During the 2009-10 academic year, members of the Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC) met several times to discuss data pertaining to student recruitment. The committee received several oral and written reports from Gil Villanueva, Michael Kabbaz, and Nanci Tessier concerning admissions statistics for the class entering in the fall of 2009 and planning for the class-entering fall of 2010. Some of the parameters discussed included demographic data, gender, first generation students, diversity, early decision, and financial aid packages. These discussions were driven by data and both regional and national comparisons of Richmond to peer and aspirant institutions.

Nanci Tessier asked some members of the committee to participate on working groups related to undergraduate admissions. These included: Athletic Working Group; Diversity Working Group; International Student Working Group; and the Transfer Student Working Group. The working groups all have specific charges and include one representative from the UAC.

In addition to reviewing two special admissions cases this year, the committee reviewed and revised the admission policy for Unclassified Student Admission. The existing admission policy regarding Unclassified Students and non-degree seeking/visiting high school students was vague and imprecise – this lead to some problems for admission decisions. The admissions committee studied the policy and received comprehensive GPA data regarding incoming transfer students, first year students and all ABJ, degree-seeking undergraduates. Based on this data, the committee recommended the following policy for Unclassified Admission: “All students must meet the School of Arts and Sciences admission requirements and standards. In general, students are expected to have a minimum GPA of 3.0.”

Finally, the committee talked about the need for faculty involvement in the recruitment process. Gil provided the committee with data indicating how direct contact from faculty can increase yield of highly desired students. The committee recommended asking faculty to make phone calls to five or less students from the accepted student pool. This initiative took place in April 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
April Hill, Chair
April 28, 2010

Committee Membership:
Harold Babb - Business (3rd of 3 yrs., expiring 2010)
Joe Boehman, Dean, Richmond College, ex officio
Mavis Brown - A&S (1st of 3 yrs., expiring 2012)
April Hill - A&S (3rd of 3 yrs., expiring 2010), CHAIR
Juliette Landphair, Dean, Westhampton College, ex officio
Johann Stegmeier - A&S (1st of 3 yrs., expiring 2012)
Nanci Tessier, VP - Enrollment Management, ex officio
Matthew Trawick - A&S (2nd of 3 yrs., expiring 2011)
Gil Villanueva, Dean of Admission, ex officio
Thad Williamson - Leadership Studies (3rd of 3 yrs., expiring 2010)