

September 29, 2006

Looking At The Week

National Education Report Cites Stark Education Partnership

The Stark Education Partnership was cited as a source of information and research in a major new report issued by the U.S. Department of Education this week. The report, *A Test of Leadership: Charting the Future of U.S. Higher Education*, was produced by the Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education and may be downloaded at: <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/09/09262006.html>



Looking At The ISSUES

Note: We are pleased you're reading Looking at the Issues. Due to recent feedback, we have decided to reprint this edition. Please disregard the previous publication.

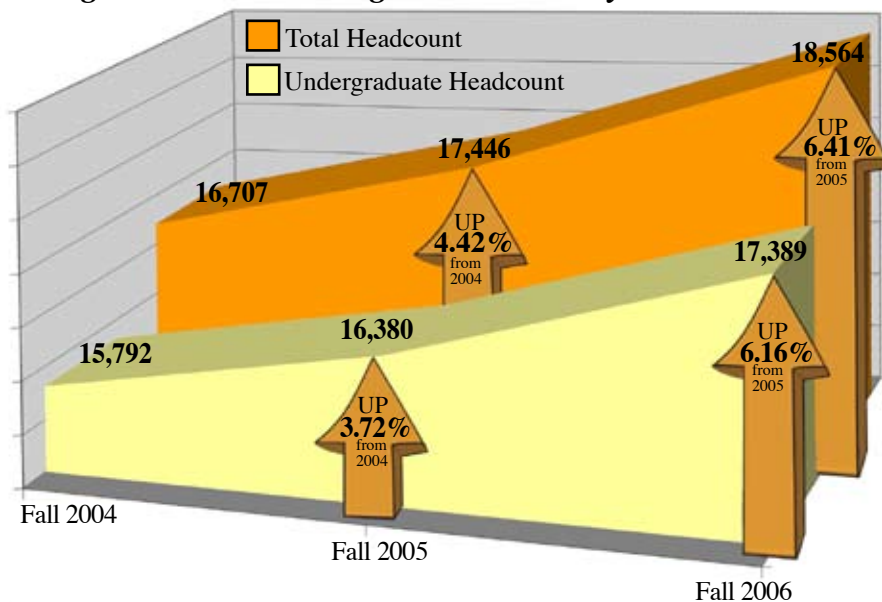
Gaining Ground: Stark County Meets the Challenge

The Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy, outlined a serious problem in Ohio (*Building on Knowledge, Investing in People*, April 2004): "Today our state is losing ground in training knowledge workers and in creating the high skill, high wage jobs that will be used to measure our prosperity in the 21st century."

Higher education was seen by the commission as part of the solution to the problem: "Ohio will achieve higher education's full potential to create more and better jobs for the state's citizens, increase economic competitiveness and fuel economic growth."

Specifically, the goal is that by the year 2015, undergraduate and graduate enrollment in Ohio's public and private postsecondary institutions will increase by 180,000 or 30% over 2003 enrollment. That target will be reached with an average growth of 3% each year. Recent enrollment reports from college and universities demonstrate that Stark County is meeting the challenge of the commission to increase enrollment in postsecondary institutions:

College Enrollment Rising in Stark County



Preliminary Headcounts for Stark County's Six Area Colleges & Universities

		Aultman Nursing ¹	Kent-Stark ²	Malone ³	Mount Union ⁴	Stark State ⁵	Walsh ⁶	Stark County
Fall 2004	Undergrad Headcount	-	3,859	1,939	2,333	6,289	1,372	15,792
	Graduate Headcount	-	22	314	-	-	579	915
	Total	-	3,881	2,253	2,333	6,289	1,951	16,707
Fall 2005	Undergrad Headcount	48	3,684	1,936	2,205	7,000	1,507	16,380
	Graduate Headcount	-	34	356	-	-	676	1,066
	Total	48	3,718	2,292	2,205	7,000	2,183	17,446
	Undergrad Change from 2004 to 2005	100%	-4.53%	-0.15%	-5.49%	11.31%	9.84%	3.72%
	Total Change from 2004 to 2005	100%	-4.20%	1.73%	-5.49%	11.31%	11.89%	4.42%
Fall 2006	Undergrad Headcount	153	3,705	1,968	2,193	7,660	1,710	17,389
	Graduate Headcount	-	42	336	-	-	797	1,175
	Total	153	3,747	2,304	2,193	7,660	2,507	18,564
	Undergrad Change from 2005 to 2006	218.75%	0.57%	1.65%	-0.54%	9.43%	13.47%	6.16%
	Total Change from 2005 to 2006	218.75%	0.78%	0.52%	-0.54%	9.43%	14.84%	6.41%

¹ Reported by Rebecca Crowl, President, Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences
² Reported by Cynthia Williams, PR Coordinator; Mary Southards, Assistant Dean of Enrollment
³ Reported by John Russell, Director of Admissions
⁴ Reported by Ronald Crowl, Chief Planning and Auxiliary Services Officer
⁵ Reported by Laurie Shankle, Administrative Assistant to the President
⁶ Reported by Brett Freshour, Dean of Enrollment; Data reported from main campus only.

Canton Dedicates Two New Elementary Schools

Joe Rochford attended as Canton celebrated the dedication of two new elementary school buildings this week. School board members Fred Thompson at the Summit dedication and John Rinaldi at the Harter dedication helped officiate along with Superintendent Marva Kay Jones and Canton Mayor Janet Weir Creighton. Thompson and Rinaldi cited new Superintendent Jones' 17 years of distinguished service to the district and spoke about the bright future before the Canton City Schools. Rinaldi noted that every student from the district's Communications Program went on to college this year and told students they could do whatever they dreamed. Parents, students and staff at Summit applauded the news that the Stark Community, Deuble, and Hoover Foundations will help fund a new playground for that school.

National College Access Conference

Adrienne O'Neill, Ed.D. attended the National College Access Conference in Orlando Florida, Sunday, September 24 to Wednesday, September 27. On Monday, September 25, Adrienne moderated a workshop entitled "Linking College Access to State Workforce Initiatives."