

INSTITUTE ON CHARACTER AND ADMISSION

SEPTEMBER 21, WEDNESDAY

8-9: Continental Breakfast

9-9:30: Opening

David Holmes, Bob Massa, Ben Pettit

Welcome/purpose of Institute
Review of attendee list/profile of group/speakers
Schedule of the Institute
Importance of non-cognitive learning

9:30-9:45: Common Ground

David Holmes

Character work: who are the players?
Admissions decision-making: baseline information

9:45-10:30: The Power of Passion and Perseverance
(Skype presentation with Q&A)

Angela Duckworth, with Don Kamentz

Research findings on character and success in school, work, life
Reception of *Grit* book and its impact on national dialogue
Potential for identifying youth with grit (research base)
How to think about “passion and perseverance” in admission

10:30-10:45: Break

10:45-11:30: Bringing Character Strengths into Admission
(Skype presentation with Q&A)

Rick Weissbourd, with Lloyd Thacker

“Turning the Tide” report: impact and future
Project to assess ethical character in admissions and to motivate
ethical behavior in high school students
Project to assess diligence and resilience in admissions among
low-income students facing family responsibilities and hardships
Call to action in admissions

11:30-noon: Summary of Morning

Scribes and groups identify key points

Important conclusions of the morning
Implications for the goals of the Institute
Discussion/questions from group

12-1: Lunch (seats assigned)

1-1:45: College Admissions Evolution: Implications for
Non-Cognitive Learning and Admissions

Jerry Lucido, Bob Massa

College admissions evolution
Emergence of non-cognitive learning in the admissions equation
Potential for change in enrollment management

1:45-2:45: Assessing Non-Cognitive Learning

Educational Testing Service --
initiatives to develop non-cognitive/character
assessments for K-12 and higher education
Future directions

Sam Rikoon

The College Board --
Initiatives and future directions in non-cognitive assessment
Collaboration with schools

Carol Barry, Jennifer Merriman

The Enrollment Management Association --
Development of character skills assessment in
secondary schools

Jinghua Liu

2:45-3:15: Break

3:15-4: Test Optional Movement

Bill Hiss, Steve Syverson

Origins and progress of test optional project
How the test optional schools are changing college admission

4:00-5:15: Panel of College Admissions Deans/VPs

Moderator: Rob Franek, Sr. VP,
The Princeton Review

Christoph Guttentag, Duke University
Nancy Meislahn, Wesleyan University
Stu Schmill, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Jim Bock, Swarthmore College

Character attributes in admission decisions
Constraints and possibilities for the future
Institutionalizing authentic change

5:15-5:30: Summary of Day

Scribes and group identify key points

6-9: Celebration of a Common Purpose

Reception and dinner
Thanks/tomorrow's work

SEPTEMBER 22, THURSDAY

8-8:30: Continental Breakfast

8:30-8:45: Our Mission

David Holmes, Bob Massa

Intended outcomes for the day
Methodology w/work groups
Our theory of change
Our readiness to commit

8:45-9:45: Uniting Around Common Ideas, Goals, Actions

Charge to small groups and recorders -- topics; intended outcome

Group #1
Group #2
Group #3
Group #4
Group #5
Group #6
Group #7

9:45-10:30: Reporting Out and Conclusions

10:30-10:45: Break

10:45-11:30: The Rubber Hits the Road

Charge to small groups and recorders – crafting experiments/new approaches

Group #1
Group #2
Group #3
Group #4
Group #5
Group #6

11:30-12: Reporting Out and Specific Plans and Commitments

12-12:30: Institute Conclusion

David Holmes, Bob Massa

Summary/outcomes of two days
Report of Institute to attendees (within 2 weeks)
Writing a report for national audience

1:30 on: Optional -- help draft key points of Institute and outline of report/“white paper”