What Do We Know about the Undergraduate Class of 2014?

- About the same share of students came to UPIKE as new freshmen or transfer students: 51% started here as first-time students; 48% transferred here from another institution of higher education. About a third (32%) of the transfer students came from Big Sandy Community and Technical College.

- The average time to degree completion for students who started at UPIKE as first-time students and received a bachelor's degree is about 4¾ years (4.80). The “Endurance Award” goes to Rebecca Rowe Keene (BS in Psychology and Religion), who is graduating today after originally beginning her studies at UPIKE in fall 1998.

- Less than three-quarters (73%) of the students who started at UPIKE as first-time students and received a bachelor's degree took out student loans to pay for their education. The average per borrower cumulative principal borrowed is $22,878. [The average student loan debt among college seniors was $29,400 in 2012. (Source: http://projectonstudentdebt.org/)]

- The oldest graduate is 55 years old and the youngest graduate is 20 years old.

- 86% are from Appalachia

- 82% are Kentucky residents
  - 42% graduated from a high school in Pike County, Kentucky
  - 22% of these graduated from Shelby Valley High School

- 60% qualified for need-based Federal financial aid (29% are from families in poverty)

- More than half (52%) lived on campus at some point during their matriculation at UPIKE

- 43% are male

- 40% are first generation college students

- 39% were involved with intercollegiate athletics at some point during their matriculation

- About one quarter (26%) of the students who started at UPIKE as first-time students had enrolled in at least one developmental course during their first term

- Almost one-quarter (24%) are non-traditional students [i.e., over the age of 25 and/or married]