

*Dear usmnews.net*

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The IHL and the University just doesn't get it. I can't afford to pay more in tuition. The University keeps adding fees for things I don't use and don't need. When I read about private airplanes, armies of staff people and administrators, and buildings we don't need, my blood pressure goes up. How can we make these people accountable?

Name withheld

Dear name withheld,

usmnews.net has received a number of comments like yours. Regardless of how President Bennett tries to sugarcoat it, I suspect that a growing number of students are voting with their feet. As previously reported, according to [the IHL](#), USM's "unduplicated headcount" dropped from 16,468 students (Fall 2012) to 15,325 students (Fall 2013). This change represents a devastating 6.9% drop in enrollment.

If this trend continues, bureaucrats at USM and the IHL may have no choice but to take a hard look the costs/waste, if only as a matter of self preservation.