Matanuska-Susitna College
Fall 2008

Distinguishing Characteristics

- More than three quarters (78%) of the students attend part-time; nearly half (49%) take fewer than 6 credits.

- More than two thirds are considered “non degree-seeking;” that is, they have not been admitted to one of the certificate or associate degree programs offered by Mat-Su College. Some of these students may be seeking degrees from other University of Alaska campuses.

- More than two thirds of Mat-Su students are under the age of 30, the highest percentage of all UAA campuses. Twelve percent are age 17 and under.

- Mat-Su has the highest percentages of degree-seeking (32%) and full-time (22%) students of all UAA campuses outside of Anchorage.

- Fourteen percent are ethnic minority students. The largest minority group consists of Alaska Native students, who make up 36% of the minority student population and 5% of the total student population.
Trends, By Student Characteristic

- The Fall 2008 headcount of 1,636 is 32% higher than the Fall 1998 headcount, but it doesn’t yet reach the peak of 1,783 the college experienced in Fall 2003.

- **Male** students have increased 57%, while female students have increased 22%.

- **Traditional-age** college students (18-24) have increased 84% since Fall 1998, with particularly large increases in the 20-24 age group which has more than doubled (109%). The 17 and under age group increased 84%, the 25-29 age group increased 74%, and the over 60 age group increased by 6. Two age groups declined: the 30-39 group by 10% and the 40-49 group by 31%. The 50-59 age group stayed the same at 75.

- **Ethnic minority** students have increased 94% since Fall 1998, with large percentage increases in all groups. Alaska Native students remain the largest ethnic minority group, with increases of 70% over the ten-year period.

- **Certificate- and degree-seeking** students have increased 56% since Fall 1998. Ninety-eight percent of the students in this category are seeking associate degrees.

- **Full-time** students have increased 9% over the ten-year period, while part-time students have increased 41%.

Non-Credit Students

In addition to the credit students included in this profile, Matanuska-Susitna College had 117 students taking non-credit or continuing education coursework during Fall 2008. Non-credit students will be profiled separately in the future.

**Source:** UAA Office of Institutional Research. 1998-2002 data comes from Fall 2002 Closing Report (UAA Student Headcount Trend by Campus and Student Characteristic) and UAA Students by Age Group, Fall 1998-Fall 2001. 2003-2008 data comes from Fall Semester Closing Reports (Closing Headcount by Student Characteristic by Campus)