

## **HUNTER'S RECOMMENDED COLLEGE REFERENCE BOOK BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **COLLEGE ADMISSIONS "AGENDA SETTER" BOOKS**

*The College Admissions Mystique*, Bill Mayher, Noonday Press, New York, NY, 1998. Great advice and perspective from respected college counselor, retired from high-pressure Northeast prep schools.

*College Unranked: Ending the College Admissions Frenzy*, Lloyd Thacker, editor, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 2005. Nearly two dozen thought-provoking essays from college deans, presidents.

*Harvard Schmarvard: Getting Beyond the Ivy League to the College That is Best for You*, Jay Mathews, Prima Publishing, New York, NY, 2003. Great resource from Washington Post writer, Harvard grad.

*Looking Beyond the Ivy League: Finding the College That's Right for You*, Loren Pope, Penguin Books, New York, NY, 1995. Sage consultant offers his wisdom in revised second edition. Don't miss 20 Myths.

### **COMPREHENSIVE, OBJECTIVE COLLEGE "PHONE BOOKS"**

*Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, Barron's Educational Series, Hauppauge, NY, 2006. CD-ROM included in 27<sup>th</sup> edition. Index of majors, college admission selector, published every other year.

*College Admissions Data Sourcebook*, Wintergreen Orchard House, Westford, MA, 2007. Four-volume set groups colleges by region, gives each college two full pages. Best resource around, but quite pricey.

*The College Handbook*, College Board, New York, NY, 2007. 3600+ two-year and four-year colleges, indexes by size, type, religion, sports, table of Early plans. Great introduction, updated annually.

*440 Colleges for Top Students*, Peterson's, Lawrenceville, NJ, 2007. New title for *Competitive Colleges* book offers good overview of process, brief profiles with most popular majors, financial aid CD, no ads.

### **NARRATIVE, SUBJECTIVE COLLEGE GUIDEBOOKS**

*Barron's Guide to the Most Competitive Colleges*, Barron's Educational Series, Hauppauge, NY, 2005. Fourth edition includes lengthy, meaty Fiske-like profiles, each ten pages or more, of nearly seventy.

*Colleges That Change Lives: 40 Schools That Will Change the Way You Think About Colleges*, Loren Pope, Penguin Books, New York, NY, 2006. Required Reading preface is must reading! New third edition sports new subtitle and introductory chapters, offers updates on each liberal arts college profiled.

*Cool Colleges for the Hyper-Intelligent, Self-Directed, Late Blooming, and Just Plain Different*, Donald Asher, Ten Speed Press, Berkeley, CA, 2007. 30+ distinctive colleges "where you'll be challenged and inspired" profiled in second edition of wonderfully-titled book, plus brief paragraphs of many more.

*The Fiske Guide to Colleges*, Edward Fiske, Sourcebooks, Naperville, IL, 2007. Most widely respected and accepted book in growing category began life two decades ago as controversial *NY Times Guide*. 24<sup>th</sup> edition now profiles more than 300 colleges, includes "overlaps" and 45 Best Buys, great advice.

*The Insider's Guide to the Colleges*, Yale Daily News staff, St. Martin's Griffin, New York, NY, 2007. Written by students, excellent "College Spectrum" introduction. Breezy, upbeat tone, good Fiske complement.

*100 Colleges Where Average Students Can Excel*, Joe Anne Adler, Arco, Macmillan, New York, NY, 1997. Average defined as C grades, 950-1050 SAT or comparable ACT. Two-page profiles, great resource.

*Students' Guide to Colleges: The Definitive Guide to America's Top 100 Schools*, Jordan Goldman and Colleen Buyers, editors, Penguin Books, New York, NY, 2005. New title with different approach that presents narrative perspectives from three or more current students in question-and-answer format.

*Treasure Schools: America's College Gems*, Spark Publishing, 2006. Subtitled *Find Your Best College Fit!*, includes brief profiles of nearly 100 colleges whose names aren't well-known by the general public, but are widely recognized within higher education circles. Great lists of most creative, diverse, tech-savvy, athletic, politically active, environmentally aware colleges, plus 13 more category groupings.

*The Unofficial, Unbiased Guide to the 331 Most Interesting Colleges*, Kaplan, Simon & Schuster, New York, NY, 2004. Clever icons and sidebars, overlap colleges included. New edition due out Fall 2007?

### **PRELIMINARY COLLEGE LIST-BUILDER BOOKS**

*College Admission Index of Majors & Sports*, Wintergreen Orchard House, Westford, MA, 2007. Companion to the four-volume College Admissions Data Sourcebook, groups 7000 different majors into 550 categories, includes cross-index, degrees offered, quick college reference pages, also notes NCAA division, athletic scholarships, religious affiliations, professional accreditations. Most helpful, \$50.

*The College Board Book of Majors*, College Board, New York, NY, 2007. Third edition of new title combines the old separate *Index of Majors and Graduate Degrees* and the *College Board Guide to 150 Popular College Majors*, has descriptions of major areas of study. Watch out for C,A,B,M,D abbreviations.

*The College Finder: Choosing the School That's Right for You*, Steven Antonoff, Fawcett Columbine Book, Ballantine Books, New York, NY, 1999. Second edition of college lists book, ten category groupings including admission, academics, quality, social, internationalism, careers, athletics, morsels, cost.

*Rugg's Recommendations on the Colleges*, Frederick E. Rugg, Rugg's Recommendations, Fallbrook, CA, 2007. Great brainstormer, grouped alphabetically by major, 24th edition from former counselor who recommends many, makes no effort to rank any. Beware of clumsy Most, Very, Selective groups.

## **INTERNET, WORLD WIDE WEB RESOURCE BOOK FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION**

*College.Edu: Online Resources for the Cyber-Savvy Student*, Lisa Guernsey, Octameron Associates, Alexandria, VA, 2006. Cleverly noted as Version 10.0. Much packed into 144 pages, just \$11.

### **CAMPUS VISIT, COLLEGE INTERVIEW BOOKS**

*Campus Visits and College Interviews*, Zola Dincin Schneider, College Board, New York, NY, 2002. Second edition includes checklists, tips on reading websites and catalogs, preparing for interviews and visits.

*Campus Pursuit: Making the Most of Your Visit and Interview*, G. Gary Ripple, Octameron Associates, Alexandria, VA, 2006. Excellent resource from former Lafayette, William & Mary dean, 10<sup>th</sup> edition.

*The College Atlas & Planner*, Wintergreen Orchard House, Westford, MA, 2005. Spiral-bound book of state-by-state maps that show only colleges and universities and major highways, great visit planner.

*Visiting College Campuses*, Janet Spencer and Sandra Maleson, Princeton Review, Random House, New York, NY, 2007. Good planner with detailed maps, mileage, directions, B & B ideas for 299 schools.

### **“STRATEGY BOOKS” FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION**

*Admission Matters: What Students and Parents Need to Know About Getting Into College*, Sally P. Springer and Marion R. Franck, Jossey-Bass, San Francisco, CA, 2005. Thorough, comprehensive, 294 pgs.

*The All-in-One College Guide*, Marty Nemko, Barron's Educational Series, Hauppauge, NY, 2004. “Much-enhanced and completely updated version” of *You're Gonna Love This College Guide* from 1999.

*College Match: A Blueprint for Choosing the Best School for You!* Steven R. Antonoff and Marie A. Friedemann, Octameron Associates, Alexandria, VA, 2006. Excellent booklet, great tone and advice.

*College Planning for Dummies: A Reference for the Rest of Us!* Pat Ordovensky, IDG Books Worldwide, Foster City, CA, 1999. Poor title, but great icons, cartoons. Late author was USA Today writer.

*The Complete Idiot's Guide to College Planning*, O'Neal Turner, Alpha Books, Macmillan USA, Indianapolis, IN, 1999. Revised edition from late Culver dean who never liked the title of this very helpful book.

*The Fiske Guide to Getting Into the Right College*, Edward B. Fiske and Bruce G. Hammond, Sourcebooks, Naperville, IL, 2007. Includes capsules of colleges grouped with peers, several Rugg's-like college lists, brief annotated bibliography. Excellent advice throughout, new fourth edition just published.

*Winning the College Admissions Game*, Peter Van Buskirk, Peterson's, Lawrenceville, NJ, 2007. Great new resource from former Franklin & Marshall dean of admission that's a “flip book” with student strategies for nearly two-thirds, then “flip” the book for parent strategies for the remaining one-third. Excellent.

### **COLLEGE ESSAY AND APPLICATION BOOKS**

*College Applications and Essays*, Susan D. Van Raalte, Arco Thomson Learning, Lawrenceville, NJ, 2001. Fifth edition includes Understanding the Questions, Recycling Essays, plus Electronic Applications.

*College Admission Essays for Dummies*, Geraldine Woods, Wiley Publishing, New York, NY, 2003. Very comprehensive resource from teacher and Dummies grammar author has 22 chapters, good advice.

*Do-It Write: How to Prepare a Great College Application*, G. Gary Ripple, Octameron Associates, Alexandria, VA, 2006. Excellent compact booklet, just 40 pages. Tenth edition, best buy at \$6.

*The College Application Essay*, Sarah Myers McGinty, College Board, New York, NY, 2004. Newly-revised book includes jump-starts, quick fixes, critiques of 12 essays, sample questions, insightful comments.

### **HOW COLLEGES ADMIT STUDENTS, “WHO GETS IN” BOOKS**

*Admissions Confidential: An Insider's Account of the Elite College Selection Process*, Rachel Toor, Saint Martin's Press, New York, NY, 2001. Duke admissions officer for three years and *Chronicle of Higher Education* essayist guides readers through the yearly cycle of the recruitment and selection process.

*Behind the Scenes: An Inside Look at the Selective College Admission Process*, Edward B. Wall, Octameron Associates, Alexandria, VA, 2007. Venerable resource from deceased Amherst dean, recently updated by his widow, highly-regarded boarding school college counselor Janet Adams-Wall.

*The Gatekeepers: Inside the Admissions Process of a Premier College*, Jacques Steinberg, Viking, Penguin Putnam, New York, NY, 2002. Award-winning NY Times education reporter shadows Wesleyan University admission officer and several students applying to Wesleyan for a full admission year.

*Opening College Doors: How to Make the Admissions Process Work for You*, Pat Ordovensky and Robert Thornton, USA Today, Harper Perennial, New York, NY, 1992. Now-dated case-by-case study.

*Playing the Selective College Admissions Game*, Richard Moll, Penguin Books, New York, NY, 1994. Updated edition of classic work first published in 1979. First chapter depicts committee at work.

*Questions and Admissions: Reflections on 100,000 Admissions Decisions at Stanford*, Jean H. Fetter, Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA, 1995. Eloquent retrospective from widely respected former Stanford dean of undergraduate admission, very instructive regarding all the “most selectives.”

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