

YSU enrollment is up by 3%, says PD story

Student enrollments at YSU and eleven other state universities has increased by 4,500 this fall after a 2 per cent drop last year, according to a story in *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

YSU President John Coffelt, when told about the story's enrollment figures for YSU, said he didn't know if the statistics were accurate. "I wonder how they got that," Coffelt said, adding that he had preliminary figures on enrollment but did not yet know if they were accurate.

YSU, which lost about 500 students last fall, increased its enrollment by 3 per cent, according to the story. Total students attending YSU now is 13,837. Enrollment at Kent State University dropped only 178 instead of 1,200 last year.

Despite the collective increase, preliminary figures released by the state show Ohio University lost nearly 4,000 students in the last two years. One factor that has been blamed for the drop is OU's location in the small community of Athens in southeastern Ohio. Many students, *The Plain Dealer* reported, are finding it cheaper to live at home and attend urban universities.

The same factor helped Cleveland State University, at which enrollment grew this year by approximately 1,000 students.

Total enrollment at the state's colleges, universities, branches, and technical schools grew this year by 4 per cent. This figure represents about 11,000 students, 3,000 of them in technical schools, which saw the largest increase.

An Ohio Board of Regents spokesperson explained that the universities recognized that they were experiencing a decline and therefore put some extra effort into recruiting. New programs and more emphasis on part-time students may also be responsible for the increase, the spokesperson added.
