Graduate Admissions CGS New Deans Institute San Juan, PR July 10, 2010 Margrit von Braun, Dean **College of Graduate Studies** 



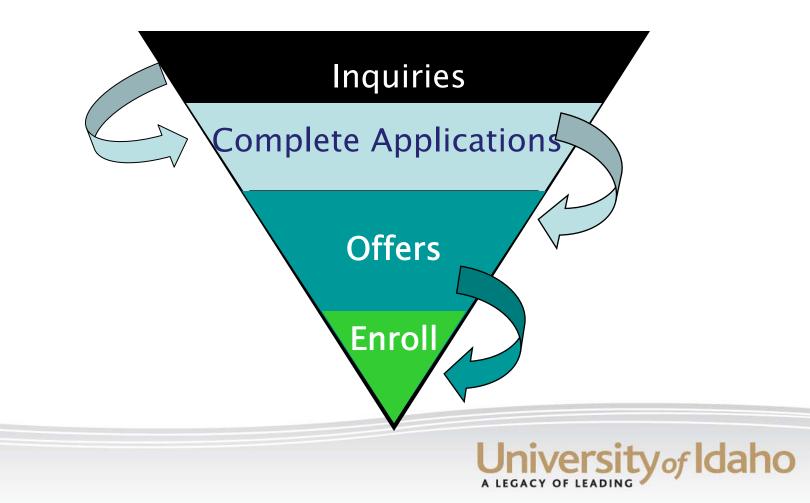
## Outline

- 1. Enrollment
- 2. Applications
  - a. Fees
  - **b.** Deadlines
  - c. International
- 3. Decisions and Structure
- 4. Communications and Data
- 5. Legal Issues
- 6. Policies



#### 1. Enrollment

#### **The Funnel**



# 1. Enrollment – Recruiting!

- 60% UI freshman say they are going to graduate school (40% are 1st generation)
- 25% of UI seniors cite graduate school as their principal activity after graduation
- Importance of McNair Scholars and similar programs



# 1. Enrollment – Why students don't apply

- U.S. students don't see graduate education as necessary to career path
- Unaware of "Idaho"/UI ("curb appeal")
- Unaware of specific programs offered
- Non-competitive funding
- Size of the university
- Facilities and technology available
- Culture and climate of the school
  .....we have LOTS of competition



# 1. Enrollment - Challenges

- Competitive offers
  - Stipends; fees (in- and out-of state); Insurance;
  - Length of offer
- Program/faculty/employment capacity
- IH vs. RAs; Instructors vs. TAs;

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Post-docs vs. Ph.D. students

# 1. Enrollment – Challenges

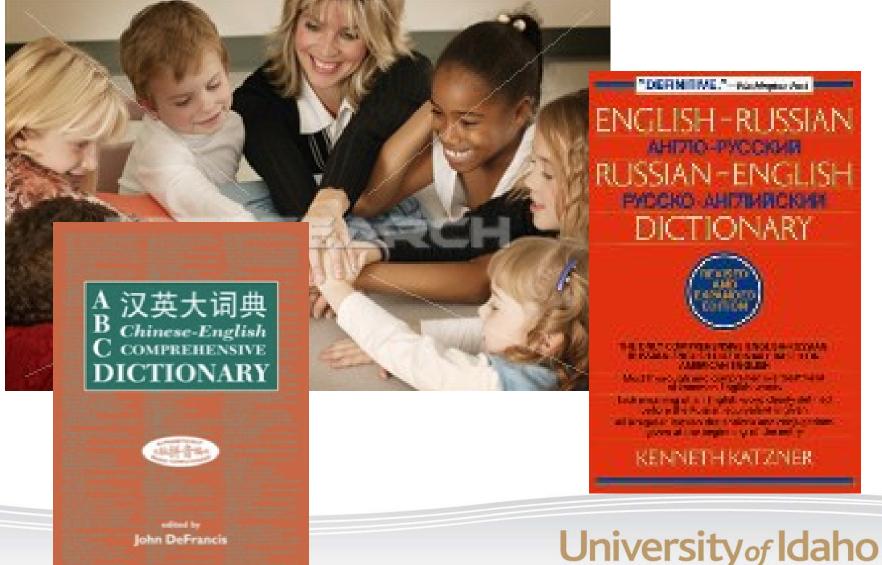
- Loss of faculty may affect graduate more than undergraduate student numbers
- Loss of out of state waivers
- Loss of recruiting/advertising budgets
- Loss of international students (Immigration policies (EU, UK, Canada, Australia) and in-country capacity (India, China) University of Idah

# 2. Applications

- Application form
- Application Fee
- Official transcripts and Degree Certifications from all previous colleges/ universities
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Statement of Career Objectives
- Resume/Curriculum Vitae
- All Departmental Requirements

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## **Letters of Reference ?**



A LEGACY OF LEADING

John DeFrancis

### 2. Applications – Fees

- Amount
  - Peers; State or system limits
  - At UI: Paper: \$85

Online: \$55 dom.; \$60 int'l

- Online payment or process manually
- Waiver policy (e.g., programs such as McNair)



# "I'd give my right arm to be in your program"





#### 2. Applications – Deadlines

#### **UI uses "Priority Application Deadlines"**

Fall-February 1 Spring-September 1 Summer-February 1



# 2. Admissions – Int'l

- U.S. Bachelor degree equivalent
  - Bologna Process in EU & 3 year degrees

Language Requirements (test < 2 years old)

- TOEFL score of 550 or 79 (internet) university minimum – or equivalent.
- IELTS 6.5
- MELAB 77
- Ul American Language & Culture Program (ALCP) with a Level 6 Pass
- U.S. degree at accredited institution University of Idaho

# 2. Admissions – Int'l

#### **Official Transcripts**

- Certified Translations
- Credential evaluation in house and/or professional services

#### **Financial Requirements**

- Certificate of Financial Responsibility and Dependents Forms
- SEVIS Record Transfer Request
- Copy of Passport & visa



## 3. Decisions and Structure

#### Use Multiple Criteria for Admission Decisions

- personal statement
- undergraduate GPA
- letters of recommendation
- samples of academic work
- relevant professional experience
- GRE scores
- ...SKYPE more!

3. Decisions and Structure – Deadlines

- CGS resolution regarding admission offers with funding
  - Inform students of admission and financial offer before April 15
  - Students not obligated to respond to offers prior to April 15



## 3. Decisions and Structure

**Organizational structure:** 51% Centralized 19% Collaborative 30% Decentralized Who decides? 71% Program 12% Administrative staff 7% Academic Dean 10% Other

NAGAP, 2003



## 3. Decisions and Structure

- Who decides and why
- Provisional low GPA?
  Asked for faculty
  justification
- "Say no for me!"



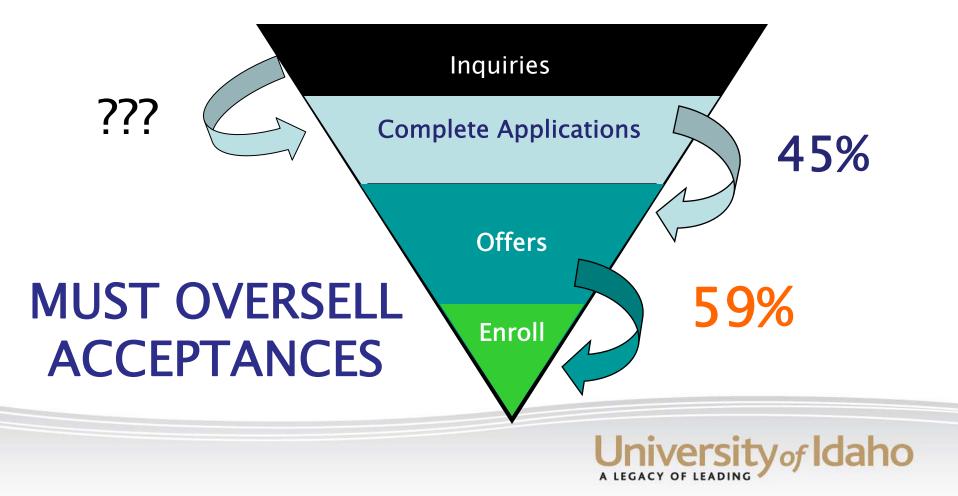
### 4. Communications and Data

#### To applicant

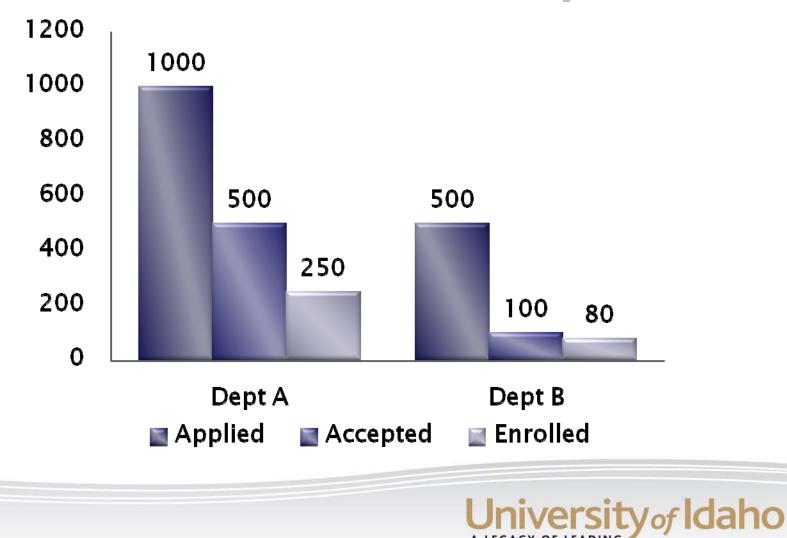
- Application status
- Admission decision
- Enrollment encouragement (dept.!)
- Enrollment deposit



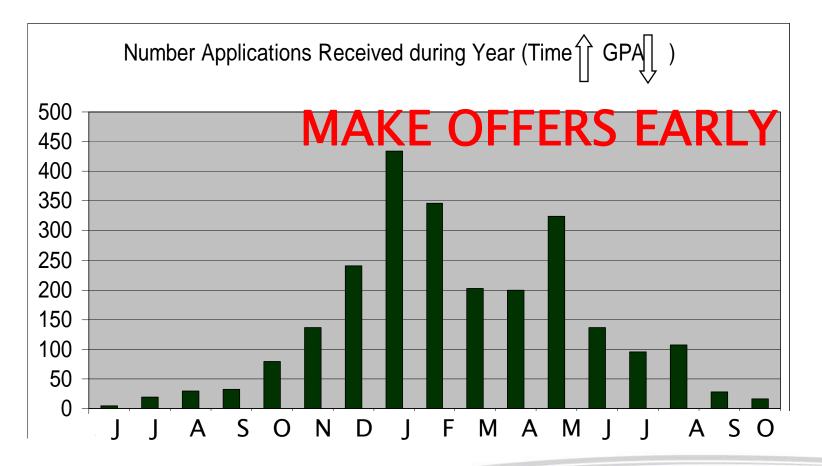
## 4. Communications and Data - Faculty



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#### 4. Communications and Data Campus "Why did Location, accepted Timely admits, Reputation student go Rankings, Ongoing elsewhere?" **Placement data** communications, each <4 % 10% **Financial support** Fac/Program 39% Quality 7% Maybe the most polite and most politic answer! Personal **Personal Contact** Contact 34% 34%

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## 4. Communications and Data

- "Why did accepted student go elsewhere?"
- $\cdot$  > 50% of depts. don't ask
- Sources of info:
  - National Clearinghouse Education Stats. (NCES)
  - GRE where else sent?
  - Financial Aid Applications
  - Interview



#### 4. Communications and Data



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## 4. Communications and Data - Records

- Federal requirements for data on race and ethnicity
- CGS survey on international applicants
- NRC survey on demographic data for enrollees



# 5. Legal Issues

- Collect only info you need
- Do not discriminate based on race, gender, age, disability or citizenship
- Publish and adhere to admission standards
- Base decision on total application
- Document admission decision
- Deny
- Admit: Full or Provisional

## Legal Issues



# "You should have accepted my son"



5. Legal Issues – FERPA Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (1974)

- Rights of ADMITTED STUDENT to admission
  - records, except for confidential recommendations which have a waiver to access signed by student
- Does NOT apply to unsuccessful applicants or applicants who do not enroll
- Faculty and staff cannot discuss student record with student's family



# 6. Policies

- Fraudulent applications will be denied or student terminated (transcripts, test scores, recommendations, personal essay, etc.
- Electronic submission of materials are randomly checked to ensure compliance
- Appeals whose rule is it?
- Re-admission
- Transfer

 Application to more than one program University of Idaho

## References

- <u>www.cgs.net.org</u> : CGS An Essential Guide to Graduate Admissions: A Policy Statement
- www.accrao.org/nyc/presntations/W2 \_483.pdf

**Evaluating International Transcripts** 

- <u>www.nagap.org</u> National Association of Graduate Admissions Professionals
- <u>www.cgsnet.org/portals/0//pdf/CGSR</u>
  <u>esolutionsMay2009.pdf</u>
  April 15
  Deadline Resolution

