Brooklyn Technical High School

Creating Your College List!

JUNIOR Major Classroom Presentation
College Office, Room 7S5
May 2011
Today’s Agenda

- What is a “Well-Balanced” College List?
- Best Practices when creating your College List
- Factors that are important when researching schools
- CUNY Application Process
- SUNY Application Process
- Searching for Private & Out-of State Colleges
  - (List of Schools within your major)
  - Naviance Demo
- Organizing Your Research
- Next Steps/ Time Line
- College Office Major Ambassador
- Homework!!!!!
Objectives for Today

- To provide students with the knowledge and tools to help create a well-balanced and strategic listing of colleges.
- To understand the options available through the City (CUNY) and State (SUNY) colleges and how to select the programs and schools that best fit your profile.
- To learn how to search for Private/out-of-state schools while utilizing Naviance and other resources.
- To conduct an organized and thorough research of college options while considering a variety of important factors.
- To identify time lines for the next steps in the College Process.
Creating Your College List

Your College List should consist of schools that are right FOR YOU and ONLY YOU!

There are many factors that go into creating a college list. If you do your research and make strategic decisions on which schools are proper fits for you, than you will increase your chances of acceptances and overall happiness in the long run!

How many schools are typically on a FINAL college list?

What do you think a “Balanced College List” means?
Creating a “Balanced College List”

What is a “Balanced College List”?  
A well researched list of approximately 10-12 schools that offer programs, location and other amenities that are important to you as a student and an individual.

This list will consist of schools that fall within the following 3 categories:

* **1. Target/Match Schools:** Schools where you have a reasonable (typically better than 50-50) chance for admission. Your GPA and SAT scores are similar to that of those in which this schools typically accepts. **YOUR LIST SHOULD CONSIST OF MOSTLY THESE TYPES OF SCHOOLS!**

**2. Likely Schools:** Schools where you typically are somewhat overqualified, where you will almost certainly gain admission. However, there is no guarantee on any of these schools.

**3. Reach Schools:** A reach school is a college that you have a chance of getting into, but your test scores and high school grades are a bit on the low side when you look at the school’s profile.

**4. You can also add a “Dream School” to your List:** This is a school that you may have always wanted to apply to. However, your test scores and high school grades are very far below the school’s profile for accepted students.
Points to keep in mind when deciding WHERE to apply:

1. Just because you haven’t heard of it, doesn’t mean it’s not a great school! Think BEYOND the IVY League! PLEASE!

2. Location: Begin to think about and discuss with family members the option of going a bit further away for college. You can increase your chances of getting accepted and receiving better financial aid packages. This is of course a personal and family decision to make.

3. Diversify your list in terms of City, State and Private/Out-of-State schools so that you will have viable options available to you once you have received your financial aid packages. (We will discuss how to research all 3 types of institutions)
How to Research 3 Types of Schools

CUNY: City University of NY

SUNY: State University of NY

Private/Out-of-State Schools
Tips when applying to CUNY Schools:
- You will apply for CUNY via www.cuny.edu website.
- You are able to select 6 schools on 1 application for 1 application fee (approx. $65).
- You should apply to CUNY as early as possible because applications are read on a rolling basis. As we near the February application deadline for CUNY, the amount of spaces left in the 4 year schools are limited.
- Students should include at least one 2 Year Community College on their application.

Options when Applying to CUNY: (Refer to CUNY Admissions Profile 2010)

1. **General Admissions:** Includes all 4 Year Colleges and 2 Year Community Colleges.

2. **Macaulay Honors:** Competitive Program offered at most of the 4 Year Colleges. Application process is early and there are many benefits offered to accepted students.

3. **Seek/College Discover Program:** Program designed for students with high financial need (usually free or reduced lunch). Admissions requirements are different from General Admissions to that college. *(Seek Program- 4 Year Schools. College Discover- 2 Year Schools)*
SUNY Application Process

State University of New York
- 64 Campuses in total!  *Binghamton, Stony Brook and Buffalo are not the only SUY Schools!*
- NYS Students pay a reduced In-State Tuition
- There is no limit to how many campuses you can apply to
- Each campus has their own independent application- not like CUNY system.

Options when Applying to SUNY: *(Refer to SUNY Admissions Profiles)*

1. **General Admissions:** Includes all 4 Year Colleges and 2 Year Community Colleges. *(Must apply using the Common Application)*

2. **EOP Program:** Program designed for students with high financial need (usually free or reduced lunch). Admissions requirements are different from General Admissions to that college. *(Must apply through www.suny.edu)*

3. **SUNY Community Colleges:** There are several SUNY Community Colleges that accept students with certain GPA/Test Scores. They are good options for those students who want to go away for college.
Choosing Private & Out of State Colleges

There are over 4,500 Colleges & Universities in the United States!

Where do you start searching!? 

1. Naviance Search Demo
2. Listing of Schools that Offer your Particular Major of Interest
3. Look into Special Programs offered at these schools such as: 
   HEOP- A Program designed to assist students with a financial need to get into particular NY State Private Schools (See listing on bths.edu website)
4. Consider what factors are important to YOU while you are searching…..
What Does Your Ideal School Look Like?

What Factors are Important to YOU when Researching a College?
Some things to think about when researching colleges……

**Some Factors to Consider:**

- Size of School
- Location (City, Urban, Suburban, Rural, etc.)
- Majors Offered
- Special Admissions Programs
- GPA/SAT Scores Accepted
- Diversity on Campus
- Acceptance Rate
- Programs and Activities for students on campus - Student Life
- Sports on Campus

- Look on [www.unigo.com](http://www.unigo.com) to see what students at that school have to say!
Organizing Your Research

- Being organized and managing this process is very important. You have many choices available to you but the only way to decide which are your best fits, you need to invest time in this research phase of this process.

- Use the Research Chart to help you to decide if you will continue to pursue information on a particular college or if you want to reject it from your list.
Next Steps/ Timeline
(For Research and Applications)

- Start researching! Use the tips
- Contact Your Schools of Interest and ask about opportunities to visit campus!
- Make sure you sign-in at the schools Admissions Office or that they have a record of you visiting campus: They want to see a genuine interest on your part!
- Remember ALL emails, etc. that you exchange with College Reps will be in your file!

Submitting Applications:
- Apply to CUNY NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1st!
- Submit Your SUNY Application NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15th.
College Office Major Ambassadors

Represent your major as a “College Office Major Ambassador”!

College Office needs 1 Student Ambassadors for each class in a particular major....

What does this consist of?
Ambassadors will gain in-school service credit while working with the College Office to promote upcoming events and deadlines. Ambassadors will act as liaisons between your peers and the College Office.
Homework

- Complete the “College List” Worksheet over the Summer.

- It will be collected in one of your Major classes in September - Date TBA.

- Have FUN with this process!!