Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Assessment Programs

Program Analysis

Project: Commuter Student Engagement FY 2010 Date: January 13, 2011

Overview:

For the 2009-2010 academic year, commuter students comprised 86% of the student population. Since research shows that student engagement with the campus impacts persistence and retention, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs continues to assess the involvement of commuter students. Information collected is used by the respective programs and facilities to assess participation, identify program needs, and improve outreach efforts to off-campus residents. This analysis summarizes engagement of commuter and resident students in selected activities. This summary is for the entire fiscal year.

Highlights of Commuter Student Engagement:

Student Affairs departments continued to collect data about area of residence for students who participate in selected programs. These areas were selected due to the volume of participants and the ability to capture user data.

- Student Recreation Facility and the Sport and Fitness Center patrons generate the largest collection of data. More than 16,500 students made 428,383 visits to one of those facilities during FY 2010.
- Intramural Sports participants represent another identifiable population of 2,270 students.
- Friday Night Live, a monthly social event sponsored by Campus Programs, offers another major opportunity to observe student engagement.

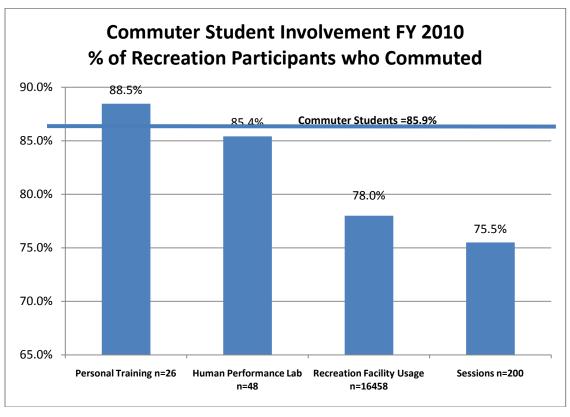
The Commuter Resource Center was opened in FY10. Initial usage data has been collected, but establishment of a true baseline for usage must be done in FY11 with the relocation to a new space. The number of programs capturing information about commuter student engagement was expanded this year.

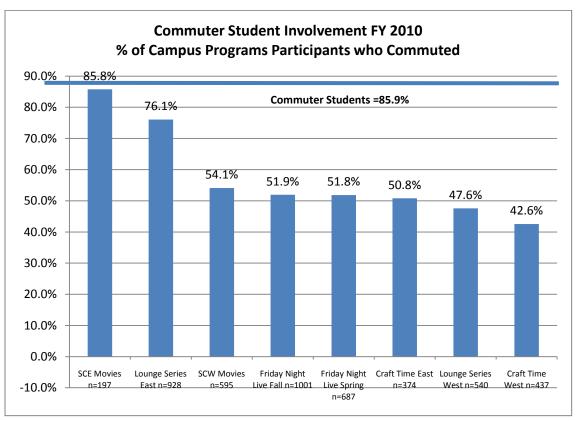
The majority of commuter students utilizing facilities and services live near campus. The top ten zip codes for the three programs/facilities with a critical mass of off-campus residents were examined, as well as an aggregate of smaller events sponsored by Campus Programs.

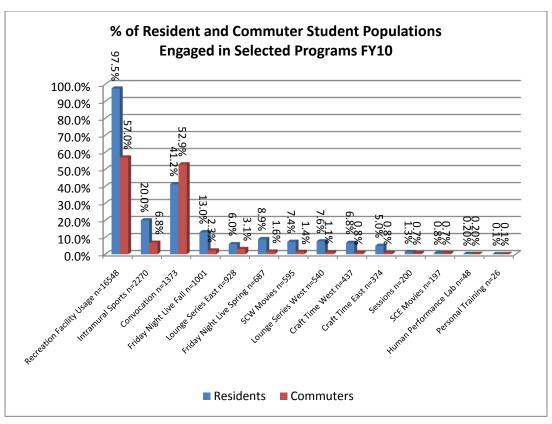
In general, the percentage of resident student population involved in selected programs is higher than the percentage of the commuter student population. Campus Recreation facilities attract the highest percentage of the commuter population, which can be attributed to the variety of activities and the availability of hours for student usage. In contrast, due to the volume of users, commuters comprise a larger percentage of the customer base for the facilities. Recreational programs and intramural sports, as well as student activities programs, attract a lower total number of participants due to specific time schedules and limited scope of the events. Commuter students often represent the largest share of the audience, but a lower percentage of the total commuter student population.

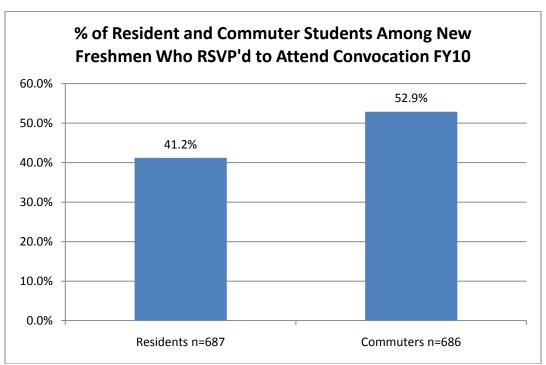
A two year comparison of Recreation Facility Use, Intramural Programs, and Friday Night Live show similar patterns of engagement in both years. This suggests opportunities to increase the level of engagement at events, particularly for the commuter student population.

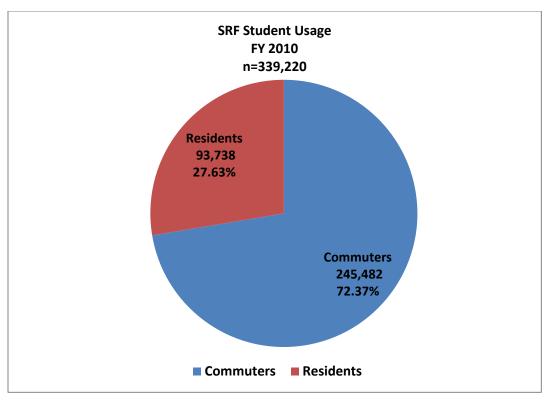
Charts and maps presenting the data follow.

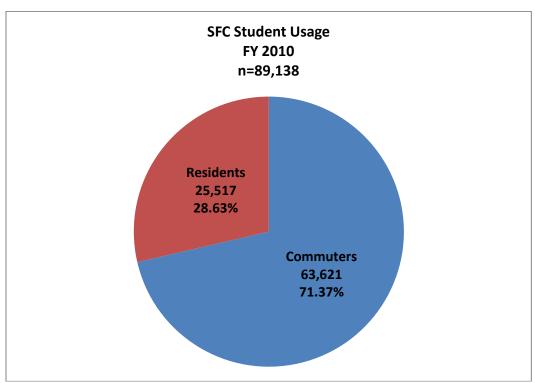


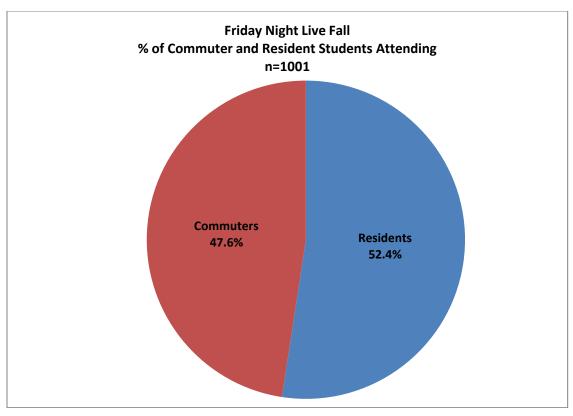


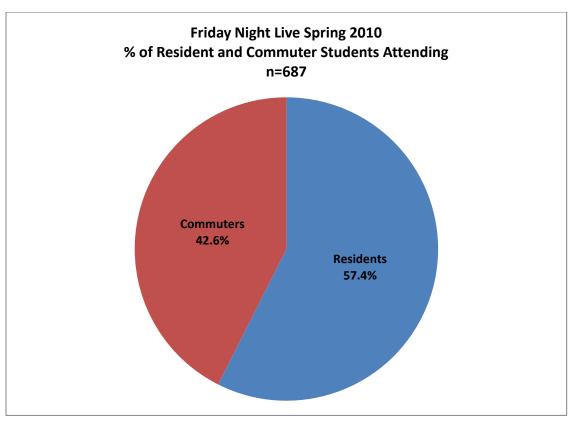


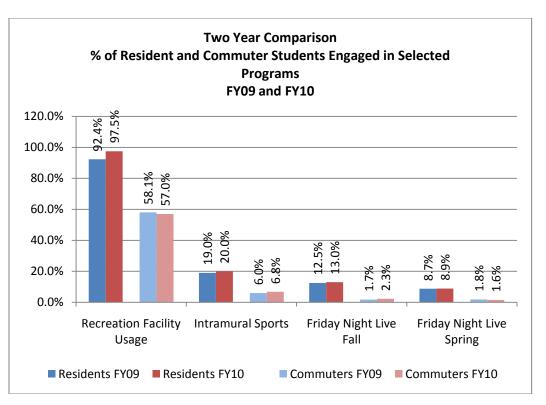


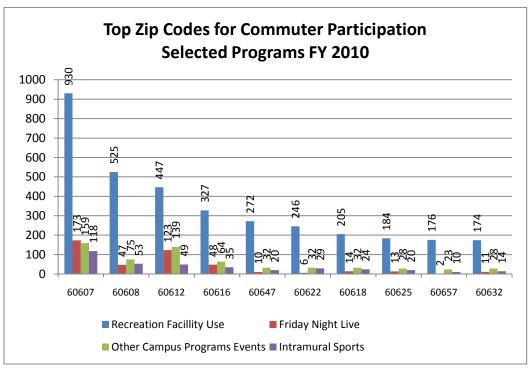




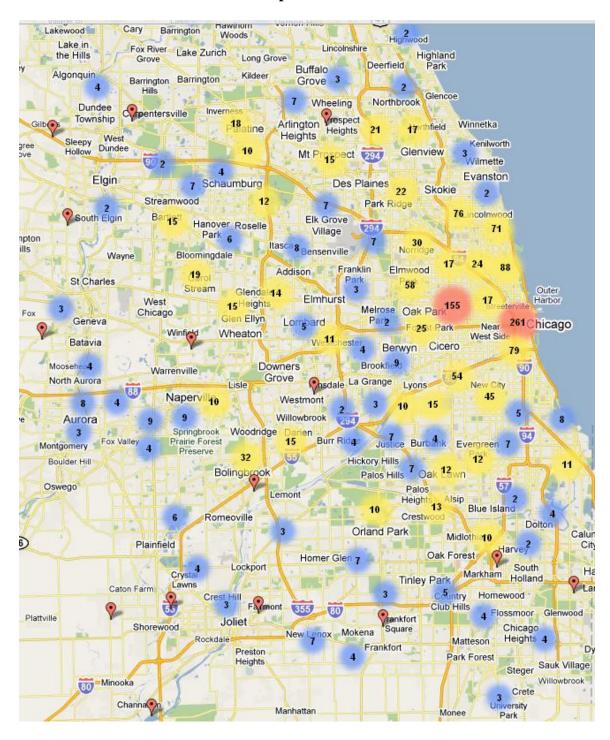




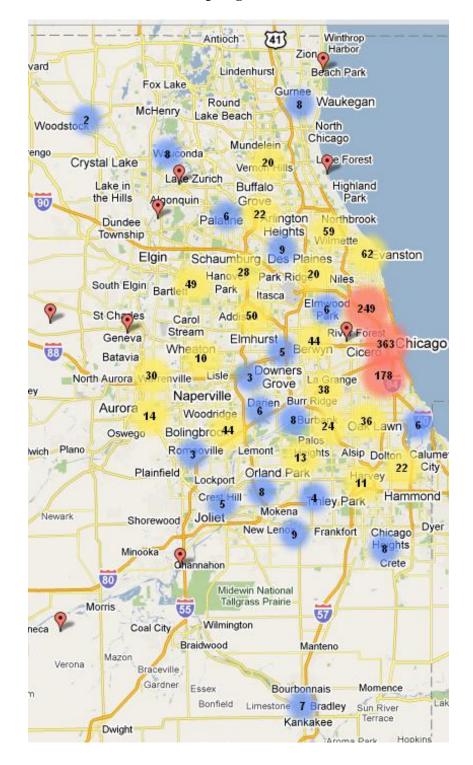




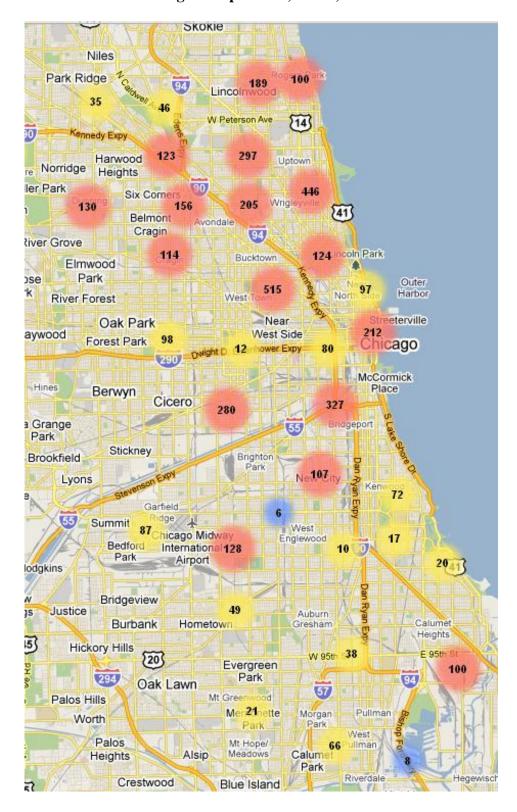
Campus Programs Commuter Student Zip Code Distribution Fall 2009



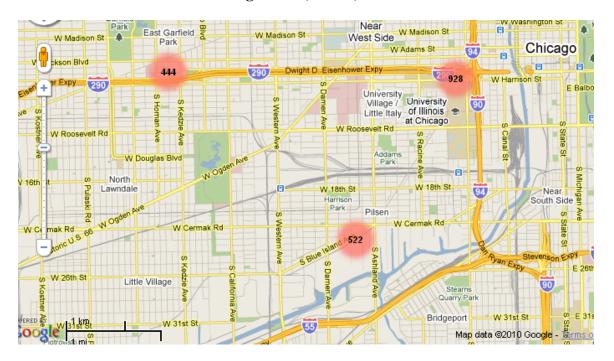
Campus Programs Commuter Student Zip Code Distribution Spring 2010



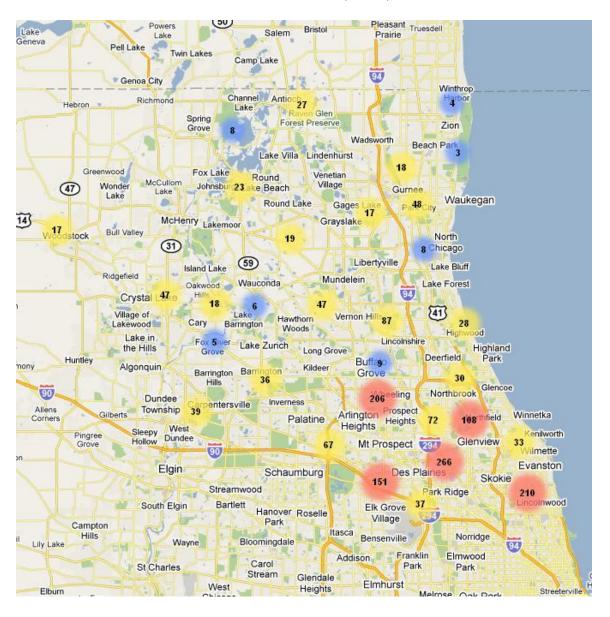
Campus Recreation Student Users FY 2010 Chicago Except 60607, 60608, 60612



Campus Recreation Student Users FY 2010 Chicago 60607, 60608, 60612



Campus Recreation Student Users FY 2010 Northern Suburbs (600xx)



Campus Recreation Student Users FY 2010 Suburbs (601xx-605xx, 607xx-609xx)

