Enrollment Overview

- Enrollment in Fall 2015 was 274,357
  - Undergraduate enrollment was 245,279
  - Graduate enrollment was 29,078
- Enrollment peaked in Fall 2014 at 275,132
- University enrollment increased by about 30,000 between 2008 and 2014
  - Undergraduate increased by about 32,000
  - Graduate decreased by almost 2,000
- During the period of enrollment growth, baccalaureate colleges also increased the academic quality of entering students as measured by SAT scores and high school averages
Undergraduate Enrollment

- Enrollment growth between 2008 and 2014 was a result of better retention and increases in freshmen, transfers and readmitted students.
- In Fall 2015 CUNY enrolled 37,446 freshmen and 25,543 transfers, both record numbers.
- As a proxy for applicant demand, the number of application fees collected in academic year 2015-16 was 11,000 less than in 2012-13.
- Colleges have managed to increase the yield rate of admitted students.
Graduate (Masters) Enrollment

• Enrollment decline between 2008 and 2014 was influenced by a decrease in interest in teacher education and business programs, improvement in the economy, and increased competition from traditional and online programs.

• These were national trends.

• CUNY created a small unit to increase masters recruitment. So far results look promising. Fall 2016 will show the first increase in new masters students in a number of years.
Fall Enrollment as of September 2
compared to similar date last year
(not including Graduate Center, SOJ, GSPH, and CUNY Medical)

• This is first day after the add-drop period.
• Total - 4463
  • Senior Colleges - 1415
  • Community Colleges - 3048
  • Undergraduates - 4420
  • Graduate Students - 43 (will show a 1.5 to 2% increase including GSPH and others)
  • New Freshmen - 837
  • New Transfers - 139
  • New Graduate Students + 233
Factors in decreased Fall 2016 enrollment

• Smaller spring enrollment
• Increased number of undergraduate degrees awarded. During the 2014-15 academic year CUNY colleges awarded 4449 more associate and baccalaureate degrees than during the 2010-11 year
• Improved economy
• More intensive competition (SUNY, privates, on-line)
• Decreased recruitment/processing resources
Issues for further consideration

• Right Size? Do we want CUNY to continue to grow? Optimum size for particular colleges?
• Size versus academic quality
• Diversity
• In which markets do we want to compete—NY metro, northeast, nationwide, international, on-line, adults?
• Brand/image
• Resources