

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION
BOARD RULE 400.0000.00-QUARTERLY ENROLLMENT STATISTICS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING: OCTOBER 22, 2009

Belmont Technical College faculty, staff, and administration are committed to providing increasingly greater access to learning in higher education. The college aims to provide a variety of opportunities that meet students' learning goals and "foster the growth of a better educated, trained and employable citizenry." Toward those ends, the Board of Trustees directs the college to monitor "quarterly enrollment statistics" (*Policy Manual, Ends, Section IV, 400.0000.00, Access to Higher Education, 2007*).

Data

The data provided in this report are based upon enrollment numbers captured on the fifteenth calendar day of fall quarter 2009. In this section, two charts are presented. The first displays the total number of credit hours generated for the college during fall quarter for each of the last ten years. On October 5, 2009, students were enrolled for 25,435 credit hours. The goal for fall quarter credit hours of enrollment was 19,505. Enrollment on the fifteenth day of the quarter was 5,930 credit hours above goal. The second chart shows unduplicated headcount for fall quarter for each of the last ten years. On October 5, 2009, two-thousand and one hundred seventy-one students were enrolled at the college. The headcount goal was set at 1,739 students. Headcount on the fifteenth day was 432 students above goal.

Chart 1, *Fall 2009/2010 Credit hours generated*

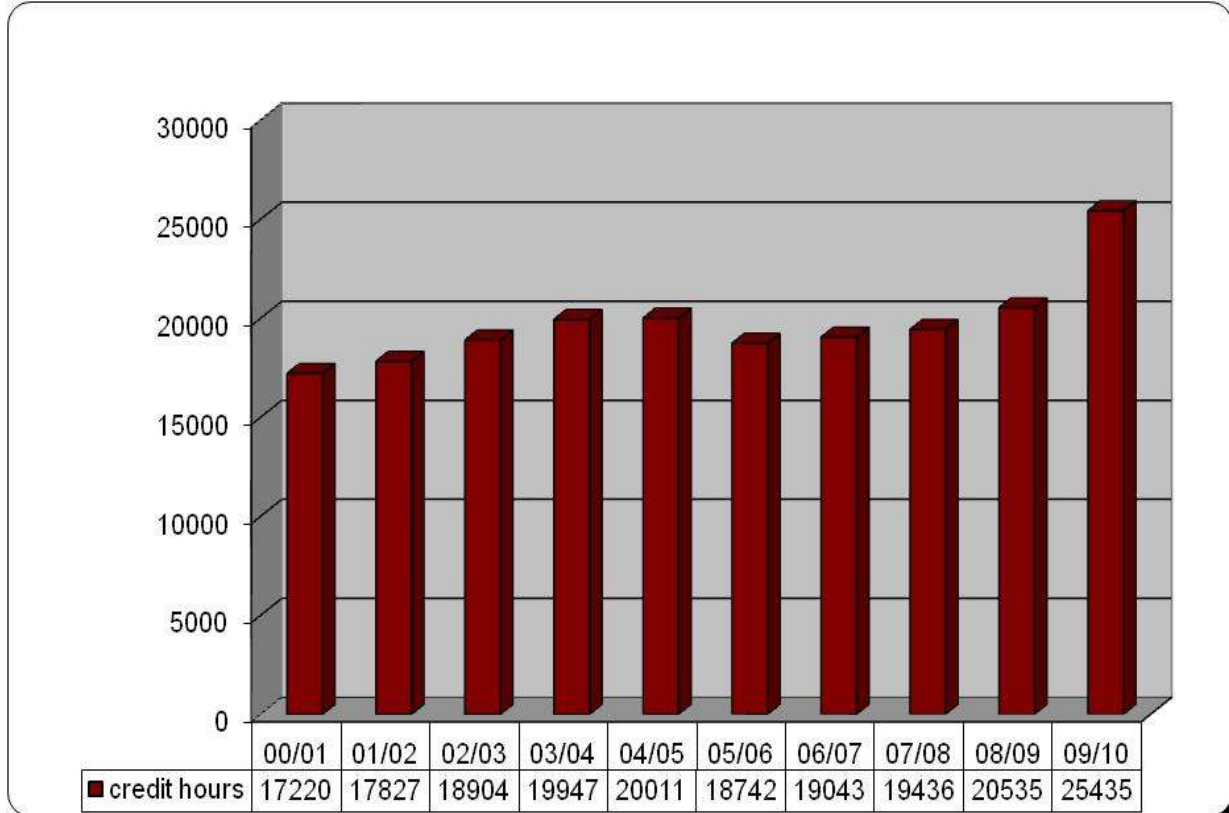
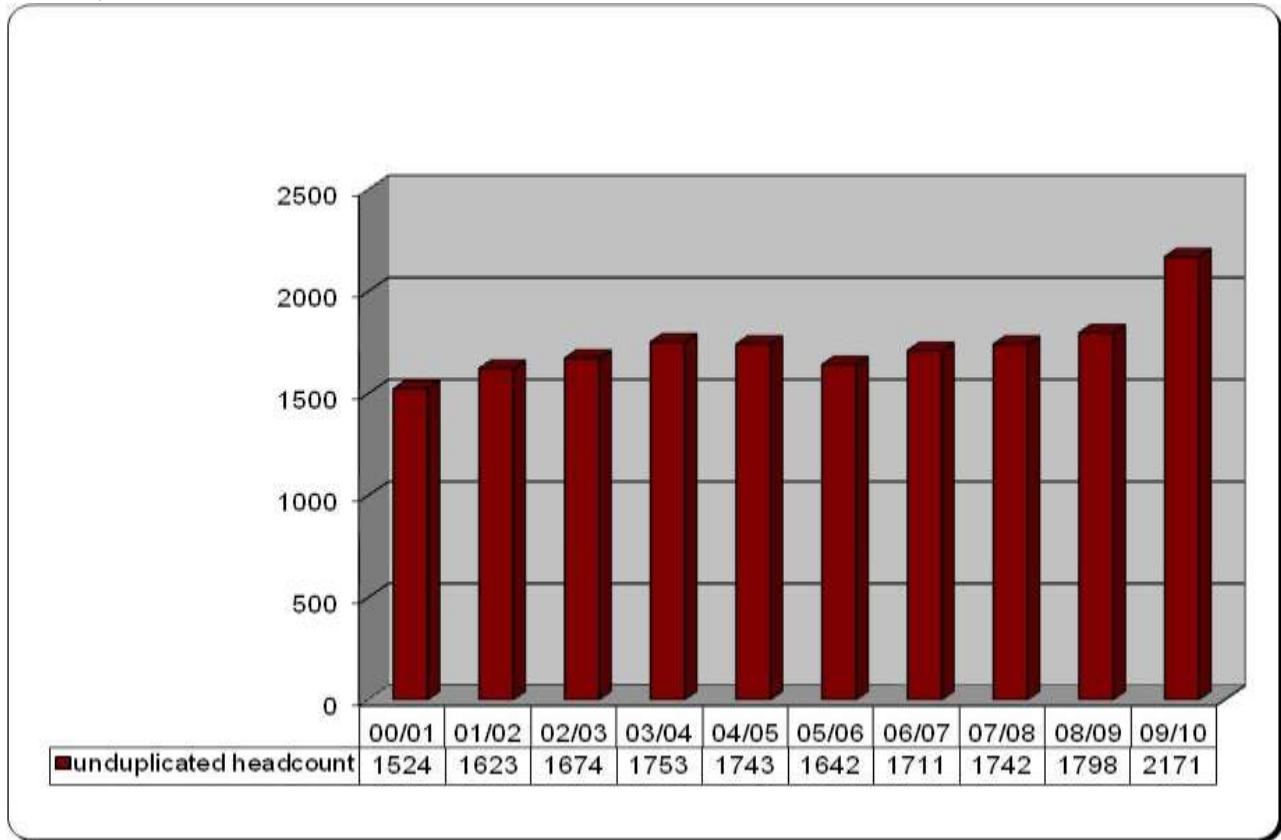


Chart 2, *Fall 2009/2010 Headcount*



Data for fall quarters over the last ten years are summarized in Table 1, *Fall quarter enrollment data: 2000/2001 through 2009-2010*. The table shows that on October 5, 2009 there were 2,171 students enrolled for 25,435 credit hours. Expressed in terms of the average number of credit hours per student, this is the equivalent of 11.72 credit hours. This average was calculated for all students. Those attending both full-time and part-time.

A calculation of the average number of credit hours per student for fall quarter last year, the 2008/2009 year, indicates that on average, Belmont students enrolled for an average of 11.42 credit hours. A comparison of average number of credit hours of enrollment for last year and this year does not reveal useful information about sources of the increases in both headcount and enrollment from last fall to this fall.

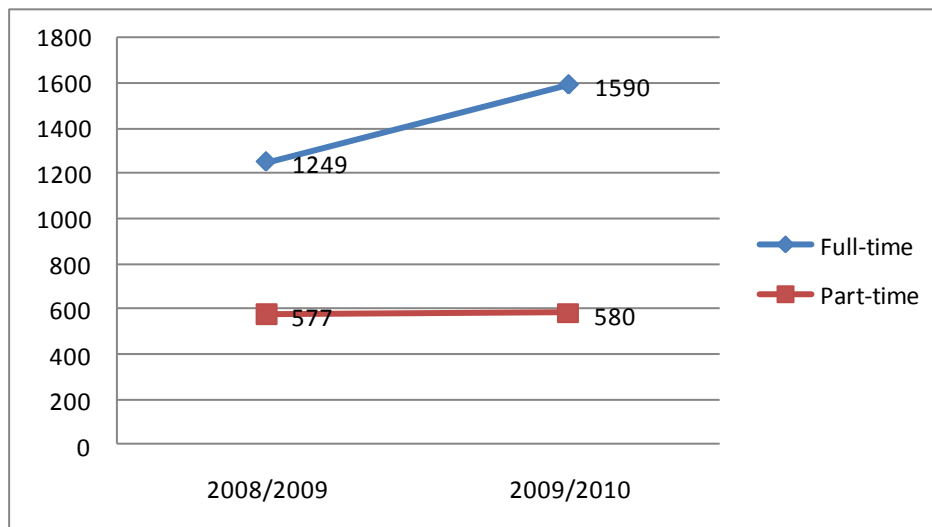
Table 1, *Fall quarter enrollment data: 2000/2001 through 2009-2010*

Year	Headcount	Credit Hours
00/01	1524	17,220
01/02	1623	17,827
02/03	1674	18,903.5
03/04	1753	19,946.5
04/05	1743	20,011
05/06	1642	18,742
06/07	1711	19,043
07/08	1742	19,435.5
08/09	1798	20,534.5
09/10	2171	25,435

Analysis

The increase in both credit hours and headcount for fall 2009/2010 suggests that an unprecedented number of students are gaining access to higher education at Belmont this fall. In contrast to the comparison made solely on the basis of average credit hours of enrollment per student, an examination of full-time and part-time status students for the two most recent fall quarters is more revealing. For this comparison, *full-time* status is defined as 12 or more credit hours. The unduplicated headcount of enrollment during fall quarter 2009/2010 represents 1,590 full-time students and 581 part-time students. Seventy-three percent of Belmont students are enrolled as full-time students. During the the 2008/2009 year, 66 percent of the college's students were enrolled full-time. This comparison suggests that more students are enrolled for twelve or more credit hours this fall than were enrolled as full-time last fall. The comparison is shown in the third chart.

Chart 3, *Headcount: Full-time and Part-time status of students*



Conclusions/Recommendations

The increased number of students attending Belmont this fall is remarkable. Administrators, staff and faculty members have been making arrangements for the influx of students that has been realized. Fall enrollment numbers demonstrate effectiveness of measures designed to increase access to higher education for students in the three-county service district and beyond.

The college strategic plans call for continued attention to enrollment management strategies - not only to attract new students, but also to retain students following enrollment. The ultimate success for students can be demonstrated through higher numbers of graduation and certificate completions and meaningful placements in the workforce.