

Enrollment Committee
Minutes
Feb. 23, 2015
10:30 a.m. - noon

Present: Susana Ulloa, Zeki Simsek, Veronica Makowsky, Nathan Fuerst, Mansour Ndieye, Kathy Sanner (by phone), Michael Ego (by phone), Maureen Croteau

The committee received a report from Nathan Fuerst, director of admissions, on the incoming fall 2015 freshman class. Fuerst said that 3,500 was the original target for Storrs, but the administration is still weighing options. Given the uncertainty of next year's budget, "there may be a few more." He said the decision is being made by the provost, the president, finance and the cabinet. Acceptance letters are due to go out March 1, so decisions must be made soon. He said there will be a sizable wait list this year, which is not a desirable strategy but is necessary due to budget uncertainty.

Fuerst said there was a "wonderful pool" of applicants this year and that STEM growth outpaced non_STEM growth. He said that they have been carefully monitoring acceptance in majors, such as medical engineering and nursing, where capacity is limited. He said they have been transparent with students about that, offering them a second choice.

He said the target for regional campuses is 1,400.

Applicant pool at Storrs was 34,000 this year, compared to 31,200 last year. For freshmen applicants at Storrs, 60 percent were in-state. Among regional campus applicants, and transfers, 80 percent were in-state. International students will again be admitted to Stamford, but not to Avery Point, where housing was a problem.

Target for transfer students is 800 at Storrs and 250 at regional campuses.

It is not possibility to know about the economic diversity of the pool because admission is need blind. FAFSA information doesn't load until after admission.

Number of applicants from China continues to grow, even though we do not recruit in China. We had more applicants from Shanghai than from New Hampshire. We recruit in Brazil, Ecuador, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, among other places.

Sharon White, director of the Stamford Campus, talked with us by phone. They got there first 29 foreign students last year. They were not expecting to get international students this year, but were able to provide services to welcome and support them. Twenty-eight of the students will be going to Storrs in Fall 2015. A survey shows satisfaction among the students. Students would like more activities, field trips, assistance with off-campus housing and Visas.

Next year there will be 60. The international students, most from China, transfer to Storrs after the first year. Most are in CLAS. Starting in fall 2017, when the Stamford dorm opens, they will probably be able to spend two years on Stamford before coming to Storrs.

Maureen Croteau