

QISS PEP Talks

Parent Education Program

January 30, 2018

Applying to U.S. Universities

Speakers

- Ms. Joyce Orobello, School Counselor

Guest Speakers

- Ms. Ketty Chang, QISS Student
- Mr. Jonah Underwood, QISS Student



Takeaways



1. How U.S. admissions officers determine college entrance
2. Application process
3. Main answer to all of your questions
4. Your child has a partner!



QISS Class of 2018

Acceptances

- Georgetown University
- George Washington University
- Goucher College
- Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- University of Arizona
- University of Indiana-- Bloomington
- University of Colorado-- Boulder

Sources



Penn
UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA

**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
COLLEGE
ADMISSION
COUNSELING**

Finding the Best College

What is “the Best?”



~~Finding the Best College~~

Finding the Best College for YOU

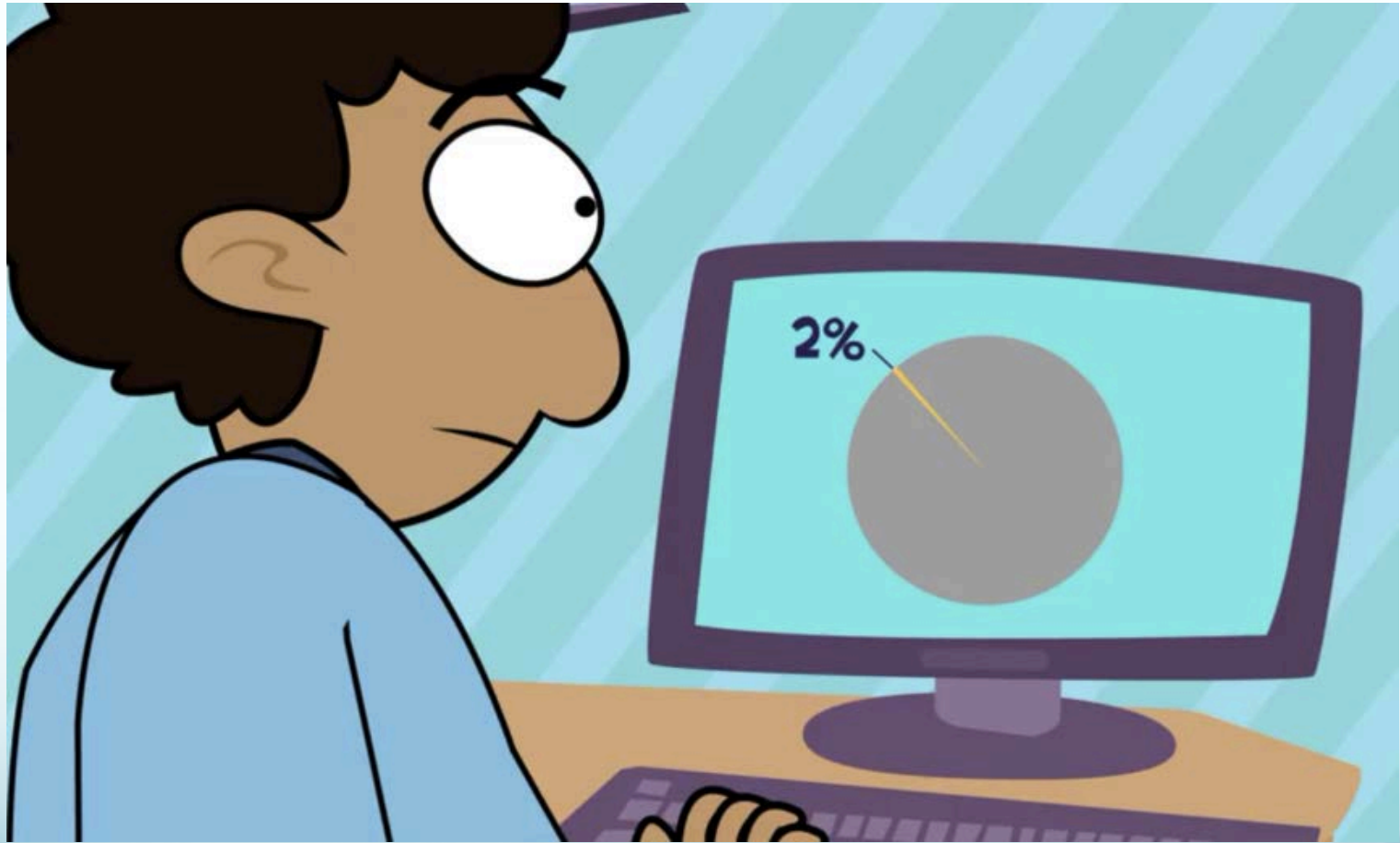
BEST=PERSONAL

Finding the Best Fit

69% of international students attend 5% of U.S. universities.



Finding the Best Fit



College Rankings



College Rankings = Easy to Manipulate

- Professors' Salaries
- Input Factors:
 - Incoming students' SAT scores and class rank
 - Selectivity



The Answer to All of Your Questions



Think like an Admissions Officer



1. Will this student be academically successful?
2. Will this student be a good fit for this university?

Will This Student be Academically Successful?

1. Application Form
 1. Common Application
 2. College-Specific Application
2. Academic Documents (Transcript) and School Forms
3. Test Scores (One of many components)
4. Essay
5. Letters of Recommendations
6. Activities List
7. Other



Test Scores: English Tests

IELTS and TOEFL



1. Read texts, listen to lectures, present to a class:
skills needed to succeed in college
2. Alternative means of demonstrating proficiency
 1. Studying at American School
 2. Introductory Programs
 1. finite?
 2. Credits toward the degree?
3. Easier to understand whether you make the grade:
“minimum” score requirements.
4. Recommend a practice test of each test

Test Scores: SAT and ACT

(many universities do not require this from international students)

- Submit scores from the testing agency to the university (not accepted otherwise)
- Usually just look at your highest score. (score choice)
- Score ranges



- SAT vs. ACT
 - ACT is an achievement test: what student learned in school
 - SAT: aptitude test: testing reasoning and verbal abilities
- Recommend a practice test of each test

How many times should I take the test?

- No rule

Taking tests over and over does not guarantee that the score will increase

- Slight Increase 55–57% of test-takers (ACT-1pt, SAT 40points)
- About 25–35% of decrease
- Depends on your 1st score



Test Scores: SAT Subject Tests

- Required by a limited amount of schools and suggested by some highly selective schools
- Scored on 800 scale and average score is very high
- Percentile is key



Upcoming SAT & ACT Dates

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	At QISS?
SAT I	March 10, 2018	February 9, 2018	Yes
SAT II	May 5, 2018	April 6, 2018	No
SAT II	June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018	Yes
SAT II (including language tests)	November 3, 2018		Yes
SAT I & II	December 1, 2018		Yes

Test	Test Date	Registration Deadline	At QISS?
<i>ACT</i>	April 14, 2018	March 9, 2018	<i>Yes</i>
<i>ACT</i>	June 9, 2018	May 4, 2018	<i>No</i>



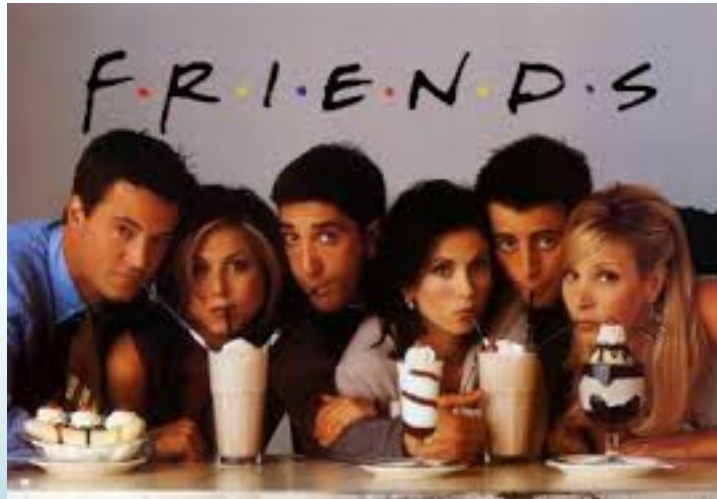
Think like an Admissions Officer



1. Will this student be academically successful?
2. Will this student be a good fit for this university?

but the “Best Fit” University

- Are you a better fit for your best friends or your acquaintances?
- Fit: reason why some academically qualified students are NOT accepted to highly selective schools



Different Universities Evaluate Differently...but:

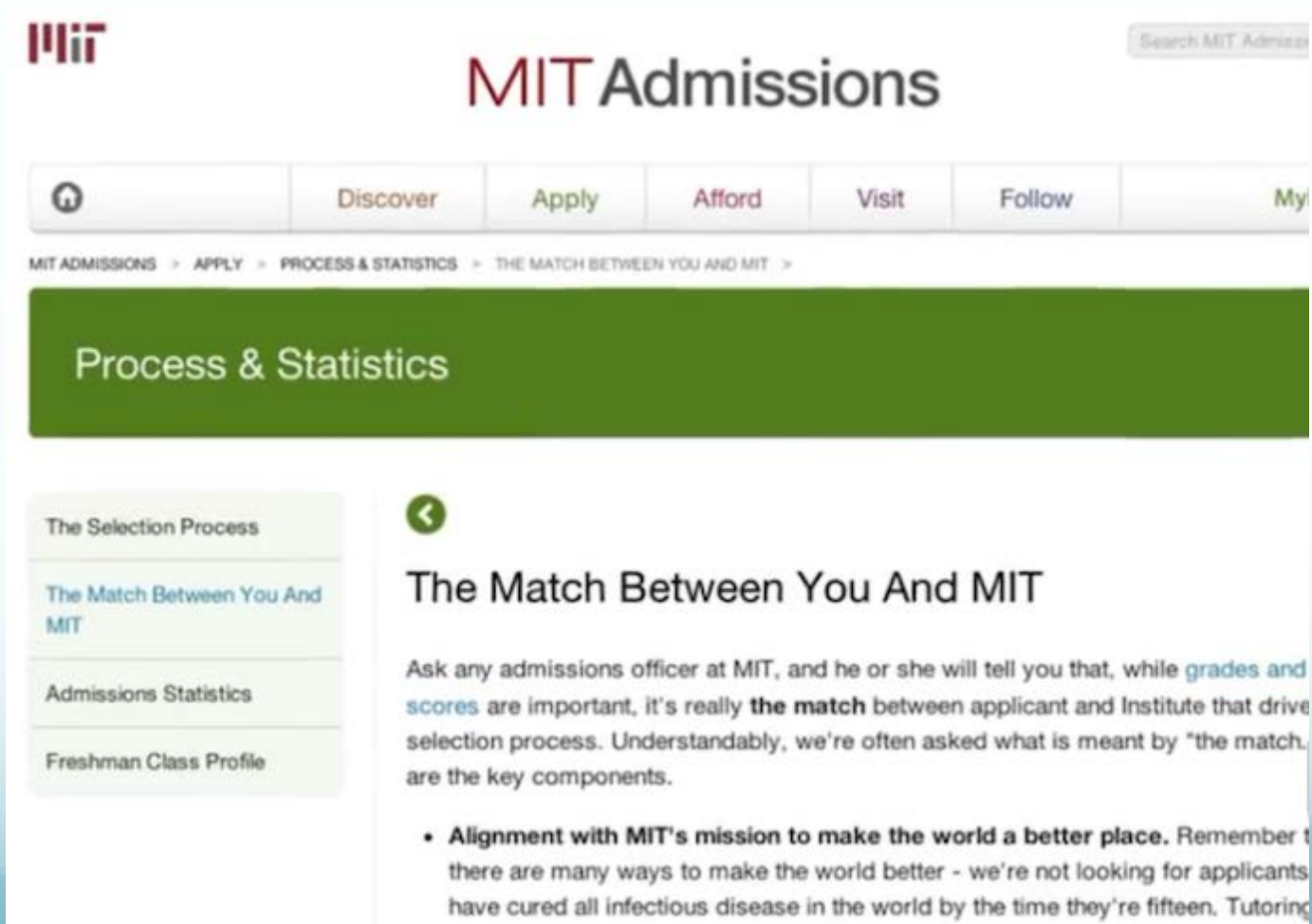
Generally, schools rank the application parts in this order:

1. Grades in College Prep Courses
2. Strength of Curriculum
3. Test Scores
4. Grades in All Courses
5. **Essay**
6. **Counselor Recommendation**
7. **Teacher Recommendation**
8. **Activity List**



So, What do Universities Want?

- Not a mystery --



The screenshot shows the MIT Admissions website. At the top left is the MIT logo. To its right is the text "MIT Admissions" in a large, bold font. In the top right corner, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search MIT Admissions". Below the header is a navigation menu with buttons for "Discover", "Apply", "Afford", "Visit", "Follow", and "My". Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: "MIT ADMISSIONS > APPLY > PROCESS & STATISTICS > THE MATCH BETWEEN YOU AND MIT >". A large green banner with the text "Process & Statistics" is positioned below the breadcrumb trail. On the left side, there is a sidebar with four menu items: "The Selection Process", "The Match Between You And MIT" (highlighted in blue), "Admissions Statistics", and "Freshman Class Profile". The main content area features a green back arrow icon, followed by the heading "The Match Between You And MIT". Below the heading is a paragraph of text: "Ask any admissions officer at MIT, and he or she will tell you that, while **grades and scores** are important, it's really **the match** between applicant and Institute that drive selection process. Understandably, we're often asked what is meant by "the match." **Alignment with MIT's mission to make the world a better place.** are the key components." Below the paragraph is a bulleted list item: "• **Alignment with MIT's mission to make the world a better place.** Remember that there are many ways to make the world better - we're not looking for applicants who have cured all infectious disease in the world by the time they're fifteen. Tutoring

The Guidance Process

- Self-Assessment
- Research and Planning (10 hours/school)
 - What you want and what is realistic
 - Create school list
 - Create an application plan
- Applications and Essays



Senior Year Application Plan Timeline

(Is EA/ED right for everyone?)



- Early Decision - November (binding)
- Early Action - November (non-binding)
- Regular Admission - Varies (December—March)

ADMIT
 DEFER
 DENY



Summary

2 Main Questions

Will this student be **academically** successful

Will this student be a **good fit** for this university?

Answers:

“It Depends”

“What’ s Best is Personal”

Your Child has a Partner!



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Ms. Joyce' s Edmodo Page

www.edmodo.com

Edmodo Code: m74gmz

