EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Fall 1992-1993 to Fall 1998-1999

The last Plattsburgh State University fall-to-fall matriculated student attrition study was conducted in June 1999. The study provided an overview of matriculated students by various attrition categories from fall 1992-93 to fall 1997-98. Those categories included “academically dismissed, voluntarily withdrawn and leave of absence (combined), and non-returning students.”

The following study is divided into four sections. The first section provides a ten-year overview of attrition cohorts by respective fall 1992-93 to fall 1999-00 semesters (Tables 01 to Table 08). The tables list the initial cohort of students in the first fall semester (i.e., fall 1992) and then tracks the cohort their status to the following fall semester (fall 1993). The following are the key points relating to those data:

- **Attrition** is defined by summing the number of attriters over the number of eligible returning students (initial cohort minus graduates). An academically dismissed student did not meet appropriate university cumulative GPA requirements (as listed on page 230-231 of the PSU catalogue). A leave of absence must be requested by the student in advance of the semester s/he plans to be gone (as listed on page 238 of the PSU catalogue). Voluntary withdrawals can occur at various times prior to, during or after a specific semester (as listed on page 239 of the PSU catalogue).
- **In the 1992-93 cohort** (Table O-1), seniors had the highest attrition rate of 30.4%, followed by freshmen at 23.6%, juniors at 13.8% and sophomores at 13.7%.
- **Freshmen** had the highest number of withdrawn students (82) and academic dismissals (103) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (174).
Sophomore’s had the highest retention rate (86.3%) while seniors had the lowest retention rate (69.6%).

In the 1993-94 cohort (Table O-2), seniors had the highest attrition rate of 31.1%, followed by freshmen at 24.8%, juniors at 16.4% and sophomores at 15.5%.

Freshmen had the highest number of withdrawn students (79) and academic dismissals (139) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (211).

Sophomore’s had the highest retention rate (84.5%) while seniors had the lowest retention rate (68.9%).

In the 1994-95 cohort (Table O-3), seniors had the highest attrition rate of 32.3%, followed by freshmen at 27.2%, sophomore’s at 18.6%, and juniors at 17.6%.

Freshmen had the highest number of withdrawn students (94) and academic dismissals (152) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (213).

Junior’s had the highest retention rate at 82.4% while seniors had the lowest retention rate (67.7%).

In the 1995-96 cohort (Table O-4), seniors had the highest attrition rate of 32.3%, followed by freshmen at 22.5%, juniors at 15.2%, and sophomore’s at 14.6%.

Freshmen had the highest number of withdrawn students (99) and academic dismissals (111) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (199).

Sophomore’s had the highest retention rate at 85.4% while seniors had the lowest retention rate (67.8%).

In the 1996-97 cohort (Table O-5), senior’s had the highest attrition rate of 34.2%, followed by freshmen at 22.2%, sophomore’s at 16.0%, and junior’s at 15.9%.

Freshmen had the highest number of withdrawn students (83) and academic dismissals (142) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (258).
• Junior’s had the highest retention rate at 84.1% while seniors had the lowest retention rate (65.8%).

• *In the 1997-98 cohort (Table O-6), senior’s had the highest attrition rate of 26.5%, followed by freshmen at 24.1%, sophomore’s at 18.4% and juniors at 14.6%.*

• *Freshmen had the highest number of withdrawn students (106) and academic dismissals (118) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (208).*

• Junior’s had the highest persistence rate at 85.4% while seniors had the lowest retention rate at (73.5%).

• *In the 1998-99 cohort (Table O-7), senior’s had the highest attrition rate of 28.6%, followed by freshmen at 23.6%, junior’s at 16.9%, and sophomore’s at 14.2%.*

• *Freshmen had the highest number of withdrawn students at (112) and academic dismissals (123) while seniors had the highest number of non-returning students (166).*

• *Sophomore’s had the highest persistence rate at 85.8% while seniors had the lowest retention rate of 71.4%.*

• *In the 1998-99 cohort (Table O-8), senior’s had the highest attrition rate of 33.1%, followed by freshmen at 26.2%, sophomore’s at 18.6%, and junior’s at 15.6%.*

• **Graphs O-1 to O-12 provide a visual of the data presented in the previous table summary.**