

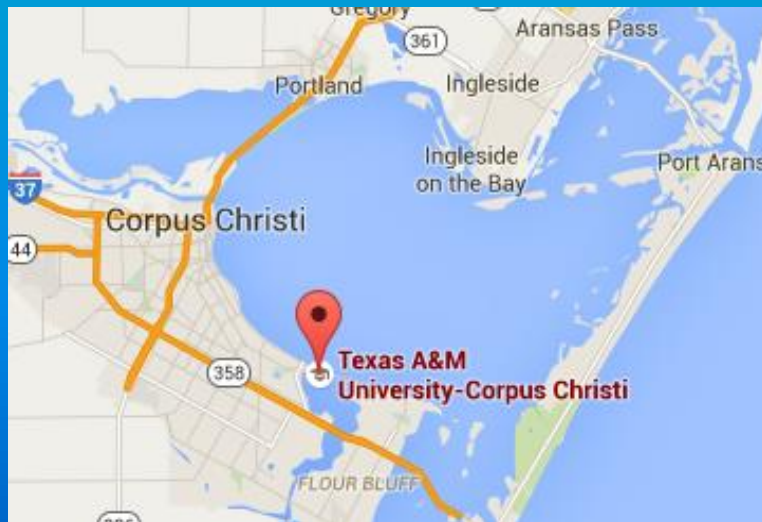
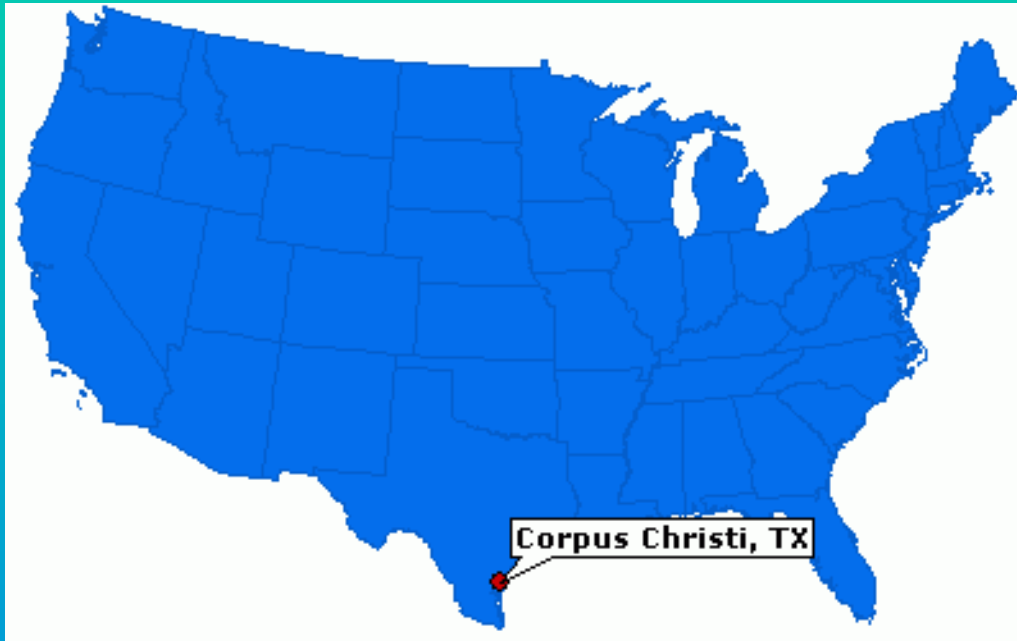


Report, Reflection, Action: Rethinking the Admissions' Process

JoAnn Canales, PhD
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Council of Graduate Schools Annual Meeting
Seattle, Washington
December 3, 2015

University Location



Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

University Context

☐ 37 programs

- 8 terminal
- 29 master's

☐ Enrollment (table)

- Fall 2015: 1861
- F-1241 (67%)/M-620 (33%)

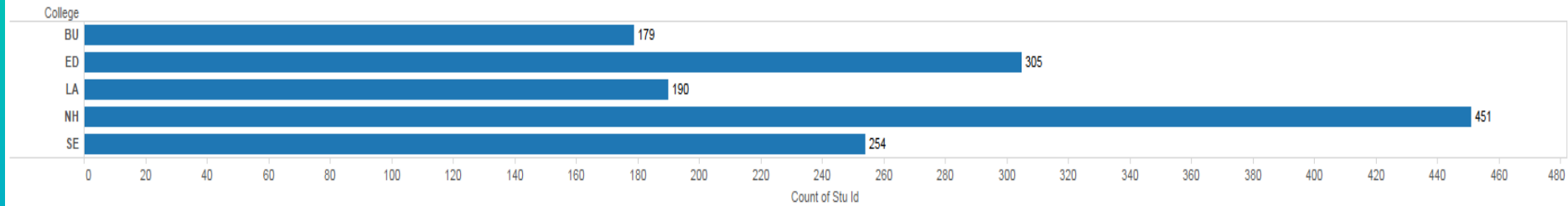
White	Hispanic	International	Black	Asian	Other	Native American
813 (44%)	575 (31%)	259 (14%)	88 (.05%)	79 (.04%)	41 (.02%)	6 (.003%)

☐ Completion

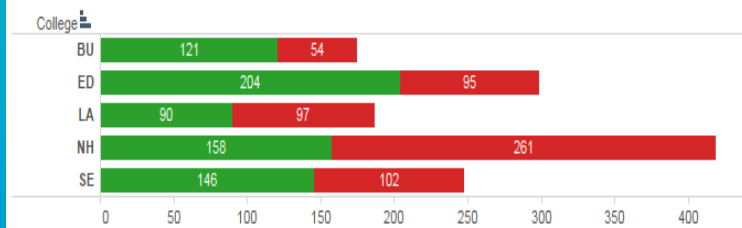
- Masters – 68%
- Doctoral – 54%
- Overall – 67%

Overall Enrollment

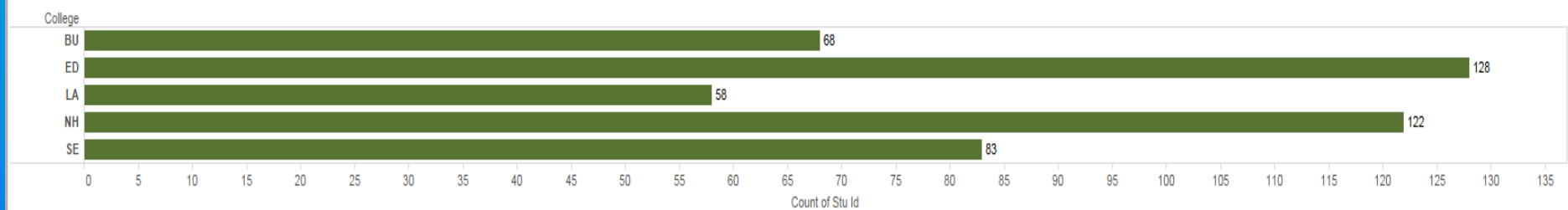
Total Applications



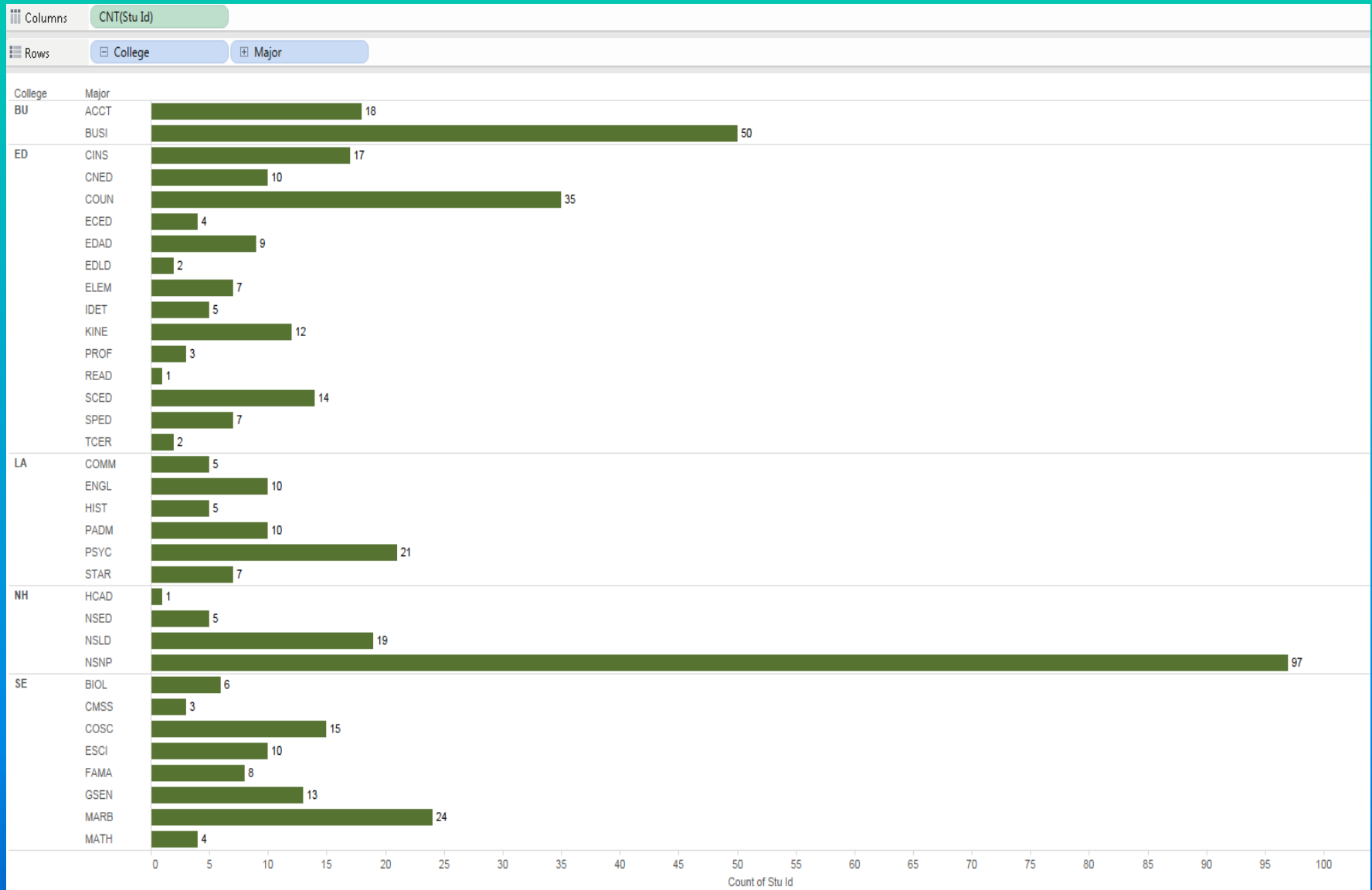
Admit Decisions



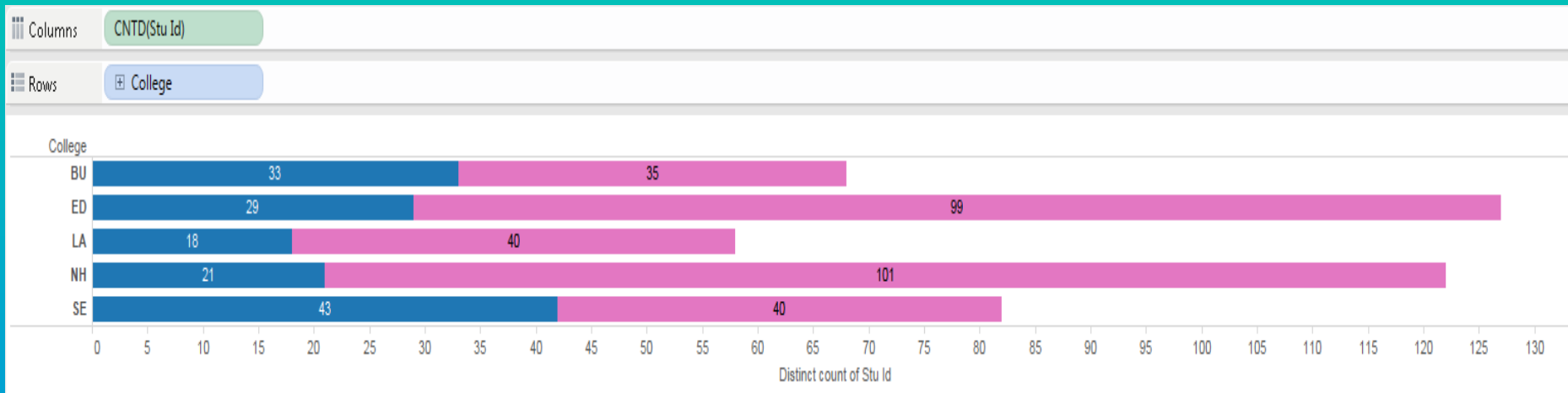
New Enrollees



Enrollment by Program



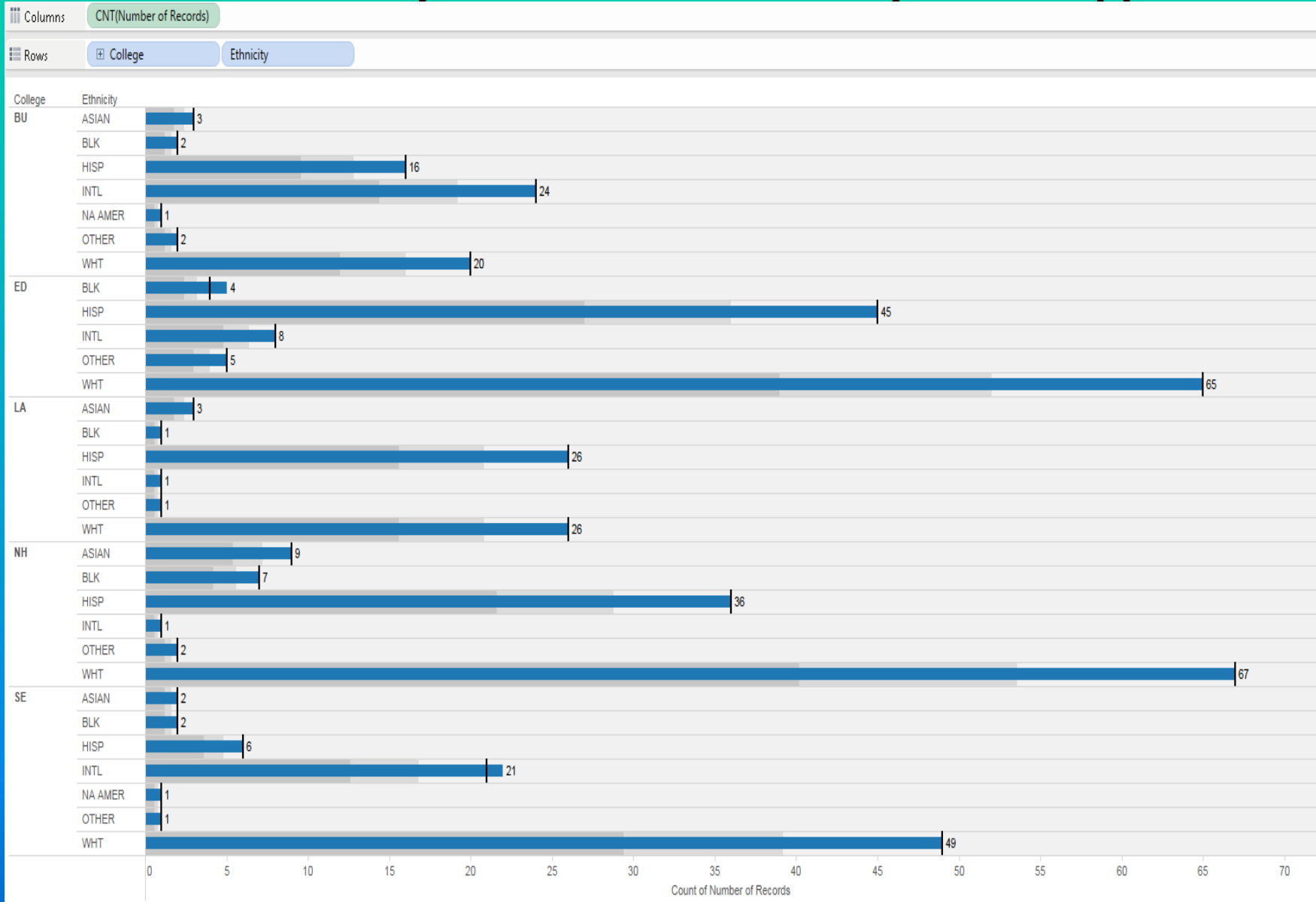
Gender Enrollment by College



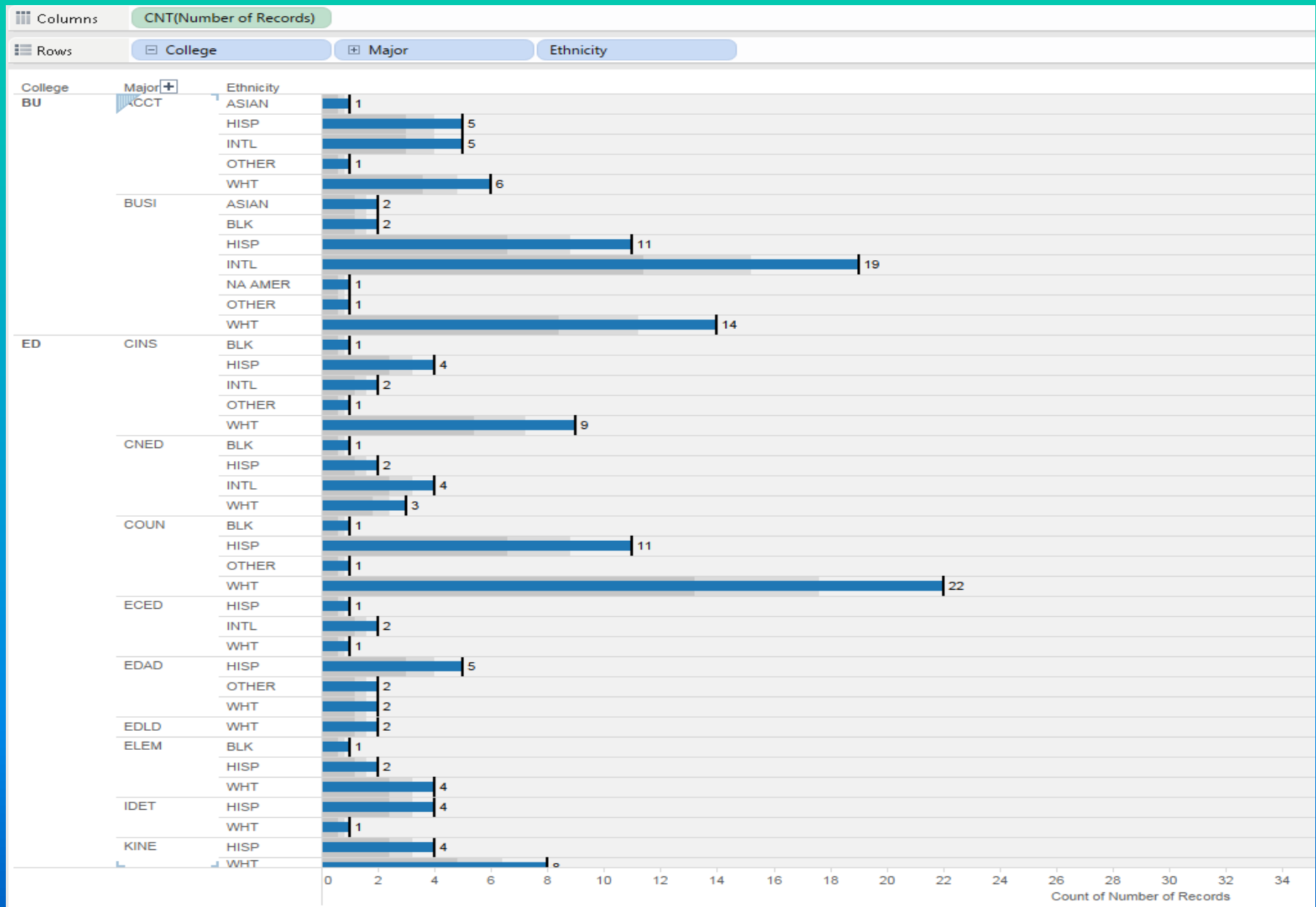
Gender Enrollment by Program



Diversity Enrollment by College



Diversity Enrollment by Program



Additional Analytics

- Time to Degree Data by Program
- Student Debt Average by Program
- Student Award Level by Program
- Time to Degree Data by Gender/Race-Ethnicity
- Student Debt Average by Gender/Race-Ethnicity
- Student Award Level by Gender/Race-Ethnicity

Admissions' Practices

- College of Graduate Studies Requirements
 - 2.5 GPA
 - Official transcripts from ALL institutions attended
 - English language proficiency exam (if needed)
- Additional admissions requirements
 - Essays
 - Letters of Recommendation
 - Resumes
 - Interviews
 - Writing Samples
 - Portfolios

Rethinking Criteria

➤ Essay prompts

❑ Current practice

- 37 programs require essays
- 300-1000 words
- Focus on goals /motivation/interests/research
- No guidelines for review

❑ Improved practice

- Recommend specific prompts requiring examples where attributes were evidenced
- Recommend use of rubrics to assess the written expressive modality

Rethinking Criteria

➤ Letters of Recommendation

❑ Current practice

- 26 programs require letters/forms of recommendation [11 have no LOR requirement]
- 2-4 letters/forms
- Letters (18 programs)-potential for success/motivation
- Forms (8 programs)-attributes
- No guidelines for review

❑ Improved practice

- Recommend reframing of mission statements to include desirable attributes
- Recommend forms focused on attributes
- Recommend guidelines for assessing the extent to which attributes are addressed

Rethinking Criteria

➤ Resumes

Current practice

- 13 programs require resumes (terminal: COE/Nursing/S&E; master's: Comm/MPA/MBA/ACCT/CMSS/MARB)
- No guidelines for review

Improved practice

- Recommend specific components
- Recommend guidelines for evaluating resumes

Rethinking Criteria

➤ Interviews

Current practice

- 7 programs require interviews(Terminal: COE/Nursing/S&E, Masters: CNED/ElemEd/SecEd)
- No guidelines for review

Improved practice

- Recommend specific criteria
- Recommend guidelines for evaluating responses

Rethinking Criteria

➤ Writing Samples

☐ Current practice

- 4 programs require writing samples (EDLD/communication/English/history)
- No explicit criteria
- No rubric

☐ Improved practice

- Recommend specific criteria for prompts
- Recommend guidelines for evaluating writing sample

Rethinking Criteria

➤ Portfolios

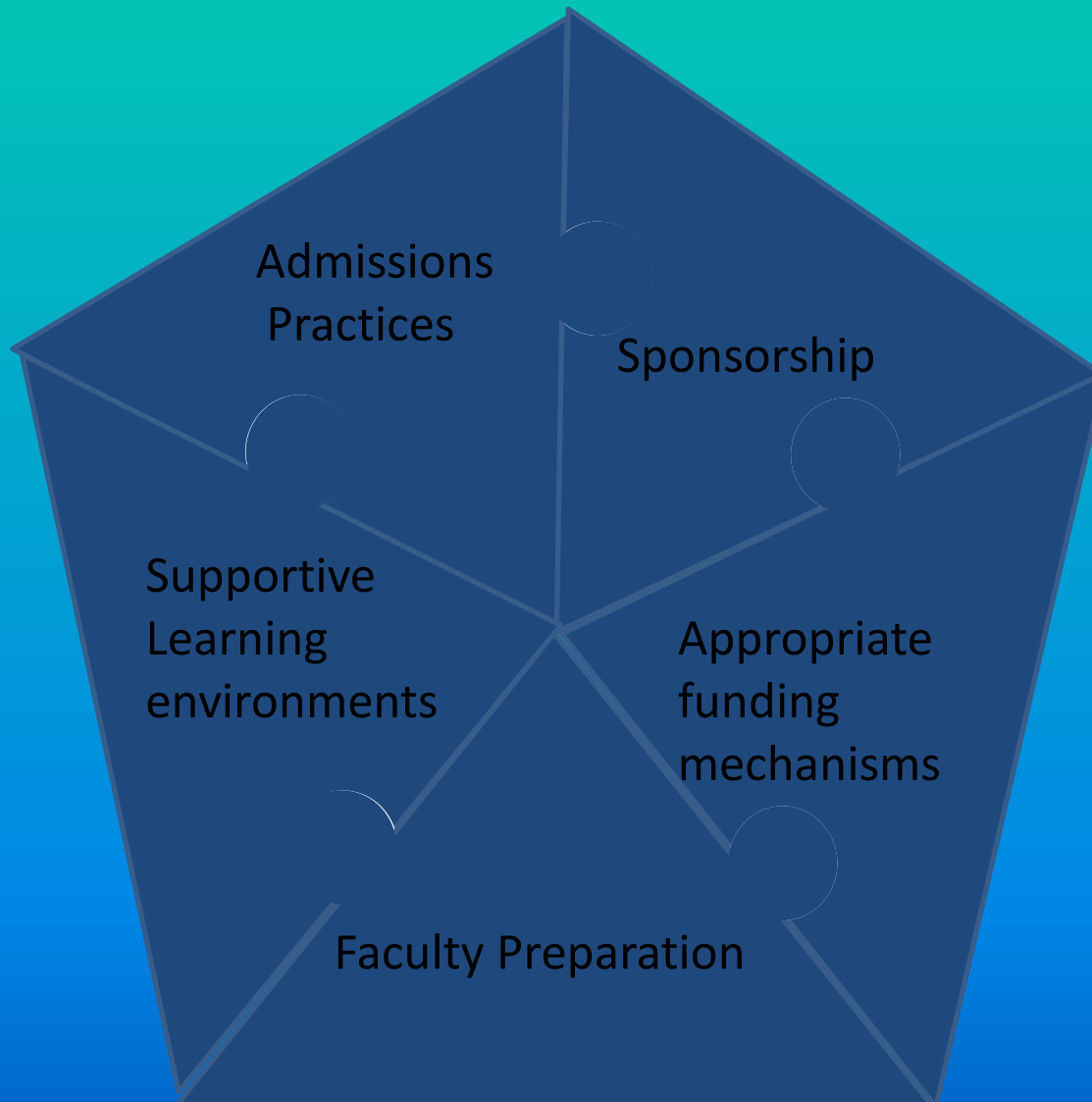
Current practice

- 2 programs require CD portfolios (Studio Art/MFA)
- No guidelines provided

Improved practice

- Recommend specific criteria for components
- Recommend guidelines for evaluating portfolios

Admissions' Ecosystem



Concluding Remarks

Intentionality

Explicitness

Transparency

Holistic admissions criteria – not just for students entering programs