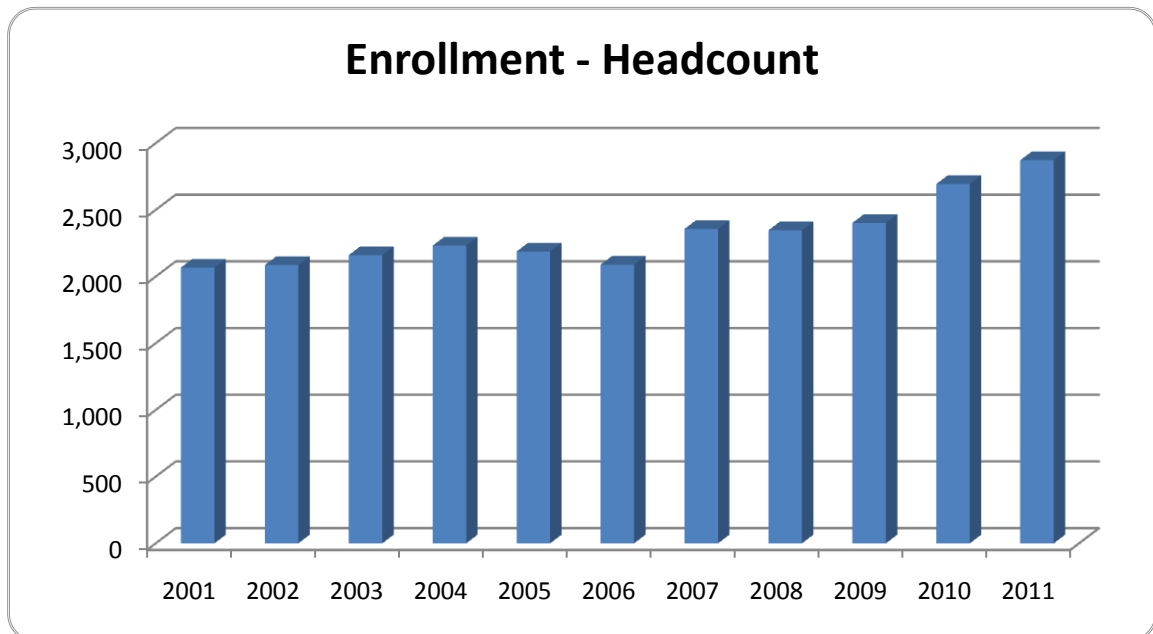


INFORMATION ITEM**A New Residence Hall on the Montana Tech Campus****BACKGROUND**

The graph below depicts Montana Tech's enrollment growth over the course of the last eleven years. The increase in the number of students has outstripped our current housing capabilities. Montana Tech does enforce a requirement for first-time freshman to live on campus.

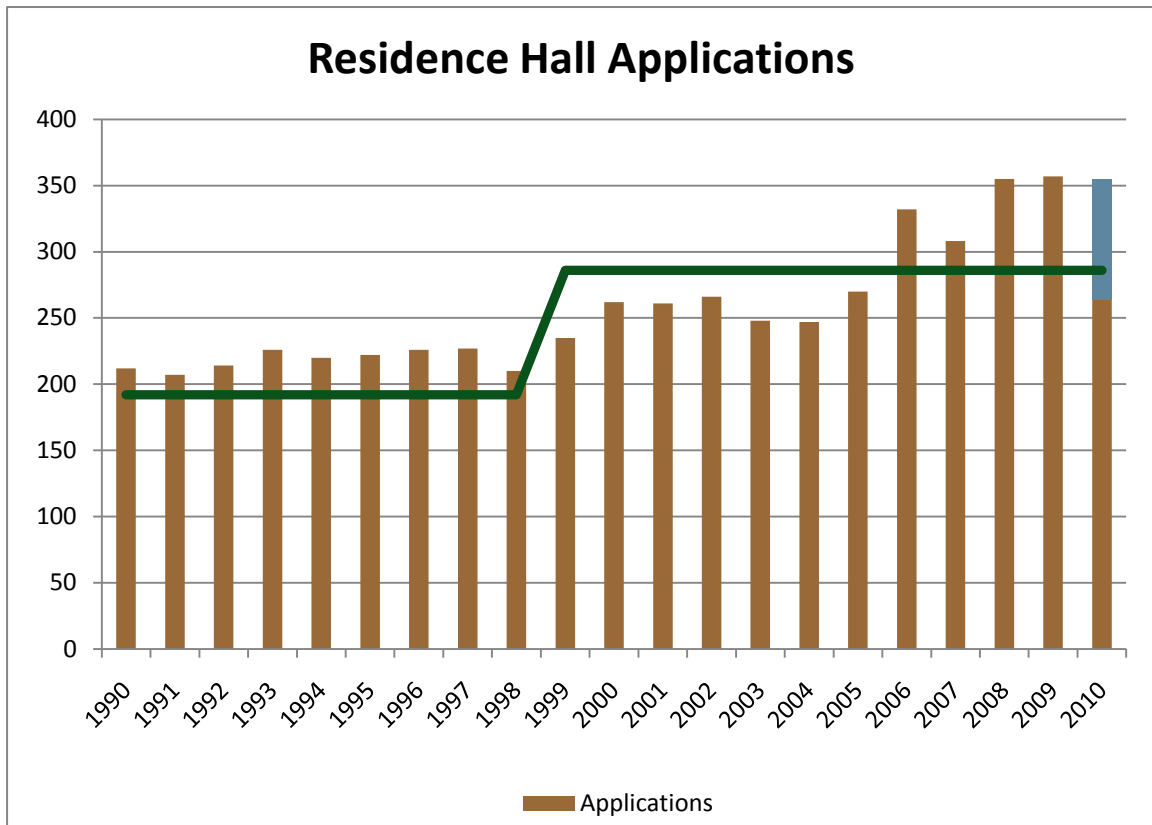


The freshman live-on requirement is an integral part of the institution's overall mission that incorporates student learning and development to enhance the overall educational experience. Relevant and desirable outcomes of this policy include: intellectual growth, effective communication, realistic self-appraisal, enhanced self-esteem, clarified values, career choices, leadership development, healthy behaviors, meaningful interpersonal relationships, independence, collaboration, social responsibility, satisfying and productive lifestyles, appreciation of diversity, spiritual awareness, and achievement of personal and educational goals.

Currently, Montana Tech has two, on-campus dormitories with a total housing capacity of 286 students. For the previous four academic years we have been forced to place excess residence hall students in our apartment complex typically assigned to our married students. This overflow situation has created a shortage of living quarters for that married segment of our student population.

In this academic year, we changed our practice and placed only freshman in our dormitories. This decision followed a recommendation by the NWCCU Accreditation Team that we address a housing shortage on our campus. The Accreditation Team specifically cited the inappropriate practice of placing first-time freshman in a housing unit two miles from the campus and the food service operation.

In 2010, the upper classmen requesting housing were assigned to the apartment housing complex (see the blue bar on the residence hall graph below). It is our intention to allow upperclassmen to live in the new residence hall when completed.



PROJECT

Montana Tech’s proposed residence hall will be a three-story facility intended to house 100 residents. We will model this dormitory after the existing template of Centennial Hall (constructed in 1999). The facility will include 28 double-occupancy rooms on the first two floors and 33 suite-style rooms on the third floor. There will be a staff apartment, two multi-purpose rooms, study areas on each floor, a centralized TV lounge, laundry room, and kitchen. A front desk will handle directory and mail services in addition to being an on-site contact for student needs. The Centennial Hall floor layout may be modified somewhat based on the new building’s proposed location on the west end of the campus.

Staffing requirements will include one full-time custodian, a full-time assistant residence director, up to four student Resident Assistants, and student desk workers to staff the front desk. The main operation and upkeep of the building will be overseen by the Residence Life Office with the assistance of Physical Facilities.

Following additional planning efforts, Montana Tech will bring this project forward for board approval in conjunction with a bonding request of the University of Montana.