

Admissions and Financial Aid Committee
Minutes 11/21/06

B.J. Or, Senior Associate Director of Admissions discussed the University's policies and procedures for recruiting, orienting, and retaining transfer students. The admissions office sends a state-wide mailing to honor society graduates from community colleges, communicates with representatives from state college system schools and private colleges to identify potential transfers to the University of Pittsburgh. Priority of transfer recruiting varies but is high at present, with a goal of 425 new transfers into CAS for Fall '07, criteria for transfer admits is generally a 3.0 average with 60 credits but is flexible. Open houses are held in several schools and departments and prospective students are interviewed one-on-one by departmental and admissions office representatives. There is a wide range of applicants from different backgrounds and with different goals (e.g. degree, certificate, enrichment). There is some scholarship aid available from the University, state and other agencies. Housing is an issue for transfer students as priority is given to incoming Freshmen; the Office of Property Management is available to help. After admission, transfer students are oriented to specific schools and departments by first receiving a packet containing information about transferable credits, school requirements and a profile of the dean of the school. Socialization and orientation are identified by transfers as the major problems on the Pitt campus; not being housed on campus and diversity of backgrounds are cited as particular barriers. Representatives from financial aid and honors college will be invited to the Spring term meetings. Next meeting will be on February 20, 2007.