Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your hard work in helping us select Columbia’s Class of 2016. They were chosen from one of the largest applicant pools in our history, nearly 32,000 applicants; these young men and women hail from 48 states and 59 countries and represent diverse ethnic, racial, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds. We have, naturally, already turned towards working with candidates for the Class of 2017, and we are excited to partner with you once again.

Some organizational changes have recently occurred in our office that I am happy to share with you. In the past, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Financial Aid and Educational Financing operated independently, each under the leadership of its own dean. After careful consideration, it was decided that these offices would work more effectively and better serve students and families under the leadership of a single Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid, and I have been chosen as that Dean. I am honored to now be able to play a more direct role overseeing our generous need-based financial aid program, which allows Columbia to enroll the best students from around the world, regardless of their financial circumstances. While each office will maintain separate staffs and will, of course, continue to protect our need-blind admissions policy for applicants who are U.S. citizens and permanent residents, I am confident that our new collaboration will make the admissions and financial aid application process at Columbia even more seamless for your students.

This summer we also made some changes to our testing policy. Now, either the SAT and two SAT Subject Tests or the ACT Plus Writing will fulfill our testing requirement. For Columbia College, students may submit any two SAT Subject Tests; for Columbia Engineering, we require any mathematics test and either Biology, Physics or Chemistry. Students submitting the ACT are encouraged also to provide SAT Subject Test scores in areas of academic interest. Additionally, applicants may now select the Score Choice option for the SAT or may choose to submit specific ACT composite scores. We hope these more flexible testing policies help to reduce the stress and anxiety around the college admissions process.

I hope this newsletter is helpful to you. We include for your benefit our admissions officers’ regional assignments and contact information. We look forward to working with you and your students again this year.

Best wishes,

Jessica Marinaccio
Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid
We are happy to welcome three new staff members to 212 Hamilton Hall:

Kaitlyn Callahan, Admissions Officer, received her bachelor’s degree in international studies from Elon University and her master’s degree from Teachers College, Columbia University. In college, she was a tour guide and the philanthropic co-chair of Sigma Kappa Sorority. As a graduate student at Columbia, she was the Graduate Assistant in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Kamilah Holder, Associate Director of Admissions and Director of Multicultural Recruitment, received her bachelor’s degree from the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and her law degree from The George Washington University Law School. She worked as a legislative attorney before joining Georgetown’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions, where she was the coordinator of multicultural recruitment efforts.

Alexandra Largess, Senior Admissions Officer, received her bachelor’s degree from the College of the Holy Cross, where she majored in English and was a senior interviewer in the admissions office. She has worked for the past two years in the admissions office of Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, where she coordinated the alumni volunteer program.

Other Updates

New Dean of Columbia College: This past June, James J. Valentini was announced as the new Dean of Columbia College and Vice President for Undergraduate Education. Dean Valentini had been acting as Interim Dean since September 2011, and his many notable strengths as a scholar, teacher, administrator and leader of the College community made him the unanimous selection of the advisory committee. Professor Valentini has served as Chair of the Chemistry Department and is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Physical Society. His research focuses on chemical reaction dynamics and the spectroscopy of molecular transients. Devoted to undergraduate teaching and mentorship, he has taught many undergraduate chemistry courses and recently designed the course Energy and Energy Conservation for the Core Science Requirement.

Columbia to Build Institute for Data Sciences and Engineering: This summer, Columbia entered into an agreement with the City of New York to create the Institute for Data Sciences and Engineering. It will be located on both our Morningside Heights and Washington Heights campuses and will have a profound impact on the City’s capacity for engineering and applied sciences. The agreement includes the creation of 44,000 square feet of new applied sciences and engineering space on our campuses by 2016 and the addition of 75 new faculty members over the next 15 years. This project is part of the Applied Sciences NYC initiative, and Columbia’s participation is projected to generate $3.9 billion in combined economic activity over the next three decades, including more than 4,500 jobs and 170 spin-off companies by 2046.

Our Website Has a New Look: We recently launched a redesigned website for prospective students, families, counselors and other visitors. This new site allows visitors to easily explore what makes Columbia unique, learn about the benefits of a Columbia education and find comprehensive information about the application process. We hope that both you and your students find your questions more easily answered on this new site, which you can view at www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions.

Whether you are a varsity athlete or an avid sports fan, Columbia has a proud history of achievement. An original member of the Ivy League, Columbia offers 31 NCAA Division I varsity sports and 45+ club and 40+ intramural sports.
Demographic Information for the Class of 2016

Number of first-year students: 1,417

Gender breakdown:
51% male
49% female

Students receiving any financial aid: 56%

Ethnic Diversity (as self-identified on the Common Application)
- African American 14%
- White 34%
- Native American 3%
- Latino 15%
- Asian/Asian American 29%
- Other 5%

Category of possible first choice major
- Mathematics and Natural Sciences 29%
- Engineering 23%
- Arts and Humanities 24%
- Undecided 4%
- Social Sciences 20%

Students receiving Pell Grants: 15%

Students who are the first in their family to attend college: 15%

Total number of states represented (by home address) 48

Number of countries represented (by home address or place of schooling) 59

First-Year Applicant Overview

Total Applications: 31,851
3,086 applicants applied through Columbia’s Early Decision program.

Total Admits: 2,362

Admit Rate: 7.4%

Admitted Student Statistics

The middle 50% of admitted students scored between 2140 and 2330 on the combined Critical Reading, Math and Writing sections of the SAT.

SAT Ranges of admitted first-year candidates who submitted SAT scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>760–800</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700–750</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600–690</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>below 600</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACT Ranges (composite) of admitted first-year candidates who submitted ACT scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT Scores</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32–36</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27–31</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>below 27</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When schools provided us with a class rank, approximately 97% of accepted students were in the top 10% of their graduating class.

Note: The above information is as of May 1, 2012.
“From the second I stepped onto campus, I’ve seen how diverse our community is here and how ‘global’ my experience actually is. My best friend on campus is an international student, and his unique experiences continue to give me a distinct perspective on school, work and life. The World Leaders Forum extended that by allowing me to question leaders face-to-face and learn about the world from the leaders who are shaping it. My professors come from all over the globe, and they have inspired me to focus on international and comparative politics.”

Sruti Sriram
Bethesda, Maryland
Political Science
Columbia students are part of an unparalleled mix of Ivy League university and world-class city. As Columbians, they are members of a dynamic, residential college community, and as New Yorkers, they are part of the world’s most international and life-changing city.

Below, meet two students and see what a typical Columbia day might be like. To learn more about our students and their experiences, visit www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/explore/students.

Colin Sullivan

**Major:** Political Science  
**Hometown:** Greenwich, Connecticut  
**School:** Columbia College

**My Columbia Day**

10:00am  
Wake up and shower.

11:00am  
Visit the New York Times Building, where the 134th Managing Board of The Columbia Daily Spectator will enjoy a personal tour.

12:30pm  
Return to campus and get lunch with my friend Akhil and reminisce about our internship last summer in Scotland.

5:30pm  
Go to Rotunda in Low Library for a lecture event with former Treasury Secretary. I was invited to attend by my professor, Sunil Gulati.

10:00pm  
Return to my floor where I relax with my friends.

Mary Byers

**Major:** Operations Research  
**Hometown:** Portland, Oregon  
**School:** The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

**My Columbia Day**

11:00am  
Grab a cup of coffee before going to Contemporary Civilization, where we talk about contemporary revolutions.

1:00pm  
Head to Wafels and Dinges for a bacon and syrup waffle and eat with my best friend.

3:15pm  
I intern in SoHo with a start-up consulting firm, working on projects with a division of the United Nations.

9:30pm  
Meet with the Engineering Student Council, where I serve as president of my class.

6:10pm  
Go to Introduction to Accounting and Finance, where we discuss the financial crisis of 2008.

2:00pm  
Have a quick meeting with my career counselor in the Center for Career Education. This summer I’m interning in Singapore as part of the Columbia Experience Overseas program.
Important Dates and Deadlines

**Early Decision**
- November 1: Early Decision application deadline
- By Mid-December: Early Decision responses mailed to candidates
- January 15: Deposit deadline for Early Decision candidates
- May 15: Deadline for requests to defer admission

**Regular Decision**
- January 1: Regular Decision application deadline
- By April 1: Regular Decision responses mailed to candidates
- May 1: Deposit deadline for Regular Decision candidates
- May 15: Deadline for requests to defer admission

**Cost of Attending (2012–2013)**
- Tuition: $45,028
- Room and Board: $11,496
- Fees: $2,218
- Books and Personal Expenses: $2,898
- Orientation and Transcript Fees (for first year only): $521
- Total Cost: $62,161

**Financial Aid**
We believe cost should not be a barrier to pursuing one’s educational dreams. A Columbia education is possible for students from families of all sorts of socioeconomic backgrounds. Here’s how:

- Our need-based aid is in the form of grants and work-study positions. Loans are not a component of Columbia financial aid packages.
- For students coming from families with calculated total incomes of less than $60,000 annually (and with typical assets), parents are not expected to contribute to the cost of tuition, fees, room or board.
- For those students coming from families with calculated total incomes between $60,000 and $100,000 annually (and with typical assets), Columbia offers a significantly reduced parent contribution.
- Parents earning more than $100,000 still can qualify for significant financial aid from Columbia.

Columbia awards more than $122 million annually in scholarships and grants from all sources.

50% of Columbia’s students receive grants from Columbia, and the average amount awarded is $40,441.

**Dual BA Program with Sciences Po in France**
Columbia’s School of General Studies offers a unique dual BA program with Sciences Po in France that allows students to study for two years in Le Havre, Menton or Reims before two years in New York City at the School of General Studies. Students are immersed in two distinct academic, social and cultural environments: a close-knit small college in a French regional setting and a research university in New York City. For more information, please visit gs.columbia.edu/sciences-po.

The median income for families receiving a Columbia grant is $93,113; however, many families earning as much as $200,000 annually may qualify for financial aid.
Admissions Staff Contact Information

All staff can be reached at 212-854-2522.

Joy Achuonjei
jna2109@columbia.edu

Donna Badrig
drb1@columbia.edu

Rebecca Briller
rab2195@columbia.edu

Rebecca Bromberg
rebc2138@columbia.edu

David Buckwald
dbc2326@columbia.edu

Kaitlyn Callahan
kcc2159@columbia.edu

Jessica Cho
jc3843@columbia.edu

Lindsay Dussing
lrd2124@columbia.edu

Whitney Green
wrg2103@columbia.edu

Kamilah Holder
kmh2195@columbia.edu

Justin Holmes
jh3241@columbia.edu

Peter Johnson
pvj1@columbia.edu

Alexandra Largess
acl2174@columbia.edu

Joanna May
jm2638@columbia.edu

Meaghan McCarthy
mm3339@columbia.edu

Diane McKoy
dm18@columbia.edu

Alec Milton
am1340@columbia.edu

James Minter
jm35@columbia.edu

Dana Pavarini
dwp2102@columbia.edu

Javier Plasencia
jap2159@columbia.edu

David Steinberg
dbs52@columbia.edu

Edward Truong
et2416@columbia.edu

David Weisbord
dw2181@columbia.edu

2012–2013 Regional Assignments

Alabama
Whitney Green

Alaska
David Steinberg

Arizona
Kamilah Holder

Arkansas
Whitney Green

California
Jessica Cho: Central and Northern CA, Marin County, Sacramento and San Francisco
Lindsay Dussing: Los Angeles, Northern Orange County, Central Coast and Santa Barbara
Peter Johnson: Los Angeles
Dana Pavarini: Oakland, San Jose and Silicon Valley
Edward Truong: San Diego and Southern Orange County

Colorado
Kamilah Holder

Connecticut
Meaghan McCarthy: Tolland, Hartford and Litchfield Counties
Diane McKoy: Fairfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham Counties

Washington, DC
Rebecca Bromberg

Delaware
Joanna May

Florida
Whitney Green: Northern and Central FL
Javier Plasencia: Southern FL

Georgia
Justin Holmes

Hawaii
Peter Johnson

Idaho
David Steinberg

Illinois
Kaitlyn Callahan

Indiana
Kaitlyn Callahan

Iowa
David Steinberg

Kansas
David Steinberg

Kentucky
Joy Achuonjei

Louisiana
Whitney Green

Maine
Rebecca Briller

Maryland
Rebecca Bromberg

Massachusetts
Rebecca Briller: Southern MA
Meaghan McCarthy: Western MA and Worcester
Diane McKoy: Northern MA, Boston and Cambridge

Michigan
Joy Achuonjei

Minnesota
David Steinberg

Mississippi
Whitney Green

Missouri
David Steinberg

Montana
David Steinberg

Nebraska
David Steinberg

Nevada
David Steinberg

New Hampshire
Rebecca Briller

New Jersey
Donna Badrig: Bergen and Hudson Counties
Whitney Green: Northern NJ
Alexandra Largess: Hunterdon, Middlesex, Sussex and Warren Counties
Edward Truong: Southern NJ and the Jersey Shore
David Weisbord: Mercer and Somerset Counties

New Mexico
Kamilah Holder

New York
Kamilah Holder, Joanna May and Alec Milton: Manhattan
Javier Plasencia: Brooklyn and Staten Island
Joy Achuonjei: Bronx
Rebecca Briller: Queens and Westchester County
Kaitlyn Callahan: Nassau County
Donna Badrig: Suffolk and Rockland Counties
Dana Pavarini: Binghamton, Hudson Valley and Orange County
Alexandra Largess: Central, Northern and Western New York

North Carolina
Alexandra Largess

North Dakota
David Steinberg

Ohio
Joy Achuonjei

Oklahoma
David Steinberg

Oregon
David Buckwald

Pennsylvania
David Steinberg

Rhode Island
Rebecca Briller

South Carolina
Alexandra Largess

South Dakota
David Steinberg

Tennessee
Alexandra Largess

Texas
David Buckwald: Dallas and Houston
Kamilah Holder: Remaining Texas

Utah
Kamilah Holder

Vermont
Rebecca Briller

Virginia
Rebecca Bromberg

Washington
David Steinberg

West Virginia
Joy Achuonjei

Wisconsin
David Steinberg

Wyoming
David Steinberg

Home-Schooled Students
Diane McKoy

INTERNATIONAL
Africa and the Middle East
Alec Milton

Canada
Lindsay Dussing: Western
James Minter: Eastern

Caribbean
Alec Milton

Central America
Justin Holmes

China
Jessica Cho and Justin Holmes

East Asia
Jessica Cho

Europe
James Minter

Mexico
Justin Holmes

Oceania
Justin Holmes

South America
Alec Milton

South Asia
David Buckwald

Southeast Asia
Justin Holmes