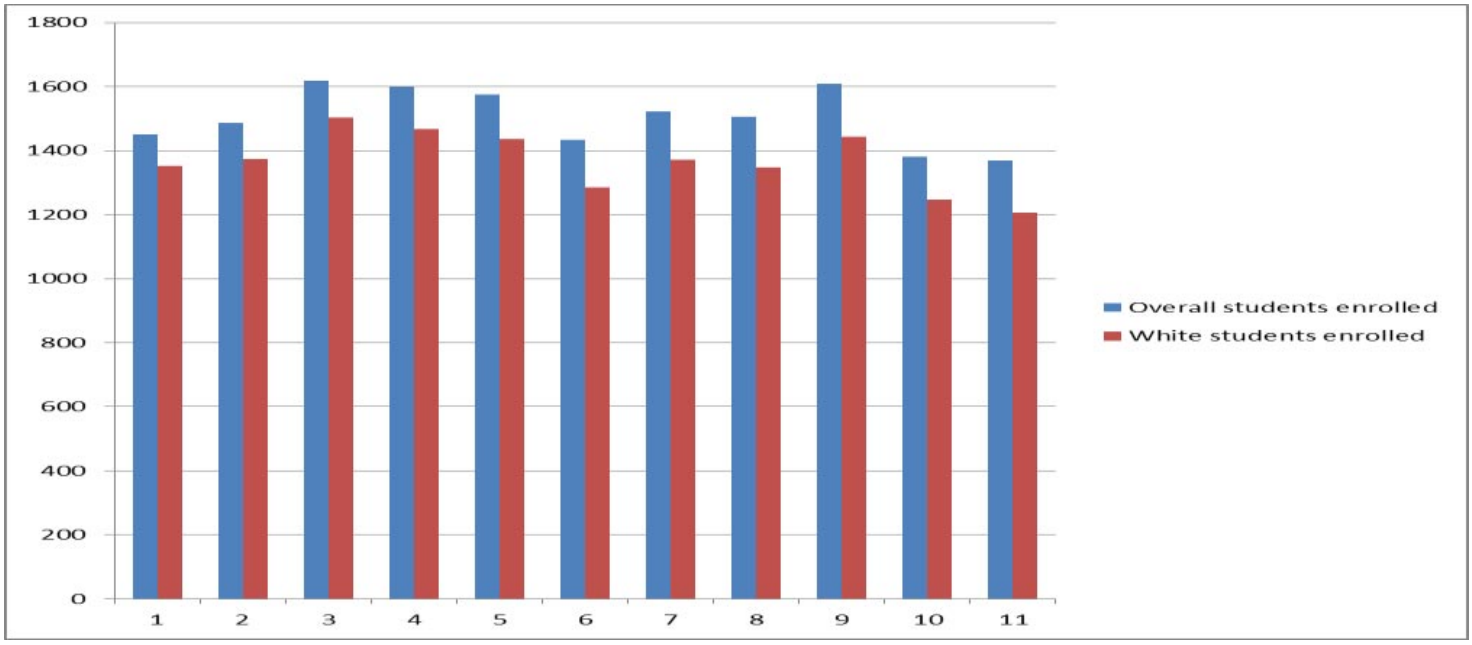
Posted by gavazzi.1
Created on April 6, 2012 at 10:36am - Last updated April 6, 2012 at 11:07am

Dear Ohio State Mansfield Colleagues,

I begin my report with the recognition that three major committees – APT (Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure), POA (Pattern of Administration), and CIP (Campus Implementation Plan) – are reaching the final stages of preparing documents that soon will be shared with the entire campus community. I am extremely proud (and relieved!) to say that we are on target to hit all of our deadlines.

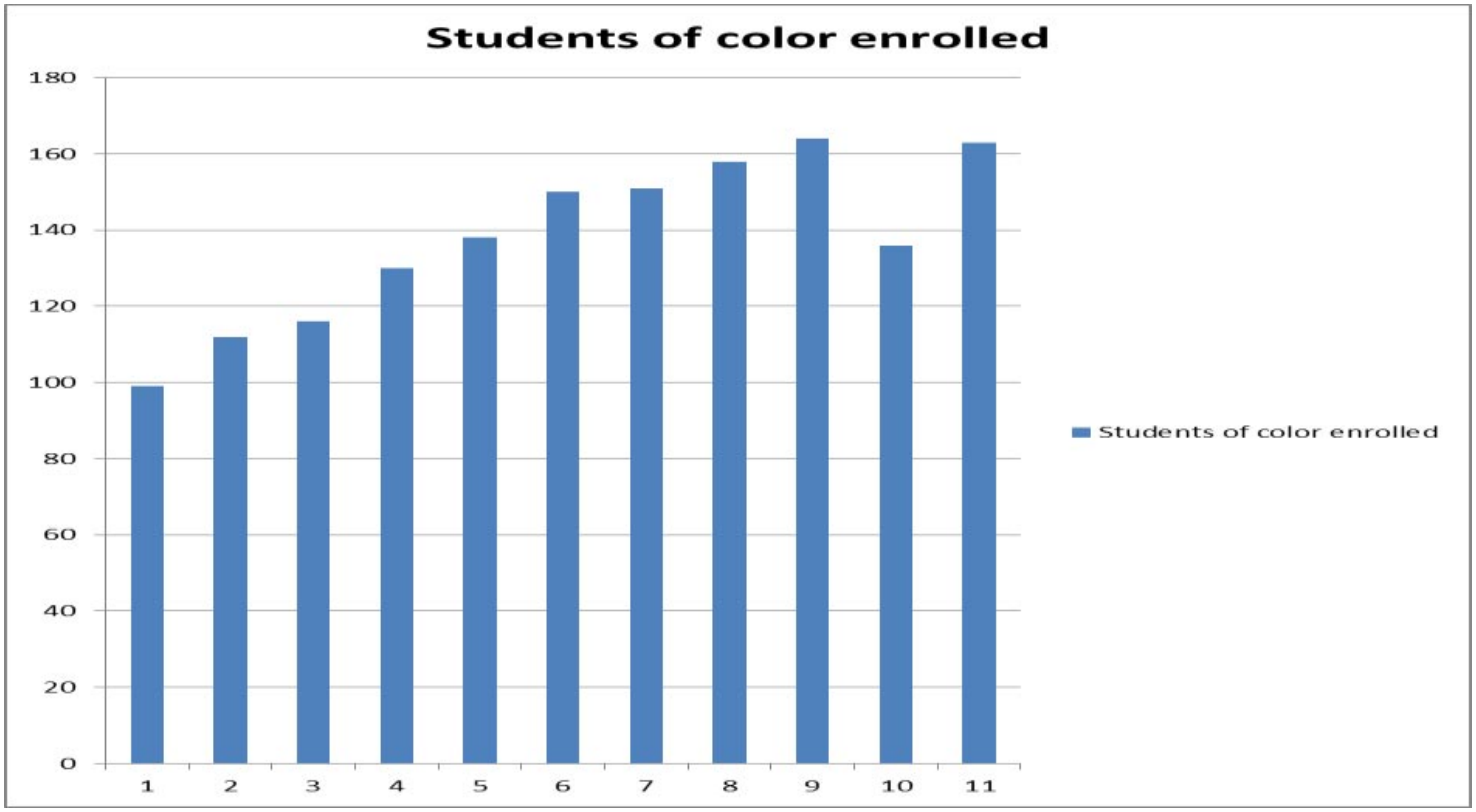
Because these three documents are going to drive conversations about where we are going as a campus, I thought it might behoove us to remember where we have been. Therefore, this is the first in a series of special biweekly reports that helps us to “look back” as we “look forward.” This particular special report is meant to supply the campus with some food for thought regarding our enrollment and graduation trends over the last decade.



The first graph that you see above depicts the fact that our overall enrollment last year (n = 1,368) reflects a 6% decline from 10 years ago (n = 1,451). In fact, last year was the lowest enrollment of the decade; our best two years were 2003 (n = 1619) and 2009 (n = 1,608), years that represent approximately 15% more students in comparison to last year’s enrollment. The core question that I would like our campus to ponder is this: what factors are contributing to this

decline?

Interestingly, when we look at race/ethnicity, we see that the number of white students has tended to reflect the overall increases and declines in enrollment over the decade. In stark contrast, however, the number of students of color has grown appreciably from ten years ago (n = 99) to last year (n = 163), or about a 40% jump in enrollment.



What about our campus change numbers? It is clear that we increasingly have served as the “front door” for students who are interested in completing their education on the Columbus campus. The numbers from a decade ago (n = 136) as compared to last year (n = 251) reflects close to a 50% increase in the number of students we are supplying with a first year experience.

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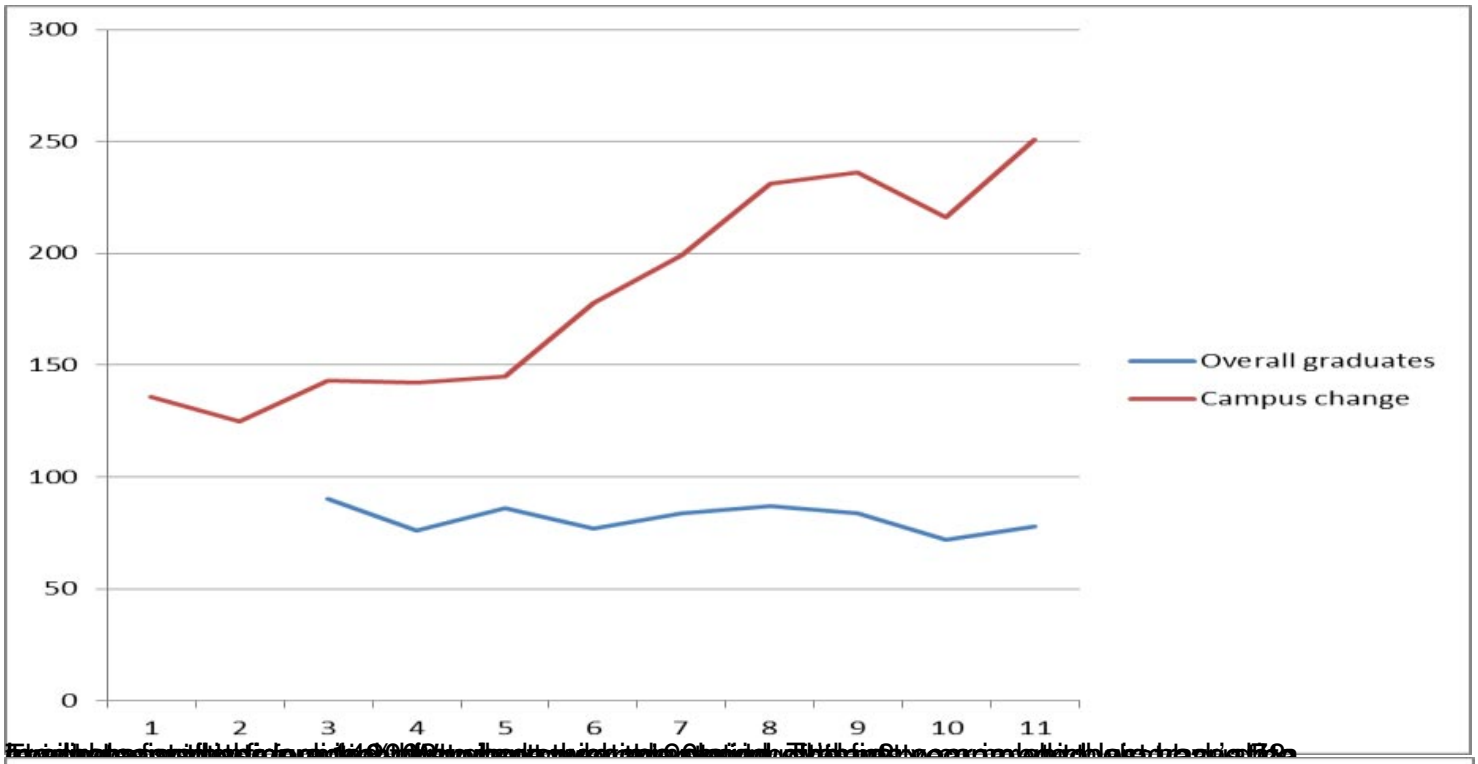

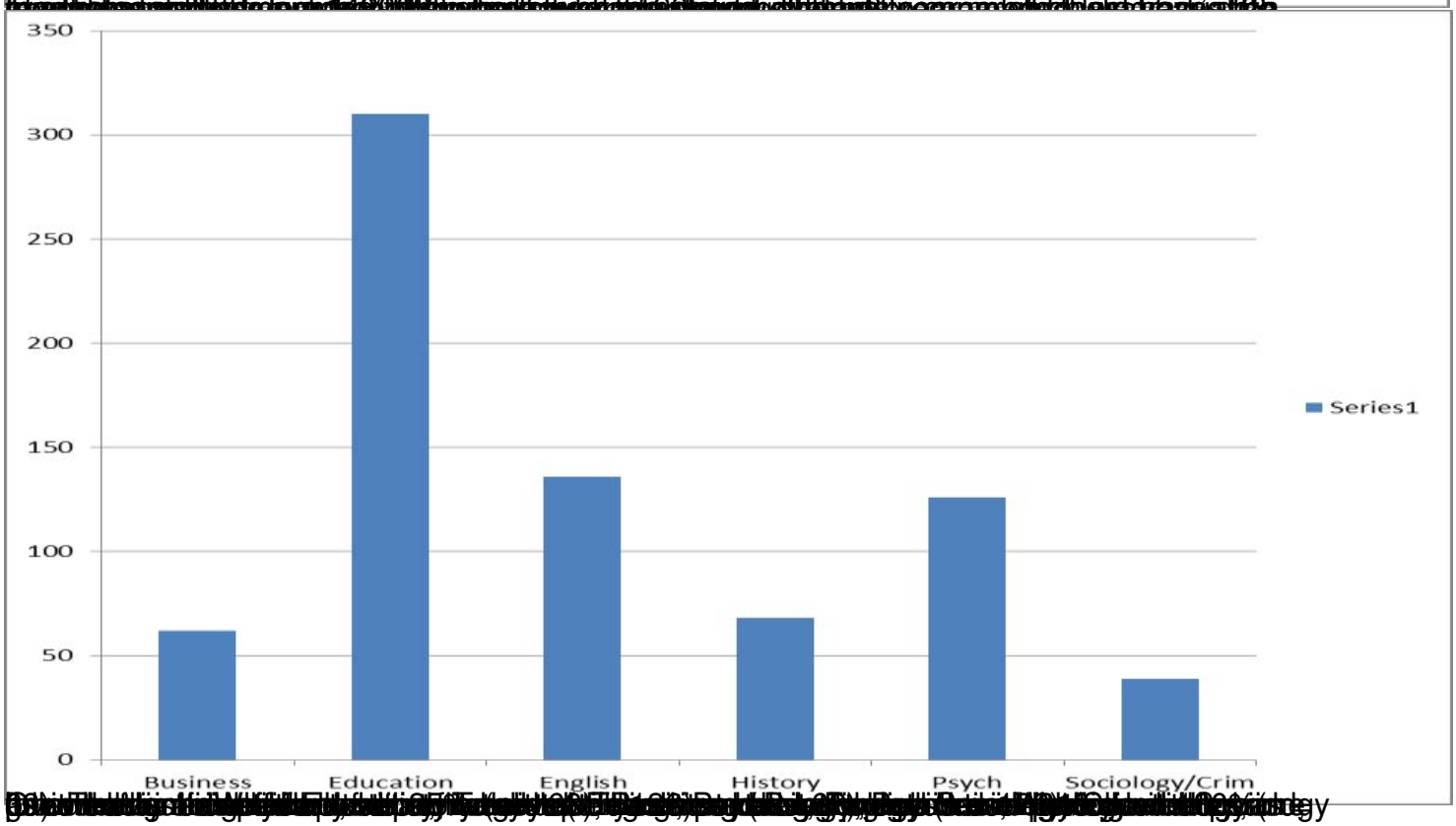

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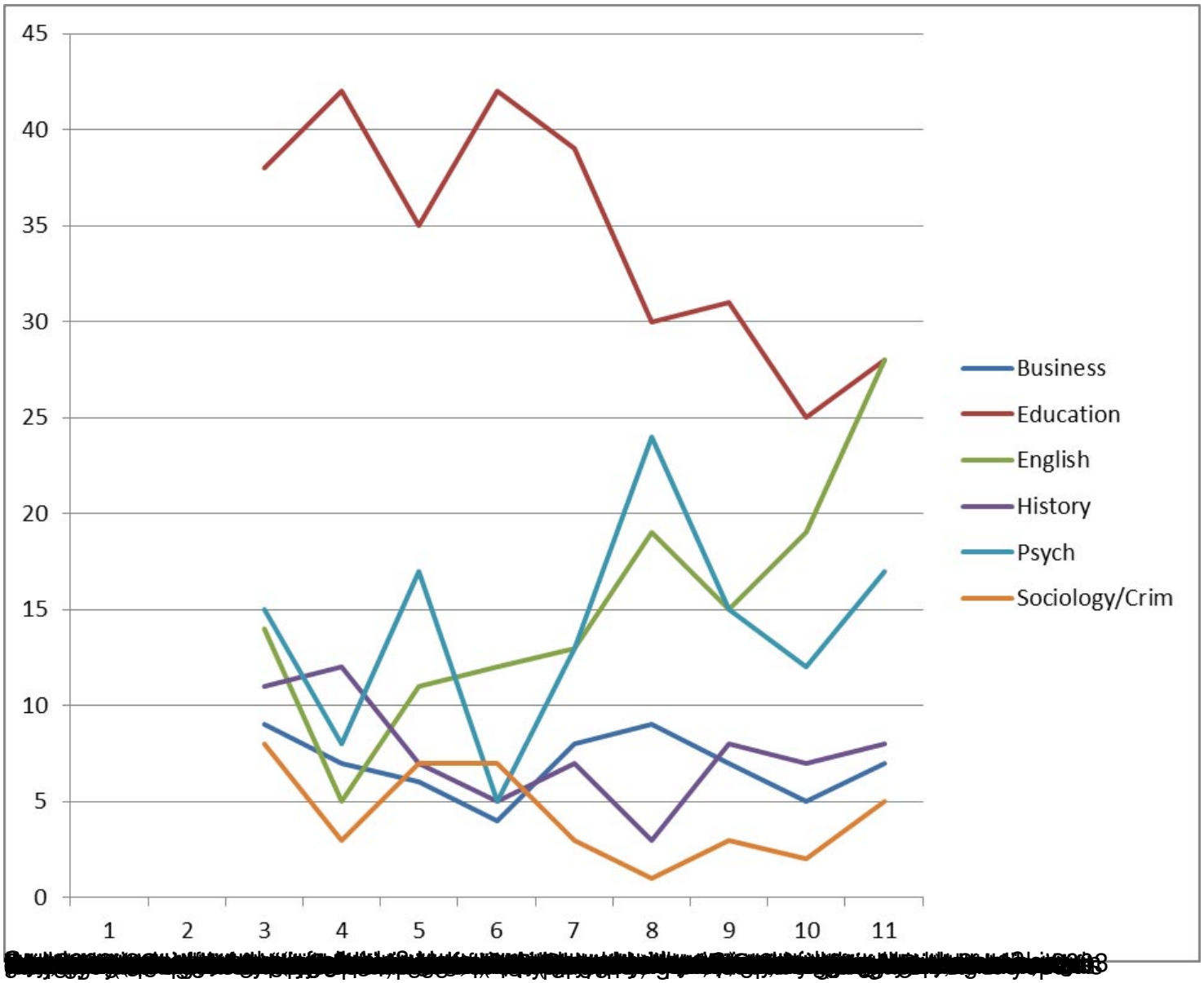
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