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Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate » Committees/Councils » Undergraduate Admissions Committee » Annual Reports » 2006-2007 Annual Report

Undergraduate Admissions Committee

**Annual Report of the Undergraduate Admissions Committee
2006-07**

Submitted by: Barbara Dowling, Chair

Committee members: Laurie Bridges/Jeanne Davidson (switched mid-year), Sarah Ghasedi, Deborah Healey, Jack Higginbotham, Tom Hill, Pat McNamara (fall and winter only), Oscar Montemayor, Hannah Rempel, and Rosemary Garagnani (ex- officio, Admissions)

The Role of the UAC

The Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC) meets bi-weekly all year to decide whether to admit potential undergraduate applicants who do not meet the stated OSU admission requirements. An applicant must request this consideration by the UAC and submit all required materials prior to a review of his/her file by the committee.

Applicants requesting review by the UAC must submit a written personal statement and at least two letters (changed from three this year) of recommendation from academic sources. The Admissions Office collects these materials, adds them to the applicant's admissions file, and then presents the completed file to the UAC. Committee members use this information, as well as knowledge of support organizations on campus such as the Educational Opportunities Program, the Academic Success Center, and the office of Services for Students with Disabilities, to make an informed decision on the applicant's ability to become a successful student at OSU.

Applicants denied admission by the UAC during this first round of appeals still have the opportunity to make a personal appeal to the UAC and are informed of this option by the Office of Admissions. (See Admissions Office proposal to eliminate the personal appearance appeal.) Admissions personnel try to limit personal appearances to only those students who have something new to add that was not part of the original file presented to the UAC. If an applicant's personal appeal is denied, there is no further appeal option available, and the student is denied admission to Oregon State.

In addition to admitting or denying admission to an applicant, the UAC may defer for more information such as final semester grades, SAT scores, and further documentation of a learning disability. Deferred files do not have to be returned to the committee, unless specifically requested, if the student meets the minimum requirements set by the UAC.

During spring term 2007 the Insight Resume scores were added to the applicants' files as another piece of information to use in deciding whether to admit, deny, or defer appeals.

Committee Activities during 2006-2007

A total of 166 files were reviewed. Of these, 69 were admitted, 11 were deferred, and 86 were denied. There were 7 personal appearances. Of these, 2 were admitted, 1 was deferred, and 4 were denied. (For more specific information see attached charts: 2005-2006 and 2006-2007.) In addition, UAC members spent some committee time discussing use of Insight Resume scores and how to better link students admitted through the appeal process with campus services such as ASC, SSD, and EOP.

The UAC is scheduled to meet twice a month throughout the year; however, if there are no files to review, meetings are cancelled. Three fall term meetings were cancelled for this reason as well as one meeting when not enough members were able to attend. The UAC held 21 meetings during 2006-2007.

Recommendations from previous UAC report (2005-2006)

Action by this year's committee is in *italics.*

- Continual revision of the letter sent to potential undergraduate applicants to ensure that it remains applicable and appropriate. *No further revision of the letter was necessary; changes made last year worked well.*
- UAC members are still requesting establishment of long-term tracking of applicants admitted by the committee, so UAC members can visualize trends and predictors for success. *Rosemary Garagnani (ex-officio, Admissions) is compiling statistics on those applicants who received admission by going to the second round of appeals (personal interview). The preliminary data has resulted in the Admissions Office's proposal to eliminate the personal interview step in the appeals process.*
- Determine whether or not it would be appropriate for UAC members to be trained to interpret the Insight Resumes (IR) that accompany the file of each applicant. *As chair, I attended the morning session of the IR training and found it very useful in evaluating applicants' files. When available, IR scores have been part of the appeal files since March 2007. The actual responses to the six IR questions have been included for some time. See the first recommendation for 2007-2008.*
- Determine the best way for the UAC to utilize the information from the Insight Resume to determine the possibility of an applicant's potential for success at OSU. *See the third recommendation for 2005-2006 above.*

Recommendations for 2007-2008

- Encourage UAC members to attend the morning session of Insight Resume training so that they can better evaluate the responses and also the IR scores.
- Distribute the training handout to all new members.
- Consider the Admissions Office proposal to eliminate the personal interview appeal.
- Recruit more members for the UAC.
- UAC members still support the establishment of long-term tracking of applicants admitted by the committee, so UAC members can visualize trends and predictors for success. (This is currently being done for the last two years of applicants who were admitted after a personal interview, the second appeal, but not for those admitted on their first appeal.)

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