

August 25, 2003

Memorandum to: Members of the College Faculty
From: Jim Swartz, Chair, Student-Faculty Committee
On Admission and Financial Aid
Subject: 2002-2003 Committee Report and Preliminary Enrollment Data

The members of the Committee in 2002-2003 were: Faculty: Jean Ketter, Roger Vetter, Charles Cunningham and Mark Montgomery; and students: Tony Pham, Danijela Gazibara and Rohan Mandelia. The committee met regularly throughout the academic year with Jim Sumner (Dean of Admission and Financial Aid), Arnold Woods (Director of Student Financial Aid), Tom Crady (Vice-President for Student Services), and other staff as needed (the Committee received especially good staff support in 2002-2003 from Connie Newport, Val McKee, Eric Staab and Scott Baumler).

Summaries of each meeting were posted on the Committee website. The Committee was active again this past year and I am thankful to both the Committee and the Faculty Board on Admission (Ann Ellis, Joseph Cummins, and William Patch and Jim Sumner) for their dedication to the very full schedule of activities of these two important campus groups.

The key topics addressed by the Committee were:

- 1) Reviewed the 2002 Comprehensive Report on Admission that was electronically distributed in December (with hard copies available upon request).
- 2) Monitored the annual admission and new student enrollment cycle throughout the academic year.
- 3) Continued to explore the possibility of a need-sensitive admission policy for international student applicants. After much discussion and data examination, the Committee decided to delay any recommendations in this regard until the College's Committee on Strategic Long-Range Planning completed its work in the 2003-2004 year. That committee is considering recommendations directly related to financial aid and scholarships for new international students. The three overlapping members of these two committees (Tom Crady, Mark Montgomery, and me) volunteered to carry any messages forward to the Committee on Strategic Long-Range Planning from the Committee on Admission and Financial Aid, and encouraged members of the latter committee to contact members of the former committee directly.
- 4) Reviewed carefully the application for admission process for College employees wishing to become degree candidates and decided to not recommend any changes to the current policy.
- 5) Monitored changes in the Department of Homeland Security regulations as they may impact the enrollment of new and returning international students at the College.
- 6) Recommended to the President that he work with Dean Sumner to create a slightly different policy regarding how the College might best report application and SAT/ACT numbers to various outside agencies and publications. This has been done exactly as the Committee recommended and the results are: a) unlike Carleton and Macalester Colleges, Grinnell will not report *all* applications as actionable by denying admission to all incomplete applications. Rather, Grinnell will report actionable applications as those complete or so near to completion to enable a fully-informed admission decision to be made, b) report the highest ACT or SAT scores presented to the Office of Admission by applicants, since it is the highest score upon which an admission, denial or wait list decision is made.
- 7) Reviewed and discussed as background information, two pieces of market research recently completed for the College.
- 8) Reaffirmed its spring semester 2002 decision to recommend a minimum SAT Mathematics admission guideline of 450. This guideline resulted from examination of considerable data regarding applicants' SATs, admission decisions, academic success at the College, graduation rates, etc.
- 9) Reviewed and discussed as background material the *Des Moines Register* Iowa Academic All-Star program.
- 10) Recommended that the Office of Admission contact academic department chairs and determine who would like to review transfer applicants likely to major in their discipline. This was done.

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

Attached is a report from the Office of Admission describing the entering class as of August 15, 2003.

Enrollment Profile as of August 15, 2003

	FALL 1999	FALL 2000	FALL 2001	FALL 2002	FALL 2003
PROJECTED ON-CAMPUS					
FALL ENROLLMENT	1305	1314	1303	1327	1410
Off-Campus Study, Fall	117	122	122	120	85
Total Fall Enrollment	1422	1436	1425	1447	1495
Personal/Medical Leaves, Fall	37	38	27	25	33
Total Off Campus, Fall	154	160	149	145	118
Off-Campus Study, Spring	100	81	68	109	96
ENTERING NEW STUDENTS					
Target Class Size	360	380	415	420	410
Entering Class Size	362	395	406	408	423
Male	175	166	193	181	195
Female	187	229	213	227	228
% Male	48%	42%	48%	44%	46%
% Female	52%	58%	52%	56%	54%
First-year Only	329	367	365	376	410
Transfer	25	23	39	27	9
One-year Exchange	5	3	2	5	4
WAIT LIST:					
Number on wait list	144	222	152	146	244
Number admitted	45	64	68	28	1
Number enrolled	11	31	29	11	1
Files read by Faculty Board					
	183	178	151	200	87
ETHNIC COMPOSITION:					
African-American	13	18	20	6	20
Asian American	19	15	17	19	26
Latino/a	22	15	13	10	21
Native American	2	2	4	2	6
% Class, U.S. Students of Color	15%	12%	13%	9%	17%
International	39	39	55	50	46
% Class, International	11%	10%	14%	12%	11%

Application Statistics

The following statistics provide comparative data for the fall entering classes, 1999-2003, 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 Part I, b) applicants who withdrew their application and c) those who failed to submit all required documents.

	Total Apps	Part I Only	Actionable Apps	Number Admitted	% of Total	% of Actionable	Number Enrolled	% Yield
1999	2476	423	1857	1239	50.0%	66.7%	362	29.2%
2000	2888	564	2024	1305	45.2%	64.5%	395	30.3%
2001	2960	574	2112	1361	46.0%	64.4%	406	29.8%
2002	3042	493	2188	1404	46.2%	64.2%	408	29.1%
2003	3057	346	2409	1480	48.4%	61.4%	423	28.6%

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 1999-2003

	1999	%	2000	%	2001	%	2002	%	2003	%
I	231	80%	255	85.9%	245	83.9%	221	81.3%	252	81.8%
II	54	19%	38	12.8%	42	14.4%	43	15.8%	49	15.9%
III	4	1%	3	1.0%	3	1.0%	4	1.5%	7	2.3%
IV	0	0%	1	0.3%	2	0.7%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
V	0	0%	0	0%	0	0.0%	3	1.1%	0	0.0%

Entering Class Quality using Secondary School Rank – by Decile Fall Semesters 1999-2003

	1st	%	2nd	%	3rd	%	4th	%	5th	%	6th	%
1999	151	52.2%	80	27.7%	37	12.8%	17	5.9%	4	1.4%	0	0.0%
2000	183	61.6%	72	24.2%	25	8.4%	13	4.4%	2	0.7%	1	0.3%
2001	176	60.3%	69	23.6%	30	10.3%	12	4.1%	2	0.7%	1	0.3%
2002	155	57.0%	66	24.3%	30	11.0%	13	4.8%	2	0.7%	2	0.7%
2003	194	63.0%	58	18.8%	40	13.0%	9	2.9%	6	2.0%	1	0.3%

Mean Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) Scores, 1999-2003

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SAT Verbal	668	673	667	675	665
SAT Math	658	660	665	661	671
ACT Composite	29	29.3	29.1	29.2	29.6

Median Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT) Scores, 1999-2003

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SAT-Verbal	670	680	680	690	680
SAT-Math	660	660	670	660	680
ACT Composite	29	29	30	29	30

Financial Aid

Applicants, Fall 1999-2003

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Applicants for Admission	2,476	2,888	2,960	3,042	3,057
Applicants for Financial Aid	1,639	1,650	1,715	1,698	1,875
Applicants Tendered Admission	1,239	1,304	1,361	1,404	1,480
Financial Aid Awards Offered	1,041	1,126	1,183	1,184	1,276
Enrolled Aid Applicants	331	351	359	313	367

Average Aid Awards to Enrolled New Students, Fall 1999-2003

	GRANT		LOAN		EMPLOYMENT	
	No. Students	Average	No. Students	Average	No. Students	Average
1999-00	328	\$11,623	136	\$ 3,656	218	\$ 1,397
2000-01	361	\$11,290	138	\$ 3,609	198	\$ 1,629
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