My thanks to you!

Happy New Year! As you may have noticed, we have been sending out admissions decisions for the past six weeks, and a lot more are still to come. Three important reminders:

1. The deadline for autumn 2012 applicants to submit completed applications and transcripts is **February 1**.
2. Students who have been notified that a final decision has been deferred until later in February or March still have the opportunity to submit a seventh semester transcript or any new academic information to us by **early February**.
3. Students who want to apply for Honors or Scholars Programs have until **February 15** to do so.

I want to mention a couple staffing changes coming up in UAFYE. Our terrific senior associate director Jefferson Blackburn-Smith will begin March 1 as the new vice president of enrollment management at Otterbein University. Congratulations and a very big thank you to Jefferson!

Finally, **I will be retiring from Ohio State on January 31.** Almost 50 years ago, I entered Ohio State as a first generation commuter freshman, but nobody told us we were first generation or commuter students…we just were. 😊

I have known a number of you from my earlier years with the University Honors Center (and I know that some of you were just in kindergarten then!). But all of you have been doing very important work with today’s young people. And while you and I might not always have agreed on an admissions or scholarship decision, I always considered us partners in this very important education enterprise.

I knew there would never be a good time to leave this remarkable institution, but there is a right time and I believe it is now. Students are having exceptional experiences here, and I leave Ohio State knowing that there are talented and energetic colleagues who will continue to serve you and your students well. The future for me will include three delightful little grandchildren with one more on the way; education conversations with my two children and their spouses (all four of whom work with students in either secondary or higher education); assisting the president of our local community college on issues of college readiness and transition; and (no surprise!) volunteering for OSU.

Thank you for the privilege of working with you and learning from you these many years. I wish you a future with successful students and grateful parents. I know that Ohio State will continue to be a most special and amazing university. Go Bucks!!

Best wishes to you,

Mabel G. Freeman, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President
Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience

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Countdown to semesters!

In just a few months, starting with summer 2012, Ohio State will switch to a semester system. As you are aware, the benefits to students are great; they include better access to summer job and internship opportunities and more timely entry into the job market.

Our academic year will look like this:
- Autumn semester (August)
- Spring semester (January)
- Summer term (May session + summer session) *

The four-week May session is perfect for short, intensive field experiences like overseas study or research projects, and students enrolling full-time in spring semester will not incur additional tuition expenses to enroll in the May session.

Find the 2012–2013 academic calendar at go.osu.edu/bigcal.

* Because summer session 2012 will be our quick shift following the traditional conclusion of spring quarter (June 2012) and the start of fall semester in August, **we will not be admitting new freshmen for summer 2012**, except under a few special circumstances.

Q: **When does the semester system begin?**
A: Summer 2012. The 7-week summer term will be followed directly by the 14-week autumn semester, beginning August 22, 2012.

Q: **Will tuition cost more under the semester system?**
A: No. Full-time tuition for an academic year under semesters will not cost more than what the cost of tuition for that same year would be under quarters.

Q: **When do classes begin and end each year under the semester system?**
A: Generally, autumn semester classes begin on Wednesday of the third or fourth week in August and end the first week in December. Spring semester classes typically begin on Monday of the second week in January and end the third week in April.

Visit hscounselors.osu.edu for helpful resources!

Ohio State’s website for high school counselors provides:
- a quick link to checking your students’ application status
- contact information for your territory manager
- pdfs of Considering College and Admissions News
- helpful links for you and your students
First-year retention: Ohio State’s first-year retention for the class of 2010 was 92.8%, well above the national average for four-year colleges and universities. Under-represented minority students retained at very high levels: 91% of African American students returned for a second year as did 93% of Hispanic-Latino students.