Meeting Objectives:
1. Identify strategies/make plans for increasing the number of students who enroll in our programs
2. Identify strategies/make plans for decreasing the number of exceptions requested from the Graduate Division

Rationale:
While we try to decrease our structural deficit, we lose resources whenever we fail to meet our enrollment targets. Meeting enrollment targets is not easy. We are in an increasingly competitive market at a time when the general economy is still sputtering. Therefore, if we are to meet our enrollment targets, we must be strategic. There are many strong ideas already in use across the College. By sharing those ideas, perhaps all programs can benefit. As we all encounter similar challenges, perhaps there are ways we can help each other.

As we endeavor to enroll full cohorts and full sections, each year the Graduate Division identifies a long list of COE “exceptions” to admission and enrollment policies. While, in general, the Graduate Division has allowed most of our exceptions to enroll, we risk having students turned away if exceptions are denied. We cannot risk losing students in this manner, after we have worked diligently to bring them into our programs. While we are not likely to eliminate the need for exceptions, we need to explore options for minimizing them. We need to identify and share strategies for doing so.

Steps:
1. Brainstorm strategies that work to help departments/programs recruit potential students
2. Brainstorm strategies that work to help departments/programs monitor the status of potential students
3. Identify problems/issues that frustrate recruitment/admission efforts and strategies that might address those problems/issues
4. Identify opportunities for collaborative effort

Follow-up:
At the October Chairs’ Meeting, each department should share a draft of plan for ensuring the Fall 2014 FTES numbers will equal/exceed 2013 numbers. As well, Chairs should describe their plan to do so in a manner that decreases the number of exceptions identified by the Graduate Division.