

Update from the
Office of
The President
Dr. Dene Kay Thomas



The beginning of the 2013 school year has been an exciting one. The big news so far is Fort Lewis College's enrollment topping 4,000 for the first time in nearly a decade. Our Fall 2013 headcount stands at 4,065, an increase of 4.5 percent, which includes 37 graduate students enrolled in the first year of our new Master of Arts in Education program.

Looking more closely at the enrollment numbers, we see that not only did FLC attract more students, but it also retained more students. Our continuing students increased nearly 4 percent over 2012. This statistic bodes well for the College's retention and, eventually, graduation rates. As you may know, retention and graduation rates are becoming an increasingly important measure for the federal and state governments.

So, it's official: Fort Lewis College is growing. I believe that much of this growth has to do with the College's decision to increase its investment in its marketing and admission efforts. We are building FLC's reputation and brand across the country and the globe, and the effort is paying off. I am grateful to our Marketing & Communications staff and our Admission & Advising team for all their hard work. I'd also like to thank our alumni and friends across the world who represent FLC so well.

Fort Lewis College is worth investing in; I firmly believe that. I see the amazing work our faculty and staff do for our students and for society. I see the lives of our students changed for the better as a result of being a part of the Fort Lewis College family. Our best days are still ahead of us, and I invite you to join us in a bright future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dene Thomas". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

-Dr. Dene Kay Thomas
President