

ACM Counselor Institute in Los Angeles

Sponsored by the Associated Colleges of the Midwest

Friday, January 30, 2015

Maggiano's Little Italy - The Grove
189 The Grove Drive, Los Angeles

What Does Holistic Admissions Mean?

Facilitators: Colleen Murphy (Cornell College)
Gaelyn Rose (Lawrence University)

Admissions officers will lead a mock application review committee exercise, small group breakout sessions, and discussions about what admission officers at ACM colleges look for in applications, essays, and recommendations.

As part of this session, Institute participants will be members of application review committees at Fairbrook University considering applications from three students: Kenneth Aldman, Mary Leavitt, and Christina Moore. The committees will be led by ACM admission officers. Each committee's task will be to admit one applicant, deny one, and waitlist one.

Homework

Prior to the Institute, please download and read the mock admission files for the three applicants that the committees will consider. Make your notes about the applicants on the **Candidate Evaluation Form** and/or any additional pages you may need, and bring those notes with you. You are welcome to bring a copy of the admission files with you if you want to, but that is not necessary.

It is important that you thoroughly read all of the application materials in advance so that you arrive at the Institute prepared to discuss the applicants – their credentials, strengths, and weaknesses – during the review committee exercise. **There will not be time at the Institute to do the homework.**

Note: Our thanks to Peak to Peak Charter School in Lafayette, Colorado, for the three mock applications used in this exercise.

Summary Sheet of the Applicants

Kenneth Aldman

FROM: St. Louis Priory School, Clayton, MO (Private, religious)
GPA: 3.385 unweighted
COURSEWORK INCLUDES: 3 AP, 4 Honors Class
SAT SCORES: Reading 620, Math 650, Writing 600 (ACT 27)
SAT SUBJECT TESTS: Japanese 520, Math IIC 620, Chemistry 590
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: Sax player, (all star band and Jazz Club co-founder), Varsity baseball (10-12) and basketball (11-12), works 5 hrs/week as web page designer.
ESSAY: Growth and experiences as jazz musician
OTHER: Disciplinary history from high school (9th grade, explained in essay and counselor rec).

Mary Leavitt

FROM: Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Wilmington, DE (Large, public)
GPA: 3.51 Unweighted
COURSEWORK INCLUDES: 5 Honors/Advanced
SAT SCORES: Reading 650, Math 600, Writing 670 (ACT 29)
SAT SUBJECT TESTS: Math I 610
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: Varsity soccer and volleyball, being recruited by Fairbrook soccer coach, volunteer youth soccer coach, works 10 hrs/week at YMCA, summer camp counselor
ESSAY: Ties growing up in single-parent family with soccer
OTHER: VP of Amnesty International Club at her high school

Christina Moore

FROM: Greenwich School for Girls, Greenwich, CT (Private, college prep)
GPA: 3.13, weighted
COURSEWORK INCLUDES: 3 AP, 21 core courses
SAT SCORES: Reading 600, Math 600, Writing 630 (ACT 26)
SAT SUBJECT TESTS: US History 630, Literature 600, Math II 570
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: Students Against Drunk Driving co-founder, lacrosse team captain, volunteer at women's shelter 4 hrs/week, works 9 hrs/week for florist
ESSAY: Ties Thanksgiving with growing up in multicultural family
OTHER: Visited campus twice, met with Associate Dean of Admissions

Candidate Evaluation Form

Use the form below or separate sheets to evaluate the candidates. Consider all of the information available for each of the three applicants. For example, in making your assessment, be sure to review teacher comments, the essay, contribution to the Fairbrook University community, etc. Make notes and comments in the space provided and/or on additional sheets, as needed. Bring these notes with you to the Institute.

	Academic – grades, recs, test scores, essay	Extracurricular – application, recs	Personal Qualities – application, essay, recs
Kenneth Aldman			
Mary Leavitt			
Christina Moore			



FAIRBROOK UNIVERSITY

La vérité est la libération.

Fairbrook University

Fairbrook, founded in 1871, is generally regarded as one of the finest liberal arts institutions in the country. The student body of 3,800 is made up of students from many states and foreign countries. Approximately 60% receive some form of financial aid. Particularly strong programs within the liberal arts include: the arts, both visual and performing, foreign languages, political science, anthropology, economics and creative writing. An exceptionally competitive engineering program is built within the structure of the liberal arts, and, with a new state-of-the-art science building, students also have opportunities for individual research. Another recent addition to the campus was an athletic complex which enables the college to compete more aggressively for student-athletes. Close student/faculty interaction is encouraged, both in the classroom and through the theme-oriented "residential colleges." Ninety percent of students live on campus.

Admission is very selective, with approximately 45% of applicants admitted. 60% of students are from public schools and 40% from independent or church-related schools. In making decisions, the committee seeks a talented and diverse student body, considering the application and the essay, grades, course of study, recommendations, interviews, the college's own needs and test scores. The following profile for admitted student is numerically-based only and does not take into consideration personal qualities and attributes which are inherent in the final decision.

<u>Rank in Class</u>	<u>Public Schools</u>	<u>Independent Schools</u>
1/5 th	69%	30%
2/5 th	14%	16%
3/5 th	2%	10%
4/5 th	0%	3%
5/5 th	0%	1%
Not available	15%	40%

SAT I Verbal range (middle 50%)

580 to 650

SAT I Math range (middle 50%)

600 to 720

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College Guide