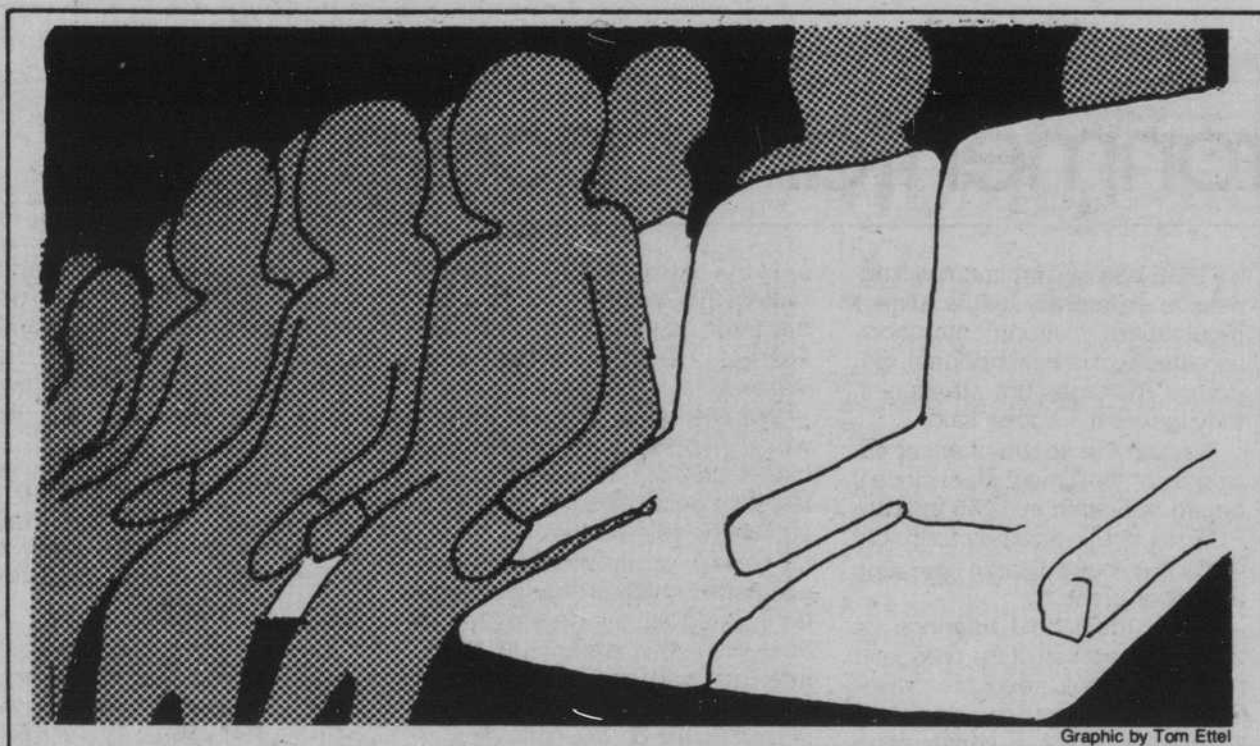




Graphic by Tom Ettel

Enrollment turns down

University enrollment figures through the third week of classes show a decrease compared to winter term last year says University Registrar Wanda Johnson.

Total enrollment dropped 1.5 percent, Johnson says. The most significant declines hit the sophomore and senior levels.

"Our graduate students are holding. The freshmen are holding," says Johnson. "Attrition is the problem."

Attrition begins at the sophomore level. "There's a great deal of effort going on to determine how to diminish this dropout rate," she says.

University Pres. William Boyd says though he has not yet received a report from the budget office, he anticipates a one percent decrease in state funding due to the enrollment decrease. Under present policy, the state decreases funding on a scale of no more than one percent each year, cushioning the effect of enrollment drops.

State funding is determined by a number of factors, Boyd says, making it difficult to know initially what effect an enrollment drop will have.

The number of undergraduate students at the end of the third week of classes was 10,986, compared to 11,250 undergraduates registered at the same time a year ago.

The freshman class, however, increased from 2,551 last winter term to 2,639 at the end of the third week this term.

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English teaching fellows gain temporary pay raise

By MIKE HOPKINS
Of the Emerald

Graduate teaching fellows in the English department will get a temporary pay raise, but other GTFs will just have to work fewer hours to conform to workload standards contained in the recent collective bargaining agreement the University and the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation.

The salary increase in the form of higher FTE (full-time equivalent) appointment levels for the department's 62 GTFs, was approved by Paul Olum, University vice president and Provost.

On Nov. 14 Olum directed University department heads and agencies to submit written reports of the number of hours GTFs needed to properly perform their jobs. During the preparation of this report, English department chairer George Wickes discovered that GTFs in his employ were working more than they were being paid for.

As explained in a Dec. 18 memorandum from Olum, most English GTFs were hired in the fall at a 0.3 FTE level to teach four courses during the three-term academic year.

However, University administrators have determined that the time required to teach four courses per year would exceed the normal workload standards contained in the contract signed last November.

The contract's workload provision defines a 0.3 FTE appointment as roughly equal to 450 hours per academic year — excluding summer term — or 150 hours per term.

Olum said the GTFs' situation in the English department forced him to make an "honest analysis" that teaching one course per term is about 150 hours of work.

Olum's memorandum notified English GTFs that those holding 0.3 FTE appointments during fall term would work at the 0.4 FTE level during winter and spring terms. FTEs for the remainder of

the department's GTFs would be prorated accordingly.

Next year, the memo said, the English department will revert to hiring GTFs at the 0.3 FTE level to teach three courses per year.

Meanwhile, the University has resisted efforts to raise FTE levels in at least one other department where GTFs feel their customary workloads exceed the contract's normative standards.

Louis Olivier, who chairs the Department of Romance Languages, reports the University turned down his request to raise FTE levels in his department. He said he was told that GTFs accustomed to working more than present standards allow simply must

find a way to work fewer hours.

"Lou thought he could make the case that teaching one course means more than 150 hours," Olum said.

The University settled on the "3-courses-equals-450-hours" formula, Olum said, because, except for English, that is the typical pattern. Olum added that the University doesn't have the money to raise FTEs in any departments other than English.

The workload article proved to be one of the stickiest items discussed during more than 12 months of collective bargaining between the GTFF and the University. It was the last provision in the 33-article contract to be settled.

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