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LU Distance Learning enrollment tops 20,000

December 06, 2007 ¦ Ron Brown

By Ron Brown

The enrollment for Liberty University's Distance Learning Program on Thursday topped the 20,000 mark for the first time.

Registrar Lawrence Shackleton confirmed the enrollment figures in an e-mail to school officials Thursday afternoon.

Officially, the enrollment topped 20,000 at 1:45 p.m.

"It's an exciting day," said Ronald S. Kennedy, executive director of Distance Learning and Graduate Studies.

Last school year, the distance learning program finished with about 18,000 students.

"We are looking at a 10 percent growth year to date with six months still ahead of us," Kennedy said. "We are hoping to surpass 25,000 students by May or early June."

Kennedy credits "God's blessing" for the program's growth.

"He's certainly smiled upon us," he said. "I have a good staff that is very dedicated. They'll do whatever it takes to get the job done. It takes a willing heart to come in and work some of those long hours. They are the backbone that makes the program what it is today."