Ronneé P. Turner
Vice Provost for Admissions & Financial Aid

Admissions & Aid Update

Faculty Senate Council
November 19, 2020
### Fall 2020 Undergraduate Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 21 Pre-COVID Budget</th>
<th>FY21 Summer Projection Budget B</th>
<th>FY21 Fall 4th Week Estimates with actual fall enrollment</th>
<th>Increase or (Decrease) compared to summer projections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>7,132</td>
<td>7,064</td>
<td>7,127</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returning Students</td>
<td>5,271</td>
<td>5,103</td>
<td>5,219</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New 1st Year</td>
<td>1,780</td>
<td>1,880</td>
<td>1,806</td>
<td>(74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Transfers</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Tuition Pool</td>
<td>$246.8</td>
<td>$237.6</td>
<td>$244.3</td>
<td>$6.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key Take Away:** Net tuition income for schools was only $2M short of pre-COVID projections and $7M over our summer projection.
## Undergraduate Enrollment & Diversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 10 10 Years Ago</th>
<th>FL15 5 Years Ago</th>
<th>FL20 Now</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Enrollment</td>
<td>6,272</td>
<td>6,810</td>
<td>7,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Year Class</td>
<td>1,634</td>
<td>1,733</td>
<td>1,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Core SAT</td>
<td>1498</td>
<td>1507</td>
<td>1508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average ACT</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% in Top 10% HS Class</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell-Grant Recipients 1st Year</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell-Grant Recipients % of Class</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Generation College</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Generation % of Class</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URSOC Total</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URSOC % of Class</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Update on Standardized Testing
Testing at WashU

Testing + GPA is the strongest predictor of success; GPA alone has moderate ability to predict success.
• ACES Validity Study indicates SAT tests are predictive of student success

• Quartiles place students into four groups of approximately even size. The distribution of students in our sample results in uneven band sizes.
The Testing Landscape

Test Optional Movement

• More than 1,000 colleges and universities were test optional prior to COVID-19
• Bowdon since 1969, Bates since 1984
• Most notably: George Washington University & the University of Chicago (Fall 2019)
• Testing criticized for being a barrier to low income and under-represented students of color
• SAT redesigned in 2016 to better align tests with skills needed for success in college
• University of California system review requested by President Janet Napolitano in July 2018
The Testing Landscape

Admissions & Aid

NEWS

‘U.S. News’ Will Start Ranking Test-Blind Colleges. But Will It Adjust Methodology for Test-Optional Ones?
By Eric Hoover | June 17, 2020
As Covid-19 disrupts ACT and SAT administrations, more colleges are suspending requirement of the tests. The “Best Colleges” guide will no longer penalize colleges that don’t consider scores at all.

ADMISSIONS

Don’t Send ACT/SAT Scores to Northern Illinois U. It Just Went ‘Test-Blind.’
By Eric Hoover | January 29, 2020
In an interview with The Chronicle, the university’s director of admissions described the bottom-line reason for the policy change: The tests weren’t helping predict student success.

NEWS

As Covid-19 Constrains Capacity at SAT Test Centers, College Board Urges Admissions Officials to ‘Provide Flexibility’ to Applicants
By Eric Hoover | June 2, 2020
The testing organization is putting plans for an online, take-at-home version of the exam on hold — and asking colleges to adjust to testing disruption.

ADMISSIONS

Court Bars U. of California From Using ACT and SAT for Fall-2021 Admissions
By Eric Hoover | September 1, 2020
The preliminary injunction stems from a lawsuit contending that disabled students’ access to standardized tests is “impossible or impaired” because of state policies.

THE REVIEW

Will the Coronavirus End the SAT?
By Tom Bruceckowski | April 30, 2020
The current crisis could — hopefully — be the tipping point in a test-optional landslide.

ADMISSIONS

By Eric Hoover | May 15, 2020
Take-at-home versions of the College Board’s Advanced Placement exams debuted this week. Things did not go smoothly for everyone.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions Officials Urge Colleges to Put Standardized-Testing Policies to the Test
By Eric Hoover | August 18, 2020
A new report details how and why institutions should examine their ACT/SAT requirements in light of Covid-19 disruptions and longstanding concerns about equity.

ADMISSIONS

Our Relationship With Tests Is Unraveling. Why Is Everyone So Conflicted About It?
By Eric Hoover | July 29, 2020
Crisis is changing the debate about standardized exams, but their peculiar power endures.

ADMISSIONS

Testing Shakeup: Caltech Won't Consider ACT/SAT Scores for Next 2 Years
By Eric Hoover | June 7, 2020
Citing concerns about disruptions caused by Covid-19, it becomes the most highly selective institution yet to adopt a test-blind policy.

NEWS

Golden State Blockbuster: U. of California Will Replace ACT and SAT With New Test — or None at All
By Eric Hoover | May 21, 2020
The UC system’s Board of Regents approved a five-year plan to phase out the college-entrance exams. It plans to adopt a new test that better serves “the public good.”
Admissions & Aid

The Testing Landscape

Test Optional

- Over 500 institutions announced test-optional for this cycle
- 1- to 3-year Pilot Programs or Permanent Policies as a result of COVID-19
- Test-Blind vs. Test-Optional
- University of California system now test-blind

WashU Policy

- Test-Optional for Fall 2021 Application Cycle
- Students may opt out of reporting if they have no scores or scores are not representative of ability
- May need to expand to multi-year policy

US News top 20

17
Test-Optional for 1 year

2
Test-Blind/Optional for 2 years

1
Permanently Test-Optional
Admissions & Aid

Selecting the Class of 2025

• Selection process is rooted in the University’s mission

• Key Imperative is to identify merit where we see it in the application

• We MUST be continually cognizant of context
Selecting the Class of 2025

What we Assess in our Review

- Overall Strength of the Application
- Academic Achievement
- Recommendations
- Standardized Testing (if provided)
- Essays
- Involvement Outside the Classroom
- Personal Qualities
What we require for admission:

- 4 Years of English
- 4 Years of Mathematics (Architecture, Business, Engineering strongly recommend calculus. Also strongly recommended for Arts & Sciences pre-med and natural science majors)
- 3-4 Years of laboratory science (Engineering strongly recommends chemistry & physics. Arts & Sciences recommends chemistry and physics for pre-med and natural science majors.)
- At least 2 years of the same foreign language

To Answer the Essential Question:

Is the student ready to be successful at WashU?

Limitations on Student Access

Calculus
- 15% of HS Seniors take Calculus
- Predominantly White and Asian
- Black students are 9 percentage points less likely to attend a school that offers Calculus and then 50% less likely to take it. “Mixed Signals in Calculus” Education Week/October 23, 2018

Physics
- 39% of High Schools don’t offer Physics
- 41.5% of all students take Physics, but only 31.9% of those in the lowest SES quintile compared to 56.4% in the highest quintile.

National Science Board Science & Math Indicators 2018
- What high school preparation is essential for success at WashU?

- How do we ensure access AND successful outcomes?

- What specific issues should Admissions & Aid consider as we contemplate extending the test-optional policy?