

# *Biological Sciences Department*

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## Status of the Graduate Program

a report to the Faculty

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The Graduate Program is critical to the educational efforts of the faculty, and hopefully you will find this brief report informative. Comments should be directed to Dave Moriarty. Previous reports were issued in Fall 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003.

### Enrollment

As of August 26, 2004, the program has 88 classified graduate students (list appended). Not all students enroll in classes (supervisory or traditional) every quarter. Some take formal leaves of absence, and many are adept at “stopping out” for a quarter without losing their enrollment.

Enrollment in the graduate program, as measured by the number of students taking classes in Fall Quarter, is strong (Fig. 1). Enrollment in Fall 2003 was 74 students, the highest ever. Over the past 12 years, enrollment has grown at an average of 6% per year. This is very rapid growth – at this rate the program doubles in size every 11 years. Clearly, the department has neither the faculty nor fiscal resources to maintain this rate, and enrollment must stabilize.

### Admissions

The table below shows Admissions activity over the past eight academic years. Data for 1995-96 are approximate because the database to track activity was not implemented until midway through the period.

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Admitted Classified	~14	11	16	35	26	23	26	31	24
Admitted Conditional	~6	6	5	1	1	0	0	0	0
Denied	~4	9	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incomplete/ No Action	~26	25	15	15	11	14	13	13	9
Total	~50	51	48	51	38	37	39	44	33

Although the total number of applications for 2003-04 seems lower than previous years, this is biased by the fact that the University did not accept graduate applications for some quarters in 2003-04, and closed early in others. These closures were the result of enrollment management decisions.

### Information Requests

Year	Number of Packets Sent
1995-96	94
1996-97	133
1997-98	82
1998-99	76
1999-00	66
2000-01	28
2001-02	43
2003-03	21
2003-04	11

Requests for information are received by mail (electronic and traditional) and the telephone. The number of informational packets sent to prospective students for the past eight years appears in the table. I believe that the drop in total requests is due to more people accessing the information over the world wide web rather than direct contact.

The department is listed at the “gradschools .com” web site:  
<http://www.gradschools.com/listings/institutions/CSUPomona.html>

### **World Wide Web Site (<http://www.csupomona.edu/~biology/gradprog/>)**

The Graduate Program web site was updated in Summer 2004. The site serves as a recruitment medium and for the dissemination of information in an efficient manner. The updates to the site included the addition of substantial information for current students, including thesis and thesis defense. Comments on the web site would be appreciated.

### **Faculty Membership on Thesis Committees**

Appended (not available in web version) is a list of thesis committee membership for each faculty member. Students for whom the faculty member is the major professor are indicated. *Please inform the graduate coordinator of changes that should be made to this information.*

### **Students Who Have Not Filed a Program of Courses (GS-101)**

Appended (not available in web version) is list of students who have been classified graduate students for at least one year, but have not yet filed their Program of Courses. Please have students file the program as soon as reasonably possible. When funds are available to support research for graduate students, one of the usual eligibility requirements is to have the program on file.

### **Graduate Faculty Information**

Attached (not available in web version) is a listing of graduate faculty and research interests and/or other pertinent information. This information is included in the informational packets sent to prospective applicants, as well as on the Graduate Program world wide web page (see above). *Please inform the Graduate Coordinator of any changes to your information.* If you have a personal web page that is not linked from the graduate page, please send your URL to the graduate coordinator.

### **Graduate Student Research Funds**

In the 1998-99, 1999-00, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04 years, the department was able to allocate funds to support graduate research. A total of \$32,641.09 has been awarded (attached list - not available in web version) over the six years. Continuation of funding is uncertain.

### **Graduates by Quarter and Year**

A listing of graduates is appended (not available in web version). Information for this listing was obtained from the university BANNER system, so dates reflect the quarter in which the degree was actually awarded. This may not be the quarter in which the student completed or defended the thesis.

### **Acknowledgment**

I thank the faculty for their strong support of the Graduate Program. The faculty are not credited for the WTU they generate through graduate supervisory courses, for serving as major professors, or for serving on thesis committees. I know you do this work because you recognize the value of a strong graduate program to our students (both graduate and undergraduate) and to our faculty. Thank you for your sacrifices. It is a privilege to work for you.

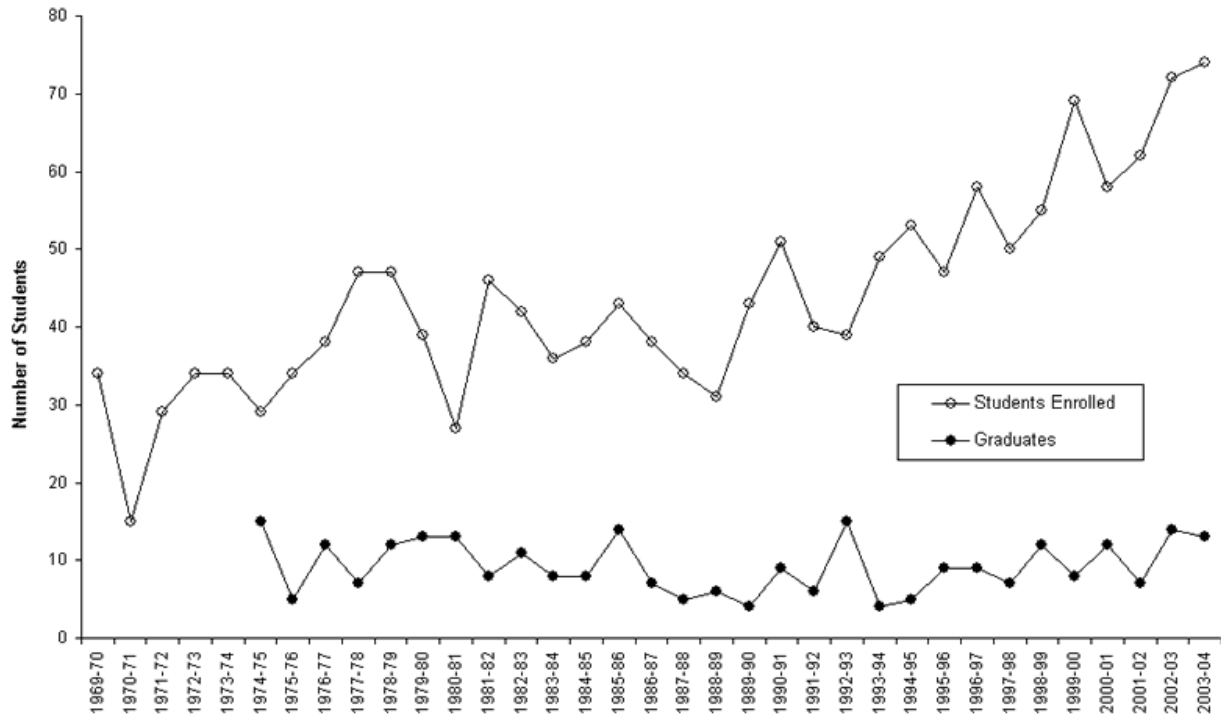


Fig. 1 Students enrolled in Fall Quarter 1969-1970 through 2003-2004 (open circles), and students graduated from 1974-1975 through 2003-2004 (filled circles).