

Berkeley International Office

internationaloffice.berkeley.edu

Three Year Review

2011-2014

Contents

[Berkeley International Office: Values, Mission and Services](#)

[Organizational Chart](#)

[Key Stakeholders](#)

[Statistical Data - Students and Scholars](#)

[Strategic Plan Accomplishments](#)

[Metrics](#)

[Budget](#)

[Future Challenges](#)

[Conclusion](#)

Berkeley International Office:

Values

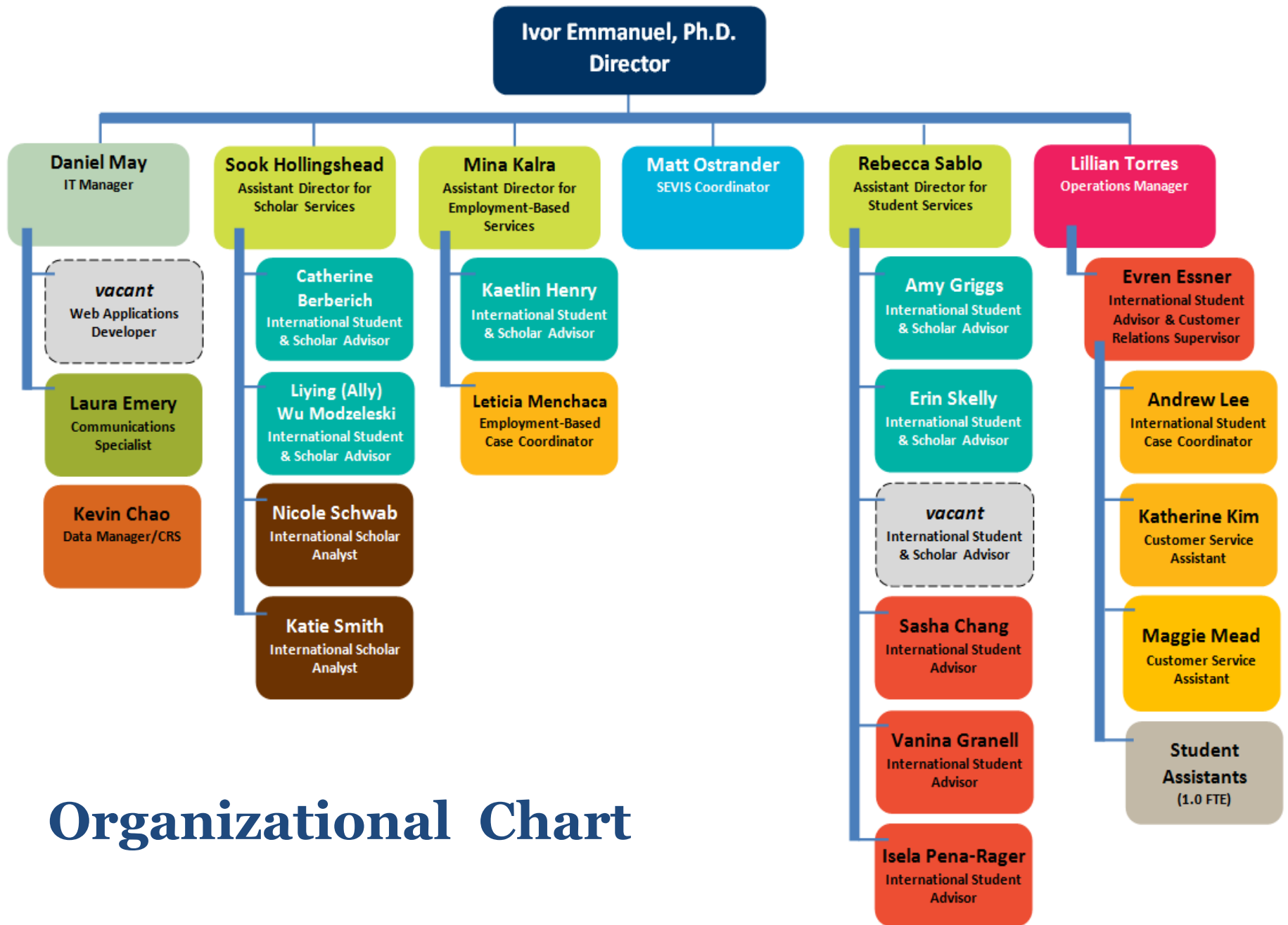
- Understanding and helpful
- Passion in what we do
- Excellence in everything we do

Mission

Our mission is to enhance the academic experiences of international students and scholars by providing the highest levels of knowledge and expertise in advising, immigration services, advocacy, and programming to the UC Berkeley campus community.

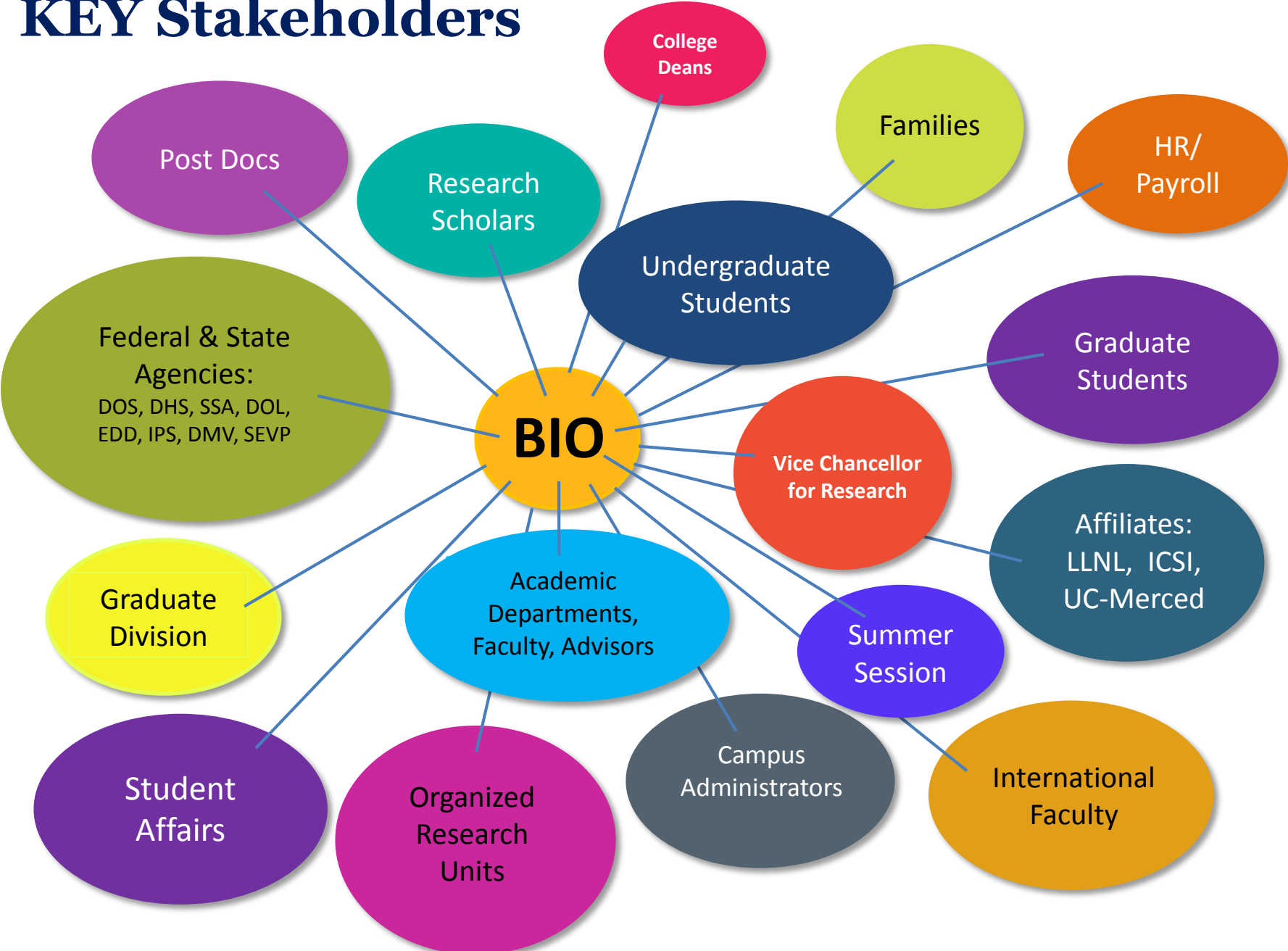
Key Services

- Student and Scholar immigration and personal advising, and document issuance
- Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) compliance for F and J students and scholars
- Employment based petitions and advising on related regulations; Facilitate PR petitions for faculty and staff
- Outreach programs and services to students and scholars that support their arrival, adjustment, and personal and academic experience while attending the University of California, Berkeley
- Consultation & related services to campus departments who work with international students, scholars, employees and international executives



Organizational Chart

KEY Stakeholders

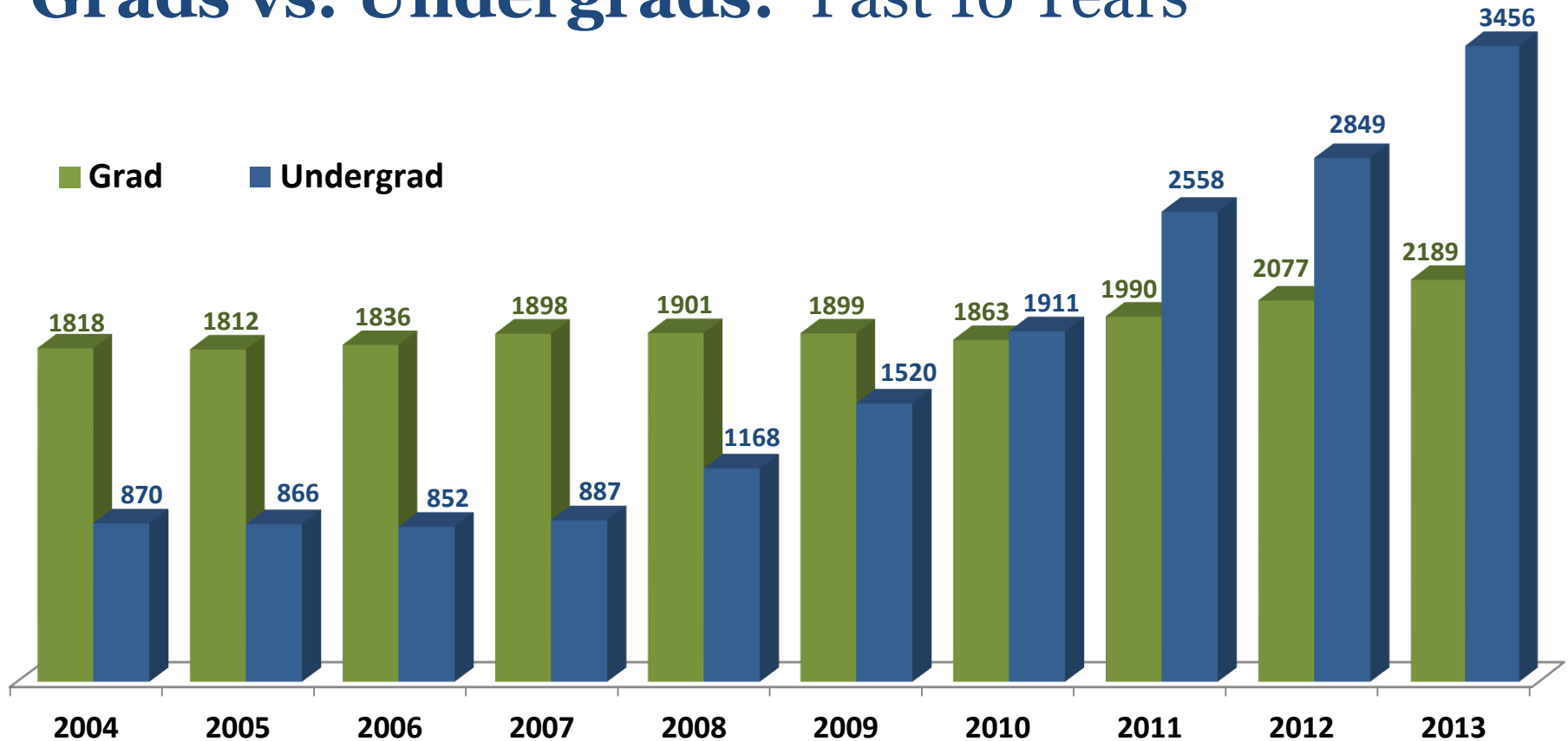


Source: University of California / Berkeley International Office (BIO)

Total International Enrollment: Past 10 Years

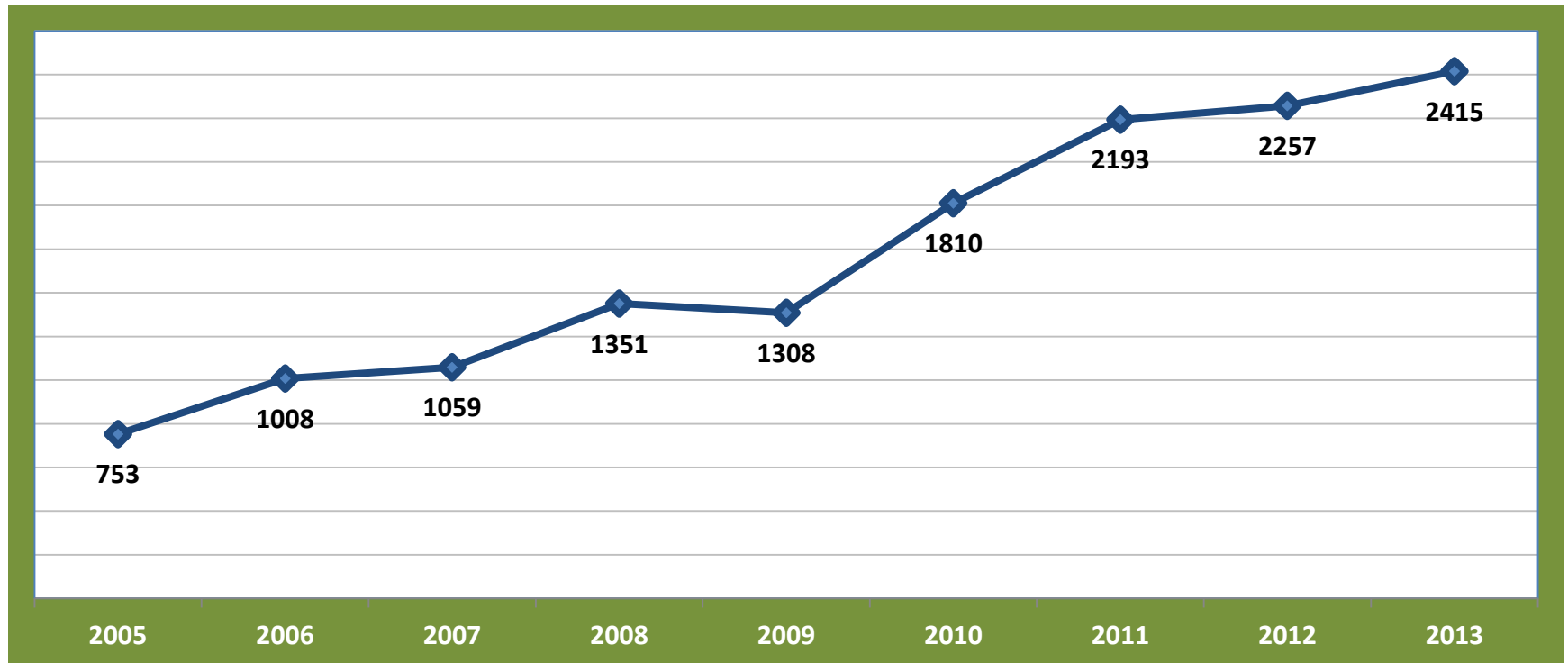


Grads vs. Undergrads: Past 10 Years



Statistical Data

Summer Session International Students on F and J Visas



Statistical Data

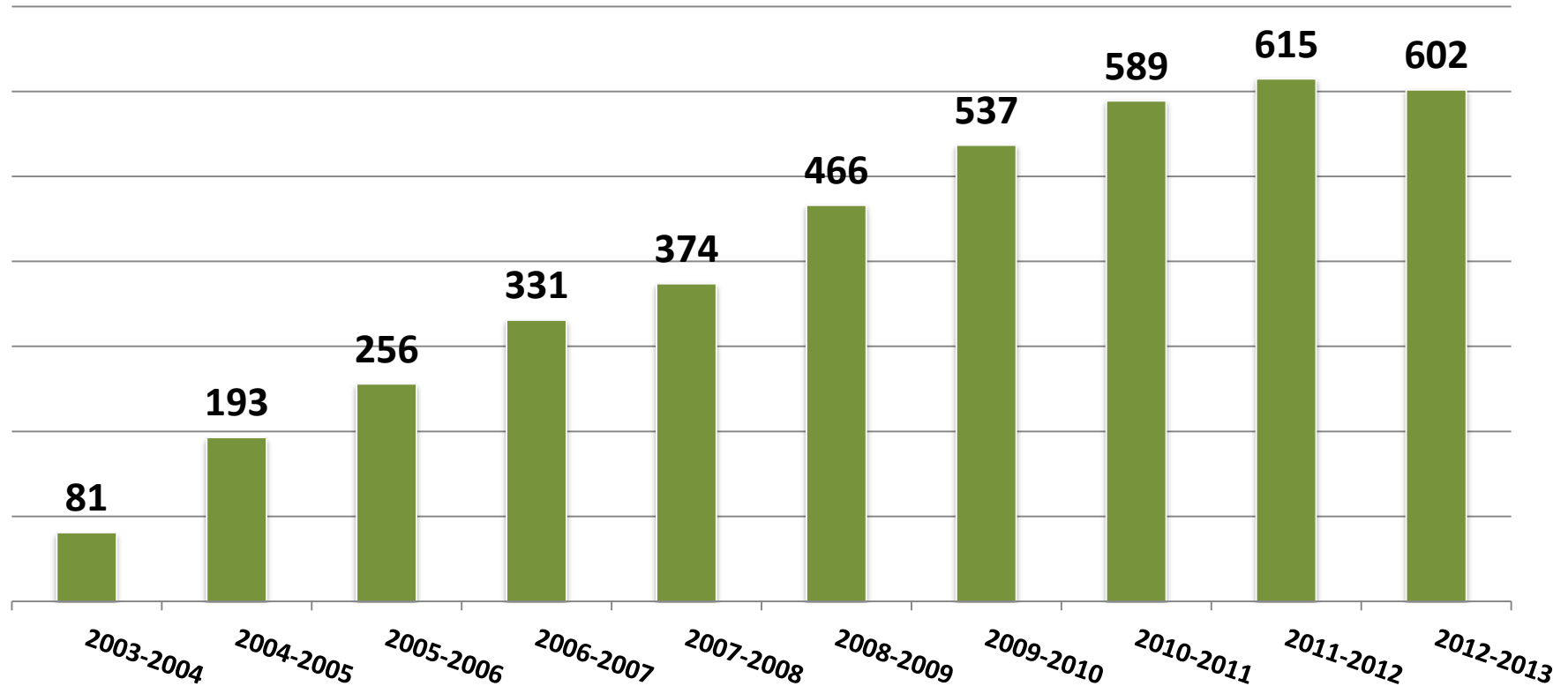
International Scholars (J 1, H-1B, TN, O visas)



Statistical Data

International Visiting Student Researchers

(a subsection of international research scholars)



Strategic Goals Going Forward...

- **Enhance** the international undergraduate experience by supporting students' distinct academic, personal, and social needs.
- **Utilize** technology to streamline services and processes within a secure and reliable infrastructure.
- **Align** programs and services to meet the needs of the growing international student and scholar populations.
- **Achieve** and sustain a high performance culture.

Future Challenges

- A. Projected Growth Among International Students
- B. Campus Services for International Students
- C. Technological Changes
- D. Resource Constraints

Future Challenges:

Campus Services for International Students

As newcomers to a new academic system and given their linguistic and cultural differences, the needs of international students are unique. It would be in the strategic interest to the campus to ensure that a broad array of programs and services be available to them across the campus. Those include:

1. Pre and post arrival academic advising
2. Information covered by CalSO but not covered with international students
3. English as a Second Language (ESL) services
4. More resources around financial aid
5. Support for social and cultural activities
6. Adequate services around international tax issues including specialized payroll services and independent taxpayer identification numbers
7. Closer support systems through the residence halls
8. Closer attention to mental health issues
9. Focused assistance with regard to post-graduation job seeking strategies
10. More training for campus staff

**Given its unique role,
BIO will play a prominent role in providing
some of these services and advocating for others.**

Future Challenges:

Technological Changes

- Transition to electronic databases to conduct work for scholars and employees.
- USCIS technology transformation and the limitations it places on clients.
- Keeping up with advances in technology and associated communication tools as it relates to overall operations.
- Introduction of SEVIS II by September 2013:
 - paperless process of facilitating the entry of international students and scholars into the U.S.
 - will require continuous adaptation and infusion of resources to maintain campus level programming for the interface to succeed
 - additional monitoring and compliance requirements will increase workload burden

Future Challenges:

Resource Constraints

■ Growth

- Given their unique needs, the growth in enrollment of undergraduate international students will continue to place new competing expectations on delivery of services.
- Current staffing levels will be insufficient to meet these new expectations while also fulfilling visa document production, SEVIS reporting requirements, and advising capability.

■ Technological Changes

- The implementation of SEVIS II will require the infusion of more resources to deal with new requirements.
- Acquisition and implementation of a new database for H1B and Permanent Residency processing will require an infusion of resources.

■ Budgetary Climate

In light of the budget constraints faced by the university, a budget oversight process must be identified to address the changing needs of the unit as enrollment grows.

Conclusion

The growth among international students at UC Berkeley has been a challenge to the international office in a very limited resource environment. Nevertheless, as results to a comprehensive needs assessment survey suggest, the unit has been successful in adapting to these changes in recent years.

At the same time, the many competing demands placed on the unit because of the unique needs of undergraduate international students will continue to place a resource burden on the unit if we were to attempt to meet all of these needs. This is heightened by the perception of students that BIO should be providing services generally undertaken in the academic domain such as academic advising when in fact those services are better provided by the colleges.

It would behoove the campus, therefore, that steps be undertaken to address the critical needs of international students. This will position BIO to focus on mandated services and to assist students to acclimate to campus and community life. This approach will likely reduce the exposure of the university to risk that is harmful to our teaching and research mission. Accordingly, if future trends are to be realized, UC-Berkeley campus decision makers must consider this larger context in addressing the resource needs of key service units on campus that support the presence of international students.