Committee on Admission and Financial Aid  
Minutes - November 12, 2007

Present: Seth Allen, Sig Barber, Nabila Mirza ‘11, Vida Praitis, Jacob Sagrans ‘09, Jim Swartz, Colin Thompson ‘09, Eliza Willis, and Arnold Woods  
Absent: Tom Crady, Bob Grey

2007 vs. 2008 Application Numbers  
Of particular interest was the Early Decision program. Key discussion points were:
  a. Admission will encourage more students to consider applying ED  
  b. allows more ability/flexibility to shape the class  
  c. would need to work to ensure a diverse ED applicant pool  
  d. would potentially make Grinnell more selective  
  e. Is there data to support a lower attrition rate among ED matriculants?

Defining the Grinnell College story for Admission presentations  
A guide for the discussion was distributed, focusing on “Elements of Distinction” and “Characteristics.”
  Elements of Distinction:
  a. Intensive mentoring  
  b. Active experience  
  c. Connected globally  
  d. Culture of student responsibility
  
  Characteristics:
  a. Historical sense of spirit  
  b. Community – belong here and to one another  
  c. Confidence to think differently – think outside the box  
  d. Students who choose Grinnell don’t conform to societal demands  
  e. intellectual sophistication

Committee members should send additional thoughts to Allen.

Respectfully submitted, C. Newport