

Attention: Managing, News and Education Editors

Date: Monday, October 31, 2011

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Benedictine University at Springfield Enrollment Up 15 percent

Springfield, Illinois -Benedictine University at Springfield has crossed the 1,000-student mark in its enrollment, a goal targeted since Benedictine University began offering globally-recognized academic programs in Springfield in 2003.

Enrollment numbers for the fall semester indicate an increase of more than 15 percent from last year. As of October 15, the federal enrollment reporting date, a total of 1,023 students were enrolled on the Springfield branch campus. The total includes 904 undergraduate and 119 graduate students currently enrolled this fall at Benedictine University at Springfield.

“We are very pleased with the growth, especially in today’s economy,” said Executive Vice President Charles Gregory. “We’re serving the Central Illinois community and our students better than ever. I recently met with members of our community to say ‘Thank you’ to our students, faculty and staff in addition to members of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce who have all helped to make this happen.”

One year ago, fall enrollment totaled 886 students with 783 undergraduates and 103 graduates in Benedictine academic programs.

Benedictine University offers programs aimed at educating an experienced workforce. Academic programs include 17 undergraduate majors, five graduate programs and a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Organization Development.

Benedictine University at Springfield’s marvelous growth is vested in offering a curriculum that connects real-world experiences with professors who are professionals in their respective fields.

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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“With my bachelor’s degree in Communication Arts, I was able to receive a full time job immediately following graduation,” said Benedictine alumnus Laikyn Harmony. “With the wide range of courses that Benedictine had to offer, I am able to do both marketing and design professionally.”

Growth is not restricted to the Springfield branch campus. The *Chronicle of Higher Education* recently listed Benedictine University as the seventh-fastest growing college campus in the United States among private, nonprofit master’s universities based on total head count (full- and part-time students, undergraduate and graduate students). Benedictine grew by 81 percent during the period that the study was conducted (2004-2009).

“A Benedictine value is the concern for the development of each person,” said Benedictine University President William J. Carroll, Ph.D. “We are already looking ahead as we continue to grow both programs and our resources on the Springfield branch campus. Our academic offerings sustainably stay in the forefront. Our challenge now is to see how we can creatively better serve our community. There is no resting at this milestone.”

For more information, visit <http://springfield.ben.edu> or call (217) 525-1420.

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Benedictine University at Springfield is an independent Roman Catholic institution located in the Illinois state capital. Founded in 1887, Benedictine provides 17 undergraduate majors, five graduate and one doctorate program in Springfield, in addition to a wide range of athletic opportunities for students through membership in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).