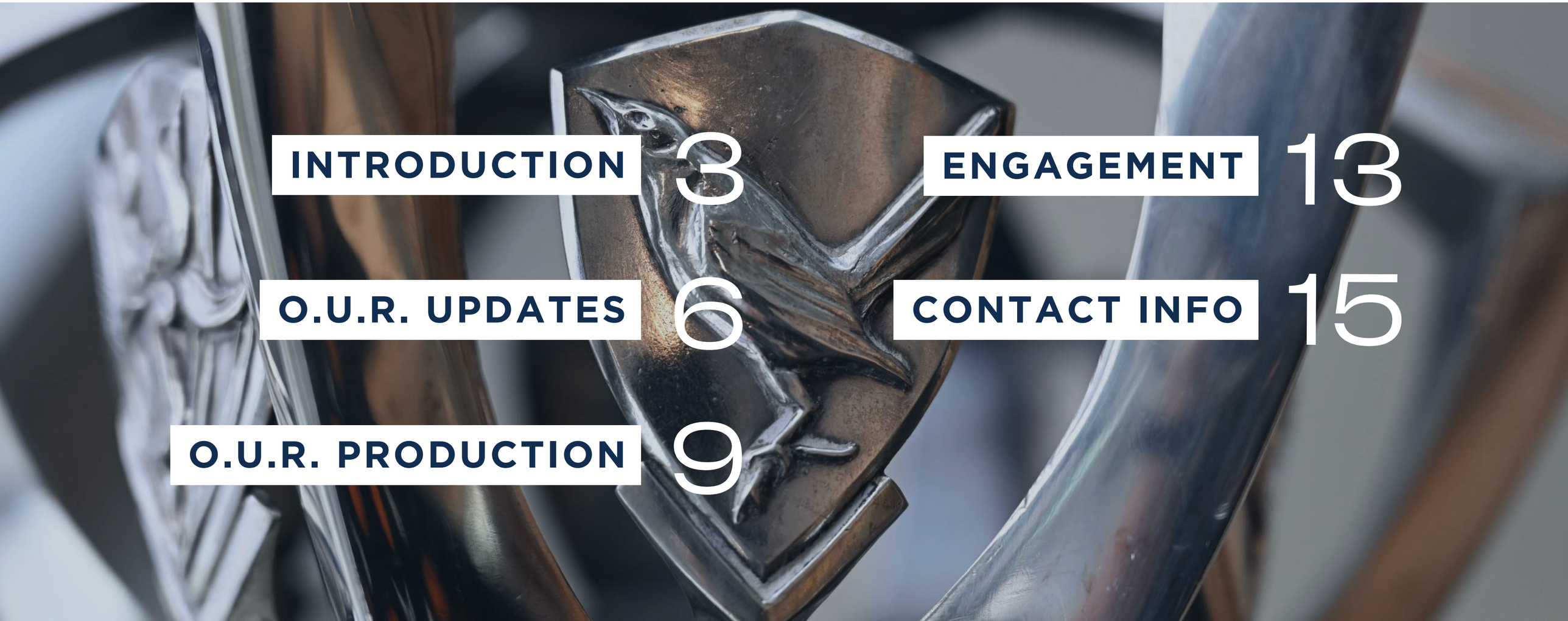


OFFICE of the UNIVERSITY Registrar

2026 ANNUAL REPORT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
CHATTANOOGA
Office of the University Registrar

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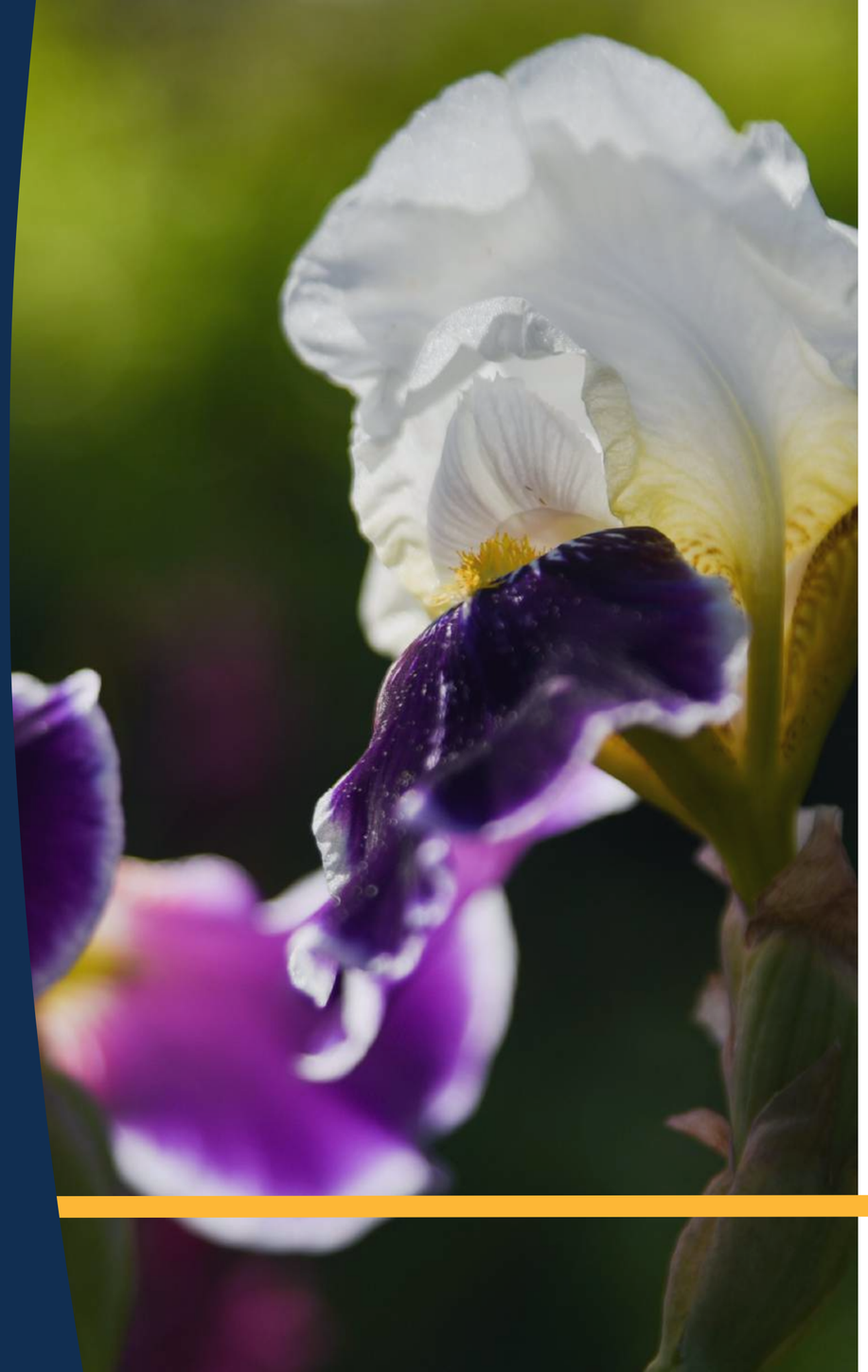
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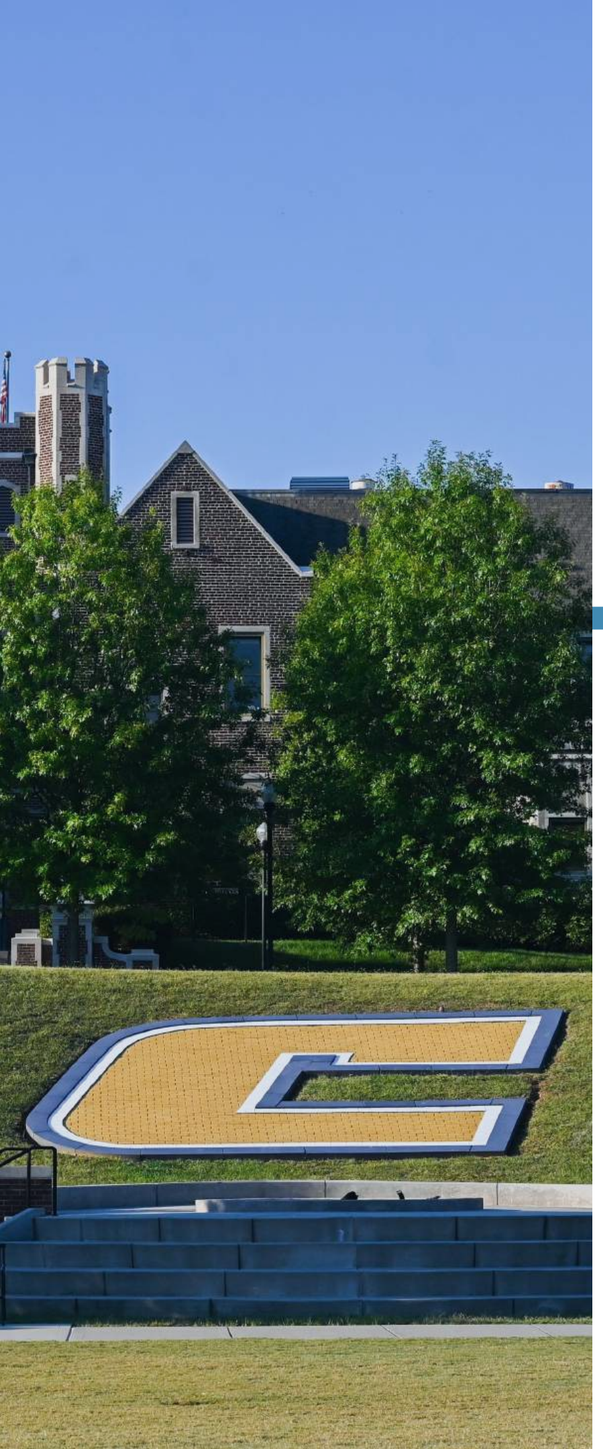

INTRODUCTION



JOEL WELLS | UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR

INTRODUCTION

The 2025-2026 academic year saw OUR staff return to a remodeled office suite in the University Center. We have structured the space to foster collaboration and team building while still supporting focused individual work. After several years of consideration, UTC adopted a new academic calendar model, which required our staff to complete several implementation steps. Although we had not yet transitioned to the new calendar ourselves, our office worked collaboratively across the university to build the infrastructure needed to launch it in August 2026. We led efforts to support renewed compliance for state and federal financial aid, making both ad hoc and systematic updates between January and July 2026. Separately, UTC established a staff leadership group, and two members of our office were elected officers for the inaugural year of the new Staff Senate. Additionally, we continued to evolve our commencement ceremony structure, implementing new student elements in May 2026 that earned praise from campus leadership. Read on for more details about what we've been up to — we hope you enjoy the review.





O.U.R. VISION

We are a resourceful* university partner who collaborates for greater community impact.

**forward-looking; inventive; progressive; trailblazing; unique*



O.U.R. MISSION

The Office of the University Registrar safeguards the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's academic integrity through adaptive maintenance of academic policies, information systems, and educational records.



O.U.R. VALUES

Operational Excellence

Unwavering Integrity

Responsive Service


O.U.R.
UPDATES

NEW ACADEMIC CALENDAR IMPLEMENTATION

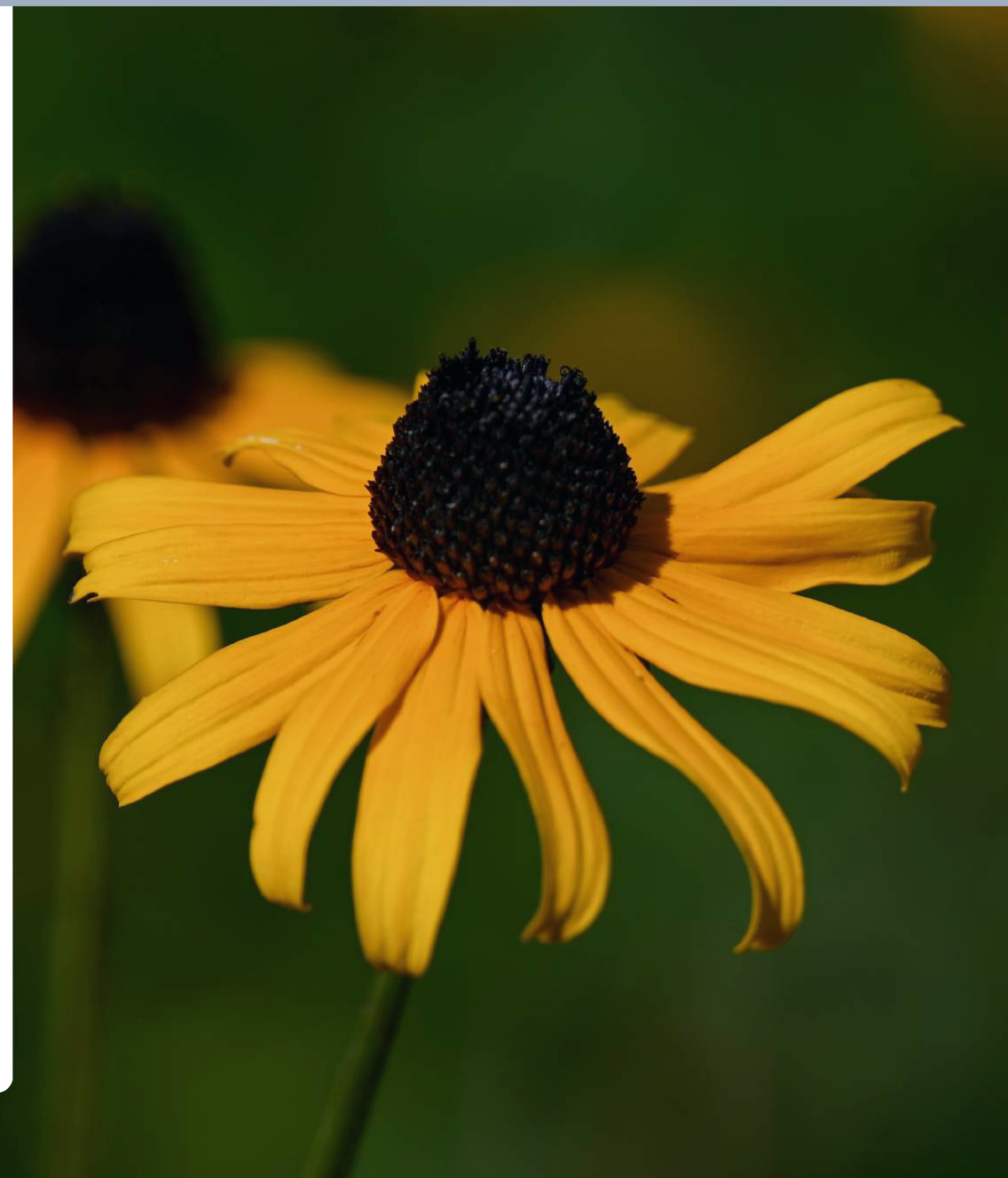
Once the Provost and Chancellor approved a new calendar structure, responsibility for building out the details largely fell to our office. The registrar convened a group in Fall 2025 to develop standard class meeting times that ensure compliance with our accreditation requirements. This group also finalized decisions related to parts of term, payment timelines, and other essentials for a successful launch. With those decisions in place, we turned to building the calendar and fall class schedule in Banner, applying the standard meeting times and reviewing requests for exceptions. Stay tuned next year, when we'll report on our experience during the first year of calendar conversion.

COMPLIANCE EXERCISES

Enrollment and financial aid compliance are team efforts, and our office works closely with financial aid staff and the advising community to support compliance on behalf of the university. In response to internal and external guidance, our associate registrar for degree audit led a team of three through a comprehensive overhaul of the programming for MyMocsDegree (degree audit) to ensure its results effectively supported our financial aid colleagues' compliance standards. A project of this scope and magnitude is typically staged over 12 to 24 months; however, to meet campus leadership's expectations, our team completed the overhaul in four months while still maintaining a commitment to continuous improvement. As you might imagine, condensing this project required a substantial time commitment from the associate registrar and would not have been possible apart from her tireless efforts.

COURSE EXPIRATION PROCESS ENHANCEMENT

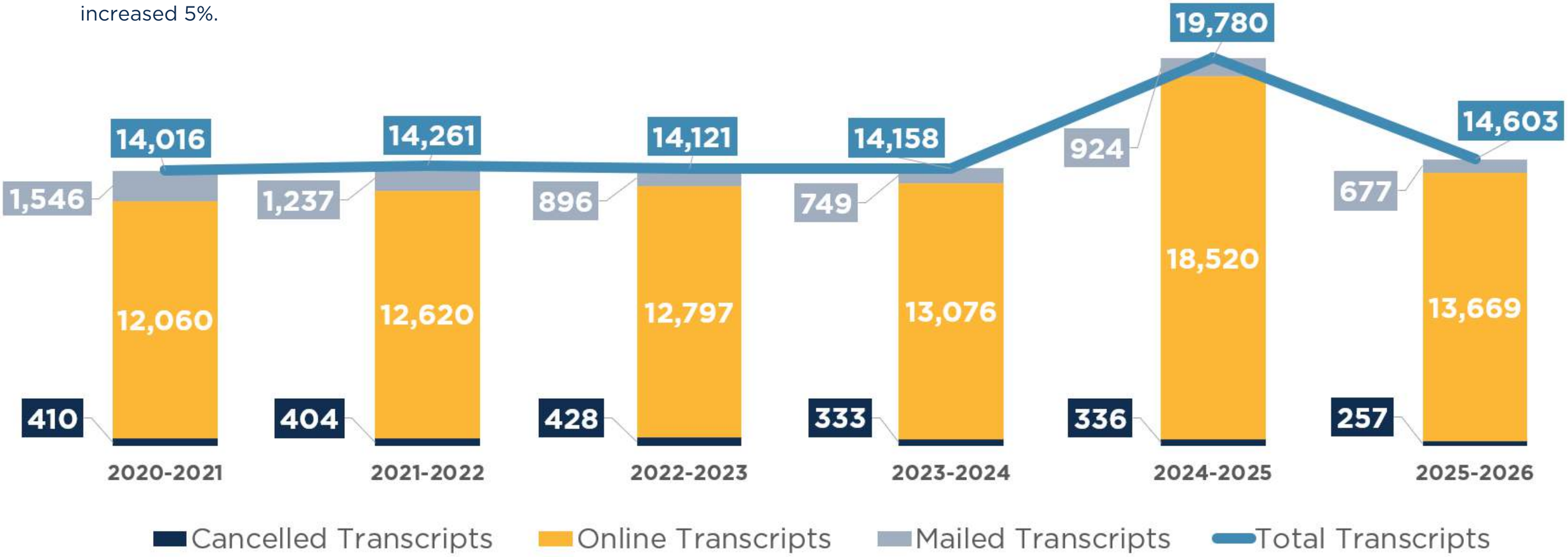
Prior to 2023, courses remained active in the catalog even if they had not been scheduled in many years. In April 2023, we introduced a process for expiring courses not offered for 10 or more years, allowing us to better curate catalog content. Our goal was to more accurately represent to students the courses actually available to them during their degree program, rather than listing courses that would never be taught. We achieved that goal, but in the process discovered that some expired courses were still listed as program requirements for graduate degrees and undergraduate majors or minors. In some cases, removing an expired course left an elective list with only a single option. To ensure a more comprehensive approach to course expiration, our associate registrar for catalog and curriculum moved the review process from an Excel file into Modern Campus Curriculum (Curriculog), incorporating impact reports that allow departments to identify where program modifications are needed to address course expirations. Next year, we plan to review and expire courses not offered for six years, so the catalog more closely reflects current curriculum and available offerings.




O.U.R.
PRODUCTION

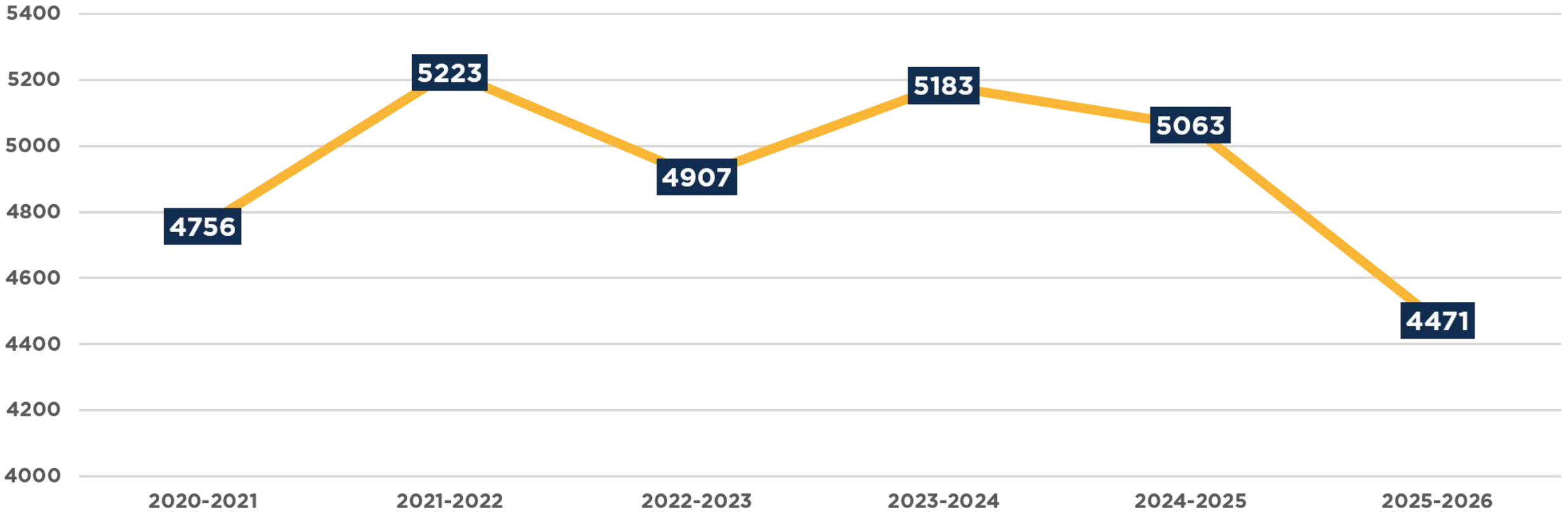
TRANSCRIPTS

The table below documents continuous improvement in our transcript services. Since 2020 we have reduced by nearly 40% our cancelled transcripts due to ordering errors. Mailed transcript orders take much longer to arrive at their destination so the 56% reduction in mail orders means more transcripts are delivered faster to their recipients. Overall transcript production has increased 5%.



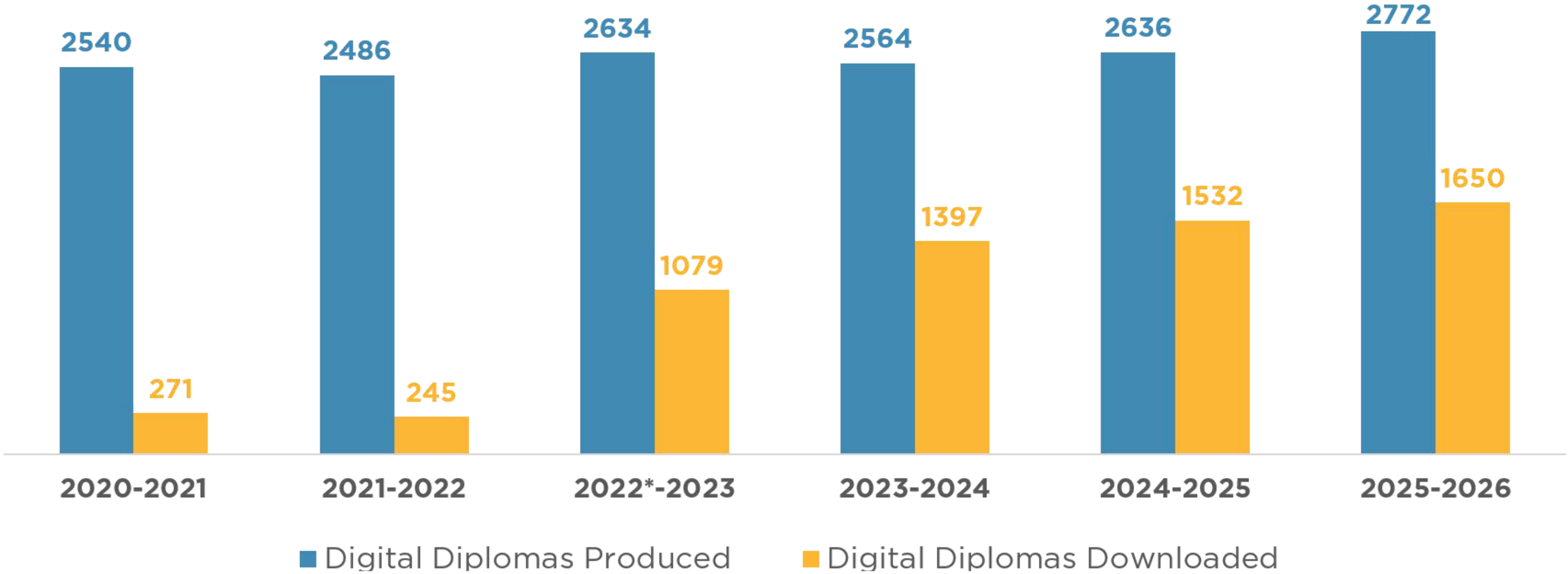
MAJOR CHANGES

While our enrollment has grown, our major change volume decreased to our lowest level in six years. The 12% decline from last year is significant. It's unlikely any one factor drove that change but rather a combination of students selecting fewer minors or remaining in their original program of study may explain the change. Over the next year we will attempt to analyze and compare data from prior years to see if we can identify more clearly what led to the reduced number of changes.



DIGITAL DIPLOMAS

We continue to see increased adoption for digital diplomas. Overall, we've seen 88% growth in digital diploma downloads since 2021, and our print diploma production has also increased 8% in the last six years.




ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT

Office leadership remains actively engaged in efforts at both the campus and system levels.

CAMPUS

- 25 Live Implementation Committee (Dragoo)
- Academic Calendar Planning Committee, Chair (Wells)
- Housing Appeals Committee (Lardizabal)
- Mocs Flight Plan Transfer committee (Fryar)
- Staff Senate President (Wells)
- Staff Senate Secretary (Dragoo)

SYSTEM

- NASH NIC (Fryar)
- Oracle SFA Data Quality Committee (Wells)
- UT Diploma RFP (Lardizabal)
- UT Statewide Classroom Inventory, Chattanooga lead (Wells)



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