

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on Admissions
(Final; Information)

AD.03.01 2002-2003 Annual Report

The Committee on Admissions has met six times during the 2002-2003 academic year as of the drafting of this report; an additional meeting is scheduled for May 7. Guests: Ivor Emmanuel, Director, Office of International Student Affairs (OAR); Josephine Evans, Assoc. Director and Associate Registrar, OAR; Jeremy Geller, Director, Campus Study Abroad Office; Tom Glenn, Project Coordinator of UI-Integrate Student Systems Team; Earl Kellogg, Assoc. Provost for International Affairs; Clark Niepert, Admissions Officer, OAR; Diana Steele, Measurement Specialist, Office of Instructional Resources; and Mark Williams, Assistant to the Director, OAR.

Admissions Report by Martha Moore, Interim Director, Admissions and Records (September)

Moore presented the Fall 2002 admissions report. UIUC enrollments were at a record 38,000+ students; that included a record 4,559 international students, 446 more graduate student than last year, a male/female ratio close to 1/1, and overall strong ethnic diversity in comparison with most of our peer group of universities. Incoming freshmen at the University display a strong academic profile with a mean ACT of 27.3.

Status and Progress in UI-Integrate Student Systems, including Admissions and Records — Report by Tom Glenn, Project Coordinator of UI-Integrate Student Systems Team (October)

Glenn gave an overview and status report on UI-Integrate. He gave an extensive overview of the implementation and conversion activities for, e.g, the Office of Admissions and Records; Financial Aid; Student Accounts Receivable; and Registration and Records; and a practical demonstration showing how to access and use Banner.

Special topic: International Affairs — Admissions, student and staff visits and exchanges, visas, etc. — Earl Kellogg, Associate Provost for International Affairs and Ivor Emmanuel, Director, Office of International Student Affairs (December)

Drs. Kellogg and Emmanuel presented overviews of the goals of the Office of International Affairs and OISA. They focused on the many disturbing consequences to the campus international community of the 9/11/01 disaster. Of the half-million international students in the USA, there are 4,600 on our campus. In addition, the campus has about 1160 other international scholars (e.g., postdocs, research scholars, visiting faculty). These international visitors are vital to our research and teaching programs.

The committee discussed obstacles and restrictions placed on our visitors since late 2001 and ways in which Dr. Kellogg's and Emmanuel's offices are working to assist and advise our visitors and families regarding visa and other problems while fulfilling federal mandates. Dr. Emmanuel noted that OISA's main concerns are: 1) current issues of the visa process for students and families; and 2) the impact of the new electronic reporting on individual students and the day-to-day operations of OISA. Dr. Kellogg thanked the committee and expressed the hope that international affairs would receive more regular attention in the Senate.

Discussion on UI2 security decisions — Josephine Evans, OAR (February)

Chair Belford explained that there have been some recent security decisions made by UI-Integrate that are affecting the Office of Admissions and Records. Those policy decisions concern the accessibility of student records and admissions files to authorized faculty and staff. In committee discussion, Evans gave an overview of the new security decisions and explained the considerations leading to their adoption.

Update on SEVIS System for International Students — Josephine Evans, OAR (February)

Evans distributed handouts explaining how the events of 9/11, along with subsequent changes to federal regulations applying to international applicants and students, have directly affected international admissions processing. The new regulations and the mandatory use of the SEVIS system to create visa eligibility forms require additional processing time. For some students admitted to "sensitive fields of study," the review process to issuance of a visa may take six months, or more. OAR encourages departments to review application deadlines and admissions timelines for processing admissions and for visa issuance. The changes have made international admissions a very complicated process. Belford asked members to spread the word to their departments.

Update on SAT/ACT Tests — Martha Moore (February)

Dr. Moore explained that the SAT Testing Corporation plans to add a mandatory writing portion (thirty minutes) to its tests. The tests would be available spring 2005 for freshmen entering universities in the fall 2006. SAT has been contemplating this change for some time; internet use has made it possible to send such writings all over the country for evaluation. The ACT tests are taken as part of the Prairie State Exams; the writing portion would be optional. Belford asked that the Committee be kept informed on the evolution of campus policies on use of the various components of both the SAT and ACT in our admissions process.

Discussions on course articulation and how it relates to Study Abroad/Exchange Programs, and International Baccalaureate and A-levels credits — Clark Niepert, OAR; Mark Williams, OAR; and Diana Steele, OIR (February)

Niepert works with domestic transfer course articulation as a liaison to other institutions, especially community colleges. He and the committee discussed course articulation and transfer credit for the statewide general education core under the Illinois Articulation Initiative. Steele distributed handouts, *International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Cutoff Scores, Credit Policies, and Messages for Fall 2002 Students*. Her office processes test scores and forwards them to OAR. Williams (International Admissions) described the A-Levels program, which issues "pass" with credit for A, B, and C grades. The A-levels and IB share most of the same transfer issues.

Study Abroad Programs - Jeremy Geller, Campus Study Abroad Office (March)

Geller gave an overview of the different exchange programs available through the Campus Study Abroad Program. The University is fifth in the nation with 1,400 UIUC students studying abroad. This represents a five percent drop since 9/11. Budget cuts are currently affecting programs, but the Provost is supportive. As an example, Geller pointed to a showcase program in which about 40 students per year are sent to Versailles for a design project. The committee discussed with Geller the many styles of study abroad plans for our students. It also discussed the process of admitting international students for study on our campus.

The March meeting also included a committee discussion of the desirability of expanding the name and charge of this committee to encompass aspects of international affairs.

Admissions Report by Martha Moore, Interim Director, Admissions and Records (April)

The discussion topic was the Spring 2003 admissions report, which Moore presented.

COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS			(*NON-VOTING MEMBER)
R. Linn Belford, Chair	Kevin Hallock	Stephen Lucas	Catherine Parkin
Mark Arends	Jessica Hartke	Candace Montgomery	Brian Rainer, <i>ex officio</i> *
Cecilio Barrera, <i>ex officio</i> *	Kuang C. Hsieh	Martha Moore, <i>ex officio</i> *	Debe Williams
Nancy Blake	David P. Kuehn	Marilyn Murphy, <i>observer</i> *	Paraisia Winston
Robert Darmody	Ira Langston, <i>observer</i> *	John Nerone	