

(2006). *College of Engineering Facts*. Retrieved April 16, 2006, from College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Web site: <http://www.engr.uiuc.edu/about/facts.php>

Site provides overall information for the College of Engineering. College has 5,502 undergraduate students who average a high school percentile rank of 89.35 and an ACT score of 30.25. The median starting salary for a graduating senior of the College is 52,500 dollars. Site also provides an over-all breakdown for fund allocation for College of Engineering operations: total expenditures for fiscal year 2005: \$290,133,000; State appropriations, general revenue, tuition - 28%; Institutional support - 6%; Industrial and other private gifts, grants, & contracts - 14%; Federal grants and contracts - 52%.

(2006). *Future Students*. Retrieved April 16, 2006, from Office of Admissions and Records University of Illinois Web site: <http://www.oar.uiuc.edu/future/index.html>

Site provides the information available to the public about the admissions process. Helps to get an idea of what students can see when they are applying. Shows the suggestions the University of Illinois administration has for students who are applying to the University.

Banwart, W.L. (personal communication, April 12, 2006).

Banwart comments on specific admissions processes to the university, focusing in on the three possible fates of an application. He notes the qualities that distinguish the best from the worst applications, and the relative importance of each. Banwart gives important figures regarding annual admission “quotas” and how this affects the size of the college on a yearly basis. It is also revealed where the quota comes from and who ultimately decides the incoming class size. He also openly discusses recent renovations and grants given to the College of ACES, and the link between admissions.

Chaker, Anne Marie. (2006, April 13) Who Got Into College? In an unusually competitive year, some schools sought passion; others went for tuba players. *Wall Street Journal*, p.D1.

An article similar to many reports in newspapers all over the country that college admissions are tougher than ever this year. Considers national audience and focuses on the variety of admissions strategies used at higher education institutions all over the country. Also emphasizes growing trend of parents hiring “college advisors” to groom the college applications of their children. Examples cited where parental employment and high school guidance counselor advocacy may have greatly aided in gaining admission for the respective student.

Cragan, J. (personal communication, April 12, 2006).

Cragan gave his insight as a guidance counselor at a public high school. His knowledge of the admissions process is from his own experience at work and the experiences of his students. He comments on how different colleges at the University of Illinois have different standards and more strict requirements. He also discusses his thoughts on personal statements and their weight towards admission to the University. He also discusses possible other options students have to enter the University of Illinois.

Litchfield, B. (personal interview, April 12, 2006)

Bruce Litchfield is an Assistant Dean and Director of the Academy for Excellence in Engineering Education. Indicated that this year (applications for Fall 2006) has been one of the largest years of applications to the College of Engineering. Attributes this spike of applications to success of Illini Men's Basketball team in 2005 (National Runner-Up). College of Engineering applications pass initial screening from University, then are reviewed by the Deans of the College of Engineering. This is not a standard process for every college. College of Business has a selection committee and a standard score sheet that weights extra-curricular activities along with academics to determine admissions. Engineering admissions process has changed radically. COE used to post exact requirements for entrance into the COE and each individual department. That information has now been removed and admissions process is much more subjective. Increase in applications demands more selective process than standardized approach.

Kim, Christine. (2006, April 7). University tightens admissions. Administration wait-listing 1,121 student this year. *The Daily Illini*. 5A.

Kim uses a good example a very qualified high school student not being accepted into the College of ACES. She has very recent numbers on the amount of students who have applied, have been accepted, and have been wait-listed. She quotes Stacy Kostell, who is the Director of Undergraduate Admissions. The article also explores some of the reasons why certain colleges are getting harder to be admitted to than others. It also compares and contrasts the new and old applications that the University has used and is using.

Newbart, D. (2006, March 24). Admission to U. of I. gets tougher [Electronic version]. *Chicago Sun-Times*, 1-2.

Newbart examines recent trends in University of Illinois admissions, and reasoning behind record breaking figures. Different perspectives are offered including director of admissions, high school guidance counselors, and chancellor of the University. Determines that school has become increasingly competitive, and the trends will only continue as time goes on. Trends reflect goals of chancellor's "five year

strategic plan” to increase competitiveness, decrease size, and globalize class in an effort to “improve the quality of the school overall.”

Newbart, D. (2006, April 10). U. of I. goal: Land the world's best students: Agenda aims to boost nonresidents, tuition, reduce enrollment [Electronic version]. *Chicago Sun-Times*, 12.

Article examines the future of University admissions. It also gives information on how people respond to the University about the tightened admissions. Also, gives comments from the president and chancellor about the admissions process. It should be very good for the conclusion of our paper.

Ruffin, Jane. “What counts with college?” *The News and Observer*. 2006

Ruffin discusses some thoughts that parents and students may share about what to do to be admitted to an acclaimed University. Stress is placed upon what is needed to be done in order to be prepared for college applications. Advice is given on how to plan ahead early and what activities to take place in, in order to find a University that matches an individual student.

Toor, Rachel. *Admissions Confidential*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2001.

Toor is writing of her experience as an admissions counselor at Duke University. She gives an excellent, sometimes comical, look into what is going through an admissions counselor's mind. In our case, it is useful to look at another elite University who is competing against the Ivy Leagues for quality new students. She also provides a good amount of writing on the “three pile” system that is referenced in our paper, which Duke uses as well.