

## **Junior Session – August 2019 College Admission Mock Review**

**Objective:** *Students and parents will break into small groups to form a mock admissions panel. Through this panel, they will review their students' academic profiles and determine if the students should be accepted, waitlisted, or denied based on the college's criteria. Your group will present the scenario, positives and negatives of the application, admissions decision and rationale.*

### **Scenario #1**

Gabriella L. is applying to **State Tech**. She has earned mostly A's and B's in standard level classes. Gabriella didn't take a lot of advanced classes. The only IB class she took was IB History of the Americas and she earned a C+. Gabriella's GPA is a 3.76 and her SAT score is 1280. She has been on the girl's lacrosse team for four years and now is a team captain. Gabriella also volunteers at a horse farm for 5 hours a month. She wrote an optional essay about her desire to be a veterinarian, but it had several grammatical errors. She applied using the regular decision deadline even though she heard Tech preferred early - she wanted more time to get things together and do a good job.

### **Virginia Tech Profile**

Virginia Tech considers the most important admissions factors to be high achievement in core courses (As and Bs), strength of schedule (IB and honors classes) and standardized test scores. Virginia Tech offers optional personal statements (i.e. essay) on their applications. They like to see students give the extra effort to highlight their accomplishments. Extra-curricular activities and community service are also important considerations.

Other factors include: first-generation, leadership & service, intended major, pipeline programs, discipline record and legacy status.

***Average GPA of GCM students accepted: 4.12***

***Average SAT of GCM students accepted (1600 scale): 1367***

**What does the admission panel want to do?**  
**ACCEPT, WAITLIST, OR DENY**

**Please be prepared to explain your decision to the group.**

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**Scenario #2**

Michael V. is applying to **Backyard University**. He has a 3.25 GPA and has taken some advanced classes (IB Biology, IB Topics, IB Spanish I). He earned a 1025 on the SAT. He is the President of his class, a member of the Student Government Association and on the Debate Team. He has also worked part-time for the past 3 years in his uncle's restaurant. Michael's personal statement was about his experience as a leader in both his school and community. He discussed his sense of civic responsibility and described specific plans to continue to give back to his community through service, education, and problem-solving. Michael's counselor wrote a personal letter about his strong character and natural leadership. He is the first person in his family to go to college.

**George Mason University Profile**

GMU considers many factors including cumulative GPA, test scores, and the level of difficulty in core subjects. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit an optional personal statement that highlights leadership or service contributions. Counselor and teacher recommendations are also an essential part of the application evaluation.

Other factors include: discipline record, major requested, and first generation.

***Average GPA of GCM students accepted: 3.81***

***Average SAT of GCM students accepted (1600 scale): 1275***

**What does the admission panel want to do?**

**ACCEPT, WAITLIST, OR DENY**

**Please be prepared to explain your decision to the group.**

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**Scenario #3**

Sarah K. is applying to **Beantown University**. She has a 4.28 GPA and earned a 1460 on her SAT. She has taken many IB classes, including IB Topics, IB History of the Americas, IB Biology, IB Environmental Systems & Society, IB Chemistry II SL, and IB Geography. She is a National Honor Society tutor. She has a history of increasing involvement with environmental causes in and out of school. Sarah's essay explored how technology can help fight global warming. Her second essay discussed her IB ESS project and how she is working to make GCM more environmentally friendly. Sarah's letters of recommendation described a student with an unusually high level of original thought and dynamic analysis and writing.

**Boston University Profile**

BU looks for excellent performance in a rigorous secondary school program. It is recommended that candidates take the most challenging academic program available in their schools, including at least five academic courses each year in IB and honors courses whenever possible. Recommendations are required from a school official and a teacher of the applicant's choice. Students must write two personal statements(essays).

Other factors include: leadership & service, personal statements, discipline record, major requested, recommendations, etc.

***Average GPA of GCM students accepted: 4.12***

***Average SAT of GCM students accepted (1600 scale): 1372***

**What does the admission panel want to do?**

**ACCEPT, WAITLIST, OR DENY**

**Please be prepared to explain your decision to the group.**