

IB CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS 2015

Chicago, IL • 23–26 July











IB CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS 2015

Chicago, IL • 23–26 July

Admissions Case Studies

Mississippi Room July 24, 2015 11:15am-12:30pm





Session Presenters

- Jim Bock, Vice President and Dean of Admissions, Swarthmore College
- Kirk Brennan, Director of Undergraduate Admission, University of Southern California
- Pam Joos, University Counselor, Washington International School
- Michael Lai, Student Outreach Lead, Minevra
- David Zutautas, Assistant Director, Office of Student Recruitment, University of Toronto





Methods to the Madness: Admissions Decision-Making Models

Formulaic Models

"By the numbers" – GPA, class rank, standardized test scores

Holistic Models

 Comprehensive review of the complete application, essays, recommendations and other information





Application Components: What Is Important?

These factors vary in importance from institution to institution:

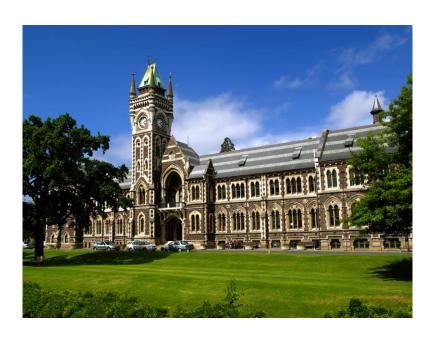
- Academic Achievement, Quality and Potential
- Nonacademic Characteristics and Attributes
- Institutional Needs

Rigol (2003)
Admissions Decision-Making Models





Welcome to Admission Officer Training!







- See profile in your packet
- Large research institution
- Broad offerings at undergraduate and graduate levels
- National in scope, located in southwestern US
- Interdisciplinary studies encouraged of undergraduates





- Highly competitive admission.
 - Faculty demand impact in and out of classroom
 - Best students in the US, even the world
- Seek a diverse student body, paying special attention to
 - academic excellence
 - willingess to engage
 - interest in collaboration
- Consider personal attributes, such as:
 - evidence of impactful leadership
 - passion for public service
 - strength of character in overcoming personal hardships
 - drive to succeed
 - First generation or under-represented students





Last year's admission profile:

Applications	35,000
Admission offers	6,000
Admission rate	17%
Expected enrollment	4,200

Rank in class, by decile		
1st	39%	
2nd	13%	
3rd	6%	
4th	4%	
5th	3%	
6th	1%	
7th	0%	
8th	0%	
9th	0%	
10th	0%	
Not reported	34%	

Interquartile ranges	25th %-ile	75th %-ile
GPA	3.82	4.20
SAT Critical Reading	610	710
SAT Math	620	760
SAT Writing	600	720

Sending high school:

Public: 59% Private: 41%





- 30 minutes to review cases
- 10 minute committee meeting to decide:
 - 1 admit, 1 wait-list, 1 deny
- 5 minutes: what would we do?
- 20 minute, discussion Q&A





Time to read

You are running behind.





What would we do?





Questions

