

# Leveraging Pre-College Programs for Recruitment

Enrollment Management Forum



### EAB Enrollment Management Forum



Dana Strait, Ph.D. Consultant

Dstrait@eab.com 202-266-6460

### Managing Your Audio





If you select the "use telephone" option, please dial in with the phone number and access code provided



If you select the "mic & speakers" option, please be sure that your speakers/headphones are connected

### **Managing Your Questions**







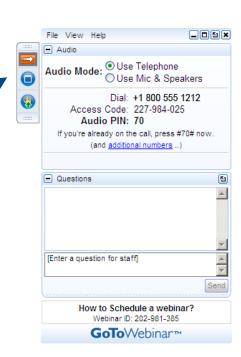
### Managing Your Screen



## Minimizing and Maximizing Your Screen

Use the **orange and white arrow** to minimize and maximize the GoTo panel

Use the **blue and white square** to maximize the presentation area



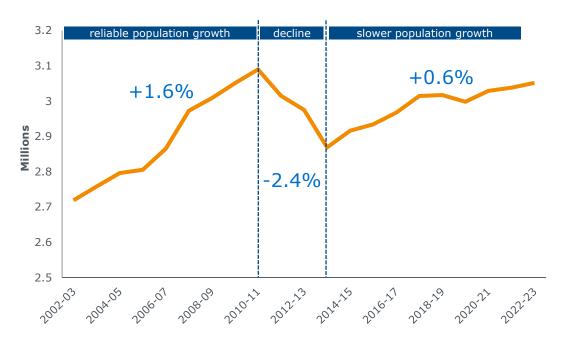


### Acclimating to a New Normal

### Support From Demographic Growth Gone for the Foreseeable Future

#### High School Graduate Growth Rate Slows after Demographic Decline

Numbers of High School Graduates and Compound Annual Growth Rates



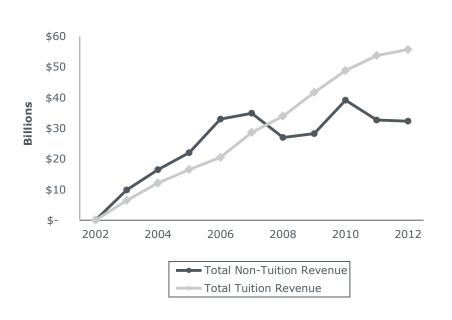


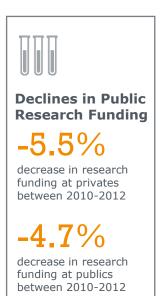


### Increasing Reliance on Tuition Revenue and Enrollment

#### **Tuition Now the Main Driver of Institutional Revenue Growth**

Institutional Revenue by Source, from 2002-2012, Inflation-Adjusted 2012 Dollars





2 Lead Management Infrastructure

3 Building Engagement by Design

### Campus Visits Missing Their Mark?



### Campus Visits Boost Yield, for the Few Prospects They Capture

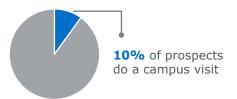
## Campus Visits Strongest Yield Lever...



4x

increased likelihood that an applicant who visits campus will enroll

## ...but Capture Only a Sliver of Your Recruitment Pool



**??** 

"In my 25-plus years as a consultant in higher education... for colleges and universities of every size, affiliation, and mission, one finding has remained constant: **the campus visit is the single most influential source of information for students in college choice.**"

Richard A. Hesel Principal, Art & Science Group



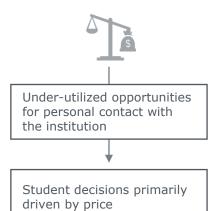
### Campus Visits Tip the Scales Away from Price

From Doling Out Discounts to Building on Personal Attachments

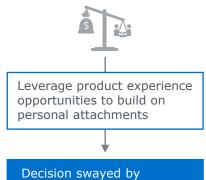
#### **Product Experience Marketing**

Purchasing decisions are swayed by positive first-hand experiences, which consumers weigh more heavily than abstract facts

### **Competing on Price**



#### **Competing on Experience**

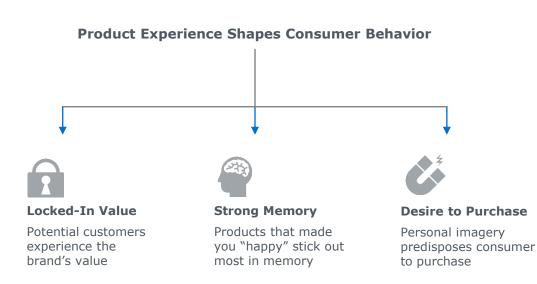


Decision swayed by positive experiences, not price alone



### Experiencing a Sense of "Right Fit"

Personal Attachments Cultivated through First-Hand Product Experiences



### Hiding in Plain Sight



### Pre-College Youth Programs, Untapped Reservoirs of Campus Visitors



University Recognizes Pre-College Youth Program Attendees as Under-Leveraged Recruitment Opportunities

Youth program enrollments massive in scale at Oregon State...

46,000
pre-college youth program participants 1

22,564
undergraduate enrollments

...but fail to yield as well as campus visitors at most institutions

15-20%

typical yield of students participating in oncampus youth programs<sup>2</sup>

40%

average yield of students participating in campus visits

Does not reflect unique interactions as some participants may attend multiple camps

<sup>2)</sup> Estimate not specific to Oregon State University

### **Identifying Missed Connections**



On-Campus Youth Program Enrollments Sizable for all Institutional Types

### Size of Pre-College Youth Program Enrollments at Typical Institutions







### Types of Youth Program Enrollments at one Mid-Sized Public



Summer Camps

elementary and secondary youth



Sports Clinics 5 000

elementary and secondary youth



**Academic Events** 

1,000

high-ability youth



**Dual-Enrollment** 

**500** 

high-ability high school seniors

### Lost in a Sea of Data



### Organizational Siloes Mask Data on Thousands of Potential Prospects

#### **Grabbing Data the First Challenge**



Acting on Available Data the Second

Lack of Follow-Up Communications



Fading Engagement

"

"We always collect names and addresses but it isn't coordinated... At this point, we don't have the staffing or the technology to integrate that information and have it be useful to us."

Kate Peterson Assistant Provost for Enrollment Management Oregon State University "Summer camp attendees usually fall out of our recruitment funnel after a year or two... We don't send them more outreach because **we run out of things to say**."

> Enrollment Manager Mid-Sized Four-Year Private

1 Under-Valued Opportunities for Product Experience Marketing

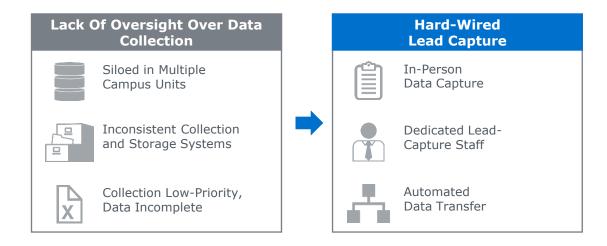
2 Lead Management Infrastructure

3 Building Engagement by Design



### From Siloed Data to Harnessed Leads

### Overcome Data Challenges with Admissions Oversight of Lead Capture







### Coordinated Personnel Ensure Data Transfer and Prospect Engagement

#### **Admissions**





Dual Enrollment
Outreach Coordinator<sup>1</sup>

#### **Academic College**





\$100K
annual staffing and
outreach expenditures

Dual Enrollment FTE Program Coordinator<sup>2</sup>

### **Admissions Job Description**

- Oversee prospect data collection
- Create and oversee admissions engagement plan for prospects
- Maintain point-of-contact for admissions, financial aid, and matriculation questions

## **Benefits of Data Transfer and Prospect Engagement Outweigh Staffing Costs**



WICHITA STATE

30%

of dual enrollment students enroll as freshmen, compared to 7% at a similar institution

\$1.5M

estimated annual tuition revenue gain from dual enrollment

<sup>1)</sup> Official title at Wichita State is Community Outreach Coordinator

<sup>2)</sup> Official title at Wichita State is Concurrent Enrollment Coordinator ©2015 The Advisory Board Company • eab.com • 30515B

### Data Collection, Made Easy

### Hard-Wiring Data Collection Ensures Complete Lead Capture



**Summer Camp Paper Inquiry Cards** 

30%

prospective student information captured

**Summer Camp Online Registration** 

**→** 100%

prospective student information captured



**Undergraduate Application** 

**→** 67%

percent of applicants recruited through summer camps

15,000

leads manually entered into enrollment database

50,000

leads automatically entered into enrollment database

1,300

applications per year from summer camp attendees

Added year of high school graduation, programs of interest, and parent email addresses to registration form

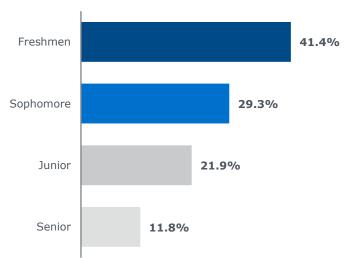


### Early Engagement Reaps Greater Interest

Lessons Learned from a Small Liberal Arts University's Early Search Results

#### Prospects Have Greater Response to Outreach as Freshmen, Yield at Higher Rates

Outreach Response Rates at a Small Religious Four-Year Institution



Yield Rates From Early- and Late-Outreached Students



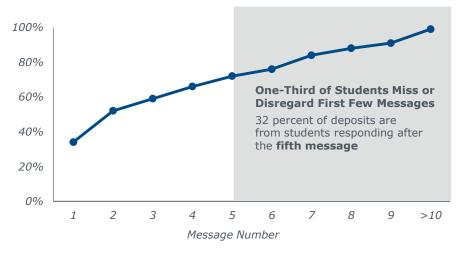
### Persistence Pays



### Repeat Communications May Be Necessary to Grab Attention

#### **Students Seldom Respond to First Outreach**

Percentage of Search Deposits by Email Contact, Entering Class 2013





Prospects who ignore initial outreach aren't interested



Prospects receiving additional outreach more likely to yield

### Pardon Me if I Repeat Myself



Maintain Consistent Contact with Prospects, Even Without Unique Content



### **Keeping Summer Camp Participants Engaged with the University**

#### 2-4 Weeks Later **Program Ongoing**



Data from participants entered into admissions CRM



Attendees and parents receive generic follow-up from admissions



Mailings recur annually, and increase in frequency as the college search approaches



20% of all camp attendees enroll

camp attendees matriculating as undergraduates annually

### Getting the Finger

### Wichita State University's Age-Diversified Communications Plan

#### **Elementary School**



#### Information on:

- · College prep
- WSU fun facts

### **Junior High**



#### Information on:

College prep checklist for 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grade

### **High School**



#### Information on:

- Prerequisites
- Admissions
- WSU fun facts

#### **Parents**



Information on:

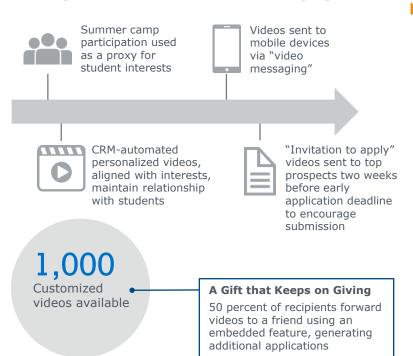
- Prerequisites
- Admissions
- Campus visits
- Financial aid



### Personalized Video-Message Cascade

### Customized Video Follow-Up Emphasizes Individuals' Interests

### **Cal Poly SLO's Personalized Video Campaign**



## Sample Video Customizations

## Recreational sports offerings

For athletes not recruited to collegiate teams

## Introduction to College of Science

For science camp attendees

## Working on the university's newspaper

For students interested in journalism

## Life in the university's town

For international students

Under-Valued Opportunities for Product Experience Marketing

2 Lead Management Infrastructure

3 Building Engagement by Design





Launch Targeted Youth Programs to Attract Valuable Student Segments



Premium Experience Branding



**Invite-Only Academic Events** 



Scholarship Competition Incentives

Attract High-Revenue Students Design High-End Summer Camps



Establish Exclusive On-Campus Programming



Host Scholarship Competitions for High-Ability Students



Advance Specific Enrollment Goals Boost Under-Enrolled Programs



Outreach Under-Represented Students



Stand Up New Programs





### Premium Experiences a Natural Attractor of High-Pay Students

### Premium Programs at Home and Abroad... ... Yield High-Value Students







Culturally current themes



Application conveys selectivity



Credit-earning for high achievers



Prestigious experience attracts middle- and high-income students

	Admit Rate	Percent Out-of- State	Average Net Price
Average	37%	56%	\$33,500
Past Program Attendees	70%	67%	\$38,500





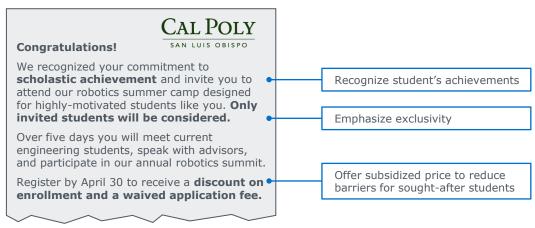
annual enrollments higher price than average incremental tuition revenue



### **Exclusive On-Campus Programming**

Invite-Only Programs Draw Targeted Recruits, Achieve Higher Yield

### Make an Offer that's Hard to Refuse: Invite High-Ability Students to Selective Summer Camps



3x <sup>1</sup>

increased likelihood that invited camp attendees **apply** as undergraduates to Cal Poly than open-access camp attendees 5x

increased likelihood that invited camp attendees are **admitted** to Cal Poly than open-access camp attendees



### Potential Awards as a Campus Attractor

Pre-Application Scholarship Competitions Draw Interest from Top Prospects



### Capture the Right Audience and Early Applications with a Potential Award







#### Target to Higher than Average, Not Cream of the Crop

"Force" Early Application **Host On-Campus Weekend Program** 

- Eligibility lowered to students with SAT scores of 1300+ (still higher than Baylor average)
- Event incented by competition for 12 full-tuition scholarships

To be eligible, students must apply by November 1

- Dinner with faculty in area of interest
- · Campus tour
- Academic and student life breakout sessions
- Scholarship competition as program's capstone

### Gaining Early Mindshare of High-Ability Students

### Baylor University Scholarship Competitions Attract Students, Boost Yield



"We give them a good package but we know they're getting a better package elsewhere. This program is making their decision a lot harder...it makes the value argument a lot easier to make."

Jennifer Carron Assistant Vice President of Admission Services

### Competition Yields Those Who Win, and Those Who Don't

800

registrations after adding scholarship competition to event, up from 70 in prior years 55%

of non-winner attendees enroll, compared to ~15% of similar academic caliber applicants

1/8

proportion of Baylor enrollees who participate in the program 9.6%

increase in student body with SAT over 1300

### Breaking Away from the Pack



Launch Targeted Youth Programs to Attract Valuable Student Segments



Premium Experience Branding



**Invite-Only Academic Events** 



Scholarship Competition Incentives

Attract High-Revenue Students Design High-End Summer Camps



Establish Exclusive On-Campus Programming



Host Scholarship Competitions for High-Ability Students



Advance Specific Enrollment Goals Boost Under-Enrolled Programs



Outreach Under-Represented Students



Stand Up New Programs



### **Boost Under-Enrolled Programs**

### Industry-Focused Camps Elevate Under-Enrolled Programs at Ferris State

#### **Even Keystone Programs Aren't Safe**

Plastics Engineering Technology Graduate Outcomes



**Highest Salaries** \$58,000 starting



**Guaranteed Placement** 

100% Employment Rate

### **Revitalizing the Pipeline**

Rubber-Related Summer Camps



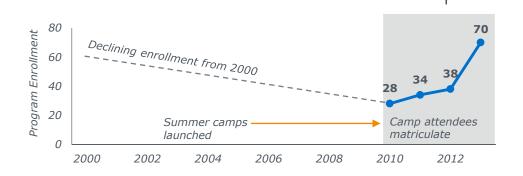


K-4: Learning with LEGO





9-12: Design and Manufacturing



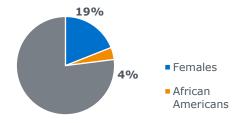
# 32

### Increase Draw of Underrepresented Students

Cal Poly SLO Augments Diversity with Invite-Only Summer Camps

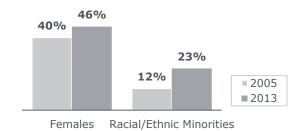
#### **Small Targets, Difficult to Hit**

National Engineering Bachelor's Degree Attainment



## **STEM-Focused University Grows Diversity by Inviting Summer Camp Attendance**

Proportion of Undergraduate Enrollments



### **Increase Draw of Underrepresented Minorities by Inviting Camp Attendance**

#### **Target Students**

- Align camps with program of interest
- Invite high test scorers in target demographic
- Solicit nominations from schools or programs

#### **Exclusive Invite**

- · Clarify "invited attendees only"
- Acknowledge student's accomplishments
- Send to students and parents, follow-up by phone

#### **Subsidize Cost**

- Set cost lower than openaccess summer camps
- Offer scholarships to students from desired locations

### Stand Up New Programs

### Scholarship-Incented Summer Camps Seed Enrollment for New Programs





"We don't have any problem getting students in painting and drawing, but people don't know about our new programs... **I've used the pre-college program to build demand**. This is a place where you can stimulate deep interest."

Theresa Bedoya Vice President for Enrollment Management MICA

### Align Camps with New Programs...

New Programs



New Camps



Gaming, Special Effects, Animation



Architec

Architecture: Building the Future

### ...Offer Talent Awards as Yield Magnets



Market camps associated with \$5,000 scholarship competition

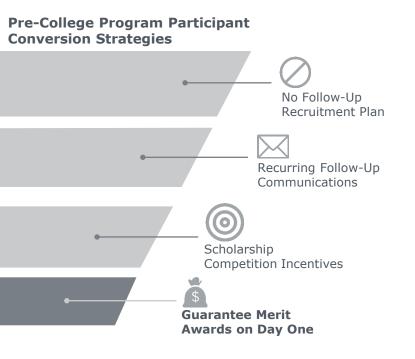
32% of camp attendees matriculate

50% major in Animation

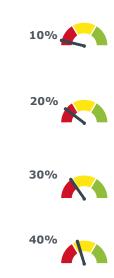




### Increase Conversion by Frontloading Existing Merit Awards



### Rates of Conversion to Undergraduate Enrollments



### From Early Experience to Destination University

### Pre-Application Merit Award for Dual Enrollment



### **Traditional Pipeline**

Student Dual-Enrolls

Student Applies

## Student Admitted

Merit Aid Awarded

Student Enrolls

20% yield

### **Dedicated Award Pipeline**

#### **Student Dual-Enrolls**

Merit Aid Awarded

Student Applies

Student Admitted

Student Enrolls

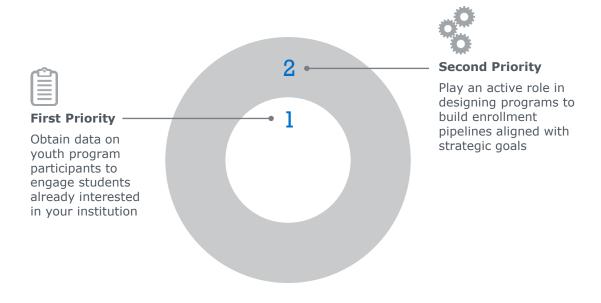
No Additional Financial Burden for University

Students would have been eligible for identical award regardless

40%

### Leveraging Pre-College Programs for Recruitment

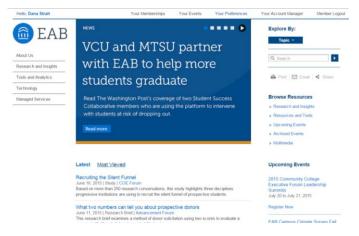
### Key Takeaways From Our Discussion



### Thank You for Your Time

### Please Contact Us with Questions

### Access More Resources at http://www.EAB.com





Dana Strait Consultant

Dstrait@eab.com 202-266-6460