

DATE: 12/6/17  
TO: Adrienne Hypolite  
FROM: Doreen Finkelstein, Research Analyst  
RE: 2016-17 Owl Scholar demographics (excerpt from larger report)

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**Introduction:**

This report identifies the demographics of students who were referred to the Owl Scholars program in the 2016-17 academic year. To provide some context about these students, demographic comparisons were made to all students who could have been considered for the Owl Scholars program, based on their enrollment in program-eligible courses.

In order to be eligible for referral to the Owl Scholars program, students had to be enrolled in one of the following 11 courses:

- Math 1A, Math 105, Math 220
- English 1T, English 110, English 209
- ESL 25, ESL 227, ESL 236, ESL 237, ESL 249

The study looked at all students who were referred to the Owl Scholars program, regardless of whether or not they received program services. Most students were referred to the program by faculty between the third and fourth weeks of the quarter (around Oct. 10-21 for fall quarter, Jan. 23-Feb. 3 for winter quarter, and April 24-May 5 for spring quarter). A few students were self-referred.

**Results Overview:**

- 399 students were referred to the Owl Scholars program for 430 courses.
- African American and Latinx students were slightly more likely to be referred than their classmates, while White and Asian students were slightly less likely to be referred.
- Male students were more likely to be referred than their female classmates.
- Students who reported a low income (\$25,000 or less) were slightly more likely to be referred than their classmates who did not report a low income.

- Students who were 25 or younger were more likely to be referred than their older classmates.

## Results Detail:

### ***Who was referred to the Owl Scholars program?***

399 students were referred to the Owl Scholars program in 2016-17. Some students were referred more than once: e.g., for different courses in the same quarter, or for different quarters over the year. Overall, the 399 students were referred 430 times.

Table 1 shows the demographics (ethnicity, gender, income level, and age) of students referred to the Owl Scholar program compared to the full population of students who were enrolled (as of census) in one or more of the 11 program-eligible courses. In the last column of the table, negative differences indicate that a student group is disproportionately more likely to be referred to the Owl Scholars program (their percentage rate among all program-eligible students is less than their percentage rate among Owl Scholar-referred students). Positive differences indicate that a student group is disproportionately less likely to be referred to the program (their percentage rate among all program-eligible students is greater than their percentage rate among Owl Scholar-referred students). All counts and percents reflect unique headcount: each student is only counted once in the data set even if they had multiple enrollments or multiple referrals to the program.

- ***Ethnicity findings:*** African American (-3% difference) and Latinx (-3% difference) students were slightly more likely to be referred than their classmates, while White (+5% difference) and Asian (+3% difference) students were slightly less likely to be referred.
- ***Gender findings:*** Male students were more likely to be referred (-5% difference) than their female classmates (+6% difference).
- ***Income level findings:*** Students who reported a low income (\$25,000 or less) were slightly more likely to be referred (-4% difference) than their classmates who did not report a low income (+4% difference).
- ***Age findings:*** Students who were 25 or younger were more likely to be referred (-6% difference) than their older classmates (+6% difference).

Table 1 Owl Scholar Students vs. All Students Enrolled in Program-Eligible Courses				
	Academic Year (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)			
Student Group	Percent of All Students in Program-Eligible Courses*	Percent of Owl Scholar-Referred Students	Count of Owl Scholar-Referred Students	Difference: % All Students - % Owl Scholars
<b>By Ethnicity</b>				
African American	5%	8%	32	-3%
Asian	30%	27%	106	+3%
Filipinx	5%	5%	21	0%
Latinx	32%	35%	140	-3%
Native American	0%	1%	2	0%
Pacific Islander	2%	2%	8	0%
White	24%	19%	75	+5%
Ethnicity Not Stated	3%	4%	15	-1%
<b>By Gender</b>				
Female	51%	46%	183	+6%
Male	48%	53%	213	-5%
Gender Not Stated	1%	1%	3	0%
<b>By Income</b>				
Low Income (\$25,000 or less)	29%	33%	132	-4%
Not Low Income	71%	67%	267	+4%
<b>By Age</b>				
25 years or younger	79%	84%	337	-6%
Older than 25	21%	16%	62	+6%
Total	100%	100%	399	

Note: Percents may not appear to sum due to rounding.

\*Defined as students who, as of census, were enrolled in at least one of the 11 courses eligible for referral into the Owl Scholars program.

### Methodology:

The list of students referred to the Owl Scholars program in 2016-17 was received from the program. Demographic information for these students was obtained by linking them via their CWID to the Banner ODS table SS\_Student\_Term\_Attributes.

The list of program-eligible courses in 2016-17 was received from the program. The list of students enrolled in these courses was retrieved from the Banner ODS table Registration\_Analysis. Demographic information for them was then obtained by joining these results to the Banner ODS table SS\_Student\_Term\_Attributes.