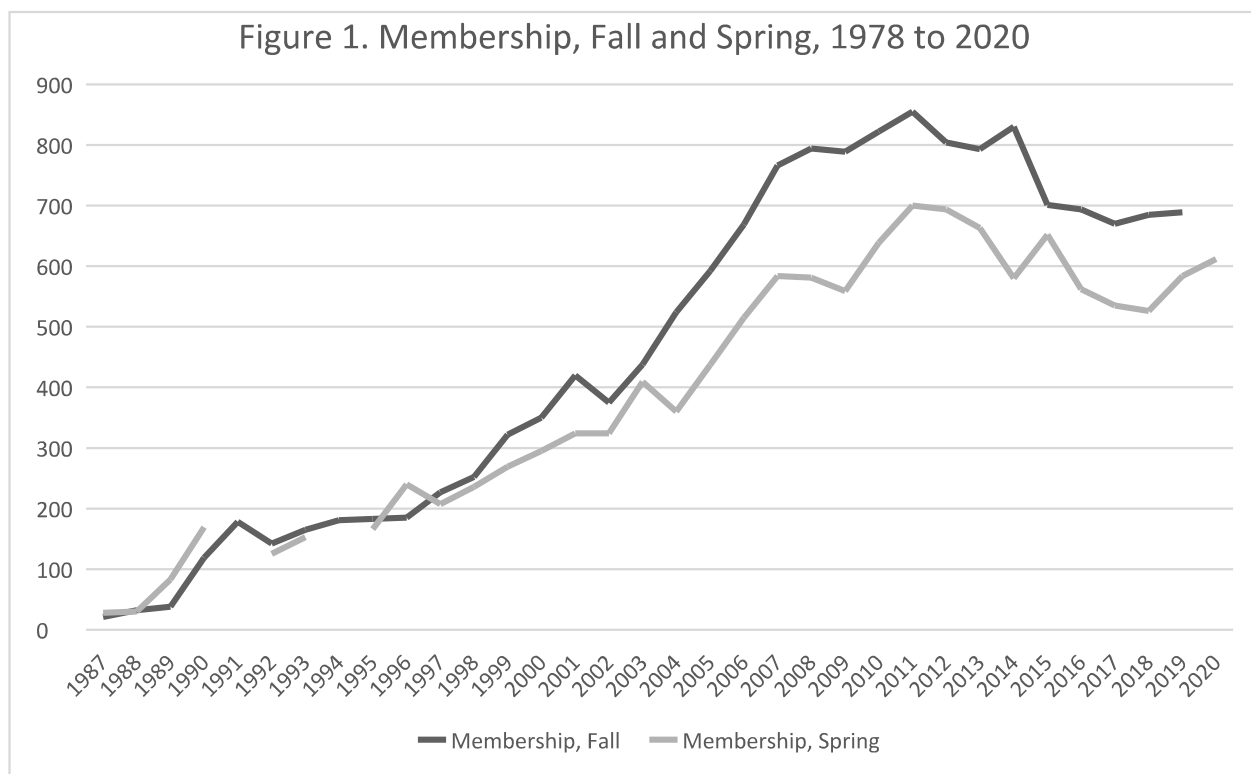


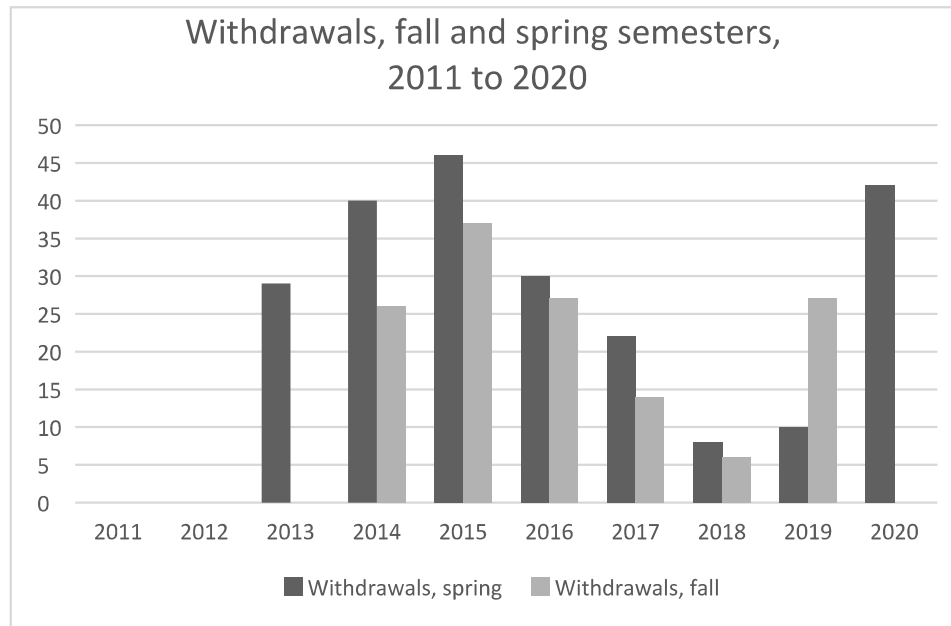
Data Updated to include 2020, both semesters

Long Range Planning Committee

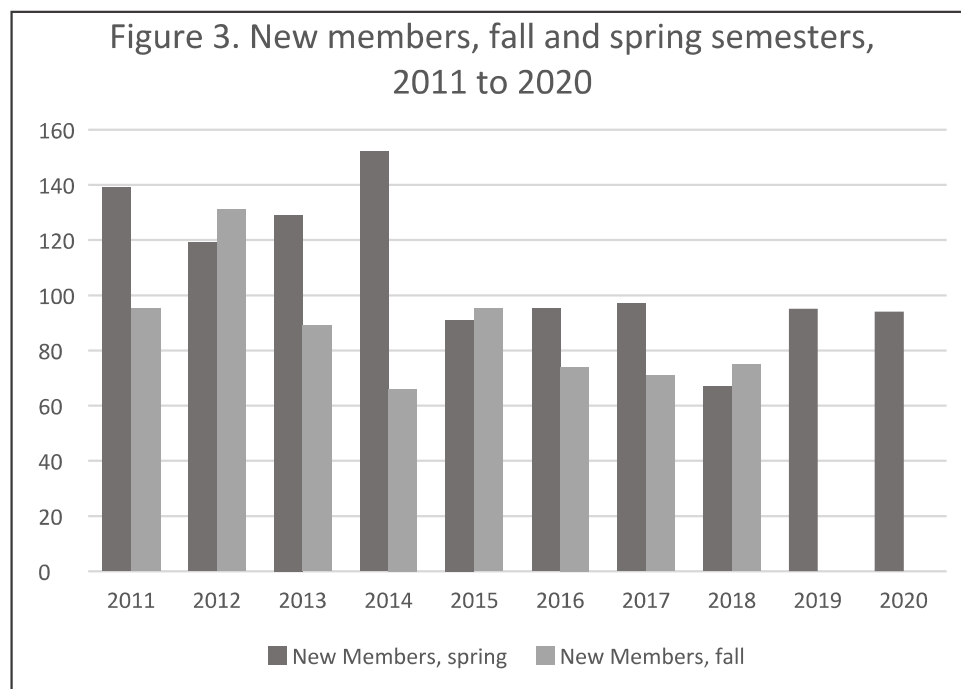
Figure 1 shows membership numbers from 1987 to the present for each semester. At the last retreat there was a recognition that enrollment had been declining, and a goal was set that we should work to retain it approximately at that level (~535 in Spring, 2017, ~675 in Fall, 2017). The membership data would suggest that is happening in the fall semesters as we have maintained an average of 687 over the last three years, a slight increase. In the spring we have actually increased our membership significantly to an average of 574, an increase of 86 over the three-year period.



The number of withdrawals is also important as they often represent disappointed/dissatisfied members. As is shown in Figure 2, that number has gone back up during fall, 2019 and spring, 2020. (There were another 40 this fall who were wait-listed, only, so some of them may not have gotten any classes either.)

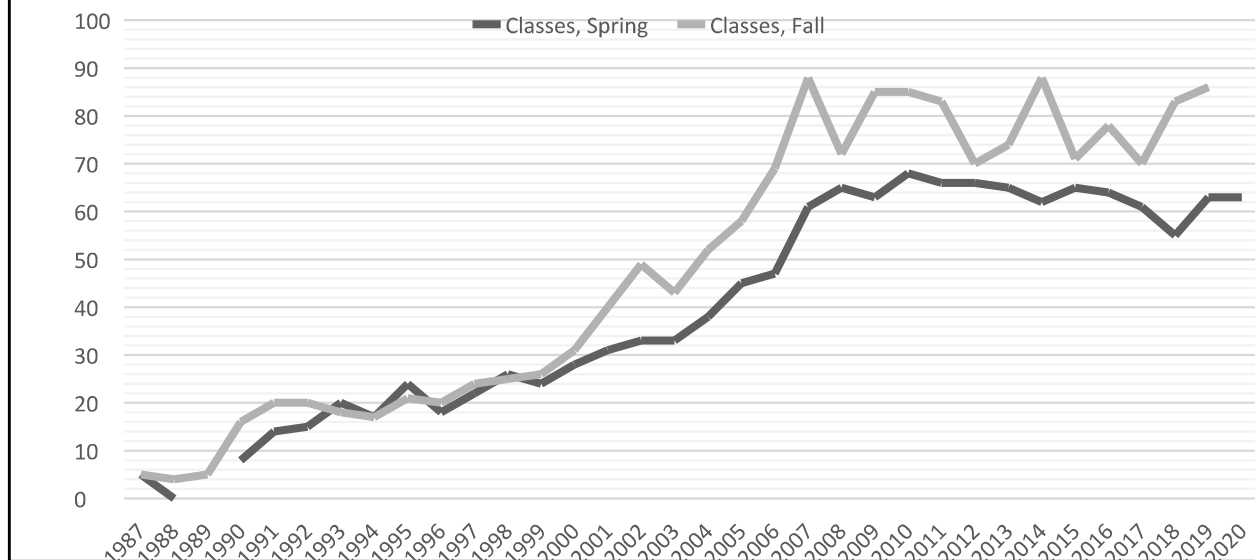


Because we always lose members each year for a variety of reasons, it is important to add new members as a balance, even if our goal is to maintain our present membership level. Figure 3 provides information about new membership. We are down from earlier years but the number appears to be leveling off.



Some concern was raised that there were not as many 12-week classes being offered this spring and that explains the number of members without classes. Figure 4 shows the number of classes held. Although there is year to year variation, there is considerable consistency from 2010 on.

Figure 4. Number of classes, Fall and Spring, 1987 - 2020



More important for the discussion here, is the number of classes in 6-week units (determined by multiplying the number of 12-week classes offered in a semester by two and adding that number to the 6-week number. That data is presented in Table 1. There is not particularly a trend up or downward in the number of classes available. However, a decline of three (maximum of 75 6-week equivalent seats) with an uptick of 75 more members (needing a maximum of 300 6-week seats) may suggest that we are stressing the system.

Out of the 63 classes offered, 33 had space available on the day classes started. There were 652 members who wanted to take classes. If they all took the allowed number of classes, that would require 2448 6-week equivalent seats. We, in fact, offered ~2137 6-week equivalent seats and 1854 were filled. That leaves twelve percent of the seats unoccupied. It is certainly a good thing that many of our members do not take all the classes they could.

Members are encouraged to make alternate choices on their registration forms and many do. Those who do not get any that they want are called to encourage them to consider other classes that are still available. If there are no alternates they want, they can either choose to be wait-listed or withdraw. We will always have some who withdraw as members do often have strong class preferences. Many of the wait-listed members end up getting into the classes they want. Coordinators are encouraged to call the first two names on their wait-list to invite them to attend, as experience shows that on any given class day, at least two people fail to show (and one or two often drop a class before it

Table 1. Number of classes in 6-wosemesters, 2011 – 2020

	Fall Classes in 6- week units	Spring Classes in 6- week units
2011	127	102
2012	124	106
2013	123	100
2014	133	92
2015	109	90
2016	120	96
2017	107	85
2018	121	80
2019	119	95
2020		92

starts). Other coordinators allow members in if there are empty chairs whether those members are wait-listed or not. The categories of classes that filled at a higher rate were in arts and culture, current events, film, music, and drama, history, and Literature. Some categories only had one or two classes, so whether they filled or not is probably more class specific than category specific (those categories were social issues, health and wellness, language, law and government, and sports).

We are always going to have some members who are wait-listed or withdraw because they only want the one or two classes they signed up for (examples are learning a foreign language or learning bridge). It becomes a quality question as to how many we are willing to tolerate. But we can conclude that it is not because we have reduced the number of 12-week classes offered as there has been a corresponding rise in the number of 6-week classes.