

## MINUTES MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

The Graduate Council met on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. in 327 Brooks Hall.

Members present: Sundar Bharadwaj, Jim Conklin, AnnaMarie Conner, Kelly Dyer, Mark Eitemann, Kerstin Emerson, Abigail Grimes, Ruth Harman, Ed Kellough, Jill Manners, Cory Momany, Jeff Mullen, Kristen Navara, Don Nelson, Scott Nelson, Erik Ness, Craig Osenberg, David Peterson, Yoo-Kyoung Seock, Jacek Siry, Alison Smith, Phil Stancil, and George Vellidis. Graduate School: Ron Walcott, Anne Shaffer, Cheri Bliss, and Robin Bingham.

Members absent: John Bray, Vivian Burrell, Jennifer Elkins, Sheba Mohankumar, and Bart Wojdyski.

VP/Dean Ron Walcott called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes of the February 7, 2024, Graduate Council meeting were approved as posted on the Graduate School website.

### Graduate Council Committee Reports and Action Items

A. Administrative Committee  
Ron Walcott, Ex Officio Member  
No business to report.

B. Appeals Committee  
Don Nelson, Chair

Since the last report to the Graduate Council, the Appeals Committee has met once on February 9, 2024, for two appeals of Graduate School dismissals due to low GPA. Committee members present were Don Nelson (Chair), Ed Kellough, David Peterson, Alison Smith, John Bray, Kerstin Emerson, Jennifer Elkins, Ruth Harman, Mark Eiteman. Cheri Bliss, Anne Shaffer, and Sha-kim Craft from the Graduate School were present. The committee voted in both cases to deny the appeals.

C. Program Committee  
Kristen Navara, Chair

The Program Committee would like to bring the following action items to the Graduate Council for its approval.

- Action Item 1: From the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, Department of Human Development and Family Science, a proposal to create a Master of Science in Couple and Family Therapy (CFT). *Approved 21-0-0*
- Action Item 2: From the Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education, a proposal to create an online Masters in Higher Education Administration (MEd). *Approved 22-0-0*

D. Policy and Planning Committee  
Yoo-Kyoung Seock, Chair

The PPC Committee met on Monday, 3/4/2024. By unanimous vote of members present (7-0), the following action item is being brought forward.

- Action Item 1: Change to doctoral time limit policy.

After Graduate Council discussion, suggested changes were made to the proposed policy.  
*Approved 23-0-0*

After edits, the proposed change to the doctoral time limit policy was voted on.  
*Approved 21-2-0*

**Information Items**

- A. Curriculum Report: The Graduate School has approved 101 new courses, 73 course revisions, and 8 deletions.
- B. Presentation on enrollment planning.
- C. Next meeting: Wednesday, April 10, 3:30pm, 327 Brooks Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

## **APPROVED DOCTORAL TIME LIMIT POLICY**

Doctoral students must complete all requirements for the doctoral degree and the degree must be awarded **within eight (8) calendar years after initial enrollment/registration in the program**. For example, if the date of first registration for a doctoral student is the fall semester of 2024, the eight-year time limit expires in summer semester of 2032. The student's time-to-degree clock starts with the first course approved for inclusion in their doctoral Program of Study, or the date of matriculation into the program, whichever occurred earlier. Individual colleges/schools or academic programs may have more restrictive requirements than the above stated Graduate School policy. The eight-year time limit does not include approved periods of leave. Additionally, doctoral time to degree is calculated separately for degrees obtained in each academic program.

Students who fail to complete their degrees **within eight years** after initial enrollment will be considered as not making satisfactory progress to degree completion and will be dismissed from Graduate School. The Graduate School will notify all doctoral students when they have reached the 7-year mark to warn them about the impending 8-year degree time limit.

### **Degree Time Limit Extensions**

Doctoral students in good academic standing who experience extenuating circumstances that prevent them from completing their degrees within the requisite 8 years may petition for an extension of the degree time limit to the Vice Provost/Dean of the Graduate School. Such circumstances include military obligations, family and medical challenges, and other life events. A petition for an extension of the degree time limit requires support from the major professor, graduate coordinator, and academic unit head.

The petition for an extension of time must include the specific reasons why the student did not complete the degree in the time allotted and a detailed timeline proposal for the completion of the degree. The student's major professor must review the extension of time request and write a letter to the Vice Provost/Dean of the Graduate School stating approval or disapproval of the petition. The Graduate Coordinator and department head/chair (or Dean/Dean's delegate in instances where the School/College does not have departments) must review the major professor's recommendation and indicate their concurrence by writing an additional letter. If they do not concur with the recommendation, further justification should be provided in the letter.

The maximum extension of the degree time limit that may be granted is 24 months and the total time to degree shall not exceed 10 years.

If a petition for an extension of time is approved by the Vice Provost/Dean of the Graduate School, the student will be notified in writing of the expectations for progress, and of the expected timeline for degree completion.

If the petition is denied, the student will be notified in writing that they will be dismissed from the Graduate School. Students dismissed under such circumstances may appeal their dismissal to the Appeals Committee of Graduate Council.

### **Exceptions**

This policy does not apply to students who are enrolled in dual-degree or joint-degree programs that have different time-to-degree requirements (e.g., DVM/PhD). Such students must follow the policies of their respective programs.

# Enrollment Planning Grad Council



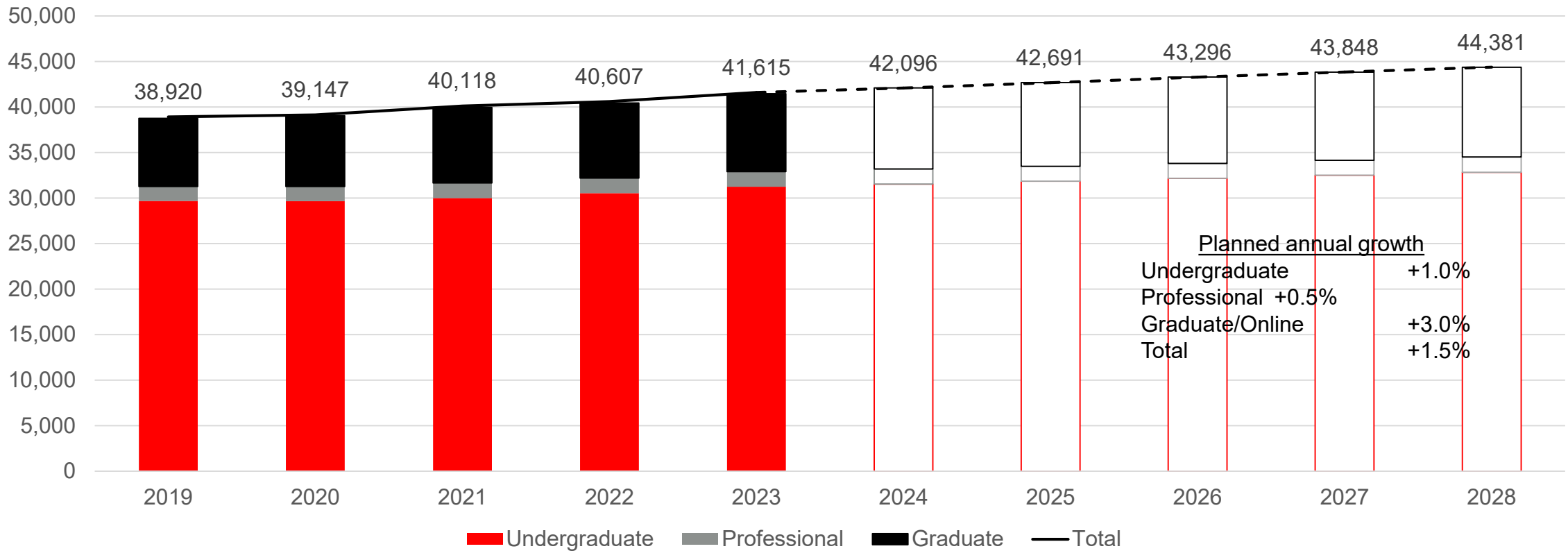
# Enrollment Management Strategy Group

- Our charge: Develop a five-year (2024-2028) EM strategy that includes projections for:
  1. Overall enrollment
  2. Revenue
  3. Student-to-Faculty Ratio
- Addressing the following issues:
  - First-year & transfer enrollment targets
  - Retention & Completion rates
  - Graduate education participation among current students (i.e. Double Dawgs)
  - Opportunities to increase total grad and professional enrollment
  - Funding model to develop, implement, and support new programs in high demand areas.
- Provide an interim report by May 2024 & final report by August 2024.

# Enrollment Strategy

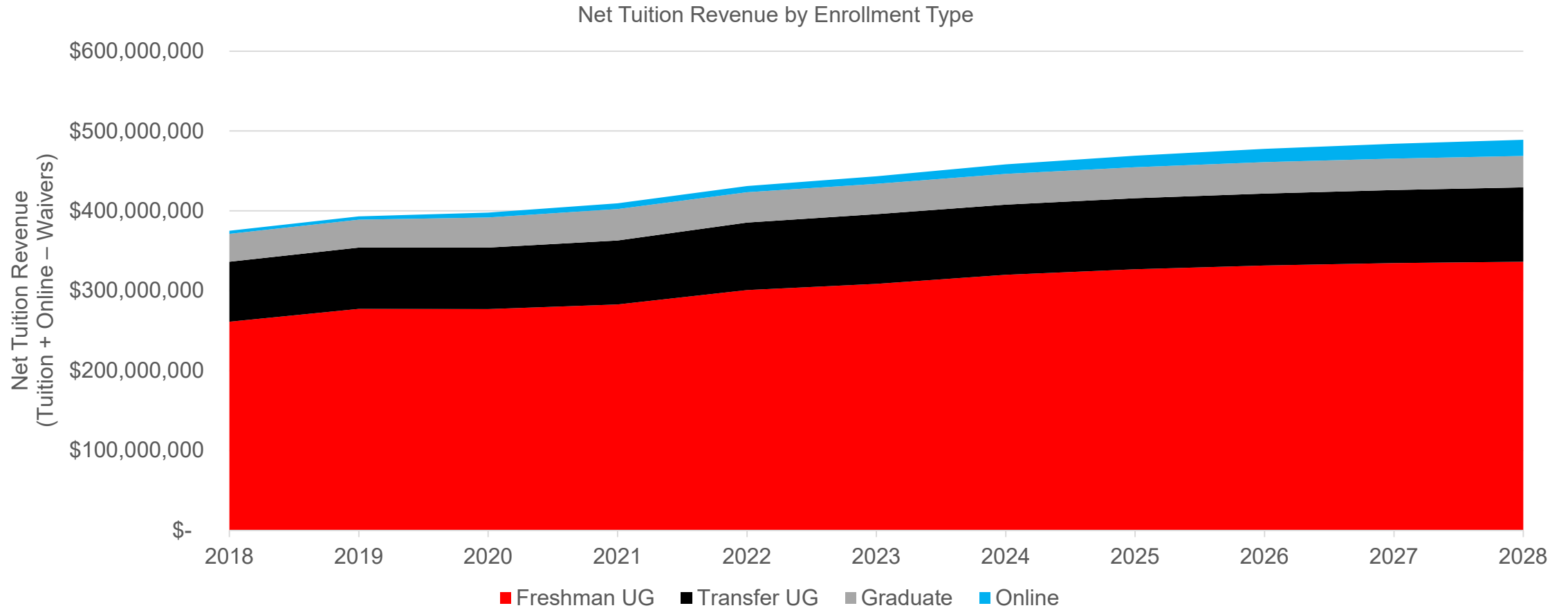
Enrollment growth is limited by physical space, not necessarily by limited market demand. The overall strategy is grow in high demand areas other than the freshmen undergraduate cohort.

UGA Fall enrollment 2019-2023, with projections 2024-2028



# Net Tuition Revenue

Enrollment growth is limited by physical space, not necessarily by limited market demand. The overall strategy is grow in high demand areas other than the freshmen undergraduate cohort.

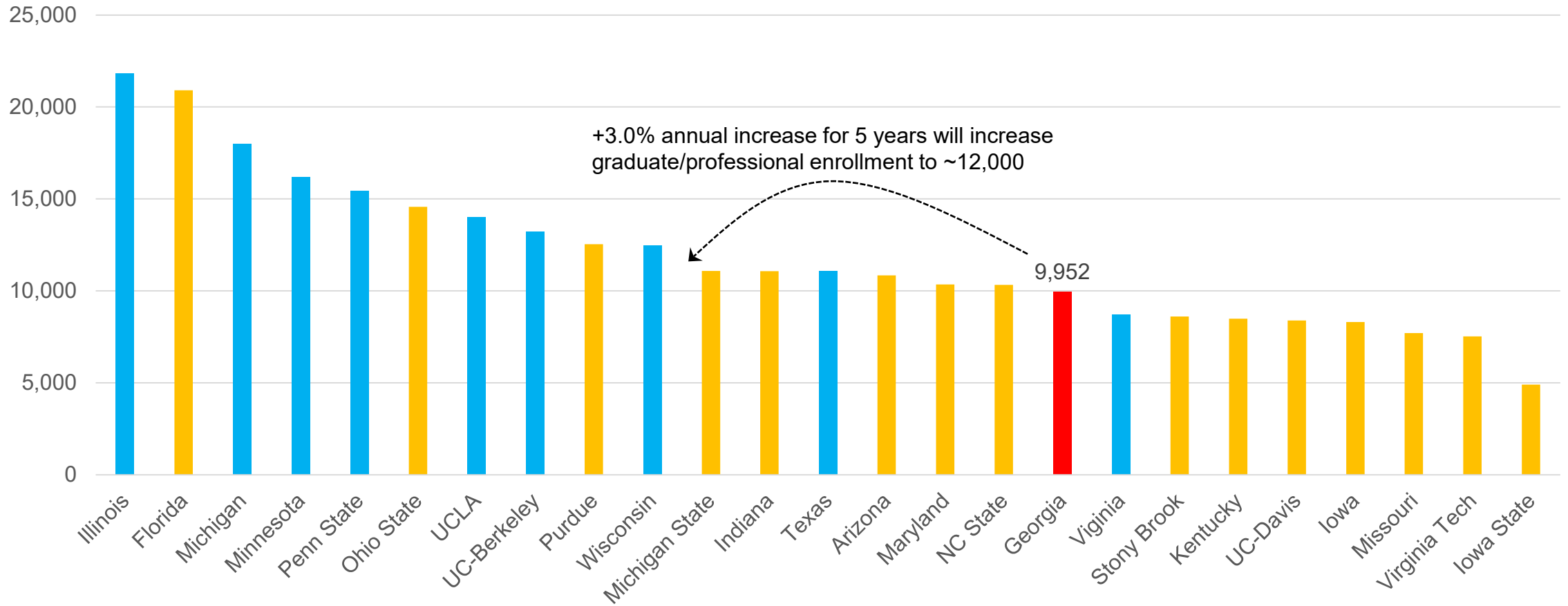




# Graduate Enrollment

Most aspirational & comparator peers have larger graduate enrollments. There is potential to grow graduate enrollment through new online programs and less reliance on tuition waivers.

Aspirational & Comparator Peers  
Fall 2021 Graduate Enrollment

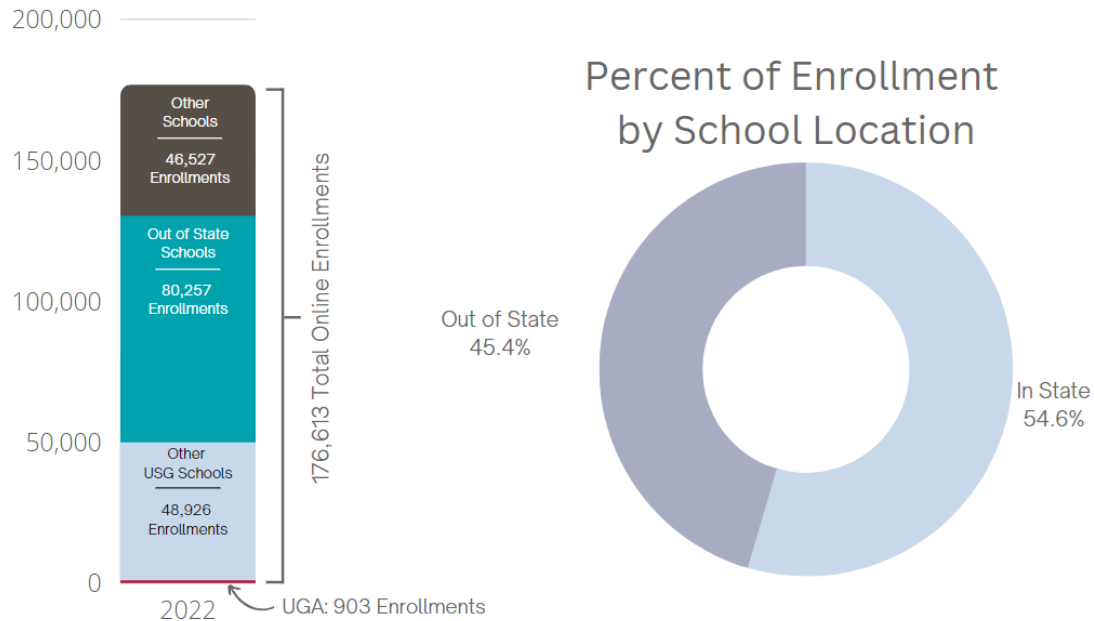


# Online Enrollment

There is capacity to grow online graduate programs in high demand areas.

## ONLINE LEARNING IN GEORGIA

2022



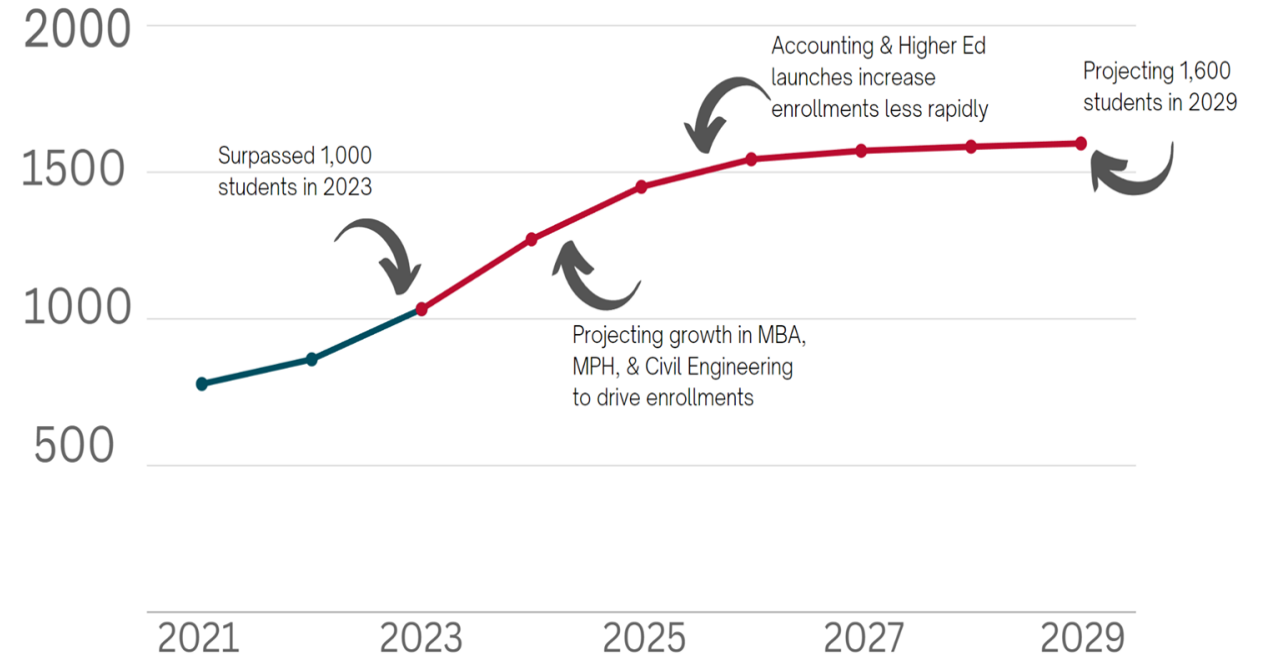
Source: National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)



## FULLY ONLINE GRADUATE ENROLLMENT

Fall Term Enrollment

Actual Projection



Source: Internal UGA Data



# PROJECTED PROGRAMS DRAWING

## GEORGIANS

Top 13 Master's  
Programs Offered Online  
by Out of  
State Competitors  
Enrolling Georgians

CIP	CIP Name
52.0201	Business Administration and Management, General
51.0701	Health/Health Care Administration/Management
51.3802	Nursing Administration
13.0301	Curriculum and Instruction
51.3801	Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse
13.0401	Educational Leadership and Administration, General
13.1001	Special Education and Teaching, General
52.1001	Human Resources Management/Personnel Administration
51.3805	Family Practice Nurse/Nursing
52.0213	Organizational Leadership
13.1202	Elementary Education and Teaching
44.0401	Public Administration
13.0501	Educational/Instructional Technology

**REFERENCE:**  
IPEDS and NC-SARA



## UGA Master's Degree Enrollment

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All Programs

Mean: **23.9**

Median: **12.0**

Online Programs

Mean: **40.4**

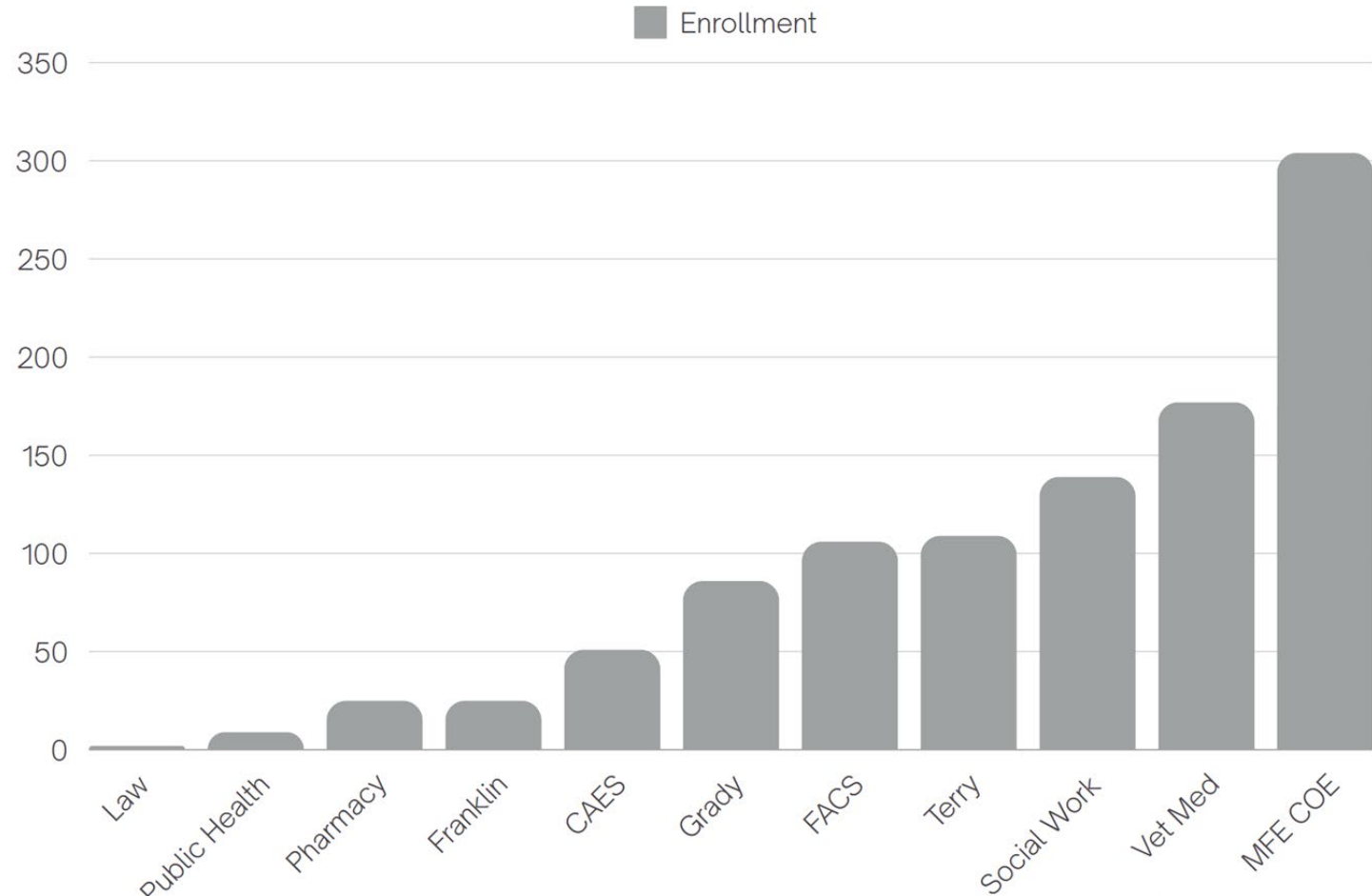
Median: **34**

Total Online Enrollment

**1,033**

# ONLINE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BY COLLEGE

Fall 2023 Graduate Enrollments



Source: Internal UGA Data



# Programs Under Development

Program Name	College	Desired Enrollment	Projected Launch
Clinical Trials	Pharmacy	30	2025
Pharmaceutical Sciences	Pharmacy	30	2025
Civil Engineering	Engineering	35	2025
Accounting	Business	20	2025
Higher Ed	IHE	30	2025
Data Science	Arts & Sciences	Discussion*	2025*

\* Proposal is being written

# Enrollment Strategy

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- There is existing demand for Georgia residents enrolling in online programs offered by out-of-state institutions.
- Account for online program development in enrollment projections.
- Enhance UGA's mechanism for online program development, as well as quality maintenance.

