# Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Summer Institute

# How Do You Read an Application? A3

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#### **<u>Presenter/Panelist</u> <u>Contact information</u>**

Andy Woodallawoodall@su.eduShenandoah University

Emily Pilatepilat@roanoke.eduRoanoke College

kevinm@drexel.edu

Kevin Murray Drexel University





### **Learning Objectives**

**Objective 1:** Define various application review processes

**Objective 2:** Identify how different components of the application contribute to holistic review

**Objective 3:** Illustrate the admission committee and decision-making processes





# Approaching the Process: **Application Platforms & Decision Plans**

#### **Application Platforms**

**Common Application** 

**Coalition Application** 

**Universal Application** 

School-specific Application

Early Admissions

Regular **Admissions**  Early Decision: Binding Early Action:

**Non-Binding** 

**Restrictive Early Action:** Non-Binding ۲

Non-Binding

Students can apply to multiple institutions

Rolling **Admissions** 

- Students can apply at any time
- Seats may fill up early



# Reviewing an Application: The Basics

#### Approach can and, most likely, will vary by institution

- Review by major/school/program/region/other
- May have limited or competitive admission programs
- May have 1-4 reviewers and/or a committee structure
- May request additional information of an applicant after the initial review

#### **Decision Types**

- Admit
- Conditional/Provisional Admit
- Defer
- Waitlist
- Deny

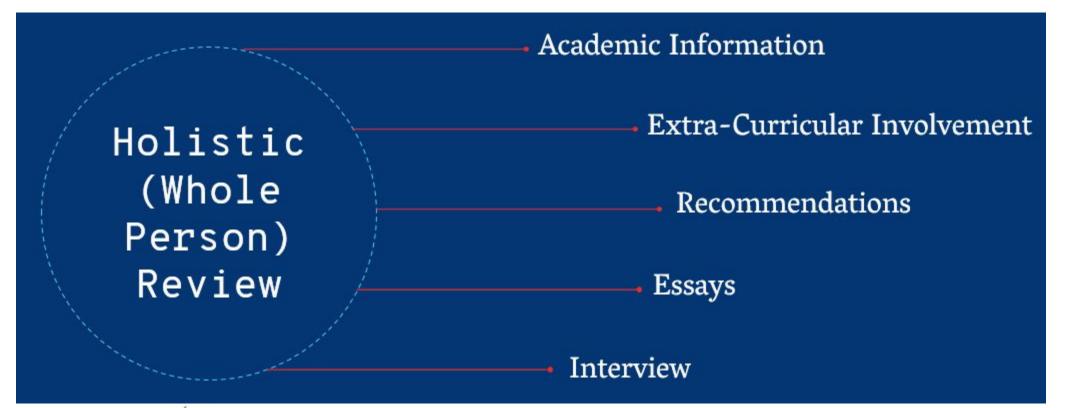
#### **Quantitative Review vs. Qualitative Review**

• Where do you start...Read essay and recs first? Go straight to the transcript/scores?





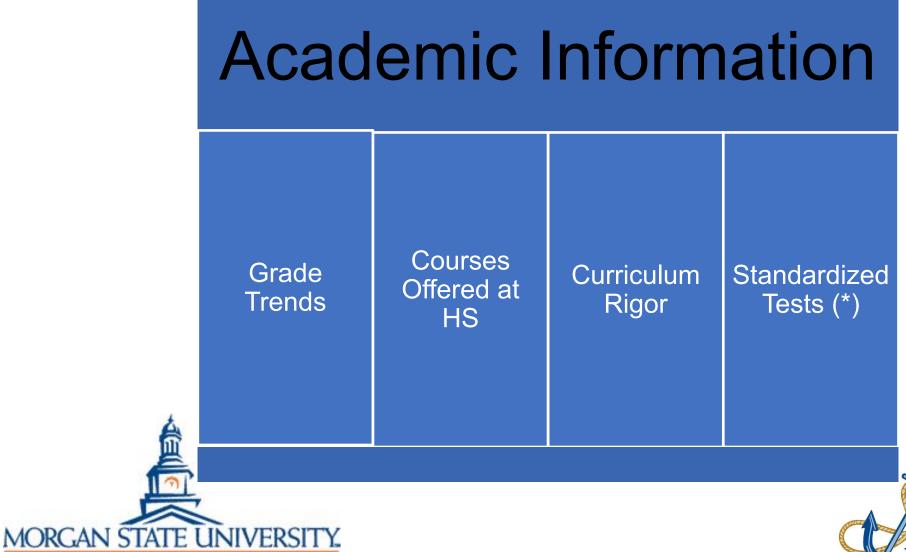
# What is Holistic Application Review?



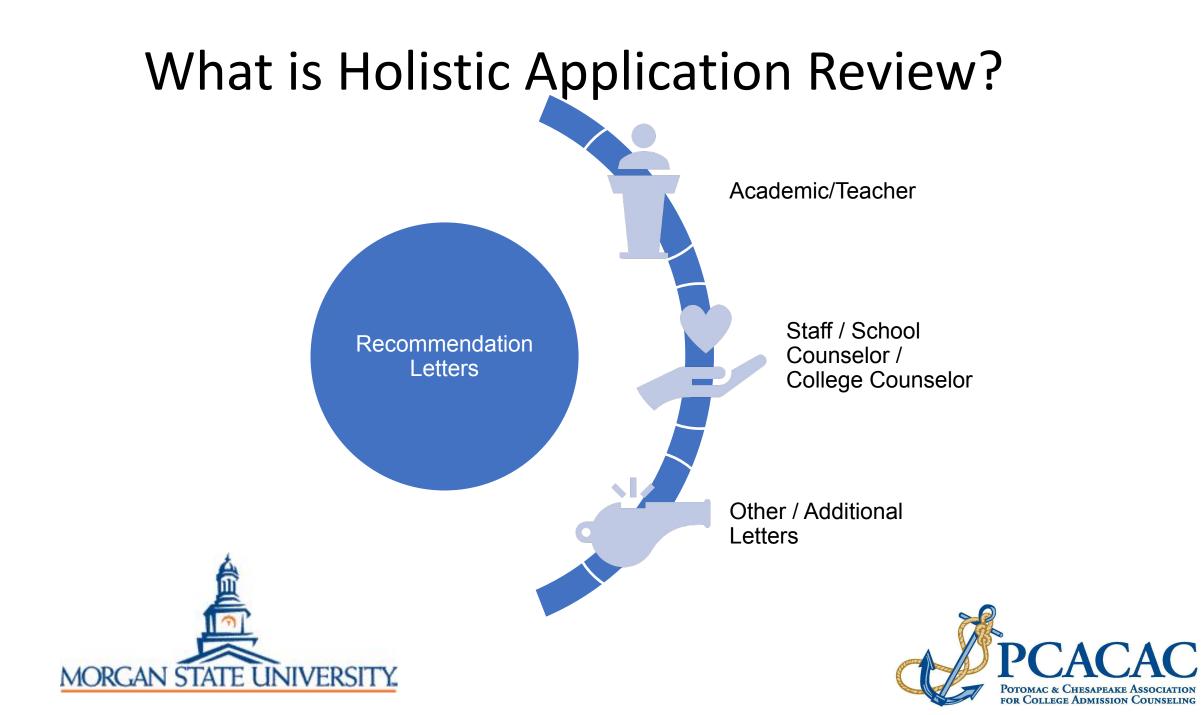




# What is Holistic Application Review?



PCACACAC POTOMAC & CHESAPEAKE ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING



# What is Holistic Application Review?

# **Other Components**

#### Extracurricular Activities

Not the what...it is about the why Depth vs. breadth Quality over quantity Essays

A chance to hear the student's unique voice

What does a student what us to know about them? School Specific Essays / Supplements

Gauge alignment for a particular school/program See where the student sees

themselves





# The Role of Context

#### Family Background & make-up

• 1<sup>st</sup> gen, only child, step-parents, divorced, single parent, etc.

#### Geographical

• City, rural, suburban, international

#### Adversity

- Hardships, loss of family/friends, natural disaster, mental health
- Evidence of perseverance/persistence

#### **Characteristics**

• Maturity, independence, responsibility

#### School academic rigor/culture/opportunities

• School profile, letters of recommendation, college going culture/percentages





# Reviewing an Application: Let's do it!

Time for...group review!

Split up into groups of 4...you cannot work with anyone from your current institution

Work in your small teams to review the application; we will review the profile for our institution together.





## Reviewing an Application: Let's do it!







# Reviewing an Application: Let's do it!

Any initial thoughts...what are some strengths of Walter? Weaknesses?

How does he fit our school profile? Institutional priorities?

Other considerations out of our scope...financial, yield, etc?

Any other thoughts?





# Audience feedback time (aka QUESTIONS)

Comments? Insights? Input? Information gaps?





# Please...

Complete the session evaluation on the Webex Summer Institute app before leaving the room today.

Thank you!



