



College Counseling Newsletter

HOLLAND HALL

Winter 2010

Holland Hall Code: 373-615

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READ! READ! READ!

One of the most obvious of the current trends in college counseling today involves the increasing gender imbalance on the college campus. Most sources on the subject tell us that nationwide 57 percent of currently enrolled students are female. One source predicts that by the year 2020 two-thirds will be female. The responses by those institutions that are acknowledging this problem are varied in both philosophy and effectiveness. One school tried featuring male students more prominently in recruiting brochures as if to say, “Look at all these guys flocking to our college campus; you should come too.” At the risk of appearing to be politically incorrect some colleges do not seem to acknowledge the subject at all. Predictably, female applicants who feel they were unfairly passed over in favor of male counterparts have launched the first lawsuits. While the ramifications of this imbalance, both the obvious and more subtle, are interesting the underlying reasons for the widening gap appear to be a far greater concern.

of ensuring future security. Recently *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ran an article by Mark Bauerlein entitled, “A Book for Boys” which recommends Pat Williams’ book, *Read for Your Life*. According to the author, current forms of entertainment, particularly those pursued by young men, do not involve reading — movies, video games and Facebook have a greater appeal by far. It is easy to speculate that this lack of desire to read impacts education in a negative way. According to Bauerlein, “The book itself presses home the message again and again. If you don’t read books, the world is smaller. If you don’t read books, opinions harden; life has no historical depth; the future looks like a repetition of the present and life doesn’t unfold and evolve — it passes in routines.”

All of our students need to read but the argument for encouraging our sons to do so has become a huge one.

— Ms. Kathy Housh
Director of College Counseling & Registrar

No one seems to have a very definitive answer for why this is happening. Some educators believe that the way “school” works very much favors little girls who sit more quietly in class and raise their hands in a mannerly fashion. Others believe that young men leave the university campus more readily because they have watched their parents’ “American Dream” slip away through job and investment losses caused by the recent recession. They, therefore, no longer “buy in” to the idea of a college education as a means



Class Corners -

College Prep Is Not Just For Seniors

It's never too early to think about the college process. Read your list and get started.

FRESHMEN CORNER

- Watch the Power Point, "First Semester Is Behind You" sent to your home email in January
- Choose classes wisely - make grades your **PRIORITY** - a **MINIMUM** 3.0 GPA allows more choices - most scholarships require a minimum 3.5 GPA
- **READ!** It increases vocabulary and knowledge
- Volunteer, many colleges appreciate the experience
- Consider a part-time summer job - work experience demonstrates discipline
- Organize, start a résumé list, it is easy to forget your activities. Keep track of the date, location, and number of hours
- Listen for future leadership opportunities announced in morning meeting
- Send parents to Deans' Night March 1, 2010
- Attend College Affaire, May 2, 2010, at the University of Tulsa's Reynolds Center
- Ask what will set you apart from the masses when you apply to colleges?

SOPHOMORE CORNER

- Take the practice PSAT in October, review scores with your parents - try Quickstart@collegeboard.com
- Keep your grades up
- Remember a minimum 3.0 GPA allows more choices
- SET GOALS! Where do you want to be next year? How are your grades? Are you involved? Will you have the GPA

needed for admission?

- Volunteer, everyone will benefit, always update your résumé
- Visit colleges when you travel, they love prospective students, make an appointment, plan ahead, take your transcript and a HH profile
- Attend the college representatives' meetings on our campus if you have a free mod
- Listen for future leadership opportunities announced in morning meeting
- Lead your peers, do not just be in the club, find a meaningful club and be an officer, show potential
- Consider taking SAT subject tests at the end of biology and the third year of foreign language
- Send parents to Deans' Night March 1, 2010
- Attend College Affaire, May 2, 2010 at the University of Tulsa's Reynolds Center
- **READ!** Some colleges ask what you have read for pleasure and consider your choices as a part of the admission decision
- Find a summer job, it shows discipline, time management, motivation
- Ask what makes you unique

JUNIOR CORNER

- Visit the College Counseling resource room
- Review PSAT scores - try Quickstart@collegeboard.com
- Attend the college representatives' meetings on our campus when you have a free mod or with a signed permission slip from your teacher
- Attend JUNIOR seminar, take the information seriously, it will help when you prepare college apps, write essays,

complete a résumé, etc

- Listen for leadership & future scholarship opportunities announced in morning meeting
- Register and take an SAT and an ACT in February or April of junior year. (It is suggested that you complete or be near completion of Algebra II at test time)
- Take an ACT or SAT prep course if needed to improve your test score
- Complete the Junior Parent Questionnaire after Junior Parent's night. This information is helpful throughout the college process
- RESEARCH colleges of interest, Visit Collegeboard at collegeboard.com or Naviance at naviance.com or The Princeton Review at princetonreview.com
- Take AP Exams in May and SAT II Subject Tests when appropriate - many competitive schools require subject tests and have early deadlines senior year - do not procrastinate
- Keep reading!
- Send parents to Deans' Night March 1, 2010
- Attend College Affaire, May 2, 2010 at the University of Tulsa's Reynolds Center
- Register with NCAA clearinghouse in June if you plan to play college sports
- Prepare for summer, talk to your parents about scheduling college visits; fall is busy
- If you are an artist, musician or stage performer, design your portfolio and make a list of fall audition deadlines
- Update your résumé, be ready for a fast paced senior year, the first big deadline approaches quickly
- Narrow your college list

THE INS AND OUTS OF GETTING IN: JUNIOR SEMINAR

Do I want to submit the Common Application or the university's application? What is the difference between Early Decision and Early Action? How do I put my best foot forward when visiting with college representatives or in that college interview? How will my transcript and letters of recommendation be sent if I apply online? These and many other questions about the process of selecting, applying to and getting in college are the subject of Junior Seminar. For those who are not familiar with this wonderfully informative second semester class for juniors, the following syllabus will give you an idea. As part of the course requirements, students will complete a pre-search questionnaire, draft a practice essay, build a résumé, and complete a Common Application

Spring 2010
E Day: Mods 17 & 18 **F Day:** Mods 7 & 8 **F Day:** Mods 17 & 18



Cycle 1: January 11, 12

Introduction, Trends and Admission Definitions

The importance of the College Preferences Questionnaire..... Housh, Casey, Cooper

Cycle 2: January 20,21

College Admissions Testing

The facts about ACT, SAT I & II

Homework Assignment: Turn in an ACT or SAT proof of registration ticket..... Housh

Cycle 3: January 28,29

Introduction to the Naviance program – Bring your laptop!

Naviance can be used to do multiple things, from signing up for a rep visit at HH to taking career interest & personality quizzes.....

Cooper



Cycle 4: February 5, 8

Electronic Search Tools & "My College Quick Start" – Bring your laptop!

Early Decision, Early Action, Regular and Rolling Admissions, the College Counseling website, internet resources and scholarship searches.....

Cooper

Cycle 5: February 17, 18

College Fairs, Campus Visits and the possible Admission Interview

The purpose and goal of college fairs, how to get most out of a campus visit and how to ace the admissions interview

Optional Homework Assignment: Mock interview with Mr. Casey Casey



Cycle 6: February 25, 26

Open Week

Assignment: Encourage your parents to attend Deans' Night, Monday, March 1, 2010! 7:30pm. in the Holliman Gallery

Cycle 7: March 5, 8

Resume Construction – Bring your laptop!

Submitting a polished high school resume is a great help to college admissions offices.

Homework Assignment: Construct and complete your high school resume..... Cooper

Cycle 8: February 17, 18

Spring Break



Cycle 9: March 22, 23

Writing a GREAT college essay

Tips, Topics and Techniques

Homework Assignment: Choose 1 question from the Common Application and write an essay. Note: 250 word minimum.....

Housh

Cycle 10: March 30, 31

The Common Application

An introduction to the Common Application, its importance and how it is used Casey

Cycle 11: April 12, 13

Case Studies and the Life of a College Application

Part One Casey & Cooper

Cycle 12: April 20, 21

Case Studies and the Life of a College Application

Part Two Casey & Cooper



Cycle 13: April 28, 29

Round Table Discussions

Q&A and the discussion of the senior-year timeline. Current seniors talk about their own experience.

Homework Assignment: Attend College Affaire

University of Tulsa – Reynolds Center – Sunday, May 2, 2010..... Casey

Cycle 14: May 7, 10

Essay Review and Final Draft – Bring your laptop! Housh, Casey, Cooper

Cycle 15: May 17, 18

Financial Aid for College Housh

Going to New York, Texas or North Carolina... why not visit a few colleges?



Check the website for each location for directions, to reserve seats for the information sessions, to confirm times and to look for things to do in the area. The mileage is approximate based on a MapQuest search. For quick research of the statistics go to collegeboard.com. Feel free to reduce the number of colleges or days on the visit in order to make your trip most enjoyable!

New York School Tour — Recommended Itinerary & Colleges:

If you decide to visit NY, dinner at the Culinary Institute of America in Poughkeepsie is a wonderful experience. You must make reservations well in advance.

Day One

>> Arrive LaGuardia Airport, New York City, enjoy the sites or drive and stay the night in Poughkeepsie (80 miles from Manhattan).

Day Two

>> Drive north to Annandale-on-Hudson (25 miles north of Poughkeepsie)

>> **BARD COLLEGE** (www.bard.edu) tour reservations required. 9:30 a.m. tour, 11:00 a.m. information session
SATCR: 680-740, SATM: 650-690, TEST OPTIONAL, enrollment 2,050

>> Drive to Hyde Park (18 miles)
Visit FDR Presidential Library and Home (www.nps.gov/hofr/) Museum Hours 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Roosevelt Home and Museum tour \$14 reservations required, museum only \$7

>> Return to Poughkeepsie (8 miles)

>> CULINARY INSTITUTE OF

AMERICA (www.ciachef.edu), 4:00 P.M. general public tour (\$5 per person) reservations required
No test score requirement

>> Suggest dinner at CIA, reservations required. (www.ciachef.edu)

>> Night #2 in Poughkeepsie

Day Three

>> **MARIST COLLEGE** (www.marist.edu)
Tour: call for an appointment 845-575-3226
SATCR: 530-620, SATM: 540-630, ACT: 23-27, enrollment 5,000

>> Drive to Vassar (4 miles)
Early Lunch prior to Vassar visit

>> **VASSAR COLLEGE** (www.Vassar.edu)
12:00 p.m. tour, 1:30 p.m. information session
SATCR: 660-740, SATM: 660-720, ACT: 29-32, enrollment 2,450

>> Drive to Highland Falls, NY (37 miles)
Recommend the Thayer Hotel at West Point or Holiday Inn Express if you wish to stay near West Point

Day Four

>> **UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY** (www.usma.edu)
No self-guided tours allowed. (www.westpointtours.com) For guided one-hour bus tours, please contact (845) 446-4724 (\$12 per person)
SATCR: 560-660, SATM: 580-670, ACT: 25-29, enrollment 4,600

>> Return to NYC (55 miles) Check out rental car or buy a subway pass and experience NYC. Stay at a location of your choice.

Day Five

>> **NYU** (www.nyu.edu), reservations required
10:00 a.m. tour and information session
SATCR: 620-720, SATM: 630-720, ACT: 28-31, enrollment 21,900 u, 17,400 g

>> Subway to the Bronx (15 miles)

>> **FORDHAM UNIVERSITY** (www.fordham.edu), reservations required. Rose Hill Campus. 1:00 p.m. tour and information session
SATCR: 560-660, SATM: 570-660, ACT: 25-29, enrollment 5,200

Day Six

>> **BARNARD COLLEGE** (women only) (www.barnard.edu), 10:30 a.m. tour, 11:30 a.m. information session
SATCR: 640-740, SATM: 610-700, ACT: 28-31, enrollment 2,350

>> **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY** (www.columbia.edu), 2:00 p.m. information session, 3:00 p.m. tour
SATCR: 680-770, SATM: 680-780, ACT: 29-34

>> Take a late flight or enjoy another night in NYC.

Texas School Tour — Recommended Itinerary & Colleges

Day One

>> Drive south on I-75 to Sherman, TX (3 hours / 192 miles)

>> **AUSTIN COLLEGE** (www.austincollege.edu), 2:00: Information Session, 3:00: Tour (option: 10:00am Info Session, 11:00am: Tour) *SATCR: 560-680, SATM: 570-670, SATW: 540-660, ACT: 24-28, Undergraduate enrollment: 1,335*

>> Continue south on I-75 to Dallas (1 hour / 65 miles)

>> Dinner and overnight in Dallas

Day Two

>> SOUTHERN METHODIST

UNIVERSITY - Morning Tour (I-75 @ University Blvd) (www.smu.edu) Campus visit schedule changes by season. Check website for schedule. Requested two week advance notice. Go to: www.smu.edu/visit. *SATCR: 560-660, SATM: 590-680, SATW: 560-660, ACT: 25-30, Undergraduate enrollment: 6,240*

>> **TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**, Fort Worth, Texas - Afternoon Tour (45 minutes / 30 miles from SMU)(www.tcu.edu) Call for appointment: 1. 800. 828. 3764

North Carolina School Tour — Recommended Itinerary & Colleges

Below you will find a tour of just six of the many fine NC schools. This route gives a range of large to small, conservative to liberal, and everything in between. The schools are grouped in three pairs to facilitate your visiting two per day. If you pick a central location from which to travel, you can visit Duke and UNC on one day, Elon and Guilford on one day and Wake Forest and Davidson on one day.

Day One

>> Fly to Raleigh/Durham (RDU), which is a wonderful hub from which to visit a wealth of Colleges and Universities in North Carolina.

Day Two

>> **THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL** (unc.edu) Tour: Call for an appointment 919-843-9799 *SATCR: 590-690 SATM: 600-700 ACT: 26-31, enrollment 26,000*

NOTE: UNC only takes 18% from outside the state (11 miles to Durham)

>> **DUKE UNIVERSITY** (www.duke.edu) Tour: 2:00 p.m. information session, 3:00 p.m. *SATCR: 660-760, SATM: 680-780 ACT: 29-34 enrollment 12, 000, 6,000 u, 6, 000 g* One of the most selective private universities in the South.

SATCR: 520-630, SATM: 540-640, SATW: 530-640, ACT: 23-28, Undergraduate enrollment: 7,471

>> Dinner and overnight in Fort Worth.

Day Three

>> Drive south on I-35W to Waco, Texas

>> **BAYLOR UNIVERSITY** - Morning tour and information session (1.5 hours / 88 miles from TCU) (www.baylor.edu) Tours are scheduled at 8:30, 10:30, 1:30 and 3:00. Please make an appointment at: (www.baylor.edu/visit) *SATCR: 540-650, SATM: 560-660, SATW: 530-630, ACT: 23-28, Undergraduate enrollment: 12,162*

>> Drive south on I-35 to Georgetown, Texas

>> **SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY** - Afternoon tour and information session (1 hour 20 minutes / 76 miles from Baylor) (www.southwestern.edu) Please make an appointment by calling: 800-252-3166 *SATCR: 570-680, SATM: 570-670, SATW: N/A, ACT: 25-30, Undergraduate enrollment: 1,300*

>> Overnight in Austin, Texas (45 minutes / 30 miles from Georgetown)

Day Three

>> Drive to Elon, N.C. (41 miles)

>> **ELON UNIVERSITY** (www.elon.edu) Tour: M-F, call 1-800-334-8448 for an appointment *SATCR: 560-650, SATM: 570 – 660, ACT: 25 - 29 enrollment 4,500*

>> Drive to Greensboro, NC (24 miles)

>> **GUILFORD COLLEGE** (www.guilford.edu) Tour: Call 800-992-7757 for an appointment *SATCR: 500-620, SATM: 500-600 ACT: 21-26, enrollment 2,650*

Day Four

>> Drive to Winston-Salem (another 24 miles)

>> **WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY** (www.wfu.edu) Tour: Call 336-758-5201, reservations required. *Test Optional 6,000 enrollment, 4,000 undergrads*

>> Drive to Davidson, N.C. (107 miles from Winston-Salem)

>> **DAVIDSON COLLEGE** (www.davidson.edu) Tour: 2:00 P.M. tour, 3:30 information sessions, see website for additional times Call 704-894- 2230 to check availability *SATCR: 630-720, SATM: 630-720, ACT: 27-31 enrollment 1,700 students*

Day Four

>> **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS** - Morning tour and information session (www.utexas.edu) Register for a campus visit at (www.bealonghorn.utexas.edu)

NOTE: Schedule changes often. Please refer to the website.

SATCR: 530-660, SATM: 570-700, SATW: 530-660, ACT: 24-30, Undergraduate enrollment: 38,200 NOTE: Approximately 8% of applicants are admitted from out of state.

>> Lunch in Austin,

>> Drive south on I-35 to San Antonio

>> **TRINITY UNIVERSITY** - Afternoon tour (1 hour 30 minutes / 79 miles) (www.trinity.edu)

Register for a campus visit online at (www.trinity.edu/departments/admissions/mz3/campusvisit.shtml)

SATCR: 590-700, SATM: 610-690, SATW: N/A, ACT: 27-31, Undergraduate enrollment: 2,500

>> Dinner and overnight in San Antonio

>> San Antonio to Tulsa (approximate driving time: 8 hours 45 minutes, 530 miles)

Questions to research before you visit:

1. For what programs is the college well known?
2. What are the admission requirements?
3. What are the average SAT & ACT scores? Are scores required?
4. Do you need subject tests?
5. Does the college have a liberal arts or core curriculum?

If not answered during an information session or tour, ask the following:

1. Are freshmen required to live in the dorm?
2. How are roommates determined?
3. Is housing guaranteed for all four years?
4. Are dorms co-ed? How is the division?
5. Do you have living communities or houses?
6. How active is the student association?
7. What is a typical day in the life of a student?
8. Do students remain on campus or leave during the weekend?
9. Are student politically active?
10. What percentage of your graduates attained employment last year?
11. Who are the major corporations that hire your students in engineering, or advertising etc?
12. What percent of your graduates go on to graduate school?
13. When is the best time to sign up with the placement office? Do you have any special programs, or business etiquette classes?
14. Are you seeing any hiring trends that might benefit incoming freshmen?

Financial Aid, Don't Panic

Read the article in the December 2009 issue of Reader's Digest titled "The Best Way to Pay for College" found on page 146. This article covers helpful information for parents of children from birth through grade 12. Not only does it cover financial aid information such as prepaid plans the pros and cons, mutual funds or whose name to place on the savings account it also shares websites for forecasting financial aid, job trends and salaries in the work place. **Go to www.rd.com**

Calendar of Events

Deans' Night

Monday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar for Deans' Night
Once again the College Counseling office is preparing to host our annual Deans' Night. We are excited to have distinguished deans Jim Miller, Brown University, Ted Spencer, The University of Michigan and Douglas Christiansen, Vanderbilt University visit Holland Hall. We hope you will join us in the Holliman Gallery of the Walter Arts Center on Monday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m., and promise you will be both informed and entertained by their presentation. Remember dessert immediately following questions. *Location: Holliman Gallery*

Freshman & Sophomore Parent College Chat

Sunday, April 18, 4:00 p.m.

Parents of Freshmen and Sophomores are invited to a casual conversation with the college counseling team regarding the college search and application process.

Location: SMT Commons

College Affaire

Sunday, May 2, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The annual spring college fair with over 90 colleges and universities represented. Area Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors are invited.

Location: University of Tulsa, Reynolds Center

SR Lunch & Commencement Rehearsal

Tuesday, May 25

12:00 p.m., Newman Theatre/Branch Theatre

Baccalaureate

Tuesday, May 25, 5:00 p.m.

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church

Commencement

Wednesday, May 26, 7:00 p.m.

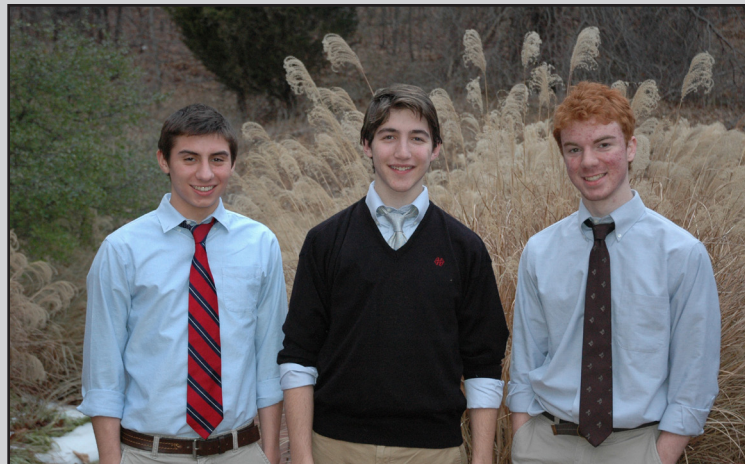
Location: Branch Theatre, Walter Arts Center

Summer Boot Camp

July 12-16, 2010

Watch for details.

Congratulations 2010 National Merit Commended & National Hispanic Scholars



Congratulations to our 2010 National Hispanic Scholar Tony Daza and National Merit Commended Scholars Ted Hyman and Nicholas Foster.

SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests:

Registration Deadlines and Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Added Fee)
March 13, 2010 (SAT only - no subject tests)	February 4, 2010	February 18, 2010
May 1, 2010	March 25, 2010	April 8, 2010
June 5, 2010	April 29, 2010	May 13, 2010

ACT: Registration Deadlines and Test Dates

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Added Fee)
*April 10, 2010	March 5, 2010	March 6 - 19, 2010
June 12, 2010	May 7, 2010	May 8 - 21, 2010

*ISAS Arts Festival - Dallas

Students may register online for the SAT by visiting: www.collegeboard.com.

Cost is \$32 without writing and \$47 with writing.

To register online for the ACT, visit: www.act.org. Cost is \$45.

Test Dates are also available on the College Counseling Web site.