Prevailing Trends: How To Engage International Students in Admissions

NAFSA National Conference, May 28, 2015



Presenters



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Agenda

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- Introductions
- Ruffalo Noel-Levitz Survey
 - key demographics
- Poll the audience interactive poll questions
- Survey highlights
- Case studies from public & private universities recruiting ESL, undergrad and graduate international students
- Major takeaways
- Questions



What We Do – Marty – CollegeWeekLive

Enable online, live, and interactive student engagement throughout the enrollment process



CollegeWeekLive Clients

250+ college and university clients





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Abilene Christian University American University Azusa Pacific University **Ball State University Boston Architectural College Broward College Butler Community College** Caldwell University Centennial College Christopher Newport University College of DuPage Columbia College Cornell University CUNY, College of Staten Island Daemen College Design Institute of San Diego **Durham College** East Tennessee State University Eastern Illinois University **Emory University** Florida International University Full Sail University **Gannon University Grambling State University** Hilbert College

Illinois College Illinois Institute of Technology Lakeland College Manhattanville College Marquette University Miami Dade College Miami University of Ohio **New York University** North Carolina State University North Dakota State University Nova Southeastern University Oregon State University Otero Junior College Pace University Pittsburg State University **Purdue Calumet** Roger Williams University **Rowan University** Saint John's University, NY Saint Louis University Sam Houston State University St. Thomas University Stevens Institute of Technology Suffolk University SUNY, Binghamton University SUNY, Potsdam SUNY, University at Albany

Texas Tech University The University of Arizona University of Bridgeport University of British Columbia University of California, Davis University of Colorado, Denver University of Florida University of Houston University of Idaho University of Illinois at Chicago University of Michigan, Flint University of Nevada, Reno University of Notre Dame University of Portland University of San Diego University of Tampa University of Texas, Arlington University of Wisconsin-Stout **Utah State University** Valencia College Virginia Tech Washington State University West Chester University ...and more...



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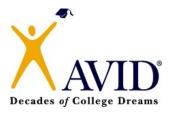
























Survey Results

3rd annual International E-Expectations Survey

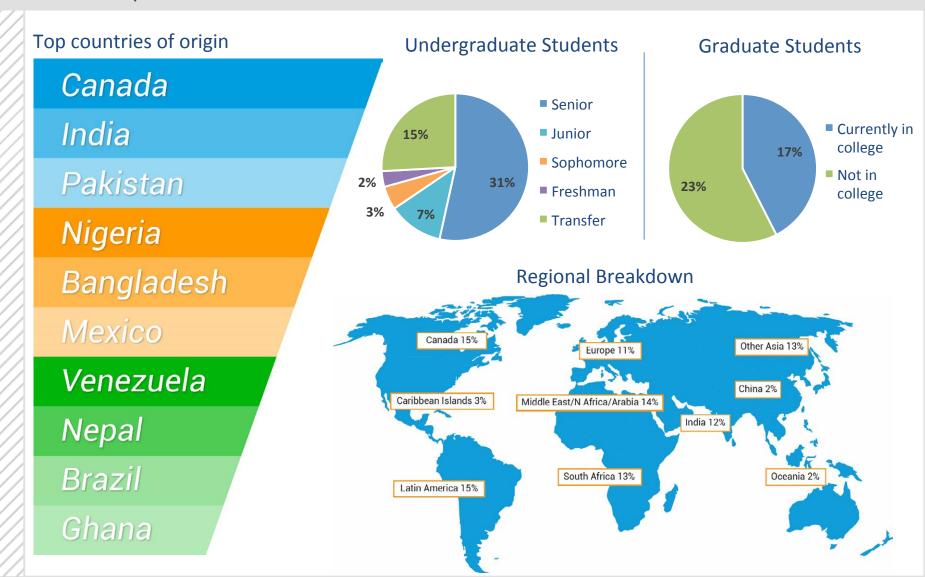
Meeting the Expectations of International Undergraduate and Graduate Students

- In cooperation with Ruffalo Noel-Levitz
- 2700+ student respondents
- Representing 164 countries
- 47% seeking undergraduate studies, 53% seeking graduate studies



Global Representation

2714 respondents from 160 countries



Poll Questions

https://www.polleverywhere.com/survey/BzahARTav

- 1. Which of the following factors most influenced undergraduate students' decisions to attend a college/university outside of their home country?
- 2. What do students see as the biggest obstacle to study outside their home country?
- 3. What percentage of international students have looked at a college/university website on a mobile device?



Your poll will show here

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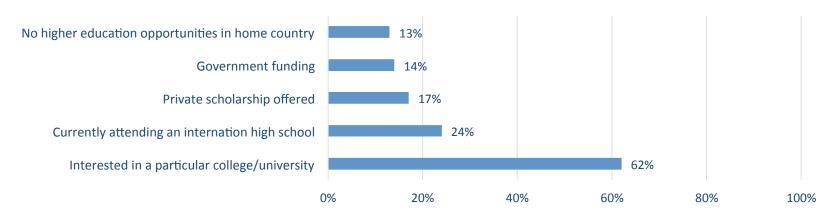
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Survey Highlights

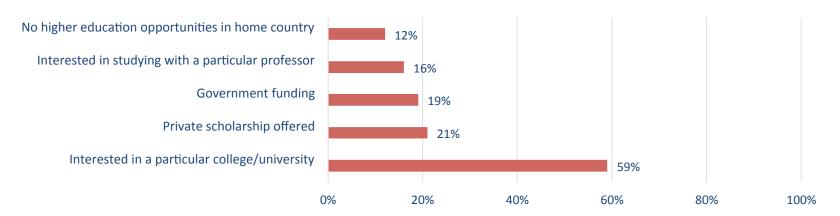


Motivations for Studying Abroad

Undergraduate Students



Graduate Students





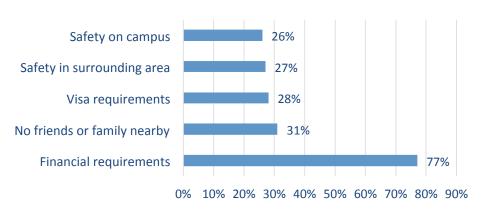
70+% will apply to 3 or more schools!

# of Applications	Undergraduate	Graduate
1 to 2	17%	19%
3 to 5	46%	47%
6 to 10	19%	16%
11 to 15	5%	3%
More than 15	3%	4%
Unknown	10%	11%



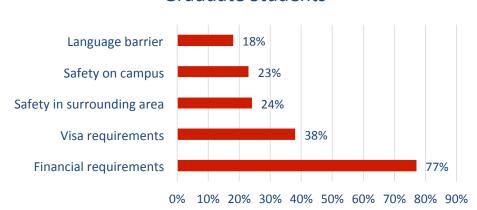
Top Concerns for Studying Abroad

Undergraduate Students



After money – main concern for prospective undergraduates – friends & family nearby

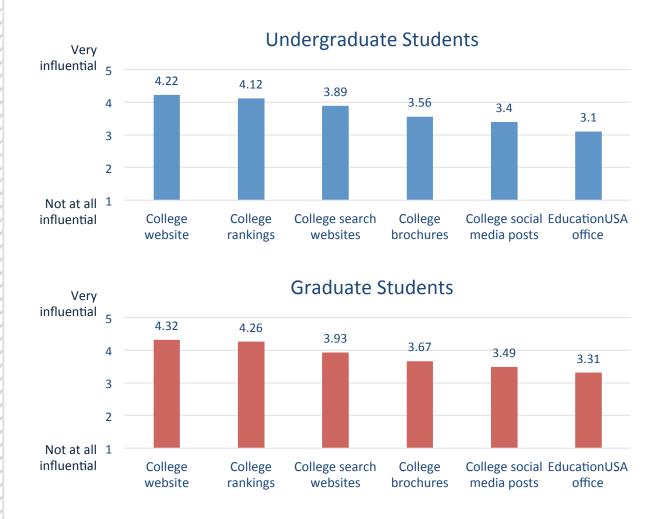
Graduate Students



Prospective graduate students most concerned about the visa requirements (after money)



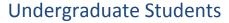
Top 6 Most Influential Resources

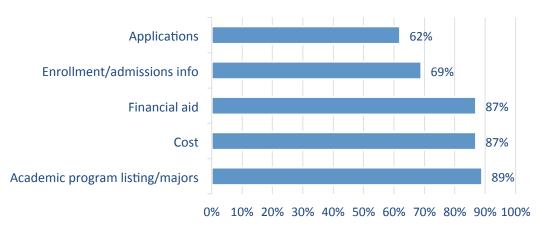


How international student-friendly is your website?

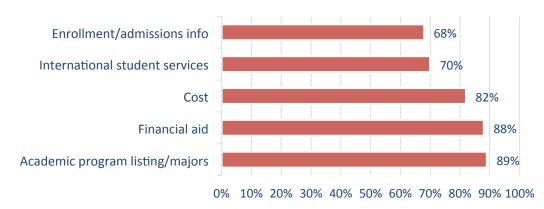


Top 5 Viewed Content Areas On College Websites





Graduate Students



The bottom 3 areas for both undergrad & grad prospects (under 25%):
Calendar of Events, Athletic programs,

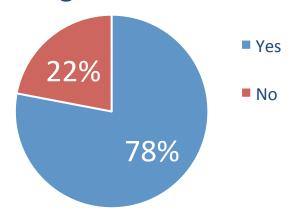
and Campus Visit

Details



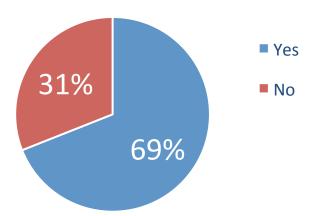
View college websites on a mobile device

Undergraduate Students



NB: Access the web most often from desktop/laptop (57%), but 38% use mobile most (up from 17% 2 years ago)

Graduate Students



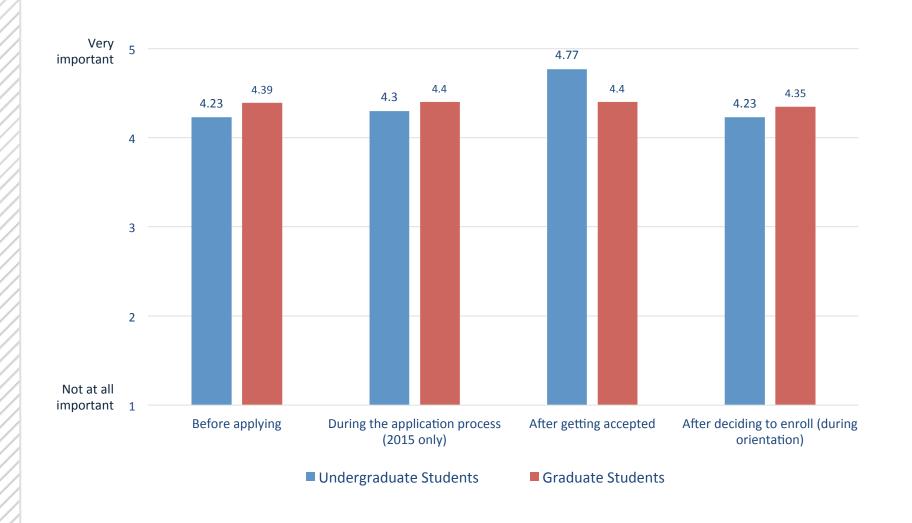
NB: 61% of grad prospects use desktop/laptop most, 35% use mobile most (up from 28% in 2014)

Google mobile-friendly website checker:

https://www.google.com/webmasters/tools/mobile-friendly/



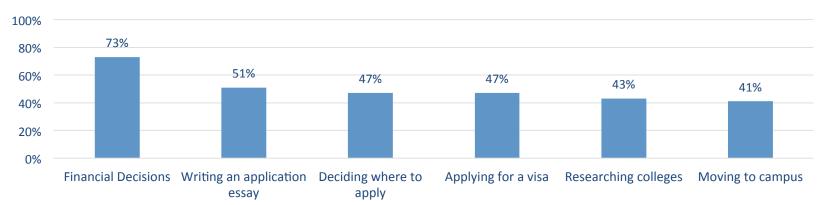
Importance of Communication Throughout the Recruitment Process



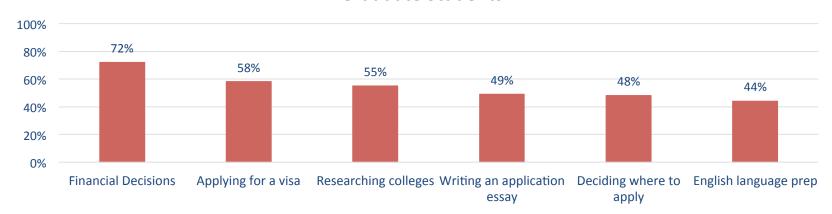


Top Areas of Support Needed During the Enrollment Process

Undergraduate Students

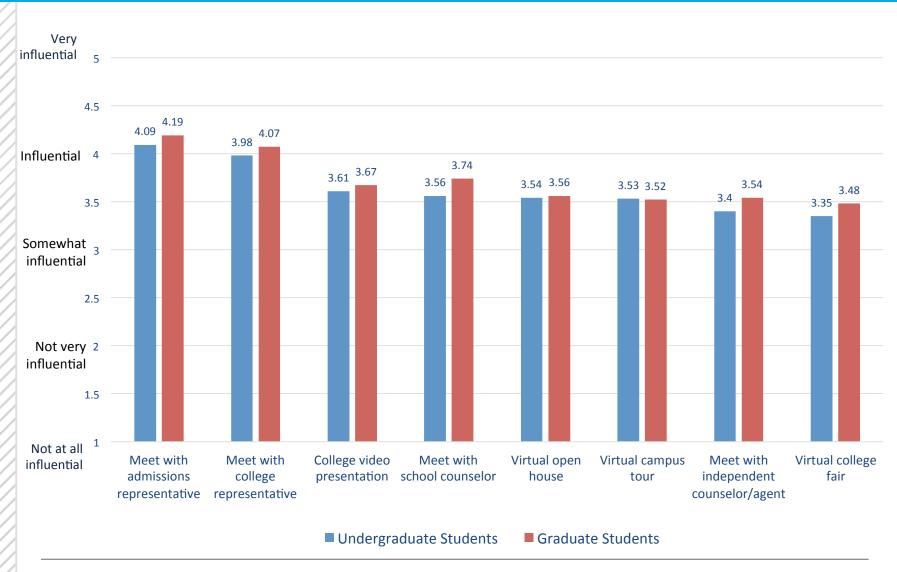


Graduate Students





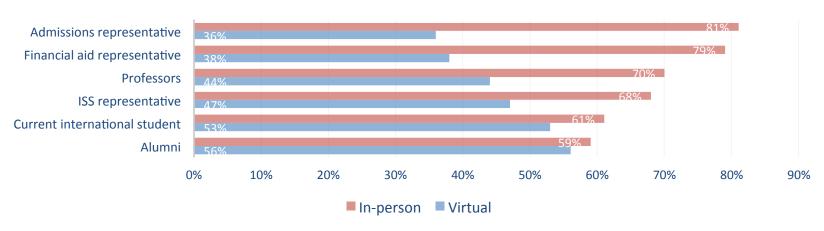
Online Interactions Influencing Where Students Apply



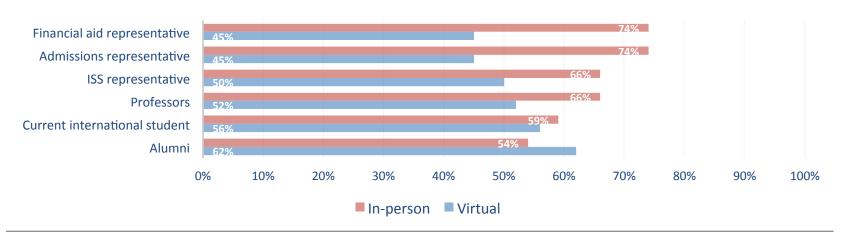


With who do students most want to interact?



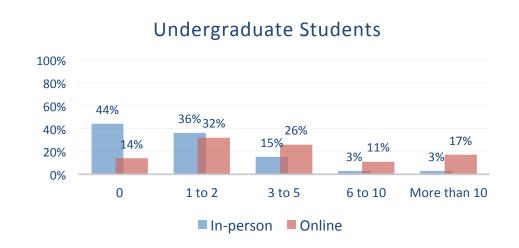


Graduate Students

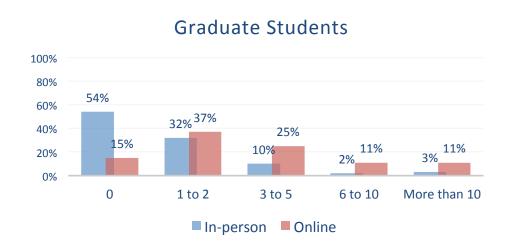




In-person Interactions with Top Choice College



For Undergrads: 44% no inperson contact vs. 14% no online contact with top choice. 54% with 3 or more online contacts with top choice

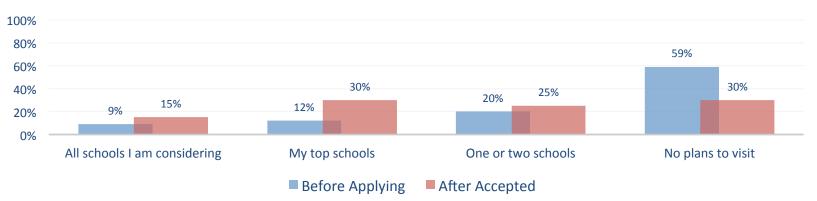


For Grads: 54% have no inperson interaction vs. 15% had no contact online w/ top choice. 47% will have had more than 3 contacts online.

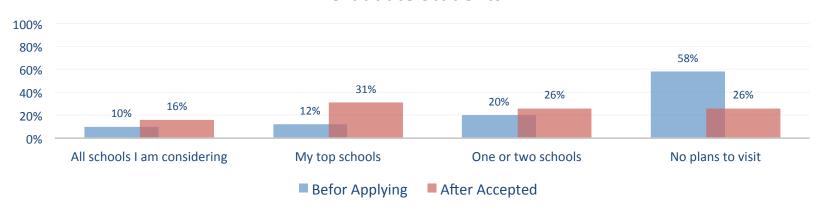


Plans to Visit Campus





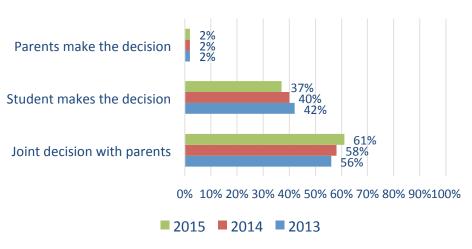
Graduate Students





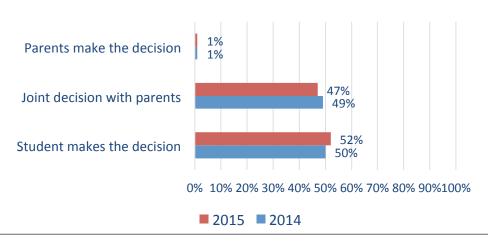
Parents Influence on Student's Decision





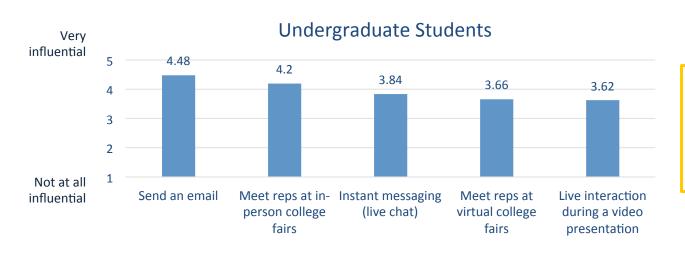
Prospective undergrads are increasingly more dependent on parents on their decisions!

Graduate Students

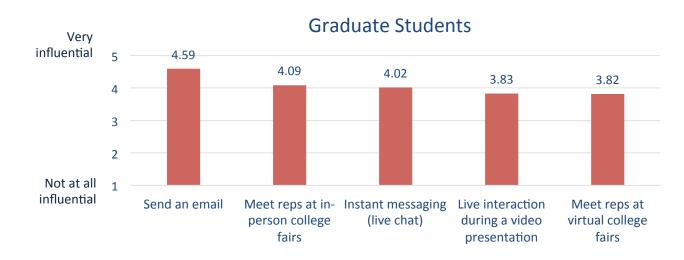




Top 5 Preferred Communication Channels

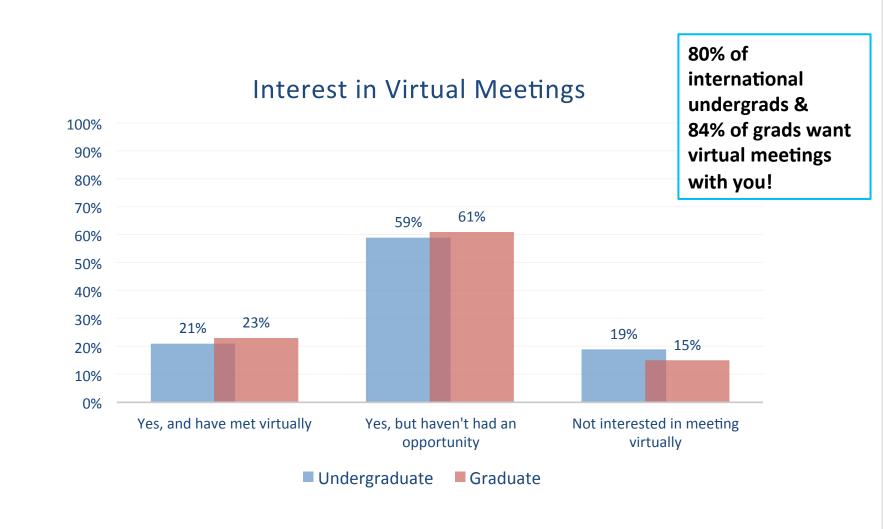


FYI: lowest rated is texting, but growing fast!





Interest in Virtual Contact with Colleges





University of Colorado, Denver

Mr. Clay Harmon, Intl Recruitment & Admissions Coordinator (clayton.harmon@ucdenver.edu)



University of Colorado Denver

A Comprehensive Public University in an Urban Setting



About CU Denver

- Medium-sized, comprehensive public university with health sciences specialization
- 14,500 students, 8% international (top senders: India, Saudi Arabia, China)
- Programs of note: ESL, Business, Engineering, Architecture, Arts & Media, Medical

About International Admissions

- Recruit for ESL, undergraduate, and graduate; manage undergrad applications
- Recruitment strategies include travel, agents in addition to online tools
- Part of larger Office of International Affairs



University of Colorado Denver

Online Tools for Recruitment and Conversion (______ = Planned Future Tools)

Online Tool	Lead Generation	Prospect/Applicant Conversion	Admit Conversion/ Yield Activities
Facebook, Other Social Media	✓	✓	✓
CollegeWeekLive: Always On	✓	✓	✓
CollegeWeekLive: Int'l Fair Events	✓		
SAT/TOEFL/GRE Name Purchases	✓		
iOpinion iPad App	✓		
OIA Messaging Platform		✓	✓
Royall: Applicant Messages		✓	✓
Application Fee Waiver Events		✓	
ESL Skype Interviews		✓	
CollegeWeekLive: HS Connect	✓		
CollegeWeekLive: Private Events		✓	✓



Pace University

Ms. Mitchell Chavez, Associate Director, International Admissions (mchavez@pace.edu)



Pace University



Work toward greatness.

- A private metropolitan university
- Pace enrolls approximately 12,500 students in bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs:
 - Undergraduate: 8,336
 - Graduate: 3,705
 - Law Students: 731
- Student/Faculty ratio: 15:1
- International student enrollment (annual): 1,800+







Pace University



Work toward greatness.

Lead Generators

Online Services

Social Media



Takeaways

How do international students act? How can you respond accordingly?

- Students remain flexible in terms of where they apply.
- Institutional website content is the most important source for students.
- Students view your site on their mobile phones.
- Online interactions with institutions are important influencers as to where students apply.
- Parents need to be considered in outreach strategies.
- Don't count on students visiting campus to win them over.
- Students expect communication throughout the enrollment process.



Questions



Thank You!

Presentation available online – via NAFSA mobile app & on Slideshare at: http://www.slideshare.net/martybennett/

