

OCCASIONAL CAMPUS COMMUNIQUE

November 1, 2013

The President's Perspective – A Brief Reflection

With this communique we continue to draw our attention to the “cultural markers” of North Park—assumptions that guide and shape our life and work together.

Previously noted markers include:

- (1) Follow Mission
- (2) Center on Students
- (3) Partner Well
- (4) Collaborate Effectively

The next two markers are:

(5) Imagine Institutionally

Institutional commitments and welfare transcend individual claims. We will direct and broaden narrowly focused interests to benefit and advantage university-wide priorities.

(6) Innovate Wisely

Where astutely directed change is good and necessary. To assure they add value over many years, new initiatives will be reviewed carefully, measured against market demand, designed with mission congruence, and tethered to institutional identity.

Overview of the Fall Meeting of the Board of Trustees

As is our custom, the Board of Trustees gathered on campus recently for its annual October meeting. The report I prepared for this meeting is now provided to the broader campus community in a file linked to this communique. I am happy to discuss this report as you have interest.

The Board welcomed six new individuals appointed to serve a five-year appointment on the Board through the summer of 2018. The new members are:

- Lorrie A. DuPont C '78
 - Managing Director, Higher Education Finance Group, RBC Capital Markets, Chicago
- D. Darrell Griffin S '06

- Pastor, Oakdale Covenant Church, Chicago
- Mark Lindberg
 - President, Young Corporation, Seattle
- LoAnn Peterson
 - Director of Hematopathology, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago
- Kristine E. Strand
 - Associate Professor, Boston University, Boston
- William N. Werner C '69
 - Vice President, Clinical Transformation, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago

David Helwig continues to chair the Board, as he has done for the past four years.

The following notes identify several items of business cared for by the Board at the October meeting.

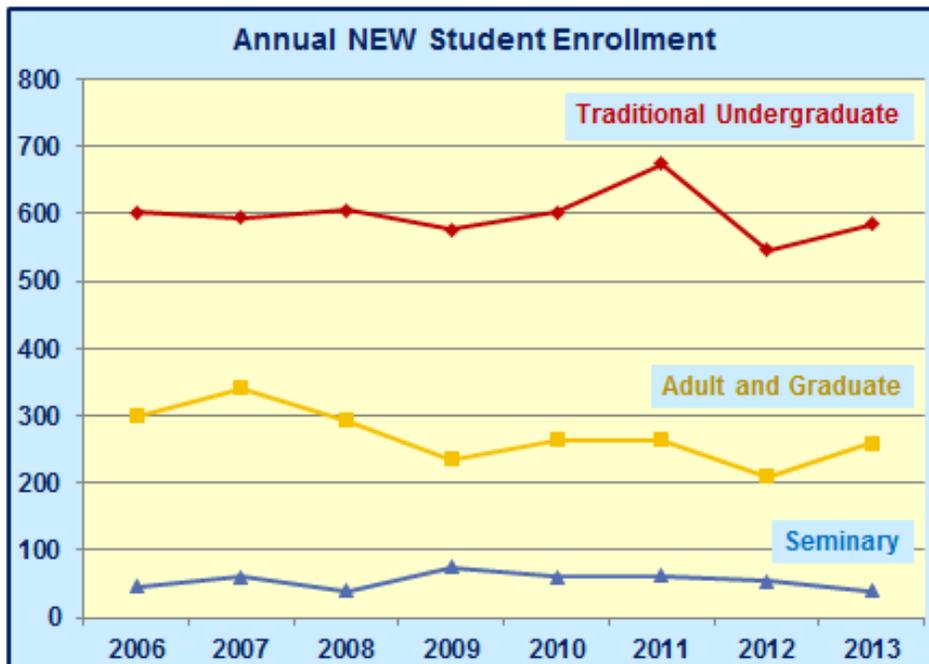
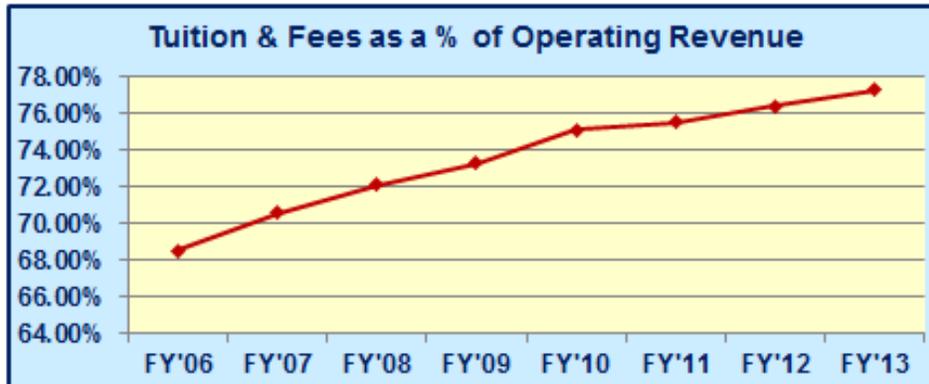
- The Board was introduced to Dr. Jodi Koslow, our new vice president for student engagement.
- Sabbatical leaves during 2013-2014 were approved for the following faculty:
 - Joe Alulis
 - Joan Andrea
 - Rachelle Ankney
 - Dennis Bricault
 - Greg Clark
 - Karla Fogel
 - Johnny Lin
 - Jonathan Rienstra-Kiracofe
- Emeritus status was approved for Sally Anderson, recently retired director of Brandel Library.
- The annual audit was received, noting a clean audit report for the university.
- A presentation was made introducing the Board to the new annual giving program, called the North Park Fund, which is focused on undergraduate and seminary scholarship aid.
- In a multi-day pre-meeting session the Investment Committee interviewed six firms to serve as the University's chief investment officer to manage funds in the North Park endowment. The Fund Education Group was recommended by the Committee and approved by the Board.

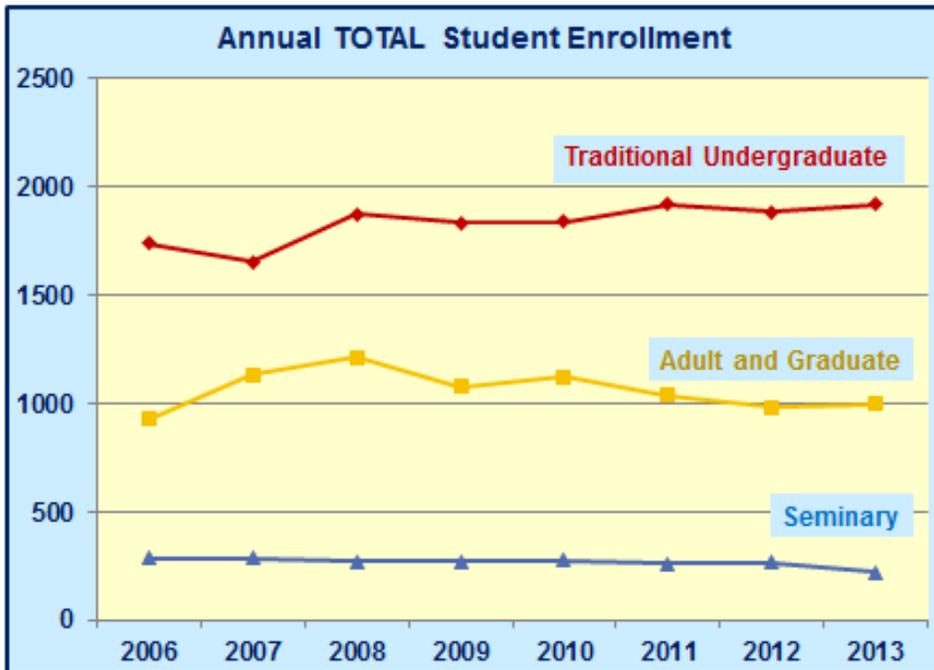
Additionally, in the plenary session the Board of Trustees was introduced to the Strategic Enrollment Planning project which was initiated in spring 2013. The presentation was similar to the information provided to the campus community in public

forums in early September. As background to the SEP project several data points were provided to the Board, including those identified on the slides presented below.

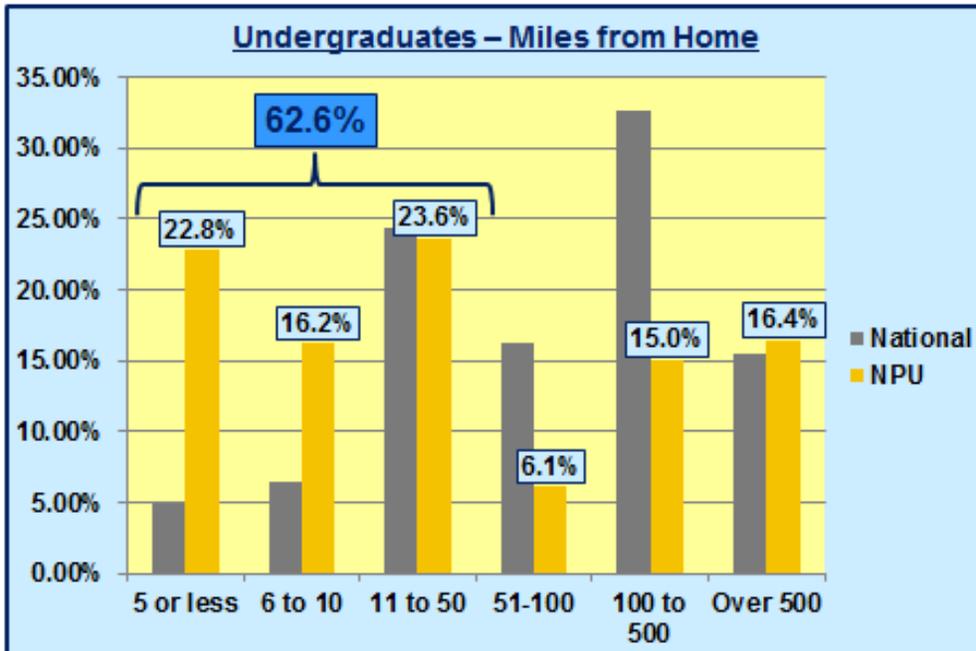
Enrollment and Budget

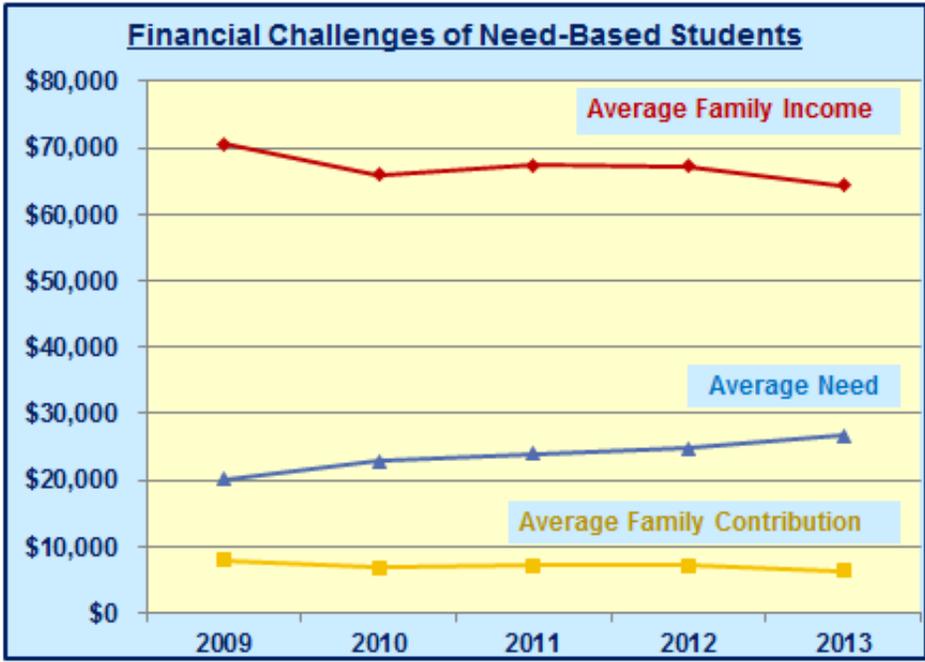
- One illustration of our evolving budget environment.





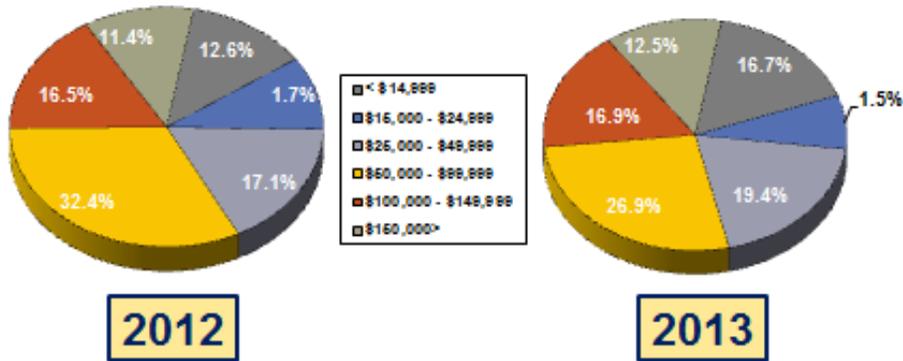
Headcount





Family/Student Income and Need

NPU Family Income Distribution



Lives of Significance and Service
NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY
 CHICAGO

Family/Student Income and Need

Retention in Context

Fall-to-Fall Retention Rates (for full-time, first-time students)

Fall 2012 – 80.6%
Fall 2011 – 71.8%
Fall 2010 – 73.0%
Fall 2009 – 68.1%

Spring-to-Fall Retention (for all eligible-to-return students)

Fall 2012 – 91.8%
Fall 2011 – 90.6%
Fall 2010 – 88.8%
Fall 2009 – 88.7%

Student Engagement and Retention

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for February 14-15. The Board has agreed to dedicate that full meeting to the topic of strategic planning, using the document *NPU@125+* as the basis for considering the innovation necessary to respond effectively to the challenges facing higher education generally and North Park specifically.

In the Weeks Ahead

The second half of the fall semester is filled each year with an array of special events and activities which reach beyond our usual calendar of campus activities. Members of our faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in these, often with our families, according our individual interests. The activities extend from athletic contests to music concerts, from theater productions to campus lectures, from conferences to . . . well, you name it.

Important to our community well-being are two other opportunities introduced earlier this semester—MondayCoffee@10 each first day of the work week, and lunch for just \$5 in the Magnuson dining room each work day.

Later this month we'll enjoy a great national holiday as we gather with family and friends on Thanksgiving Day (as well as a few days away from work).

Blessings to each one; with many thanks for your walk alongside our students.