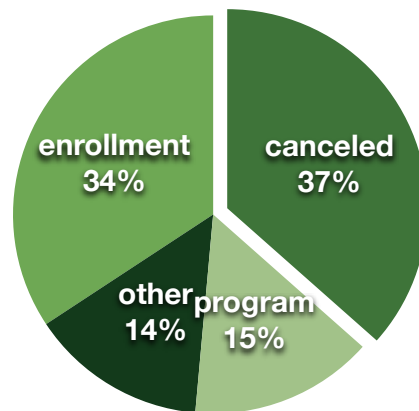


What was the impact of the enrollment management process?

In the spring 2015 schedule there were 175 sections in 40 disciplines (out of approximately 750 offerings) that experienced low enrollment. Of these low enrolled sections, slightly more than one-third, were ultimately canceled. The remainder were kept open for reasons of program need, history of late enrollments, or other compelling rationale.

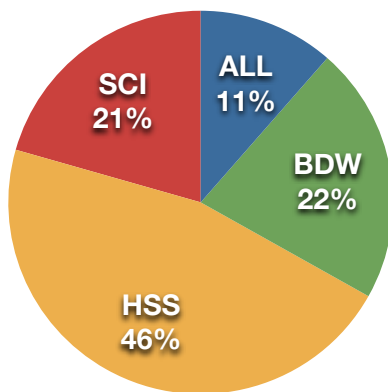
Fate of low enrolled sections



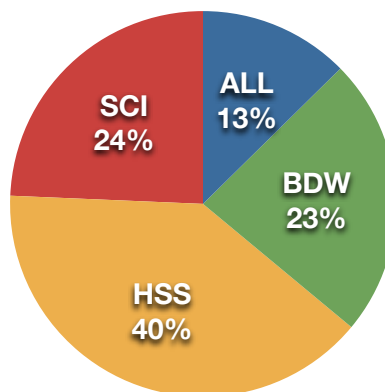
Did the enrollment management process impact all instructional divisions?

All four divisions had low enrolled sections. Since each division offered a different schedule of course offerings, equal impact across divisions should not be expected. The proportion of sections that were ultimately kept open was comparable to the initial distribution of low enrolled sections. The proportion of sections ultimately canceled was similar to, but slightly different from that initial distribution of sections.

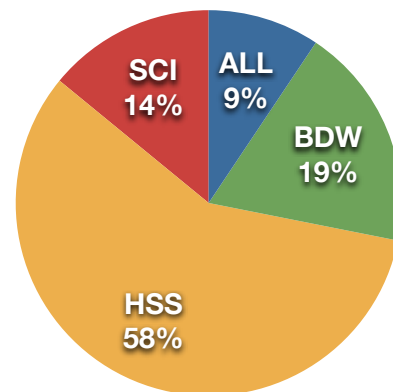
Low enrolled sections by division



Sections Kept Open



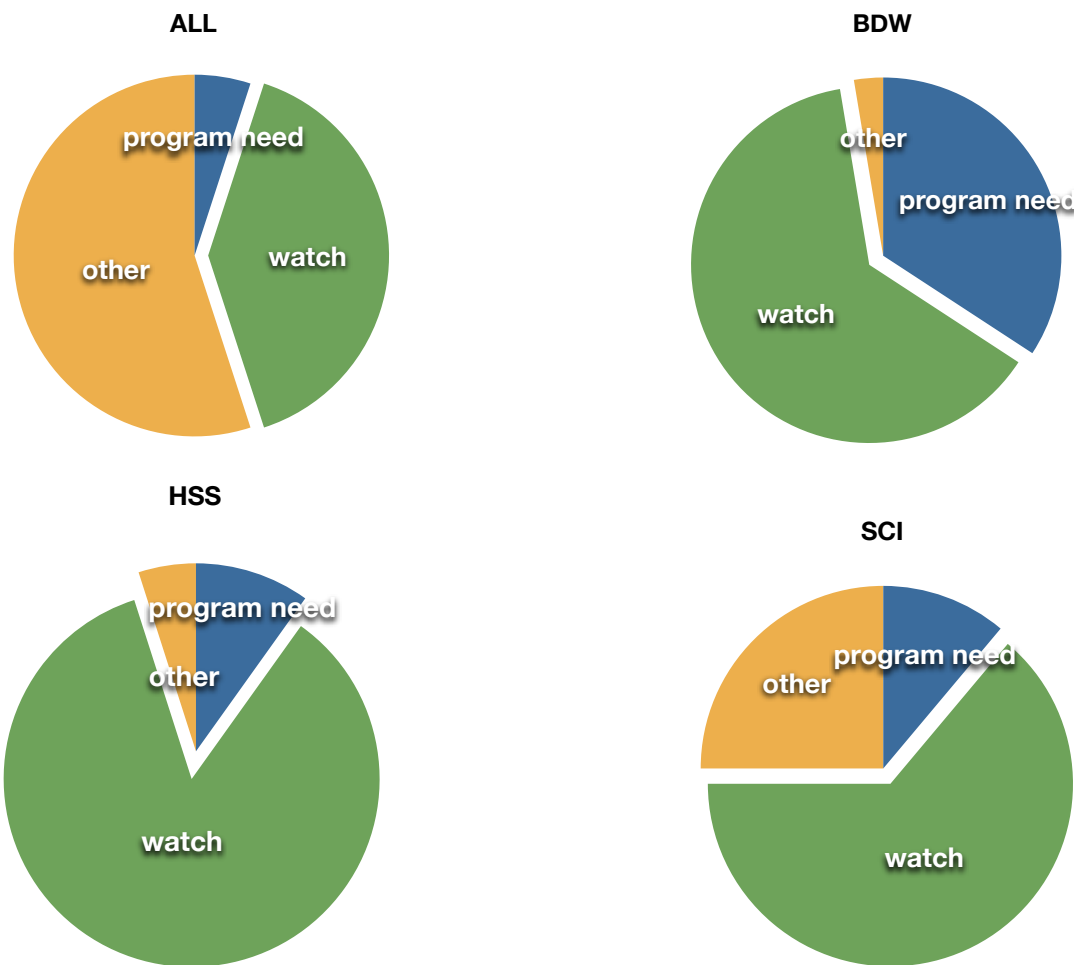
Canceled sections



Were there trends in the types of reasons given to justify keeping sections open?

Every division argued that some of their low enrolled courses needed to stay open due to “program need” or “other compelling rationale”. In many cases, the administration agreed and kept 29% of all low-enrolled sections (51 sections) open based on these two justifications. The average enrollment on day 1 for these sections was 14.4 students; only 9 sections achieved an enrollment of 20 or more by Feb. 9. Without the opportunity to argue “program need/other rationale” the vast majority of these sections would have been below minimum enrollment.

These 51 “saved” sections represent significantly different proportions of the total number of low enrolled sections in each division. For example, 60% of the low enrolled sections in the ALL division were saved by program need/other justification whereas these justifications accounted for only 15% of the low enrolled sections in HSS.

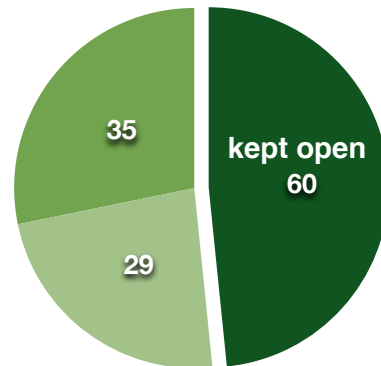


Eighty percent of all the “program need” justifications came from the BDW and HSS divisions (50% and 31% respectively). In contrast, eighty percent of the “other compelling rationale” justifications came from the ALL and SCI divisions (44% and 36% respectively). These data reinforce the fact that each division has its own unique circumstances and managing enrollment cannot be approached with a one-size-fits-all strategy.

What happened to the watch-listed sections? Did they get their late enrollments?

The remaining 71% of low enrolled sections (124 sections) that were not kept open for the aforementioned reasons were examined for their historical likelihood of obtaining late enrollments. Sections with low potential for late enrollment were canceled early, those with higher potential were placed on a watch list to see if predictions of late enrollment would materialize. 48% of these sections (60 sections) were ultimately kept open as last-minute enrollments did occur. 62% of these sections were up to the 20-student minimum by the first day of class and 88% by Feb. 9. Seven of the 60 sections never made it to 20 but were still allowed to stay open. While enrollments increased for some sections between day 1 and Feb. 9, other sections saw a decline of, on average 3.7 students. In only three cases did this decline result in the course having fewer than 20 students enrolled.

Fate of watch list sections



What trends exist in the canceled sections?

Almost half of the canceled sections (29 of the 64 sections) were in courses that had at least one other section being offered in the schedule that was not suffering from enrollment concerns. The remaining 35 sections were the only section of the course that was scheduled. The average enrollment in these canceled sections was only 6.6 students. 9 of the 35 single-section cancellations were core courses required for a degree or certificate; 4 of those 9 sections were the first course in a sequence of courses. From the data presented it is unclear why these courses did not qualify to be kept open under the "program need" justification. Average enrollment in these 9 canceled core courses was 8.3 students. In contrast, as described previously, the average enrollment in core courses that were kept open due to program need was 15 students.