



News from University Guidance

Produced by the SC Guidance team - ehessian@stansteadcollege.com

February 2010



The Grade 12 class had a visit from representatives from Lynn University, one of several on-campus presentations this past fall.

Schools that visited us...

Ontario University Fair

University of British Columbia
York University
Brock University
Queen's University
Carleton University
University of Ottawa
University of Windsor
University of Western Ontario
Huron College
Ryerson University
University of Guelph
University of Waterloo

Maritime University Fair

St. Francis Xavier University
Dalhousie University
St. Mary's University
University of King's College
Acadia University
Bishop's University

Individual meetings

Skidmore College
Endicott College
Lynn University
University of Vermont
Richard Ivey School of Business
University of Toronto
Class Afloat

Schools we visited...

Clark University
College of the Holy Cross
Worcester Polytechnic University
Endicott College
Curry College
Hamilton College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Cornell University
Skidmore College

Busy times in U. Guidance

This has been a busy fall for the Guidance Office. We have all been working hard to ensure that students are making the right choices. Ms. Hessian, Ms. Reynolds and Mrs. White have all been meeting with students, organizing visits and planning short trips to help student select the right schools.

The guidance office is happy to welcome Keri Reynolds to the Assistant Coordinator role. Although she has been heavily involved in campus life in the past, this has been her first term in Guidance. So far Ms. Reynolds has been meeting with students, helping with applications, visiting college fairs and travelling to CEGEP sessions to prepare for what is always a very busy application season at the beginning of the new year. Ms. Reynolds will be looking after all of the CEGEP applications as well as some of the Canadian university applications and teaching sections of Grade 10 and 11 Career Education.

In addition to schools visiting us, 20 students in Grades 11 and 12 travelled with Ms. Reynolds to University of Vermont in Burlington on September 18 to meet with representatives at the NEACAC New England College Fair, where over 200 post-secondary options were represented.

On top of continuing with our outreach program this fall, our US College Advisor, Ali White, took a group of Grade 12 students to visit some New England Schools. Over October break they visited Skidmore College, Cornell University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges and Hamilton College.

This December the staff worked to process approximately 116 transcripts and letters for student applications. All of this paperwork had to be turned over in three days after the end of term. That's a lot of calculating, uploading, processing and mailing! Thank you to Keri Reynolds, Donna Richter and Marie-Eve Simard who worked especially hard to make this happen.

Applications out... Acceptances in!

By December break, 24 students from the Class of 2010 had completed applications to the U.S. and Canadian schools of their choice. All of our applications should be completed by the time this newsletter gets to you in February. Students have been busy writing essays and tests and filling out application forms. Students with early or rolling applications began to hear back from schools in January while the majority of student applicants will begin to hear back throughout the second term and over March break.

They're In!

Some acceptances have already come rolling in:

In Won Lee – Cornell

Ngwa Numfor – Ohio Wesleyan

Michele Lessard - Endicott University

Felix Boisse - University of Western Ontario

Nicolas Bauer - McMaster University, University of Western Ontario

Corey Hamilton – Bishop's University, Class Afloat, University of Northern BC

Anthony Fortugno – Plattsburgh State

Thomas Castle - New England College

Maxime Ruel - SUNY Brockport

Student-athletes: A note on the NCAA Clearinghouse

To practice, complete, and receive athletic scholarships as a college freshman, high school student athletes must register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

To register:

1. Access the NCAA web site at <http://eligibilitycenter.org>
2. Click on "Prospective Student Athlete"

To be eligible, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Submit the "Domestic Student Release Form"
2. Maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher in the NCAA Approved Core Courses.
3. Take an ACT or SAT and receive the score appropriate to your GPA as indicated on the NCAA sliding scale (see web site).
4. Graduate from high school on time
5. Successfully complete the appropriate number of NCAA Approved Core Courses

Qualifying After Grade 11 - Early Academic Certification

Students who meet the following criteria after six semesters (end of Grade 11) will be certified as qualifiers:

- Minimum SAT (math and critical reading) of 1000 or minimum sum score of 85 on the ACT
- For Division I: Core-course GPA of 3.0 or higher in a minimum of 13 core courses
 - 3 English
 - 2 Math
 - 2 Science and
 - 6 additional core courses in any area



For more information on the Eligibility Center, parents and students can contact the Guidance Office or the NCAA website, <http://eligibilitycenter.org>

Free online resource for students who wrote the PSAT

My College QuickStart is an online college and career planning kit available free of charge to all students who take the PSAT/NMSQT. It is powered by their responses to the test and provides personalized information that helps students take their next steps toward college.

My Online Score Report: an enhanced score report that allows students to review each test question, their answers, and the correct answers with explanations

My SAT Study Plan: a customized SAT study plan based on students' PSAT/NMSQT test performance,

highlighting skills for review and practice

My Personality: a detailed personality test that helps students learn about themselves and discover majors and careers that fit their strengths and interests

My Major & Career Matches: extensive information about majors and careers, including insights about what to expect and what courses to take now

My College Matches: a starter list of colleges based on students' home state and indicated choice of major

What can parents do?

Talk with your child about his or her choices of schools and programs. The more you discuss the options available, the more prepared you will both be for the application and decision-making process.

You can apply together with your child for FAFSA (www.fafsa.ed.gov/) or CSS Profile (<https://profileonline.collegeboard.com> -- US only) and look at the various scholarship and financial opportunities in both Canada and the US.

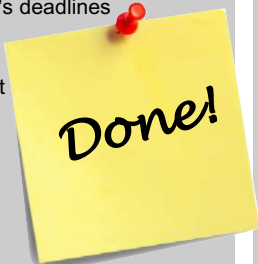
If you have any questions about the process or the choices your son or daughter is making, please do not hesitate to contact us, even if it is just to touch base; we would love to hear from you!

Grade 12 Action Plan Based on College Board's suggested action plan

Fall

Pulling Your Applications Together

- Narrow your list of schools to between 5 and 10 and review it with your counselor. Get an application and financial aid info from each. Visit as many as possible.
- Make a master calendar and note:
 - Test dates, fees, and deadlines
 - College application due dates
 - Required financial aid applications and their deadlines
 - Recommendations, transcripts, and other necessary materials
 - Your high school's deadlines for application requests, such as your transcript
- Write application essays and ask teachers, parents, and friends to read first drafts.



Winter

Application Details

- Complete and submit your applications before February
- Bring any transcript request letters to Ms. Richter.
- Log in to your college-specific sites and keep tabs on your application status or requirements.
- Check with the OUAC sites to review your offers regularly.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

- US applicants, submit your FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible.
- Many priority financial aid deadlines fall in February. To get the most attractive award package, apply by the priority date.
- Search the web for scholarships that apply to you.
- Contact the individual schools to make sure you are on track.

Spring

When the Letters Start Rolling In

- You should get acceptance letters and financial aid offers by mid-April.
- Compare awards from different schools. If you haven't already, visit your final college before accepting.
- Keep a list of dates and deadlines.
- Go online to the OUAC and other school specific sites to respond to offers.

May 1: Making Your Final Choice

- You must tell every college of your acceptance or rejection of offers of admission or financial aid by their deadline. Send a deposit to the college you choose.
- Most US schools have a May 1 deadline. Canadian schools can be either earlier or later depending on the school.

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