

Milligan's fall enrollment reaches all-time high

Milligan College's fall enrollment has reached a historic high for the fifth year in a row, with a record-setting 1,210 students registered for classes. This is a six percent increase over fall 2010 enrollment.

Milligan President Dr. Bill Greer made the announcement today during the college's weekly chapel service held in Seeger Memorial Chapel.

"Several factors fueled our record enrollment this year including a large freshman class, a solid retention rate and Milligan's thriving Graduate and Professional Studies (GPS) programs," Greer said. "Ultimately the growth is a testament to the college's academic excellence and our mission to educate servant-leaders to make a difference."

Milligan has 914 traditional

undergraduate students and 296 in its graduate and adult degree-completion programs enrolled this fall. Classes began Aug. 24.

This year's new student class is one of the largest in the history of the college, with 308 students. The Bachelor of Science in nursing program continues to be the most popular major among incoming freshmen, followed by human performance and exercise science, education, business, and communications.

"It is important at Milligan that we maintain academic quality while growing, so we're pleased the average ACT score for this year's entering class is 24, one of its highest points in many years," said Lee Fierbaugh, vice president for enrollment management and marketing. "Not

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Milligan College President Dr. Bill Greer (far right), Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing Lee Fierbaugh (far left) and the admissions staff celebrated Milligan's record enrollment after it was announced on Thursday. Also pictured (left to right) are members of Milligan's admissions staff including Tracy Brinn, Jennifer Greenwell, Kylie Hall and Troy Petrie.

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only are we attracting more students, but we continue to draw high-quality students."

Student retention is also strong at Milligan, at about 90 percent. The college has several programs to ensure students have the opportunity to succeed, including faculty and peer mentoring programs, free tutoring and the Office of Student Success, whose mission is to help students navigate

the college experience. These programs, coupled with a low student-to-faculty ratio, emphasize the individual needs of students in the context of community.

"Our record enrollment is certainly a number to celebrate," said Greer. "We are especially thankful for the people behind that number — our students who are preparing for lives of service and our faculty

and staff who care about the students and work hard to help them achieve their goals."

Milligan is consistently named one of the Best Baccalaureate Colleges in the South in "America's Best Colleges" by U.S. News & World Report and one of the nation's Top 100 Baccalaureate Colleges by Washington Monthly. The college also is recognized as a College of Distinction.