Enrollment and Academic Finance

An offering of Higher Ed 101

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The College of New Jersey
February 17, 18, 20, 2020





Presentation

- I. Premises and Trends
- **II.** Enrollment Finance
- **III.** Academic Finance
- IV. The Road Ahead

Enrollment = Revenue.

Enrollment Revenues tuition & fees, room & board

(66%)

State **Appropriation** (24%)

Gifts, Grants (10%)

Enrollment drives college financial health.

Academic choices are also key to college finance.

1. Class Size vs. capacity

2. Mix of tenure-track vs. adjunct faculty

5. Level and type of academic supports

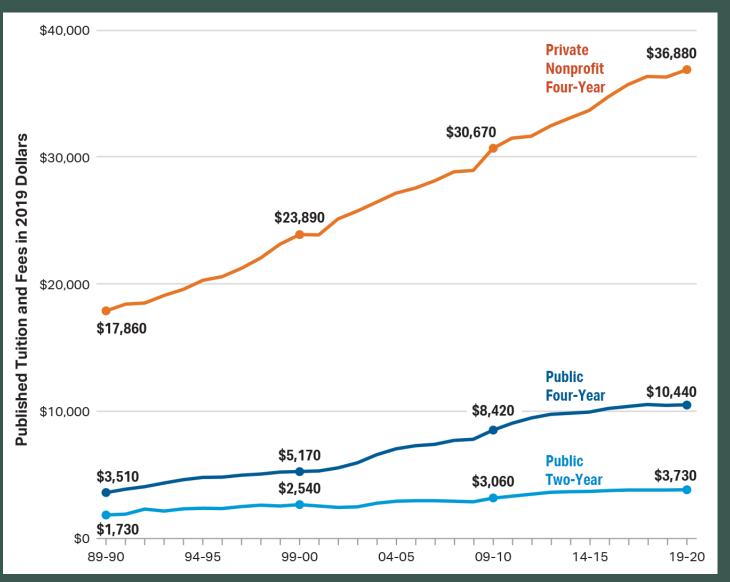
3. No. credit hours/units delivered

4. Mode of Delivery

Private four-year colleges have higher tuition and fees than publics...

Average Annual Published Tuition and Fees

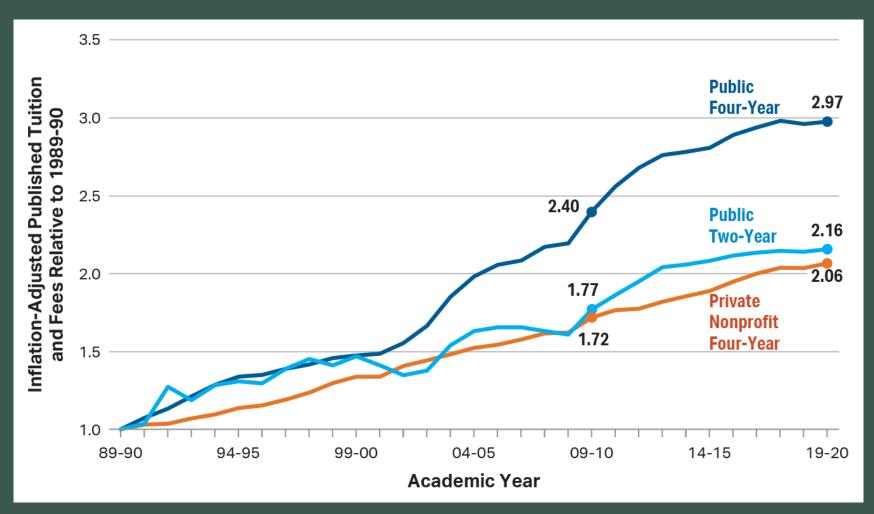
by sector, 1989-90 to 2019-20



Source: The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2019

...but public four-year tuition and fees are rising faster than those at privates or two-year colleges.

Inflation-Adjusted
Published Tuition and Fees
relative to 1989-90,
1989-90 to 2019-20



There are a declining number of traditional-age students in the pipeline.

Forbes, May 2019

US News, May 2019

Forbes,
December 2019

College Enrollment, Spring
2019: The Downward Slide
Continues





OME / NEWS / EDUCATION NEWS

Nationwide College Enrollment Is Down Aç

Post-secondary enrollment fell 1.7% from last year, marking the eighth straight year of declines.



By Lauren Camera, Senior Education Writer May 30, 2019, at 12:06 p.m



The eight year decline hit Alaska, Florida, Illinois, North Dakota, Hawaii and Kansas the hardest, all of which experienced a 4% to 5% drop in bigher education encollment. [66] (GETTY IMAGES)

College Enrollment Declines
Again. It's Down More Than
Two Million Students In This
Decade.





The decline of college-going students, 2012-2029, will be profound.

U.S. total, -11%

Pacific, -9%

Mountain, +2%

West North Central, -11%

West South Central, +2%



New England, -24%

Mid-Atlantic, -18%

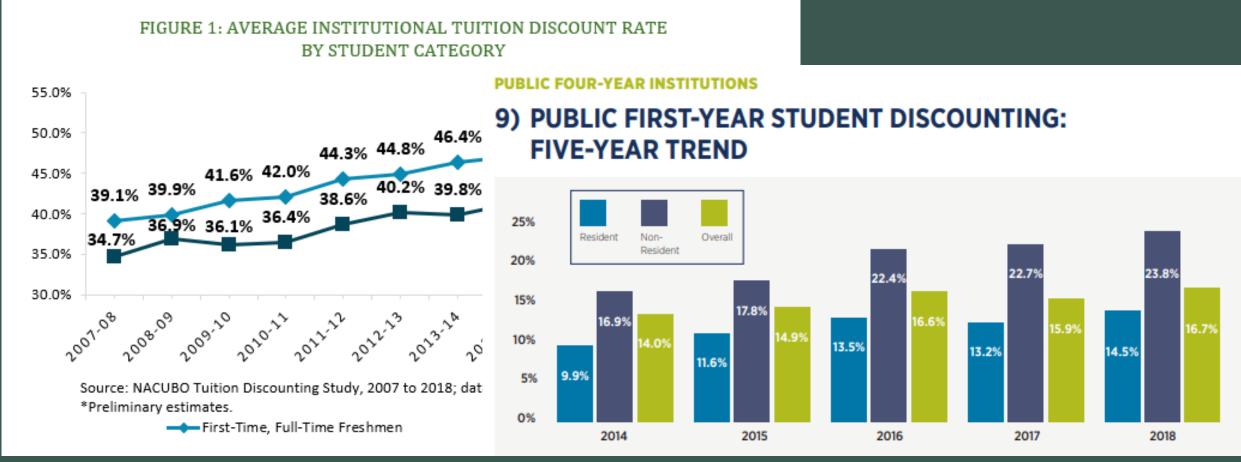
East North Central, -22%

East South Central, -20%

South Atlantic, -3%

Source: Nathan D. Grawe, Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education, 2018

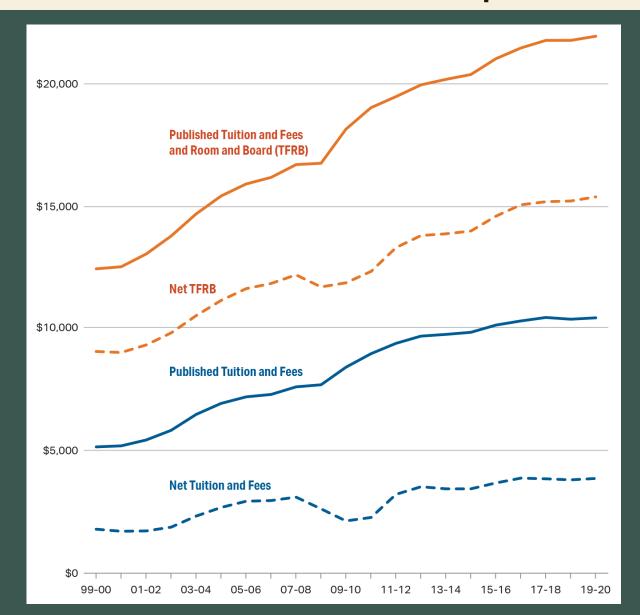
Increased competition – it's a buyer's market – leads to price discounts.



Net college costs – and revenues – will be well below published costs.

Average Published and Net Prices

Full-Time In-State Undergraduate Students at Public Four-Year Institutions, 1999-00 to 2019-20 (constant 2019 \$)



Source: The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2019

Enrollment choices and outcomes are key to college finance.

in-state undergrads * \$in-state charges +

per credit students * \$charge per credit hour x credits hours

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# out-of-state undergrads * $out-of-state charges +

Gross tuition revenue = # graduates * $grad charges +
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Budget planning starts with enrollment goals, assumptions and models.

Goal:

Financially stable bottom line reflecting market demand

Assumptions

- Capacity and demand, by academic department
- Retention rates
- Financial aid
- # of students by type (in-state, out-of-state, provisional, transfers, graduate, part-time)
- Room and board outcomes
- Tuition and fees levels, by student type

Who participates?

 Enrollment Management, Treasurer, Academic Affairs, President, Trustees

Growth Assumptions	NCL	AII	MOB									
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TCNJ has grown modestly over time, but is feeling competitive pressure.

	2020	Pct. Change, 2015-19	Fall 2019	Fall 2018	Fall 2017	Fall 2016	Fall 2015
Applications	? currently -5%	22%	13,824	13,625	12,898	11,825	11,290
# Admitted	?	24%	6,812	6,785	6,130	5,778	5,495
# Enrolled	?	10%	1,605	1,551	1,542	1,457	1,453
Admit %	?	0%	49%	49%	48%	49%	49%
Yield %	?	-8%	24%	23%	25%	25%	26%

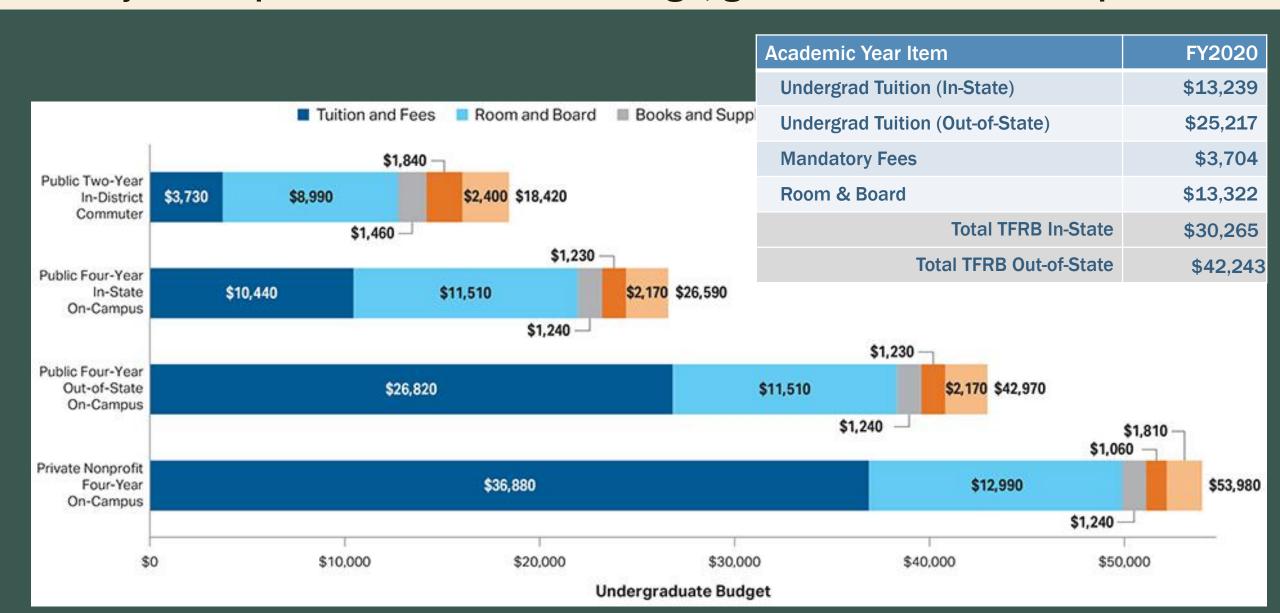
TCNJ also enrolls graduate and full-pay provisional students.

	2020 goal	Pct. Change, 2015-19	Fall 2019	Fall 2018	Fall 2017	Fall 2016	Fall 2015
Graduate Headcount		-2.5%	632	638	597	609	648
Graduate Full- time Equivalent (FTE)*	435	-3.4%	402	371	384	398	416
Provisional	105	+84%	103	79	66	50	56

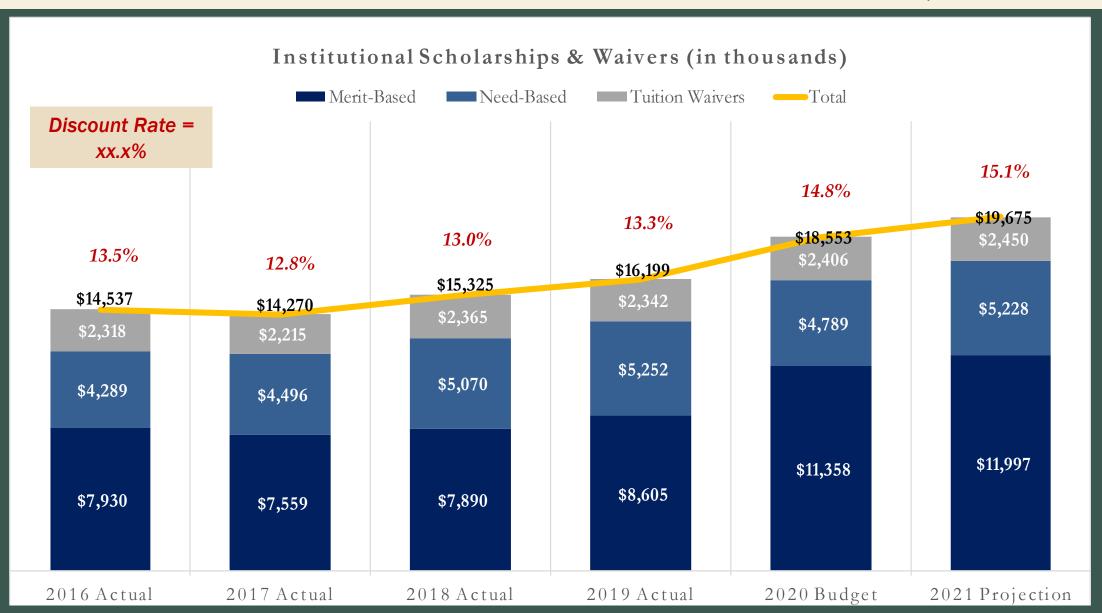
^{*}Graduate FTE = Graduate credits hours/9. Undergrad FTE = credit hours/16

For budget purposes, FTE matters most. Why? Because part-time students pay by the credit hour or unit.

A key assumption is how much to charge, given demand and competition.



TCNJ awards merit and need-based aid. Discount rates are low, but increasing.



Most students receive aid, which helps shape the class and improve yield.

Promise Award - EOF
Chairman of the
Board
Merit
Merit and Need
Bonner
Music
Transfer
Harcourt
Cooperman
Give Something Back
TCNJ Commitment
Grant

Study Abroad Grant

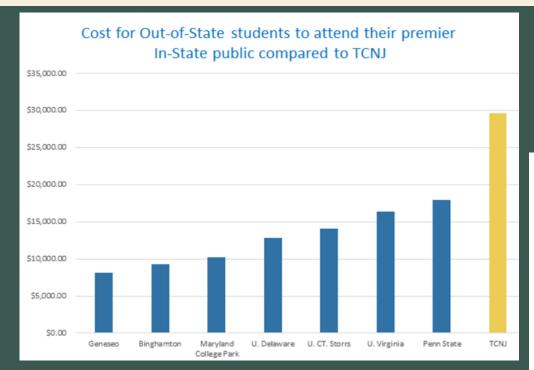
TCNJ Financial Aid Stats

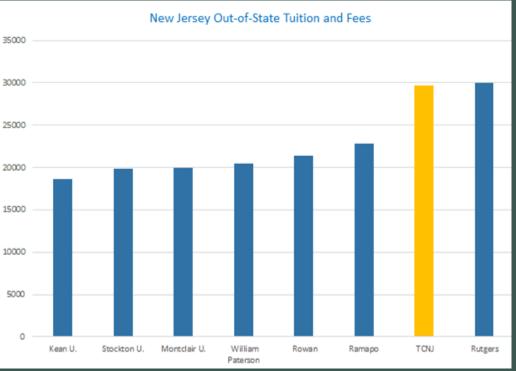
Total aid distributed to TCNJ students, 2019	\$86 million
Amt. of institutional (TCNJ) aid awarded, 2019	\$18.6 million
Pct. of students receiving TCNJ aid	43%
Avg. amount of grant aid received	\$9,381
Avg. amount of loan aid received	\$6,677
Avg. TCNJ family income	\$147,000
Pct. of first-year class "Pell" recipients	17%

Price hampers our competitiveness particularly with out-of-state students.

Out-of-state applications have grown 34% since 2010...

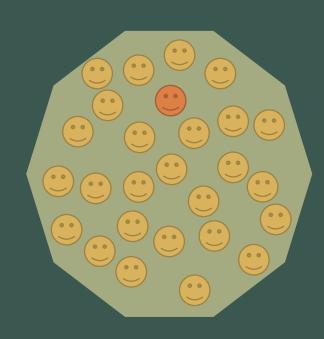
...but out-ofstate enrollments have grown only 11%.



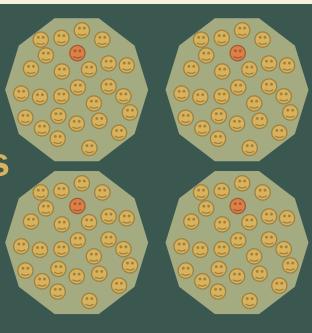


Course units and class size are one side of a budgetary "coin of the realm."

Let one budgetary course unit be a class of 20 students with 1 faculty member



Assume students take 4 courses each semester



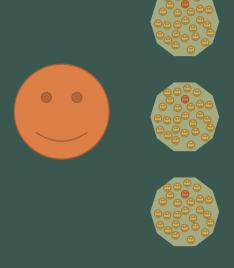
Then a college with 7,000 students ...

(7,000 students x 4 classes)/20 students per class

... will need 1,400 course sections each semester

The other side of the coin is faculty coverage.

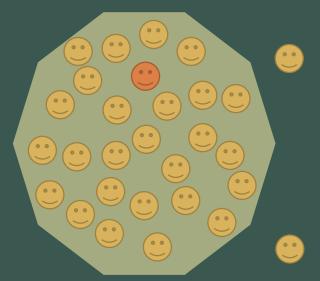
Assume a faculty member teaches a "normal load" of 3 COURSES per semester



Then 1,400 course sections will require 467 full-time (equivalent) faculty



Consider that if average class size increased to 22 students per section...

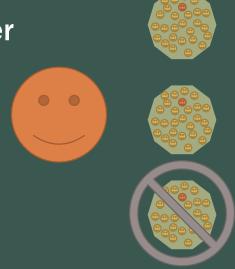


...then we'd need only
1,273 course
sections and 424
full-time (equivalent)
faculty

A reduction of 43 s

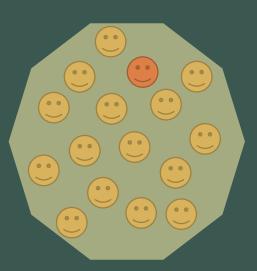
Of course it is not this simple.

A faculty member may not teach 3 COURSES per semester



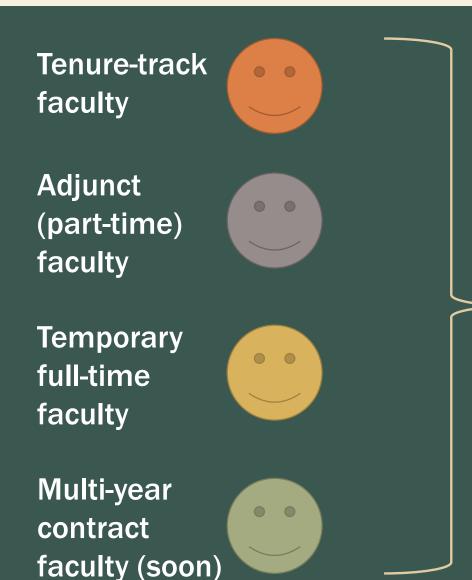
Reduced teaching load due to major committee service, department chair duties, program accreditation, etc.

Also, courses may not have **20 students**



Depending on pedagogy – consider art studios, music ensembles, science labs, writing intensive courses, seminars, etc. – a course may have fewer than 12 or more than 40 students

Variations in faculty coverage and composition also affect the budget.



The mix of faculty types in any semester depends on:

- curricular demand
- need for specialized or limited expertise (e.g., Russian language)
- changing demand for majors and minors
 - tenure track faculty assignments, sabbaticals, leaves

TCNJ part-time faculty outnumber full-time faculty, but the latter teach more course units.

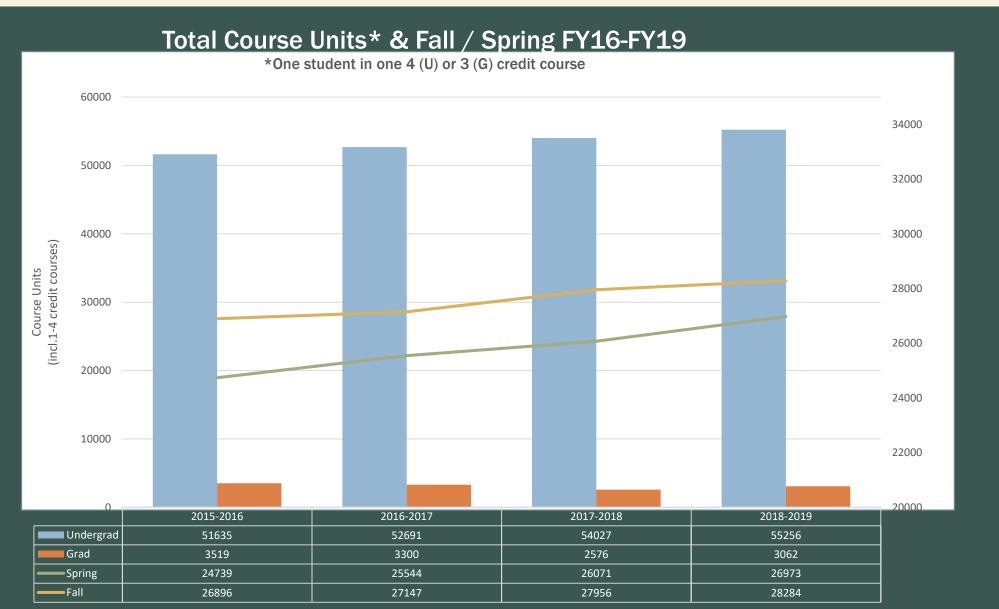
Number and percentage of course units taught, by faculty category

Employment data from TCNJ Fact Books; Course data from Academic Affairs

		Fall 2015		Fall 2018		
Faculty Category	#	% of total	% of course units taught	#	% of total	% of course units taught
Full-time (Tenured/Tenure Track/temp)	355	42%	60%	363	43%	60%
Part-time (adjunct & regular)	498	58%	40%	490	57%	40%



At TCNJ, demand for classes and credits has been growing.

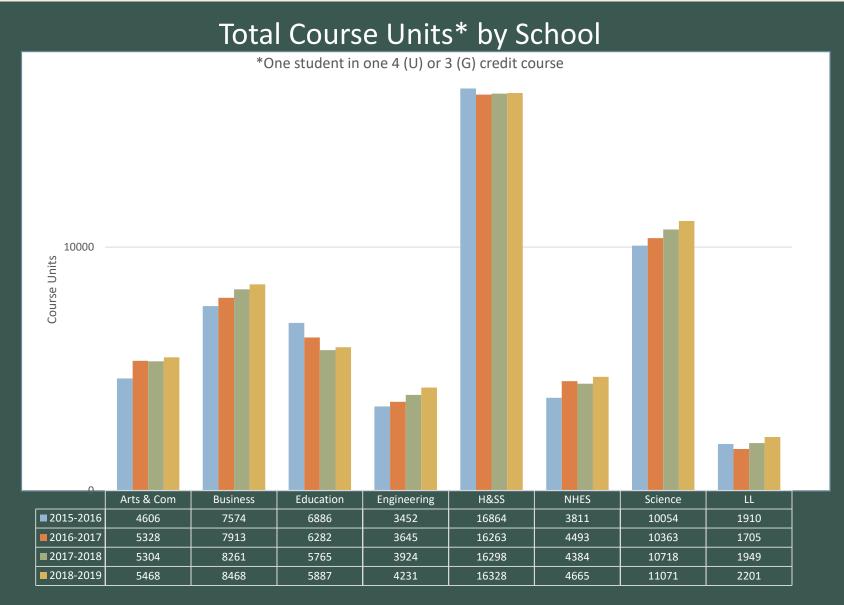


Equivalent
Course Sections
(Avg. Class size = 21):

Fall 2018 = 1,347

Spring 2019 = 1,284

Demand varies by school, which themselves vary by pedagogy and cost



FY16-FY19:

Sustained Growth

Business

Engineering

NHES

Science

Liberal Learning*

Slow Growth, Stable, Decline:

Arts & Comm

H&SS*

Education

*Most Liberal Learning courses are in H&SS

Also affecting the budget are necessary and desired academic supports.

- Library services and resources
 - Instructional design
 - Center for Student Success
- Center for Teaching & Learning
- Center for Engaged Learning & Research
 - Center for Global Learning
 - Tutoring services
 - Career and Leadership
 - Grants office
 - Records & Registration
- Performance spaces and events
- Laboratories, vans, computers, projectors, phones, equipment
 - Academic innovation



The Road Ahead

Colleges-and TCNJ-face key questions of enrollment and academic finance.

Source: Alvarez & Marsal, Higher Education: A Restructuring Perspective, 2019

Academic

- Are enrollment and faculty levels in alignment?
- Are classes set up efficiently to ensure maximum enrollment in each course?
- Are faculty teaching loads optimal?
- Is the faculty appropriately balanced among tenured, contract and adjunct instructors?
- Are programs not sustaining the core mission appropriately evaluated for cost-effectiveness?
- Is course scheduling efficient both from space and academic perspectives?
- Are all issues of collaboration, consolidation and integration "on the table"?
- Are the faculty and administration "speaking with one voice"?
- Does the institution address cost and value from students' employment opportunity perspective?

In all, how can we be fiscally responsible in matching enrollment, educational demands, academic resources, faculty commitments, staff support, and space & equipment to provide consistent, high quality student experiences and room for academic innovation in a changing higher ed environment?

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