



UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA  
SOUTHEAST

# FALL 2024 CONVOCATION

## SHAPING OUR FUTURE: INSIGHTS, INNOVATION & STUDENT SUCCESS AT UAS

Carin Silkaitis, Interim Provost

Kristen Handley, Institutional Effectiveness Director



# Agenda

- Accreditation Update 01
- Strategic Planning Update 02
- Let's Get to Know Our Students 03
- Gardner Update 04





# NWCCU

NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON  
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

# Accreditation Update



## Completed Reports

- 7 Year Self-Study (Spring 2019): Onsite review, UAS was Reaffirmed with 5 commendations and 3 recommendations
- Mid-Cycle Review (Spring 2022): Virtual site visit, NWCCU accepted the UAS mid-cycle report and determined prior recommendations to be Fulfilled

## In-Progress Reports

- Year 6 PRFR (Spring 2025): Report on Standard 2 – Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review (PRFR)
- Year 7 Summative Evaluation of Mission Fulfillment (Spring 2026): Report on Institutional Effectiveness (Self-Study)

# NWCCU Accreditation Committee



Carin Silkaitis



Kristen Handley



Terissia Bell



Louisa Cryan



Lori Klein



Paul Kraft



Jon Lasinski



Nathan Leigh



Mona Mametuska



Cory Ortiz



Anita Parrish



Carlee Simon



Kristy Smith



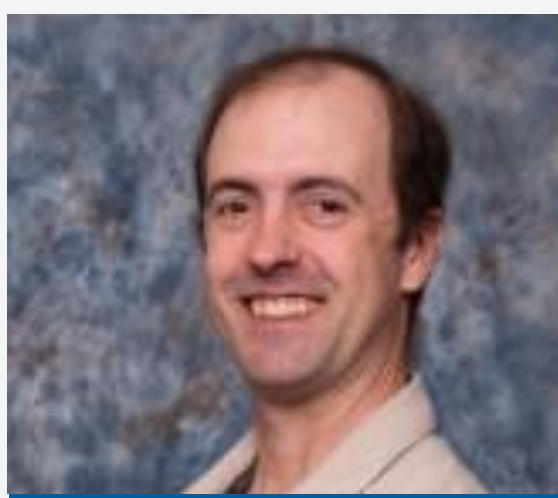
Alison Staudinger



Mark Thompson



Elise Tomlinson



William Urquhart II



Jennifer Ward

# NWCCU 2024-25 Timeline

Fall  
2024

Year 6 PRFR Report Development

Year 7 Self-Study Report Development

- Subject Matter Experts assigned sections of report
- Provost and committee members provide feedback on all sections

Spring  
2025

PRFR Report Due March 1st

- NWCCU preliminary review prior to official submission (Jan '25)
- Provost and committee finalize report

Self-Study Report development is ongoing

# NWCCU 2025-26 Timeline

Fall  
2025

Year 7 Self-Study Report

- Subject Matter Experts assigned sections of report
- Provost and committee members provide feedback on all sections

Preparations made for NWCCU on-site evaluation

Spring  
2026

Self-Study Report Due March 1st

- NWCCU preliminary review prior to official submission (Jan '26)
- Provost and committee finalize self-study report

NWCCU and Peer Evaluator Site Visit

# PRFR Report Details

## Governance, Resources, and Capacity

2.A: Governance

2.B: Academic Freedom

2.C: Policies & Procedures

2.D: Institutional Integrity

2.E: Financial Resources

2.F: Human Resources

2.G: Student Support Resources

2.H: Library and Information Resources

2.I: Physical and Technology Infrastructure





# Institutional Effectiveness

## Report Details

### Student Success, and Institutional Mission and Effectiveness

1.A: Institutional Mission

1.B: Improving Institutional Effectiveness

1.C: Student Learning

1.D: Student Achievement



# UAS Strategic Planning

Black Fox Strategy

Erin Sedor

Black Fox Strategy's approach:

- Create a balanced focus on purpose, growth, and evolution.
- Put existing strategy into new perspective and create an embedded mechanism to prioritize time, energy, and resources for the greatest good of the organization.
- We emphasize strategic thinking discipline over static plan writing.



# Strategic Planning Steering Committee



Aparna Palmer



Abi Spofford



Ronalda Cadiente  
Brown



Kristen Handley



Colleen Ianuzzi



Jon Ingman



Trisha Lee



Carin Silkaitis



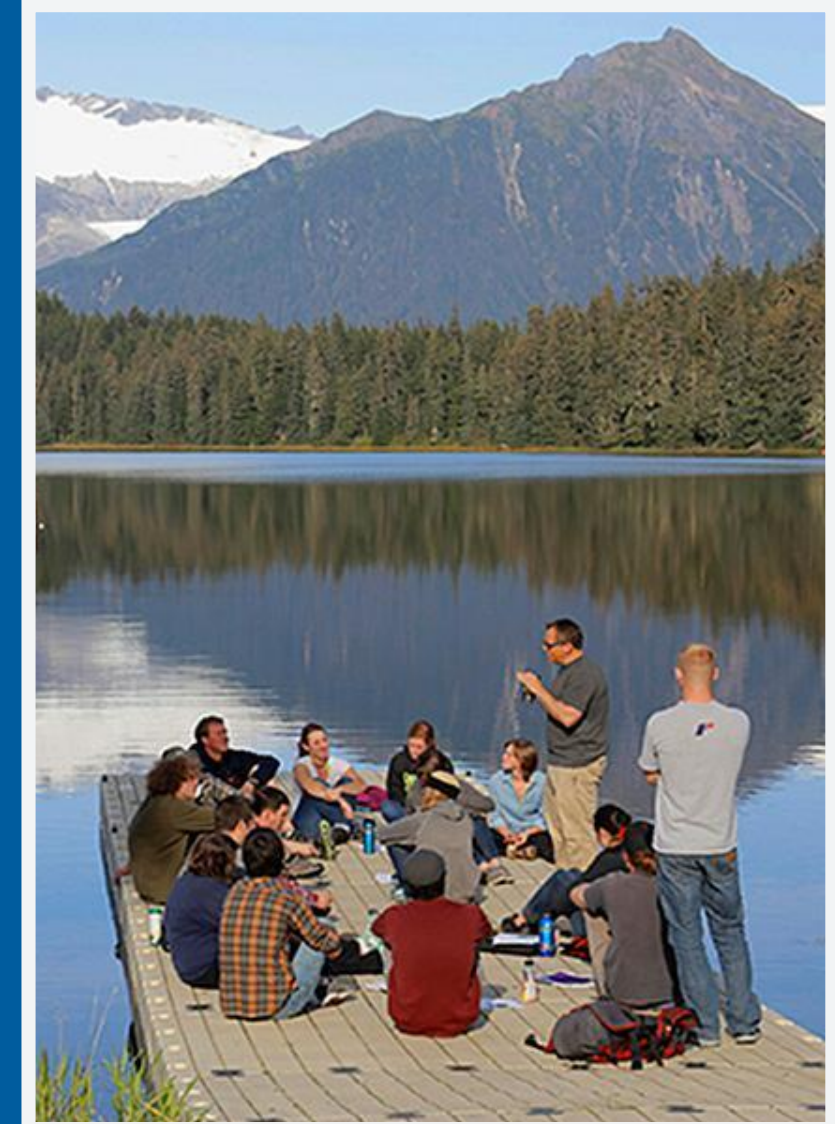
Shayla Sulser

# Strategic Planning Process



Get Involved!

Faculty and Staff Survey Launching Today



# Questions - Sneak Peak!

How would you describe UAS to a prospective student?

What makes UAS a unique institution for student learning?

In 5 years, how would you like to see UAS described (in 3 words)?

5 years from now, how would you want to describe the students enrolling at UAS?

What will these future students need to succeed at UAS?

In what ways must we evolve to meet the future that you envision for UAS?

What innovations in academic programs do you believe could enhance the university's offerings?

What innovations in student services do you believe could enhance the university's offerings?



**Let's Get to Know Our Students!**

Fall 2024 Students

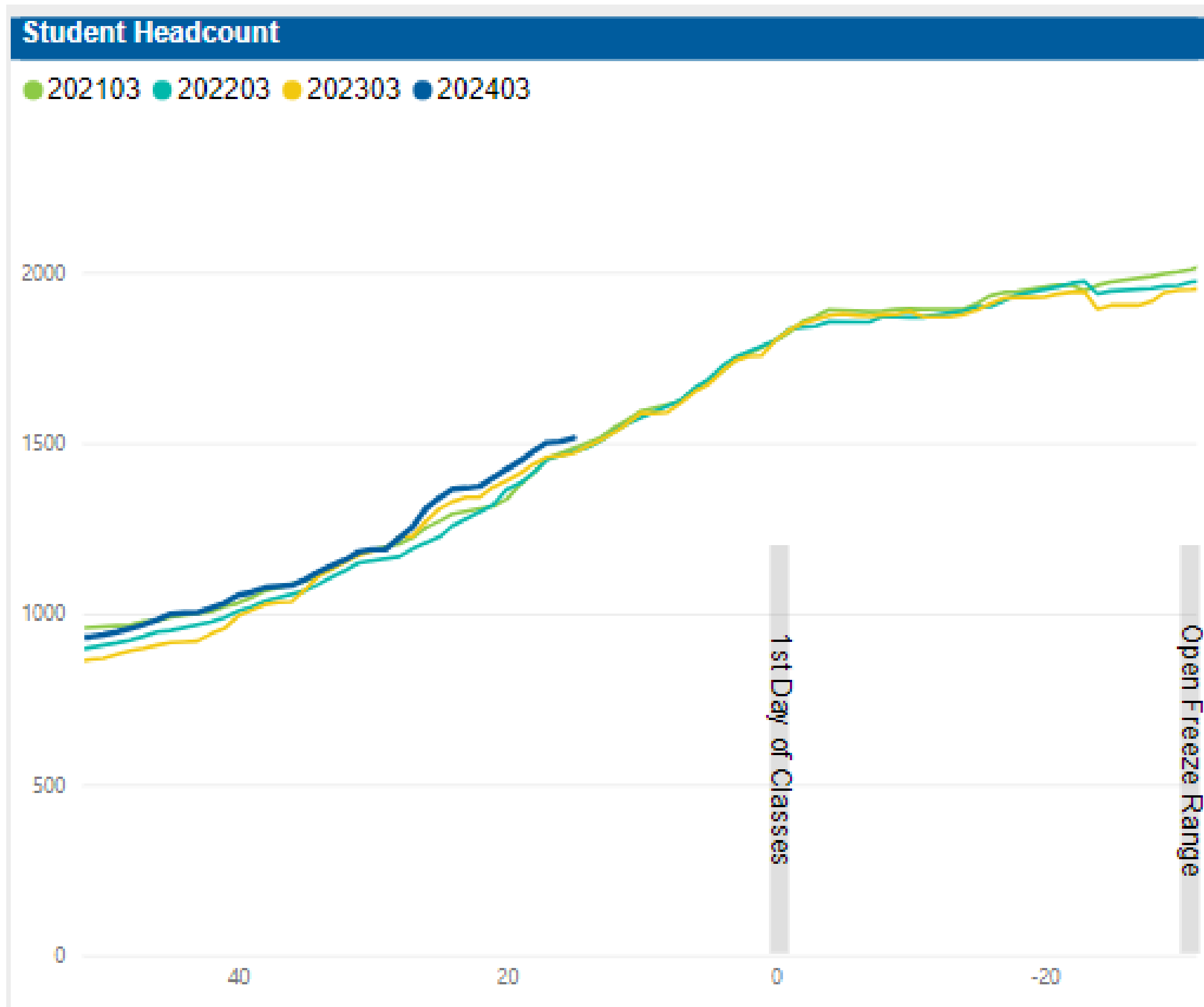
# Fall 2024 Enrollment

As of August 12, 2024

1,509



# Historical Trends



Open Freeze Goal:  
1,962

~77% of total students  
have likely enrolled

We still have close to  
1/4th of our students  
left to enroll!

# Fall 2024 Enrollment

**67%**

Degree Seeking Students (1,011)

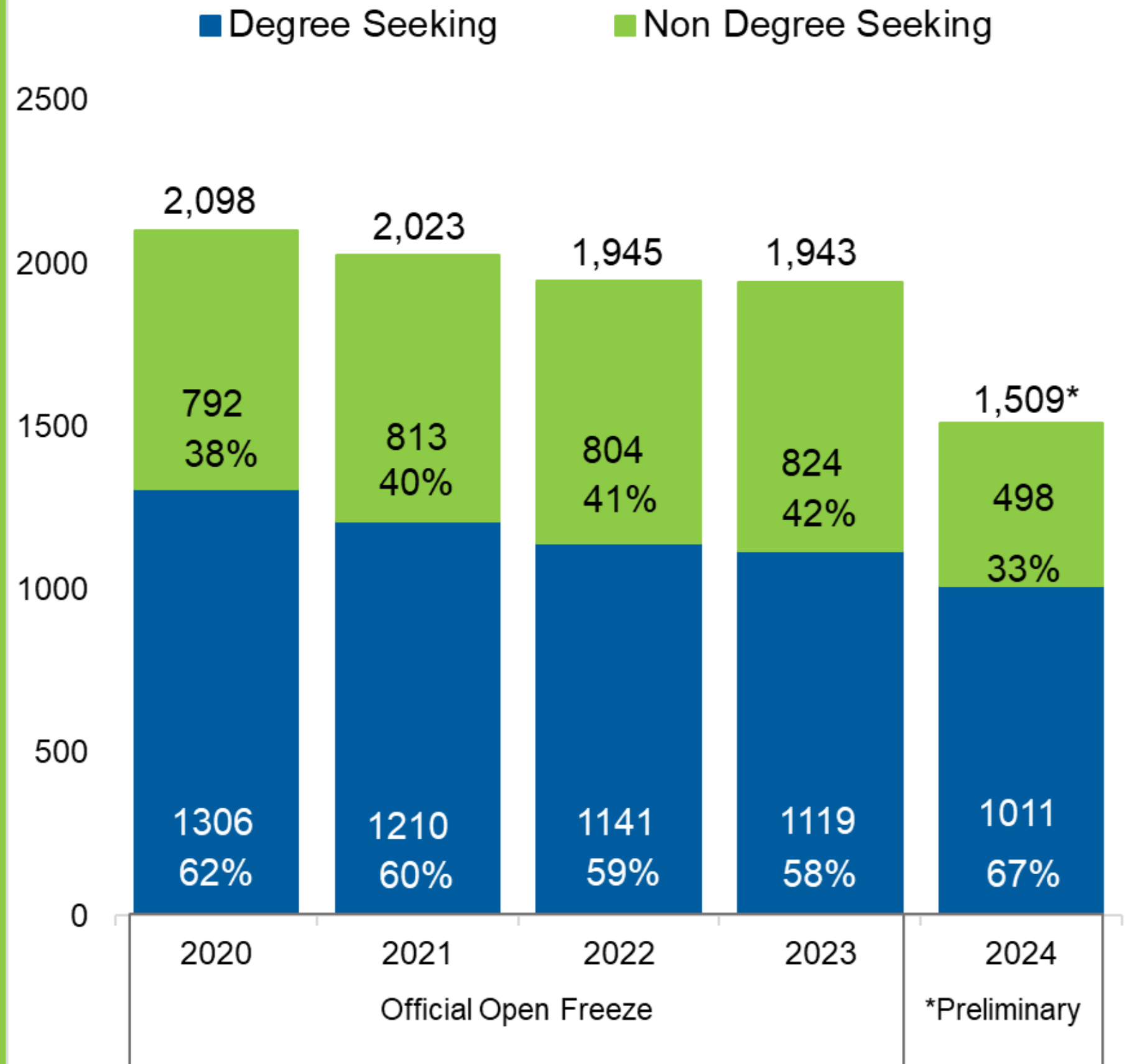
**65%**

Part-Time Students (660)

**45%**

Enrolled in at least 1 in-person course (455)

## Student Headcount



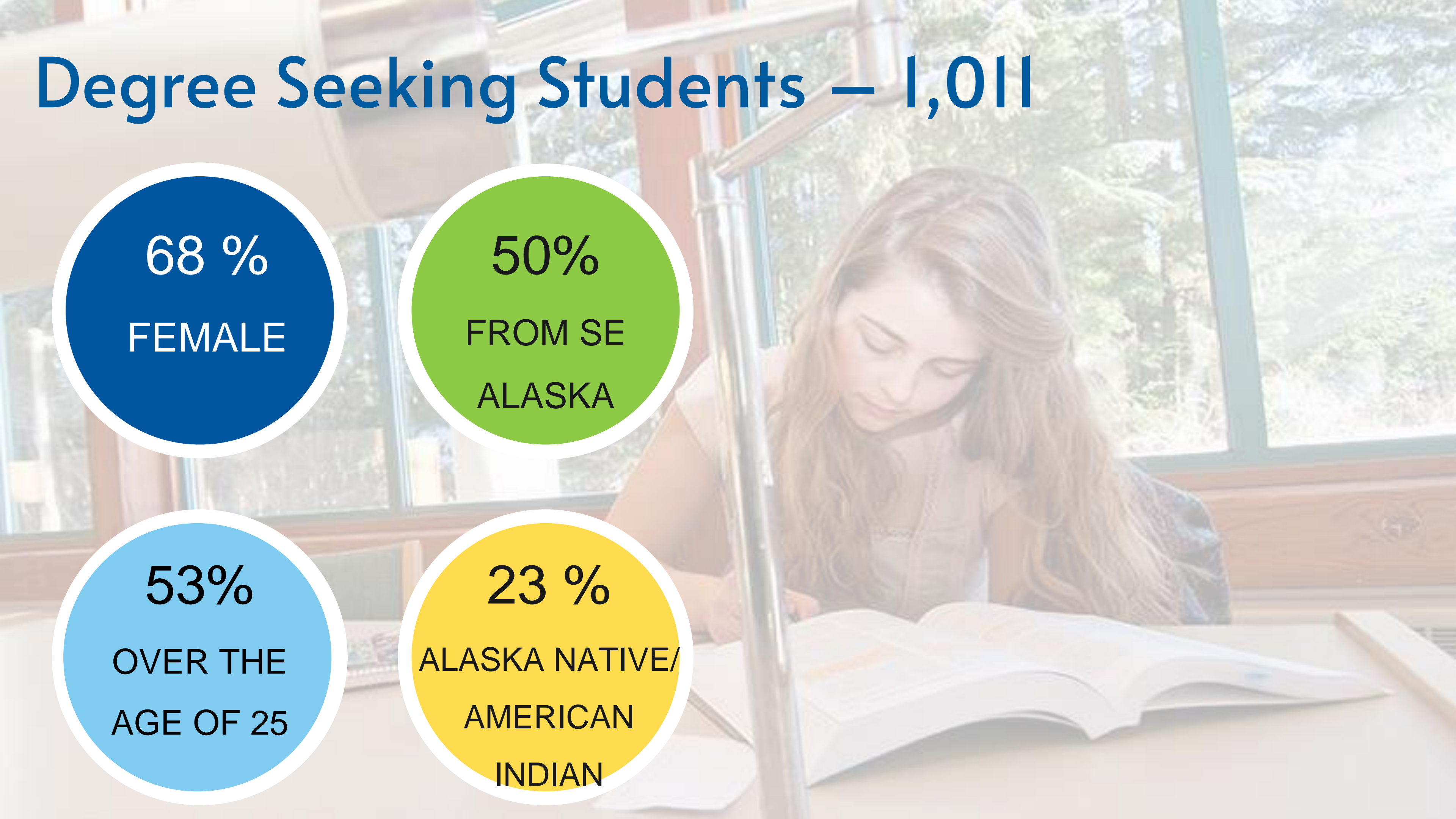
# Degree Seeking Students – 1,011

68 %  
FEMALE

50%  
FROM SE  
ALASKA

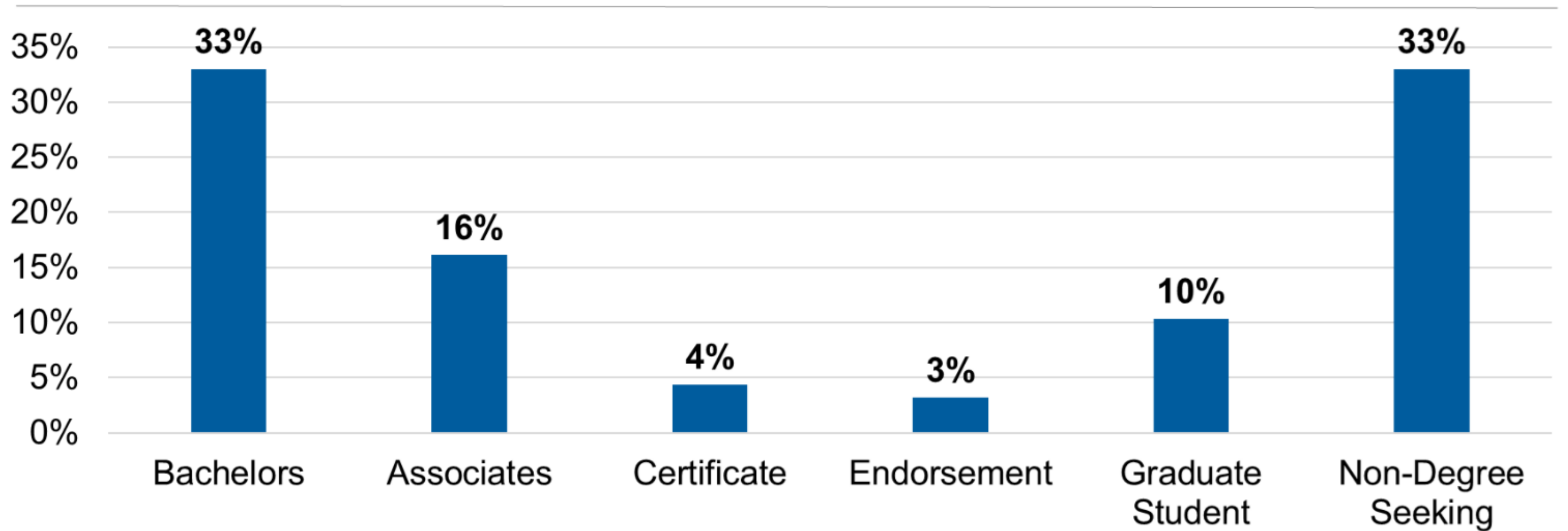
53%  
OVER THE  
AGE OF 25

23 %  
ALASKA NATIVE/  
AMERICAN  
INDIAN



# Enrollment by Degrees Sought

## Degrees Students Are Seeking



# Popular Majors

AA General Program

92 students

BBA Business  
Administration

90 students

BS Marine Biology

69 students

BA Social Science

62 students

BA Elementary  
Education

52 students

AAS Health Science

43 students

# Incoming Students

**264**

Newly Enrolled Degree Seekers  
(26% of degree seeking students)

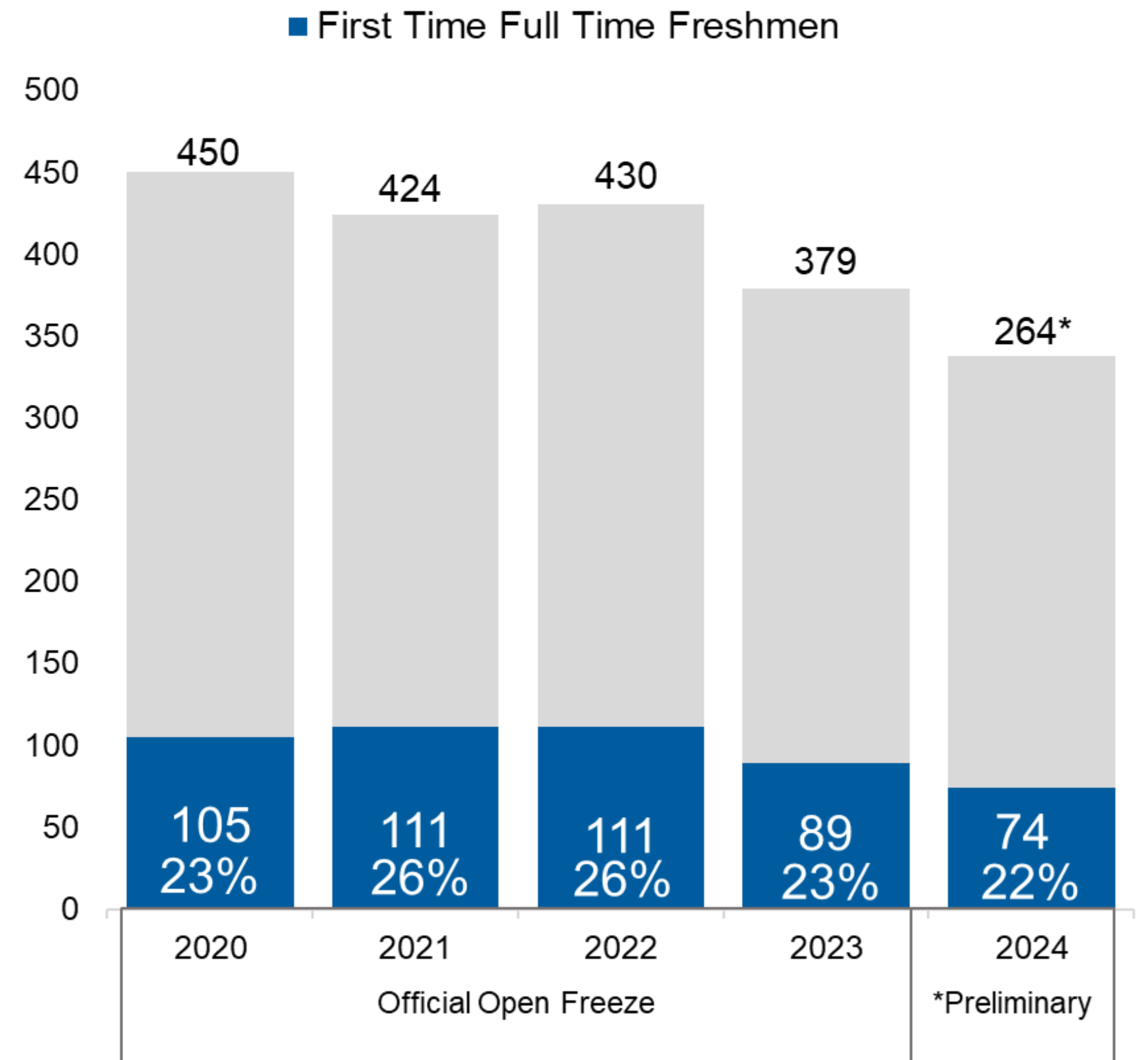
**54%**

Entering as Full-Time Students  
\*of newly enrolled

**28%**

First-Time Full-Time Freshmen  
\*of newly enrolled

## New Degree Seeking Students





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# Admissions

Brenna Heintz

Director of Admissions



New Marketing Plan!



Full Recruitment Team!



Leveraging Faculty Expertise!

# Student Success

## Fall to Fall Retention

71%

- The Fall 2022 First Time Full Time Bachelor Seeking Freshmen cohort had a retention rate of 71%, meaning 71% of these students returned to UAS in Fall 2023.
- This is 6% above the Fall 2021 cohort.
- IPEDS Survey: Fall Enrollment

## 150% Bachelor's Completion Rate

33%

- Of the Fall 2017 First Time Full Time Bachelor Seeking Freshmen cohort, 33% completed a bachelor's degree within 6 years, or in 150% time to degree.
- This is 7% above the Fall 2016 cohort.
- IPEDS Survey: Graduation Rates

## Overall 150% Graduation Rate

30%

- Of the Fall 2017 First Time Full Time Freshmen cohort (seeking any degree), 30% completed a degree within 150% time of that degree.
- This is 5% above the Fall 2016 cohort.
- IPEDS Survey: Graduation Rates

## Transfer Out Rate

13%

- Of the Fall 2017 First Time Full Time Freshmen cohort (seeking any degree), 12% transferred to another institution by 150% time.
- This is 11% below the Fall 2016 cohort.
- IPEDS Survey: Graduation Rates







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INSTITUTE**

# Transforming The Foundational Postsecondary Experience



Lori Klein



Carin Silkaitis



Glenn Wright



Kristen Handley





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## Completed Projects

- ITA/RWA Survey (Fall '23)
- Sensemaking (Fall '23)
- Finance Training (Spring '24)

## Ongoing Projects

- Emergency Aid Academy (Spring '24 & ongoing)



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## Fall 2024/Spring 2025 Initiatives

- Retention, Persistence, and Student Success Academy (Fall '24)
- CAO Innovation Community (Fall '24)
- Retention Redesign (Spring '25)

## Future Initiatives

- Retention Projects Developed through Retention Academy & Retention Redesign
- Gateway Course Redesign
- First Year Experience/First Year Redesign
- Data Informed Culture

# Strategic Planning!

## Faculty & Staff Survey Launching Today

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- What makes UAS a unique institution for student learning?
- In 5 years, how would you like to see UAS described (in 3 words)?
- Five years from now, how would you want to describe the students enrolling at UAS?
- What will these future students need to succeed at UAS?
- In what ways must we evolve to meet the future that you envision for UAS?
- What innovations in academic programs do you believe could enhance the university's offerings?
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