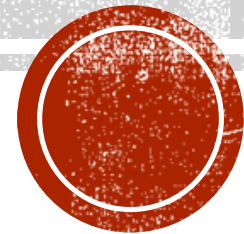


FINDING COLLEGE FIT

Discover colleges that match your preferences and personality.

ACCIS Roundtable Discussion, 6/25/2019

Facilitator: Rob Lamb, Sage Ridge School



CONSIDER YOUR CRITERIA...



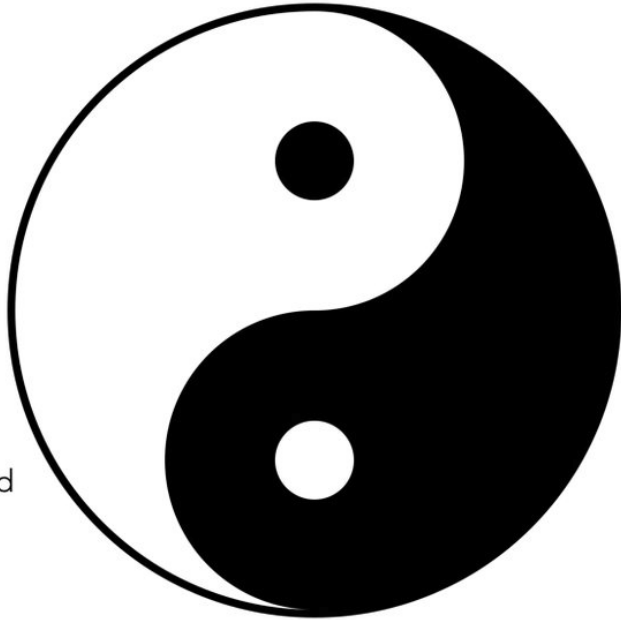
CALIBRATE YOUR S.C.A.L.E.S. (™)

- **Size of enrollment**
- **Cost and culture**
- **Academic programs and research**
- **Location, location, location**
- **Extra-curricular options**
- **Serendipity: happy coincidence? je ne sais quoi? es muss sein?**
 - “What happens by fate = what happens by necessity = what is repeated = that which belongs to the realm of eternal return.”
 - “What happens by chance = the fortuitous = what happens only once. And yet, what happens only once, by chance, can have meaning, too.”
 - What are your beliefs about choice, chance, human agency, and destiny/fate?

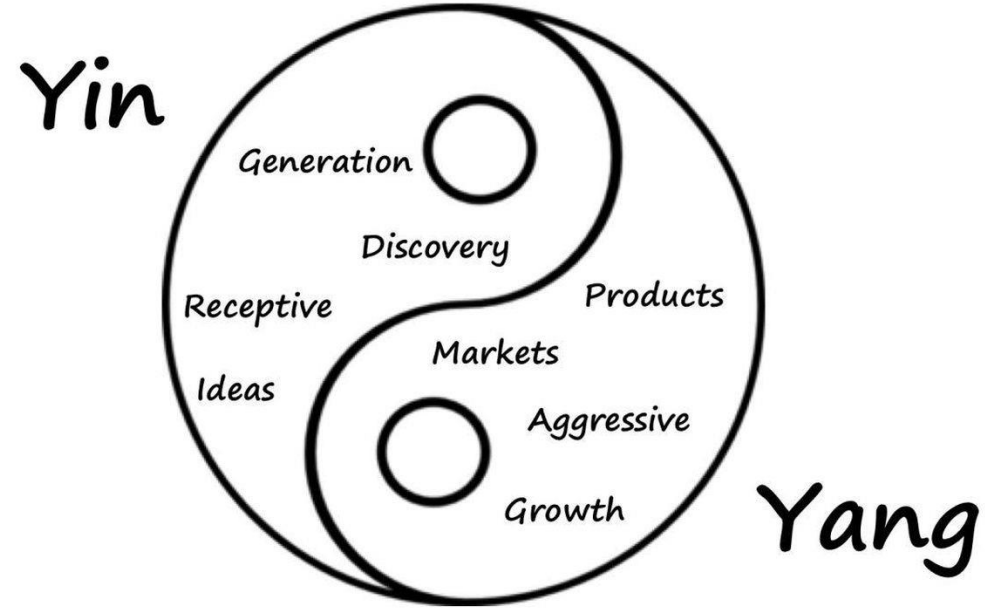


SEEK BALANCE: HOW TO & WHY APPLY?

Yang
Masculine
Positive
Sun
Light
Heaven
Active
Fire
Energetic
Heat
Driven
Goal-Oriented
Vigor
Intellect
Awake



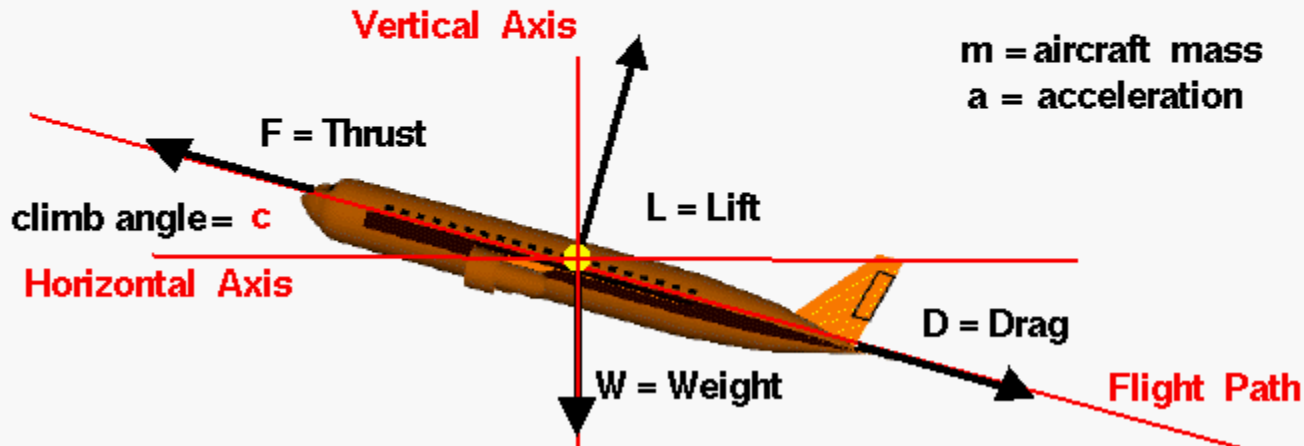
Yin
Feminine
Negative
Moon
Dark
Earth
Passive
Water
Calm
Cold
Free
Acceptance
Ease
Intuition
Sleep





Forces in a Climb

Glenn
Research
Center



Thrust: What “engines” are driving you to apply/go to college?

Drag: What opposition or hurdles are you facing in this process?

Lift: What structures and systems will support your flow through it?

Weight: How much “mass” or significance does this process hold for you?

Where is your “center of gravity” as you move forward?



8 WAYS TO SHOW YOUR INTEREST IS HIGH

1. Supplemental Essays

- Many colleges have an essay question that asks why you want to attend their school, and a lot of colleges that use [The Common Application](#) have a college-specific supplement. This is a great place to show your interest. Make sure your essay isn't generic. It should address the specific and unique features of the college that most appeal to you. Show that you've researched the college well and that you're a good match for the school. Check out this [sample supplemental essay](#), and be careful to avoid these common [supplemental essay mistakes](#).

2. Campus Visits

- Most colleges keep track of who visits campus, and the campus visit is important for two reasons: not only does it demonstrate your interest, it also helps you get a better feel for the college. Campus visits help you choose a school, craft a focused essay, and perform well in an interview. Here's [how to make the most of your campus visit](#).

3. College Interviews

- The interview is a great place to demonstrate your interest. Be sure to research the college well before the interview, and then use the interview to demonstrate your interest through both the questions you ask and those you answer. If the interview is optional, you should probably do it. Here are some reasons [why an optional interview is a good idea](#). Make sure you're prepared for these [12 common interview questions](#), and work to avoid these [10 interview mistakes](#).

4. College Fairs

- If a college fair is in your area, stop by the booths of the colleges you are most interested in attending. Introduce yourself to the college representative and be sure to leave your name and contact information. You'll get on the college's mailing list, and many schools keep track of the fact that you visited the booth. Also be sure to pick up the college rep's business card (see why in #6 below).

5. Contacting Your Admissions Representative

- You don't want to pester the admissions office, but if you have a question or two about the college, call or email your admissions representative. Plan your call and craft your email carefully -- you'll want to make a good impression. An ungrammatical email filled with text-speak isn't going to work in your favor.

6. Sending a Thank You Note

- If you chatted with a college representative at a fair, send an email message the next day to thank him or her for taking time to talk with you. In the message, note one or two features of the college that appeal to you. Similarly, if you meet with a regional representative or interview on campus, send a follow-up thank you. You'll be demonstrating your interest as well as showing that you are a considerate person. If you really want to impress, send an actual snail-mail note of appreciation.

7. Requesting College Information

- You're likely to get a lot of college brochures without asking for them. Colleges work hard to get mailing lists of high school students who show promise. Don't rely on this passive approach to getting print materials, and don't depend entirely on a college's website for information. A short and polite email message requesting college information and application materials shows that you are actively interested in the school. It's flattering when a college reaches out to you. It demonstrates interest when you reach out to the college.

8. Applying Early

- There is perhaps no better way to demonstrate interest than to apply to a college through an [early decision](#) program. This is for the simple reason that you can apply to just one school through early decision, and if accepted your decision is binding. Early decision should be used only if you are 100% sure that the college is your top choice. Realize that not all colleges offer early decision. [Early action](#) also shows your interest, and through this admissions program you are not bound to a single school. Early action does not demonstrate as high of a level of interest as early decision, but it does show that you care enough to get your application submitted early in the admissions cycle.

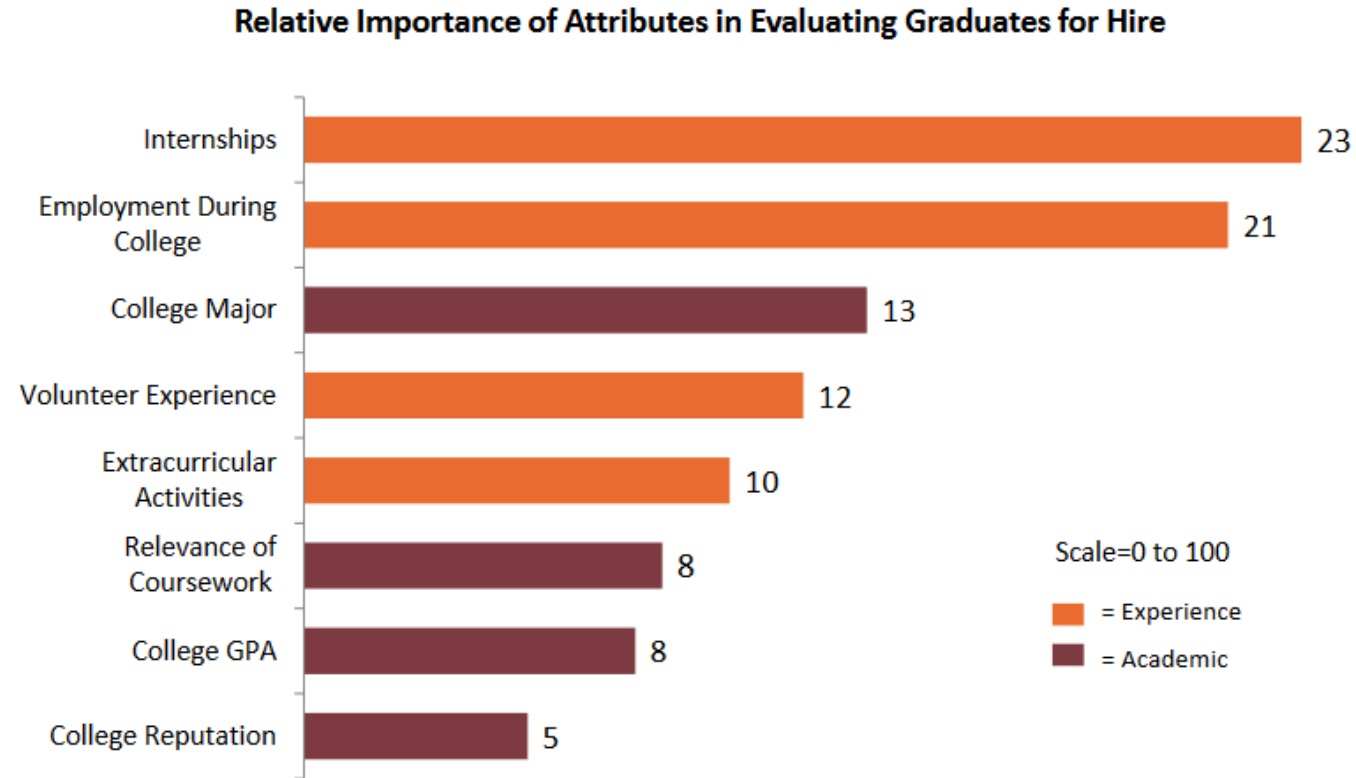


BUILDING A BALANCED COLLEGE LIST

- Develop a final, balanced list of colleges by early fall.
- Look for colleges that are appropriate for you and meet your needs and criteria.
- Research colleges and clarify your criteria.
- Assess the likelihood of your acceptance at various colleges (using College Kickstart, Mr. Lamb, etc.).
- Try to keep your list to 10 schools or fewer.
- Aim for 2-4 reasonable “reach” colleges / 2-4 “possible/target” colleges / 2-4 “likely” colleges.



Internships and employment during college rose to the top of the list as the most heavily weighted attributes considered by employers.



Q: How much weight do you give each of the following educational credentials when you evaluate a recent college graduate's resume? How much weight do you give each of the following types of experience when you evaluate a recent college graduate's resume to see if further discussions are warranted? (weighted by importance of academic vs. experience on hiring of recent graduates to obtain an aggregate score)



WHAT'S IN THE BALANCE?



- Transitions are tricky.
- The unknown can be scary.
- It's not over till it's over.
- “We are what we have done, which includes our promises, includes our hopes, but promises first.”
- Wendell Berry
- Transferring is an option.



HELPFUL RESOURCES

- HOW TO CHOOSE A COLLEGE THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU (CTCL)
 - <https://ctcl.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CTCL-How-to-Choose-a-College-Thats-Right-for-You-English.pdf>
- WE ADMIT...GUIDANCE FROM THOSE WHO DO (The Education Conservancy)
 - http://www.educationconservancy.org/we_admit.pdf
- The Role of Higher Education in Career Development: Employer Perceptions
 - <https://chronicle-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/5/items/biz/pdf/Employers%20Survey.pdf>
- Finding the Right Fit –Victor Zamora & Katie O'Brien, Seattle University Admissions
 - <https://www.sageridge.org/images/Documents/FindTheRightFit.pdf>
- College Visit Guide (College Board Checklist & Scorecard, NSSE Pocket Guide)
 - <https://www.sageridge.org/academics/college-counselling/college-visit-guide>

