

December 10, 1987

To: GC Faculty and Staff

From: Marjorie Cowmeadow, Asst. Dean

Subject: Attached, for your information



# A PROFILE OF NEW GENERAL COLLEGE STUDENTS FALL, 1987

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Special thanks to Lin Ho for typing the tables that appear in this report and for calculating the placement test percentile ranks.

A database obtained from Student Support Services (SSP) was used to identify students new to the General College since Spring, 1987. A new GC student is defined here as any student whose first quarter of attendance at the University was Summer Session I, Summer Session II, or Fall, 1987. Out of all students registered in General College Fall, 1987, 982 qualified as new students.

Three sources of information were used to create the 5 tables presented. The sources are 1) a Fall, 1987 student database provided by Student Support Services (SSP), 2) the General College New Student Planning Form (NSPF), and 3) the TRIO Eligibility Form. Table 1 presents information gathered from either the SSP database, or from the SSP database in combination with the NSPF or the TRIO Eligibility Form. MAPS placement test scores were available for 927 of the 982 new students. Test score distributions are presented in Table 2 and test score means in Table 3. Of the 982 new students, 893 (91%) have NSPF forms and 884 (90%) have TRIO Eligibility Forms on file. Information from these two forms appear in Table 4 and Table 5, respectively.

**Table 1**  
**Information on new General college Students**  
**obtained from combined sources**  
**( N - 982)**

<b>Sex</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
(1) Male	537	55
(2) Female	442	45
Missing	3	--

<b>Ethnic Background</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
American Indian/Alaskan Native	42	4
Asian/Pacific Islander	89	9
Black-non-Hispanic Origin	80	8
Chicano (Mexican American)	20	2
Other Hispanic Origin	11	1
Caucasian-non Hispanic Origin	710	72
International	9	1
Missing	21	2

**Age ( as of 9/1/87)****N****%**

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16	2	--
17	265	27
18	311	32
19	165	17
20	51	5
21	51	5
22	23	2
23	12	1
24	14	1
25	12	1
26	9	1
27	6	1
28	7	1
29	4	--
30	6	1
31	4	--
32	5	1
33	1	--
Missing	34	4

Mean = 19.0

S. D. = 2.71

N = 948

**Number of Previous Colleges****N****%**

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0	859	88
1	91	9
2	18	2
3	14	1

**First Quarter Registered at the University****N          %**

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SSI	77	8
Fall, 1987	905	92

**Credit Load (Fall, 1987)****N          %**

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0	5	1
2	1	--
3	5	1
4	14	1
5	14	1
6	4	--
7	87	9
8	176	18
9	172	18
10	188	19
11	39	4
12	57	6
13	99	10
14	74	8
15	31	3
16	5	1
Missing	11	1

**Mean - 9.9****S. D. - 2.62****N - 971**

**Table 2**  
**Frequency Distributions of Placement**  
**Test Score**  
**( N - 927 )**

**Reading Comprehension**

Score	N	%	Percentile Rank
44	2	--	100
43	13	1	99
42	23	3	97
41	31	3	94
40	41	4	90
39	40	4	86
38	48	5	81
37	61	7	75
36	72	8	68
35	48	5	62
34	57	6	56
33	55	6	50
32	41	4	45
31	38	4	41
30	46	5	36
29	39	4	31
28	26	3	28
27	37	4	25
26	22	2	21
25	17	2	19
24	15	2	18
23	14	2	16
22	7	1	15
21	11	1	14
20	13	1	13
19	16	2	11
18	11	1	10
17	11	1	8

**Reading.continued**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
16	12	1	7
15	8	1	6
14	8	1	5
13	12	1	4
12	5	1	3
11	9	1	2
10	5	1	2
9	5	1	1
8	1	--	1
7	4	--	1
5	2	--	0
4	1	--	0

**Writing English Expression**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
40	1	--	100
39	1	--	99
38	7	1	99
37	12	1	98
36	11	1	97
35	17	2	96
34	23	3	93
33	40	4	90
32	43	5	86
31	47	5	81
30	54	6	75
29	62	7	69
28	65	7	62
27	74	8	55
26	56	6	48

**Writing.continued**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
25	51	6	42
24	55	6	36
23	47	5	31
22	35	4	26
21	36	4	22
20	23	3	19
19	27	3	17
18	18	2	14
17	15	2	12
16	22	2	10
15	22	2	8
14	17	2	6
13	9	1	4
12	17	2	3
11	5	1	2
10	5	1	1
9	2	--	1
8	3	--	1
7	2	--	0
6	2	--	0
5	1	--	0

**Whole Numbers**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
9	415	45	79
8	324	35	38
7	122	13	14
6	47	5	5
5	13	1	1
4	5	--	0
3	1	--	0



**Arithmetic Skills Test**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
35	30	3	98
34	55	6	94
33	61	7	88
32	76	8	80
31	49	5	73
30	64	7	67
29	71	8	60
28	67	7	53
27	70	8	45
26	56	6	38
25	50	5	33
24	37	4	28
23	30	3	24
22	33	4	21
21	32	4	17
20	23	3	15
19	29	3	13
18	21	2	9
17	26	3	6
16	9	1	5
15	11	1	4
14	6	1	3
13	14	2	2
11	2	--	1
10	2	--	0
9	2	--	0
8	1	--	0

**Real Numbers**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
9	61	7	97
8	127	14	87
7	129	14	73
6	126	14	59
5	120	13	46
4	115	12	33
3	100	11	21
2	79	9	12
1	51	6	5
0	18	2	1

**Elementary Algebra Skills**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
35	2	--	100
34	10	1	99
33	10	1	98
32	12	1	97
31	17	2	95
30	19	2	93
29	24	3	91
28	28	3	88
27	35	4	85
26	27	3	82
25	33	4	78
24	29	3	75

**Algebra.continued**

<b>Score</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Percentile Rank</b>
23	25	3	72
22	35	4	69
21	29	3	65
20	41	4	62
19	28	3	58
18	29	3	55
17	47	5	51
16	36	4	46
15	37	4	42
14	41	4	38
13	42	5	34
12	48	5	29
11	40	4	24
10	39	4	20
9	42	5	15
8	35	4	11
7	28	3	8
6	23	3	5
5	10	1	3
4	11	1	2
3	6	1	1
2	3	--	1
1	2	--	1
0	4	--	0

Table 3  
**Means and Standard Deviations for the  
 Six Placement Test Scores  
 ( N - 927 )**

	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Whole Number</b>	<b>Arithmetic</b>	<b>Real Numbers</b>	<b>Algebra</b>
<b>Range of Possible Scores</b>	0-45	0-40	0-9	0-35	0-9	0-35
<b>Mean</b>	31.10	25.40	8.10	26.70	5.20	17.50
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	8.13	6.38	1.00	5.62	2.38	7.89

**Table 4**  
**Summary of Responses on the General College**  
**New Student Planning Form**  
**( N = 893 )**

<b>Is English your first (primary) language.</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
(1) Yes	798	89
(2) No	83	9
Missing	12	1

<b>Type of High School certificate:</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
(1) Diploma from a United States high school	825	92
(2) GED	38	4
(3) Attended high school outside U.S.	17	2
(4) Other	3	--
Missing	10	1

<b>Enrollment plans:</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
A. (1) Full-time (12 credits or more)	815	91
(2) Part-time	32	4
Missing	46	5
B. (1) Day only	529	59
(2) Day and evening	82	9
Missing	282	32

**Employment hours planned while enrolled****N      %**

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(1) None	198	22
(2) 1-10 hours/week	142	16
(3) 11-15 hours/week	176	20
(4) 16-20 hours/week	214	24
(5) 21-30 hours/week	94	10
(6) More than 30 hours/week	29	3
Missing	40	5

**How many years has it been since you last attended school?****N      %**

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(1) Less than one year	671	75
(2) 1-2 years	106	12
(3) 3-5 years	70	8
(4) 6-10 years	28	3
(5) More than 10 years	13	2
Missing	5	1

**Would you like help with:****N****%****(a) Choosing a major/career**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>11</b>

**(b) Reading skills**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>16</b>

**(c) Writing skills**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>13</b>

**(d) Math skills**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>9</b>

**(e) Study skills**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Maybe</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Missing</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>10</b>

<b>Most important reason for attending this college:</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
(1) To prepare for transfer to another college	433	49
(2) Improve basic skills in reading, writing or math	60	7
(3) Determine career goal	230	26
(4) Learn skills to get new job	61	7
(5) Learn skills to advance in job	33	4
(6) Take courses for personal interest	17	2
Missing	59	7

<b>Do you prefer courses where you learn on your own at your own pace?</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
(1) Yes	476	53
(2) No	369	41
(3) Maybe	--	0
Missing	48	5



**Table 5**  
**Summary of Responses on the TRIO**  
**Eligibility Form**  
**( N - 884 )**

<b>Year in College</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Incoming freshman	739	84
Transfer	102	12
Returning student	30	3
Missing	13	2

  

<b>Are You Financially Self Supporting ?</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	233	26
No	643	73
Missing	8	1

  

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
1	163	18
2	82	9
3	146	17
4	204	23
5	139	16
6	62	7
7	28	3
8	19	2
9 or More	16	2
Missing	25	3

<b>Total Yearly Income</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Less Than 8,040	200	23
8,040 - 10,859	36	4
10,860 - 16,499	27	3
13,680 - 16,499	34	4
16,500 - 19,319	36	4
19,320 - 22,139	42	5
22,140 - 24,959	41	5
Greater than 27,780	379	43
Missing	55	6

<b>Are you receiving financial aid ?</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	269	30
No	447	51
Applied but hadn't heard	148	17
Missing	20	2

<b>Do you have a physical, emotional, or learning disability?</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	36	4
No	837	95
Missing	11	1

**Did either your mother or father  
receive a four-year degree from a  
college or university?**

	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	378	43
No	503	57
Missing	3	--

**Where will you be living this quarter?**

	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
With parents or relatives	327	37
Other private home, apartment, room	278	31
College dormitory	49	5
Fraternity or sorority house	25	3
Campus student housing	183	21
Other	17	2
Missing	5	1