

August 15, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Members of the College Faculty
FROM: Jim Swartz, Chair, Student-Faculty Committee on Admission & Financial Aid
SUBJECT: 2005-2006 Committee Report

The Members of the 2005-06 Committee were Professors Paul Tjossem, David Harrison, Robert Grey and Wayne Moyer, plus students Emerson Williams-Molett, Alfredo Rivera and Dhiren Parki. The professors and students met at least monthly throughout the academic year with Jim Sumner (Dean of Admission & Financial Aid), Arnold Woods (Director of Student Financial Aid), Tom Crady (Vice President for Student Services), me, and other staff as needed. The Committee received especially good support from Connie Newport, Val McKee and Angie Story.

Jim Sumner (thanks to Angie) posted summaries of each meeting on my website for both evaluation and information. The Committee was active again this past year and I am thankful to both the Committee and the Faculty Board on Admission (Professors Pablo Silva, Mark Levandoski and Monessa Cummins, plus Jim Sumner) for their dedication to the full schedule of issues and activities of these two critical campus oversight groups.

The key topics addressed by the Committee in 2005-2006 were:

1. Sumner regularly distributed College specific data and information, as well as relevant national information related to admission and financial aid problems and questions in order to build a well-informed Committee and to keep the Committee up to speed on key local issues and numbers.
2. Sumner also provided a detailed summary of the 2005 new student enrollment picture at the opening of the academic year, as well as regular reports on the 2006 admission cycle,
3. The Committee met for a full hour with the 3 campus based Posse Foundation-Partnership Mentors in order to monitor the progress of the College's 4 classes of Posse students. The discussion focused in particular on the students' adjustment to the College and their academic writing skills,
4. The Committee considered briefly the possibility of going to a trial policy of need-sensitive admission for wait list students as a way to increase net tuition revenue (NTR). After discussion at 3 meetings the idea was rejected as inconsistent with the College's culture and values,
5. At the request of Professor Moyer considerable time was spent on how to better conduct the 6 Faculty Fairs held on campus annually as part of the fall and spring admission programs for prospective students. Several good ideas emerged and some were implemented in the spring (April of 2006) and more will be rolled out in the 2006-2007 academic year,
6. Sumner provided a summary of the College's representation in the Des Moines Register newspaper's annual Academic All-State edition. The College's representation has picked up nicely in recent years and it was decided to discuss this further at the first fall 2006 meeting of the Committee. Historically the Committee has felt the Iowa AAS representation is an indicator of the College's position in the Iowa market place; this is important because the College

specifically wishes to increase its enrollment of Iowa students. On a related note, the number of new Iowa students will jump appreciably this fall, and

7. At the request of the Committee Sumner also examined the graduation rate and academic performance, as measured by GPA, of merit scholarship winners in recent years. The Committee decided to request additional information on the group of students and to take a look at the information in the fall of 2006. This is a key issue because the College decided for the fall of 2006 to significantly reduce the amount of merit aid in order to try and drive up NTR.

The Committee and I are thankful to you, the Grinnell College faculty, for your support of, oversight, guidance, and decision making relative to our admission and aid efforts this past year. You met with hundreds of prospective students and their families individually, participated in dozens of on and off-campus admission events, reached admission decisions on many applicants, interviewed scholarship applicants, telephoned and emailed hundreds of admitted students, delivered keynote addresses at several campus admission open-houses, and welcomed another record number of visitors during Iowa Private College Week. These efforts contributed greatly to the quantity, quality, and diversity of our entering class, the Grinnell College Class of 2010.

Attached is a report from the Office of Admission describing the entering class as of August 15, 2006.

Enrollment Profile as of August 15, 2006

	FALL 2002	FALL 2003	FALL 2004	FALL 2005	FALL 2006
PROJECTED ON-CAMPUS					
FALL ENROLLMENT	1327	1410	1422	1449	1429
Off-Campus Study, Fall	120	85	110	101	136
Total Fall Enrollment	1447	1495	1532	1550	1565
Personal/Medical Leaves, Fall	25	33	32	21	25
Total Off Campus, Fall	145	118	142	122	161
Off-Campus Study, Spring	109	96	99	77	88
ENTERING NEW STUDENTS					
Target Class Size	420	410	410	395	395
Entering Class Size	408	423	458	411	429
Male	181	195	206	196	210
Female	227	228	252	215	219
% Male	44%	46%	45%	48%	49%
% Female	56%	54%	55%	52%	51%
First-year Only	376	410	439	392	409
Transfer	27	9	17	15	17
One-year Exchange	5	4	2	5	3
WAIT LIST:					
Number on wait list	146	244	513	603	811
Number admitted	28	1	29	31	27
Number enrolled	11	1	22	21	23
Files read by Faculty Board					
	200	87	99	83	91
ETHNIC COMPOSITION:					
African-American	6	20	18	27	22
Asian American	19	26	25	31	32
Latino/a	10	21	18	27	24
Native American	2	6	1	0	2
% Class, U.S. Students of Color	9%	17%	14%	21%	19%
International	50	46	61	48	39
% Class, International	12%	11%	13%	12%	9%

Application Statistics

The following statistics provide comparative data for the fall entering classes, 2002-2006, including the breakdown of Part I and actionable applications.

“Total Apps” include all applications, regardless of whether or not the application was completed. “Actionable Apps” include only *completed* applications. Populations representing the difference include a) applicants who submitted *only* the Preliminary Application, b) applicants who withdrew their application and c) applicants who failed to submit all required documents.

	Total Apps	Preliminary App Only	Actionable Apps	Number Admitted	% of Total	% of Actionable	Number Enrolled	% Yield
2002	3042	493	2188	1404	46.2%	64.2%	408	29.1%
2003	3057	346	2409	1480	48.4%	61.4%	423	28.6%
2004	3732	29	3090	1542	41.3%	49.9%	458	29.7%
2005	3923	20	3243	1434	36.6%	44.2%	412	28.7%
2006	3891	89	3213	1443	37.1%	44.9%	429	29.7%

Entering Class Quality

The following charts illustrate quality of the entering class using secondary school rank (statistics are provided by both quintile and decile and include comparative data from previous years) and SAT/ACT scores.

Entering Class Quality using Secondary School Rank – by Quintile Fall Semesters 2002-2006

	2002	%	2003	%	2004	%	2005	%	2006	%
I	221	81.3%	242	78.6%	285	88.0%	259	89.3%	238	84.4%
II	43	15.8%	49	15.9%	37	11.4%	22	7.6%	38	13.5%
III	4	1.5%	7	2.3%	2	0.6%	6	2.1%	6	2.1%
IV	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	1.0%	0	0.0%
V	3	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Entering Class Quality using Secondary School Rank – by Decile Fall Semesters 2002-2006

	2002	%	2003	%	2004	%	2005	%	2006	%
I	155	57.0%	194	63.0%	219	67.6%	210	72.4%	181	64.2%
II	66	24.3%	58	18.8%	66	20.4%	49	16.9%	57	20.2%
III	30	11.0%	40	13.0%	28	8.6%	17	5.9%	21	7.4%
IV	13	4.8%	9	2.9%	9	2.8%	5	1.7%	17	6.0%
V	2	0.7%	6	2.0%	1	0.3%	5	1.7%	5	1.8%
VI	2	0.7%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	1	0.4%

Mean Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) Scores, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
SAT Verbal	675	671	683	685	674
SAT Math	661	665	682	677	666
ACT Composite	29.2	29.6	30.0	30.2	30.5

Median Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) Scores, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
SAT-Verbal	690	680	690	700	690
SAT-Math	660	680	690	690	680
ACT Composite	29	30	30	31	31

Financial Aid

Applicants, Fall 2002-2006

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Applicants for Admission	3,042	3,057	3,732	3,923	3,891
Applicants for Financial Aid	1,698	1,875	2,208	2,526	2,605
Applicants Tendered Admission	1,404	1,480	1,542	1,434	1,443
Financial Aid Awards Offered	1,184	1,276	1,418	1,336	1,273
Enrolled Aid Applicants	313	367	390	351	351

Average Aid Awards to Enrolled New Students, Fall 2002-2006

	GRANT/SCHOLARSHIP		LOAN		EMPLOYMENT	
	No. Students	Average	No. Students	Average	No. Students	Average
2001-02	373	\$12,786	177	\$ 2,017	263	\$ 1,838
2002-03	350	\$12,732	184	\$ 4,018	195	\$ 1,756
2003-04	380	\$14,999	181	\$ 4,386	192	\$ 1,694
2004-05	417	\$15,415	157	\$ 4,507	200	\$ 1,753
2005-06	387	\$16,644	157	\$ 4,617	196	\$ 1,818
2006-07	363	\$16,649	165	\$ 5,033	234	\$ 1,862