

Faculty Senate

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Undergraduate Admissions Committee

Annual Report of the Undergraduate Admissions Committee 2008-09

Submitted by: Jack Higginbotham, Chair

Committee members: Jack Higginbotham (Chair), Deborah Healey, Hannah Rempel, Tracy Bentley-Townlin, Ann Larson, Nicole von Germeten, Rebekah Lancelin, Kris Winter, Donna Shaw, Valery King and Mickey Reynolds (Ex-Officio)

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.

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.

Committee Activities during 2008-2009

A total of 184 files were reviewed. Of these, 91 were admitted, 35 were deferred, and 58 were denied. The UAC is scheduled to meet twice a month throughout the year; however, if there are no files to review, meetings are cancelled. The UAC held 16 meetings during 2008-2009.

Recommendations from previous UAC report (2005-2006)

Action by '05 – '06 committee is in *italics*, '05–09 in **bold**

- 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.* **<The committee expressed a desire to validate their process for granting exceptions to the OSU admission process but receiving a report from Admissions regarding the success (or failure) of the students admitted each year by the UAC.**

Recommendations for 2007-2008

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.

Recommendations for 2009-2010

- Complete the recommendation for tracking of students admitted by the committee so UAC procedures can be modified to best select those students most likely to succeed at OSU despite not possessing the minimum admission requirements.
- Also include in the tracking data the details of the specific admission criteria that admitted students were missing that put their file before committee. Ex. Language, GPA, etc. This past year questions came from to the Committee Chair as to whether UAC preferentially overrode specific admission criteria for students. This type of data would directly answer such concerns.

[Details of UAC actions by meeting date.](#)

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