

August, 2009

TO: Members of the College Faculty
FROM: Paula Smith, Chair, Committee on Admission and Financial Aid
SUBJECT: 2008-2009 Committee Report

This year's Committee met monthly during the academic year to consider issues affecting the admission and aiding of students at Grinnell College. The 2008-09 Committee consisted of faculty members Mark Schneider, Jack Mutti, Vida Praitis, Sig Barber, and students Gayatri Jayal '11, Aki Shibuya '11, and Charity Porotesano '12. Rounding out the committee were Seth Allen, Arnold Woods, Jr., and Nancy Maly. The Committee was also well served by Connie Newport, in the role of committee secretary, and Angie Story.

Minutes of the monthly meetings are available on the Dean's office website. A summary of the key topics that we discussed at our meetings follows:

1. Allen, Woods and Maly provided a profile on the entering Class of 2012 at the first meeting of the year, followed with regular updates on the Class of 2013 throughout the year;
2. The Committee reviewed and discussed the third goal of the final report of the President's Internationalization Taskforce which recommended adopting a need-blind admission policy for international students while also meeting the full demonstrated need of students;
3. The Committee discussed the role and purpose of the Admission Board;
4. Allen presented information on the search for a permanent director of admission;
5. In light of the earlier conversation about the role of the Admission Board, the Committee also discussed the current Admission Policy and whether changes were needed due to an increasingly selective review and decision process;
6. Allen reviewed with the Committee plans for acceptance, yield, and summer melt/retention strategies put in place this year to prevent over enrollment in the entering class;
7. The Committee held a joint meeting with the Admission Board to hear their report on their work this year and to discuss their perspective as to the future of the Admission Board.

This year's new class which is set to arrive at Grinnell in just a few days is smaller than last year's large class as part of a planned effort to reduce enrollment pressures on campus. As of this report we're planning to welcome 380 first year and 28 transfer students to the college. It is also a wonderfully diverse class: 25% of the Class of 2013 are domestic students of color; 12% of the students are international; and students hail from 44 states and 28 countries. I know Seth Allen will have more to share with you once the academic year begins.

The Committee and I thank you for your contributions and for your guidance in the important area of admission and financial aid. The right students not only make Grinnell the wonderful place it is but also contribute to the vitality and interest of our own work, in and out of the classroom, as faculty. Your efforts and interest are very much appreciated.

Attached is a report from the Office of Admission describing the entering class as of August 21, 2009.

Enrollment Profile

	FALL 2005	FALL 2006	FALL 2007	FALL 2008	FALL 2009
PROJECTED ON-CAMPUS					
FALL ENROLLMENT	1449	1429	1529	1518	1522
Off-Campus Study, Fall	101	136	113	128	115
Total Fall Enrollment	1550	1565	1642	1646	1640
Personal/Medical Leaves, Fall	21	25	25	23	22
Total Off Campus, Fall	122	161	138	151	137
Off-Campus Study, Spring	77	88	130	105	84
ENTERING NEW STUDENTS (First-year and Transfer)					
Target Class Size	395	395	435	430	395
Entering Class Size	411	429	452	469	408
Male	196	210	208	217	196
Female	215	219	244	252	212
% Male	48%	49%	46%	46%	48%
% Female	52%	51%	54%	54%	52%
First-year Only	392	409	431	465	380
Transfer	15	17	18	2	27
One-year Exchange	5	3	3	2	1
WAIT LIST:					
Number on wait list	603	811	743	951	1026
Number admitted	31	27	16	4	71
Number enrolled	21	23	13	3	40
Files read by Faculty Board					
	83	91	98	95	82
ETHNIC COMPOSITION:					
African-American	27	22	23	29	31
Asian American	31	32	35	37	31
Latino/a	27	24	27	38	31
Native American	0	2	3	2	10
% Class, U.S. Students of Color	21%	19%	20%	23%	25%
International	48	39	67	53	49
% Class, International	12%	9%	15%	11%	12%

Application Statistics

The following statistics provide comparative data for the fall entering classes, 2005-2009.

	Total Apps	Actionable Apps	Number Admitted	% of Total	% of Actionable	Number Enrolled	% Yield
2005	3923	3243	1434	36.6%	44.2%	412	28.7%
2006	3891	3213	1443	37.1%	44.9%	429	29.7%
2007	3973	3180	1569	39.5%	49.3%	452	28.8%
2008	4057	3305	1388	34.2%	42.0%	469	33.8%
2009	4014	3406	1158	28.8%	34.0%	408	35.2%

Entering Class Quality

The following charts illustrate quality of the entering class using secondary school rank (by decile and quintile) and SAT/ACT scores

Entering Class Quality using Secondary School Rank – by Quintile Fall 2005-2009

	2005	%	2006	%	2007	%	2008	%	2009	%
I	259	89.3%	238	84.4%	252	88.7%	221	84.0%	166	83.4%
II	22	7.6%	38	13.5%	29	10.2%	36	13.7%	27	13.6%
III	6	2.1%	6	2.1%	1	0.4%	5	1.9%	2	1.0%
IV	3	1.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	1	0.4%	4	2.0%
V	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Entering Class Quality using Secondary School Rank – by Decile Fall 2005-2009

	2005	%	2006	%	2007	%	2008	%	2009	%
I	210	72.4%	181	64.2%	189	66.5%	170	64.6%	127	63.8%
II	49	16.9%	57	20.2%	63	22.2%	51	19.4%	39	19.6%
III	17	5.9%	21	7.4%	21	7.4%	26	9.9%	21	10.6%
IV	5	1.7%	17	6.0%	8	2.8%	10	3.8%	6	3.0%
V	5	1.7%	5	1.8%	1	0.4%	4	1.5%	2	1.0%
VI	1	0.3%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
VII	0	0	0	0%	2	0.7%	1	0.4%	2	1.0%

Mean Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) Scores Fall 2005-2009

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
SAT Critical Reading	685	674	668	669	661
SAT Math	677	666	672	663	665
ACT Composite	30.2	30.5	30.3	30.1	30.0

**Median Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) Scores
Fall 2005-2009**

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
SAT Critical Reading	700	690	680	680	675
SAT Math	690	680	670	670	670
ACT Composite	31	31	31	31	30

Financial Aid

Applicants, Fall 2005-2009

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Applicants for Admission	3,923	3,891	3,973	4,057	4,014
Applicants for Financial Aid	2,526	2,605	2,622	2,458	2,935
Applicants Tendered Admission	1,434	1,443	1,569	1,388	1,158
Financial Aid Awards Offered	1,336	1,273	1,357	1,236	951
Enrolled Aid Applicants	351	351	389	413	368

Average Aid Awards to Enrolled New Students, Fall 2005-2009

	GRANT/SCHOLARSHIP		LOAN		EMPLOYMENT	
	No. Students	Average	No. Students	Average	No. Students	Average
2005-06	387	\$16,644	157	\$ 4,617	196	\$ 1,818
2006-07	363	\$16,649	165	\$ 5,033	234	\$ 1,862
2007-08	379	\$19,844	183	\$ 5,084	266	\$ 2,072
2008-09	424	\$24,138	205	\$ 3,388	301	\$ 1,966
2009-10	341	\$26,030	202	\$ 3,288	268	\$ 2,036

Note: Although the initial financial aid package under Grinnell's loan cap policy for 2009-2010 includes no more than \$2,000 in loan for on-time applicants, a student can choose to take out more need-based loan to cover the summer work contribution, academic year work contribution and/or the non-custodial parent expected contribution. Therefore, there are cases where need-based loan exceeds \$2,000 per year.