Euphoria University

Euphoria University is a private medium-sized research institution located in Central Pennsylvania. Rooted in a strong liberal arts tradition, the college has gained more and more national attention for the strength of its business and engineering programs and has recently opened a brand new Communications & Journalism building that will immediately house four new majors with eyes on some expansion of the offerings in the not so distant future. We believe that we offer a unique undergraduate experience in that students can receive a personalized education while also having access to world class research facilities. Situated just blocks from campus is the quaint downtown area. New York, Philadelphia, and Washington/Baltimore are just three hours away with excellent transportation nearby. Our campus is nationally recognized as one of the most beautiful, and offers a bucolic setting for students to learn in an inclusive environment.

The College admitted student profile is as follows:

- Acceptance Rate 33%
- NCAA Division I sports
- Mean core GPA of enrolled students is 4.0
- Mid 50% ACT composite is 31-34
- Mid 50% SAT is 1330-1490
- Gender Balance: F/M 53:47
- Geographic distribution is:
  10% South
  15% West Coast
  20% New England
  30% Mid-Atlantic
  15% Midwest
  10% International
- Meet full need for domestic students but are need aware and have limited capacity to fund international students

Additional Priorities/University Initiatives

- Euphoria University is committed to accepting students with a variety of academic interests and intended majors that align with programs offered by the university, especially keeping in mind the four new majors recently added to the expanding Department of Journalism and Communications.
- The leaders of the university remain dedicated to fostering a diverse and welcoming community representative of diversity in many forms. This includes geographic diversity, socioeconomic diversity, diversity of extracurricular involvement, and students from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds, understanding that a student's race may not influence an admissions decision.
- Though Euphoria University is need aware and our admissions office is cognizant of the financial aid budget, we recognize the importance of dedicating financial resources to enroll academically curious and passionate students from all socioeconomic backgrounds.
- The combined success of the 27 Division I athletic teams have secured the title of league all-sports champion 18 times in 30 years. Men's and women's cross-country and track are consistently strong, and other recent conference champion teams include men's and women's basketball and men's lacrosse.
- The chairs of departments in visual and performing arts have recently expressed interest in the university increasing its enrollment of students who have been involved in the arts and in expanding the involvement of non-majors in each of their departments.

The Scenario

Walking past the campus quad on a beautiful late-March morning, you are reminded of why you love your position as a member of the Euphoria University Admissions Office. The prospect of spring looming after an extended winter used to be your favorite time of the year to enjoy the splendor of such a tranquil, idyllic setting not to mention finally being able to see the light at the end of a long tunnel after a grueling admissions year of being under-staffed and overworked. But now it means more and more contentious dialogue between your colleagues in the admissions office- a group that normally gets along quite well. Euphoria is an extremely sought-after option for some of the best and brightest students from across the country and around the world.

This year there has been another 15% increase in the applicant pool. Success in attracting such talented and diverse applicants does have drawbacks. After hours and hours spent reviewing the nearly 10,000 applicants that made it to committee, you have been called back to discuss the merits of three students who have been deemed "vulnerable." Truth be told, they were poised to be getting an admit letter next week, when Regular Decision applicants are set to be notified. However, a tally of decisions drove home a hard reality- you have too many admission offers in the queue. After two years of the largest first-year classes in school history, you are now in a relatively new position of being told to come in under the enrollment number and to just get to your goal by utilizing a waitlist. It is going to be the longest admissions season in your two-decade career in the field.

The Task

Review all three applications. Deliberate as a committee, keeping in mind the institutional priorities of Euphoria University and the wishes of the board of trustees to make a final decision on which one applicant to accept, one to waitlist, and one to be denied.

Important items to consider:

- Academic standards – grades, rigor of curriculum, test scores, rank (if provided)
- Personal Attributes – extracurricular activities (community service, performing arts, athletics, clubs and organizations, work jobs, research, and leadership) and skills and values as expressed in personal essay
- Institutional Priorities (academic and extracurricular interests that align with institutional goals such as athletics, the arts, etc.; diversity of backgrounds and experiences)
- Institutional fit measured by a student's demonstrated understanding of Euphoria University's academic and extracurricular opportunities.