Dear ACAC Volunteer,

The Alumni Council Admission Committee and Office of Admission would like to thank you for your willingness to help in our efforts as the University of Puget Sound brings in another strong group of incoming students. Visible alumni support is one means by which students detect the level of graduates’ satisfaction, and this translates into increased interest in the college. You have the opportunity to re-invest in Puget Sound, and possibly meet other alumni who connect with the institution in a very similar way. If there is anything either office can do to enhance your experience as a volunteer, please let us know.

As an extension of the Office of Admission, alumni volunteers participate in various levels of the recruitment effort. These include identifying and speaking to prospective students, representing Puget Sound at college fairs, and hosting and attending receptions for admitted students and their parents. At these events each member should present fair, realistic, and positive impressions of Puget Sound. Alumni volunteers increase Puget Sound’s visibility and provide an enthusiastic and personal perspective about Puget Sound to prospective students and their families.

For now, here are a few tips which will make your experience with prospective students even more enjoyable:

**Do some research:** As Puget Sound is constantly evolving, we ask you to stay current with what’s happening on campus. This guide provides basic information about the college, but we encourage you to continue to supplement your training by reading the Viewbook (this will also come in the mail with the materials for your event), visiting the Puget Sound website, www.pugetsound.edu, and asking questions of the admission counselors. Although we do not expect you to know everything about Puget Sound, the more you know, the more fun you’ll have!

**If you don’t know, ask:** If asked a question you cannot answer, please tell the student or parent you do not have enough information to answer the question. Always, however, make sure you contact an admission counselor who will then follow-up with the student. You can write the students question on the back of their contact card. Remember, wrong information is worse than no information.

**Use your own personal anecdotes:** As a graduate of Puget Sound, you are in a unique position as you experienced the Puget Sound environment firsthand. When talking with students, feel free to tell your personal stories, whether funny or serious. This helps to give students a sense for Puget Sound, outside of the information the Office of Admission sends them.

Thank you again for the time and effort you contribute to Puget Sound. We truly appreciate the work you do.

Go Loggers!

Mark Penaroza ’02  Sam Riggs ’08
Chair  Assistant Director of Admission
Alumni Council Admission Committee  ACAC Coordinator
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An overview of the admission process

Prospect Period
This is the broadest area in which the Office of Admission works. During this time, we provide each student with information, such as the viewbook, that informs him or her about our programs, facilities and faculty, and provides information to help the student decide if Puget Sound is right for them.

Each year, tens of thousands of high school seniors will consider Puget Sound at some point in the fall. Once a student indicates an interest in Puget Sound or is referred to us by an alum, friend, or faculty member, s/he is added to our prospect list. Many of our students initially hear about us during a high school visit by an admission counselor or at a college fair. Prospects are sent various mailings throughout the year to sustain interest.

Admission staff and alumni interact with prospective students during the fall, primarily through high school visits (counselors only), college fairs (alumni and counselors), fall informational programs (alumni and counselors), and interviews (alumni and counselors).

The Applicant Pool
More than 4,500 students apply for freshman admission each year. For a freshman class of 665, the Office of Admission admits roughly 85% of these students, recognizing that students apply to more than one college. All candidates will be notified of admission decisions no later than April 1.

Once admission decisions are released in mid-March, the entire Puget Sound community (admission staff, all staff, faculty, coaches, and alumni) work to bring in the next group of students. This is truly a community effort. The Office of Admission hosts on-campus events for admitted students in April (Admitted Student Days) as well as Spring Programs in select U.S. cities. Admitted students visit campus throughout the months of March and April as they make their final decision.

Students have until May 1 to notify all colleges to which they’ve been accepted of their final college choice. A student declares their intent to enroll at Puget Sound by submitting a $300 Advanced Tuition Payment. This holds the student’s spot in the class.

What we look for in the admission process

Admission to Puget Sound is selective. We attempt to match an applicant's academic and personal accomplishments with our goal of enrolling an academically talented and diverse student body. In making admission decisions, we consider the following: content and rigor of high school course selection, grade point average, SAT I or ACT scores (excluding the new SAT Writing section or optional ACT Writing section), class rank (if available), personal essay, co-curricular interests, and teacher and counselor recommendations. Interviews are recommended, but not required.
Volunteer Activities

ACAC volunteers support the Office of Admission in a number of ways throughout the year. Below is a list of ways ACAC volunteers are involved:

Fall Season: September through December

Interviewing Prospective Students: While interviews are not required of applicants to Puget Sound, they are highly recommended. Some students will interview with admission counselors when they visit campus, or in their city when a counselor is visiting. In the event a student is unable to meet with an admission counselor on campus or in their city, an alumni interview may be arranged. ACAC volunteers conduct interviews across the country each fall (September through January). Regional Captains notify volunteers of interview opportunities each week and ACAC volunteers are able to sign up for interviews online through SoundNet.

College Fairs: College Fairs take place around the country primarily in the fall or spring. These are events sponsored by schools or other organizations and are attended by a number of colleges and universities. These fairs are opportunities for students and families to collect information about several different schools. These fairs provide great visibility for Puget Sound. Alumni volunteers will either represent Puget Sound at the college fair (no admission counselor) or assist an admission counselor at the fair. Your Regional Captain will invite you to college fairs in your area, primarily during the fall and spring.

Fall Programs: Puget Sound hosts events in several major cities each fall. These are informational programs for students and families to learn more about Puget Sound. The programs are typically led by two members from the Puget Sound admission staff. ACAC volunteers will assist with greeting families as they arrive and speaking informally with students and their parents before and after the presentation. Fall Programs most commonly take place in September and October. If there is a Fall Program in your area, your Regional Captain will be in touch with you.

Fall Campus Day: Each fall, Puget Sound hosts an all day, on-campus event for prospective students and families to attend. This is an opportunity for students to learn more about Puget Sound: to get on campus, to meet faculty, staff, students, and alumni, to take a tour, and to attend mock seminars (since this takes place on a Saturday, regularly scheduled classes are not offered). ACAC volunteers assist during the Lunch Reception at Fall Campus Day, having informal conversation with students and families. If you live in Western Washington, the Washington Regional Captain will be in touch with you about this event.

ACAC Events: During the fall, in select cities, admission counselors host events (such as a happy hour) for ACAC volunteers in their area. These events are an opportunity to meet other ACAC volunteers living in your area, meet members of the admission staff, and learn more about the ACAC. Your Regional Captain will contact you in September or October, should an event be taking place in your area.

Spring “Yield” Season: mid-March through April

Spring Programs: These are similar to Fall Programs, however, students attending Spring Programs have been admitted and are in the process of making their final college decision. The format is similar, the program is led by members of the admission office and alumni are involved in informal conversation before and after the presentation. The Spring Program, however, focuses more on creating time for conversation between alumni and admitted students and their families. Spring Programs typically take place in late March through mid-April. If there is a Spring Program in your area, your Regional Captain will be in touch with you.
Admitted Student Days: Similar to the fall event, these are day-long programs in the spring for admitted students to get one last look at Puget Sound. Students attending have the opportunity to sit in on classes, meet with professors, students, staff, and alumni, stay overnight with a current student, and more. ACAC volunteers during the Lunch Reception at the Admitted Student Days, having informal conversation with students and families. If you live in Western Washington, the Washington Regional Captain will be in touch with you about this event.

Postcards to Admitted Students: Each March, ACAC volunteers have the opportunity to write postcards to admitted students living in their area, congratulating them on their acceptance to Puget Sound. Your Regional Captain will be in touch with you regarding this opportunity in early March.

Summer Welcome Gatherings: Each summer, parents and alumni host welcome events for incoming students living in their area. These are an opportunity for current students and parents, as well as alumni, to welcome new Loggers to the Puget Sound community. ACAC volunteers in attendance at these events will have informal conversations with students and parents. If there’s a Summer Welcome Gathering event in your area, your Regional Captain will be in touch with you in early June to invite you to attend.

Summer Season: June through August

Summer Welcome Gatherings: Each summer, parents and alumni host welcome events for incoming students living in their area. These are an opportunity for current students and parents, as well as alumni, to welcome new Loggers to the Puget Sound community. ACAC volunteers in attendance at these events will have informal conversations with students and parents. If there’s a Summer Welcome Gathering event in your area, your Regional Captain will be in touch with you in early June to invite you to attend.
ACAC Contact Information

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www.pugetsound.edu/acac

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isabellejdupont@gmail.com

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kdehart@pugetsound.edu

Mikayla Curtis, Colorado Regional Captain
mikaycurtis@gmail.com

All other states, contact us at acac@pugetsound.edu

Staff Liaison
Sam Riggs, ACAC Coordinator/Assistant Director of Admission 253.879.3608 (direct)
soriggs@pugetsound.edu 253.226.0469 (cell)

Additional Contacts:
Office of Admission staff: www.pugetsound.edu/admission/contact-admission-staff/

Office of Admission 253.879.3211
Student Financial Services (Financial Aid and Scholarships) 800.396.7192
Athletics Office 253.879.3140
Office of Alumni and Parent Relations 253.879.3245
Interviews

To become an ACAC Interviewer you must submit the Volunteer Form and check the box “Prospective Student Interview” After submitting the Volunteer Form, you will be sent a link to the “ACAC Principles of Good Practice”. Upon reviewing, signing, and submitting this document (done online) you will be given login credentials to sign up for interviews, as well as interview training materials.

If you have lost your login credentials, contact the ACAC at acac@pugetsound.edu.

College Fairs

College fairs and college nights give students and families the opportunity to talk with representatives from various colleges about their respective institutions. Your role as an admission volunteer at a college fair is to represent Puget Sound, to greet students, to answer basic questions, and to encourage students to complete a card requesting additional information. Be sure to draw on your own experiences as an alum when speaking with students and families.

Before the College Fair:

1. Review the frequently asked questions at the end of this manual.

2. Review the online training videos at www.pugetsound.edu/acac. Admission publications are also viewable online at www.pugetsound.edu/admission/admission-publications.

3. Become familiar with the basic facts and figures and with the list of most common questions. There is no way for you to know all of the information about Puget Sound, so never hesitate to say "I don’t know, but I'll find out or have someone from campus contact you." Wrong information is worse than no information!

4. Look through all of the recruiting materials provided by the Office of Admission:

   - Travel Piece: You will be provided with 100 of these. There should be enough for every student you talk to. Some students will just want to take one, but not talk (that’s fine!).
   - Prospect/Contact Card: You will be provided with 50 of these. Encourage students you speak with to fill out the card.
   - View book: You will be provided with 2 of these. They should be “table copies”, but feel free to give them away towards then end of the fair.
   - Course Catalogue: You will NOT be provided with a course catalogue (Bulletin). We no longer print the Bulletin, instead it is available online.
   - School of Music Brochure: You will be provided with about 10 of these. These are for students interested in Music
   - School of Business Brochure: You will be provided with about 10 of these. These are for students interested in Business
   - Tablecloth: You will be provided with a “real” embroidered tablecloth to use during your fair. These MUST be returned promptly after the fair. You will be provided with a UPS ground label to affix to the box and return the tablecloth and any other materials.
   - Nametag: You will be provided with a nametag with your name, class year, and “Alumni Volunteer” on it.
• **Business Cards:** You will be provided with 15 business cards for the admission counselor responsible for your area. Feel free to distribute these to students who would like to contact their admission counselor.

5. Review the location, distance, time and other important information about the program. Plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the program.

**During the College Fair:**

1. You’re representing the college – so dress professionally! Jeans are generally too casual. A suit is more formal than necessary. “Business casual” is usually best.

2. Find the check-in table and let them know you are present. Look for your assigned table.

3. Display the materials and make the table look professional and inviting. (There is no “standard” display setup – each admission counselor has his/her own style. Display materials as you see fit.) Here’s how one counselor likes to set up their table:

4. Distribute the **“travel piece”** to students and parents who visit your table. This piece also includes many of the quick facts students are looking for (average class size, student to teacher ratio…) as well as information about academic programs offered at Puget Sound. It’s an easy list to be able to show a student.

5. Encourage students to fill out the prospect card and leave it with you. This is the important first step in the recruitment of that student. Occasionally, students will tell you they already completed cards during campus visits and/or high school visits by admission representatives. Admission notes each individual contact with each student; students should complete cards regardless of whether they have done so before.
6. Do not compare colleges or say negative things about other institutions. If a student says, "How does Puget Sound compare to College X?", encourage the student to learn about both schools and draw her/his own conclusions.

7. Additionally, do not make any kind of promises or guarantees about admission, scholarships or financial assistance. Simply encourage students to apply for both.

8. Finally, do not give answers to questions when you are unsure. Write the question on the student’s prospect card and someone in the admission office will contact the student. If available, feel free to hand out the area admission counselor’s card to the prospective student.

After the College Fair:

1. Complete the Program Evaluation Form (found at the end of the manual and included in your materials). Please feel free to include any personal observations or comments regarding students, counselors or schools which will be helpful to our department in following through on your contacts.

2. Return all left over materials from the fair!

   - Place all leftover materials, including the tablecloth, back in the box they were shipped in. Be sure to also include all contact cards as well as the fair evaluation (included on the next page).
   - Attach the included UPS Ground Label to box
   - Take to your nearest UPS shipping store and have delivered to:

     University of Puget Sound
     Office of Admission
     1500 N. Warner #1062
     Tacoma, WA, 98416-1062

   - Please do this promptly. We have a limited number of tablecloths for our volunteers to use and likely need to send the one you used back out, as soon as we receive it from you. Tablecloths also cost $250 a piece and we do not have the budget to replace them.
   - If you have questions, or run into any challenges returning the materials, contact Sam Riggs at soriggs@pugetsound.edu or 253.879.3608


ACAC Volunteer Program
Event Evaluation Form

Thank you very much for representing Puget Sound at this event. Please take a few minutes to let us know about the experience. Feel free to attach an additional page if necessary. This form may also be found and completed online: [http://bitly.com/collegefairevaluation](http://bitly.com/collegefairevaluation).

Your Name:
Name of Fair:
Date of Fair:

1. How many students filled out information cards?

2. Approximately how many students talked to you but didn’t fill out an information card?

3. How prepared were the students with whom you spoke? Did they ask meaningful questions? Were they well-behaved?

4. Were there any questions that you were unable to answer? (We can add these to the FAQ that we send to volunteers.)

5. Is there any advice you would give to future volunteers who cover this fair? Does it make sense to have Puget Sound represented at this fair by an alumna/us?

6. Any additional comments?

Thank you very much for your feedback. Please return this form to:

Sam Riggs
University of Puget Sound
1500 N. Warner St., #1062
Tacoma, WA 98416

Or e-mail comments to soriggs@pugetsound.edu
ADMISSION CRITERIA

What is the application deadline and when will I find out whether or not I got in?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Notification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Decision: January 15</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Decision 1: November 15</td>
<td>December 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Decision 2: January 1</td>
<td>February 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you offer Early Action or Early Decision? We offer Early Decision but not Early Action. Early Decision is a binding early-admission agreement where a student applies early, is notified of their admission decision early, and promises to enroll if s/he is accepted and we are able to meet their financial need. It is designed for students who have chosen Puget Sound as their first-choice school by November 15 or January 1 of their senior year. Students who are not absolutely certain that they wish to attend Puget Sound should not apply under the Early Decision plan.

Early Action is an early admission program offered by other institutions that is non-binding. That is, students apply early, are notified early, but are not promising to enroll if they’re accepted. Puget Sound does not offer Early Action.

What standardized test scores are required? Puget Sound will accept either ACT or SAT I test scores. SAT II Subject Tests are not required and are not considered.

Recently, the SAT I underwent significant changes. The name of the Verbal section was changed to “Critical Reading” and a new “Writing” section was added. The maximum number of points possible in the SAT is now 2400 rather than 1600.

While we do require SAT or ACT scores, it is important to note that we do not have cut-offs and that we consider much more than scores in our application evaluation. Puget Sound weighs a number of factors in reaching an admission decision. While test scores are an important factor in our decisions, a consistently strong performance in a solid college preparatory program is the most important consideration and may compensate for below-average scores.

Do you prefer ACT or SAT? We have no preference between the two.

What are the admission requirements? There are no GPA or SAT/ACT minimum requirements. Admission counselors usually cite averages and middle 50% ranges when asked this question (see below).

As for course requirements, while no particular coursework is required for admission to Puget Sound, we recommend that students complete the following:

\[^1\] Your financial aid eligibility, or financial need, is determined by subtracting your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the cost of attendance. The amount of your financial need is then used to determine eligibility for need-based grants, loans, and work-study. (http://www.pugetsound.edu/admission/financing-your-education/financial-aid/determining-financial-need/)
ENGLISH: Four years
MATH: Three to four years, preferably to the level of Pre-calculus or higher.
HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES: Three years
FOREIGN LANGUAGES: Three to four years of a language
SCIENCE: Three to four years, including as much laboratory science (e.g. biology, chemistry, and physics) as possible.
FINE ARTS: One year

In addition, we encourage students to complete as much advanced/honors coursework, such as Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate, as possible. Again, it is important to stress that none of these courses is absolutely required; however, those students who more closely match our recommendations will generally be more successful at gaining admission to Puget Sound.

**What is the average GPA and SAT of the incoming class?**
The average high school GPA for incoming students is typically around a 3.5, unweighted. The Office of Admission understands that the GPA will fluctuate between high schools and depend upon the rigor of courses taken. Therefore, when we look at the GPA, we also take into consideration the quality of the school, the class rank, and the coursework. It is also important to note that the above GPA is an average, not a minimum requirement.

The middle 50% range for the SAT I, for all three sections, is typically around 1740 to 1990.

The middle 50% for the ACT comp is typically 26-30.

**Are interviews required?**
They're not required, but they are recommended. Puget Sound interviews are both informational and evaluative, and are available both on-campus and off-campus. Students who are not able to visit campus for an interview should contact the Office of Admission at 253.879.3211 to find out about the availability of interviews in their area. Off-campus interviews are conducted by both admission counselors and ACAC volunteers. Interviews by an ACAC volunteer are weighed equally to a counselor interview. Students can also request an interview over the phone.

**Does Puget Sound offer credit through the Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate Programs?**
Yes, Puget Sound does offer college credit for students who participate in these programs. In order to receive credit, students must complete the appropriate subject exams and score at a high enough level. Puget Sound will grant one unit of credit for each exam. These credits may apply as electives or to a major/minor, but they may not be applied to Puget Sound’s core requirements.

In the case of Advanced Placement, students generally must score a 4 or 5 on the exams, though with certain subjects (e.g. calculus or chemistry) a score of 3 is sufficient. Students involved in the International Baccalaureate program must take the Higher Level Exams and should score a 5, 6 or 7.

**Does Puget Sound offer credit for college classes taken while in high school?**
Sometimes. This can be a tricky question, so it’s best in these cases to refer a student to their admission counselor for an answer. More information on this policy can be found on the [website](#).
ACADEMIC LIFE AND PROGRAMS

What academic calendar does Puget Sound use?
Puget Sound is on a semester system. The academic year is divided into two semesters, with the first semester beginning in early September and stretching into mid-December. After semester break, second semester begins mid-January and runs through the first couple of weeks of May.

What is the average class size?
Average class size at Puget Sound is just 18 students, large enough for diverse points of view, but small enough for engaged discussions and debate. In general, the beginning course in each discipline will contain the largest populations. In the beginning sciences, where almost all lecture classes are supplemented with a corresponding laboratory section, professors still teach both sections of each course, giving students a chance for closer personal contact than a lecture classroom allows. Once students become more advanced in any discipline, however, the class size will shrink quickly.

What is the student-faculty ratio?
The student-faculty ratio at Puget Sound is 12 to 1. This measure indicates that professors are accessible and that students are more likely to develop strong relationships with them.

What undergraduate majors are offered?
The University of Puget Sound offers undergraduate programs of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Music degree. Academic Departments and Programs include:

These are all links to the department’s website – so click away to learn more!

- African American Studies
- Art
- Asian Languages & Cultures
- Asian Studies
- Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- Biology
- Business & Leadership
- Chemistry
- Classics
- Communication Studies
- Comparative Sociology
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Engineering, Dual Degree
- English
- Environmental Policy & Decision Making
- Exercise Science
- Foreign Languages & Literature
- Gender Studies
- Geology
- Global Development Studies
- History
- Honors
- Humanities
What kind of Pre-Professional advising is available?
Puget Sound offers the following pre-professional advising programs: Pre-Dental; Pre-Health Sciences; Pre-Law; Pre-Medicine; Pre-Pharmaceutical; and Pre-Veterinary. It is important to note that these are advising programs rather than majors. Students will typically pursue a major related to their field of pre-professional interest.

What graduate programs are available?
The main academic focus of the college is undergraduate education; however, we do support three graduate programs. Our School of Education offers a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) and various Master of Education (MEd) degrees. The School of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy offers a Master’s degree in Occupational Therapy (MOT); a Master’s of Science in Occupational Therapy and a Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

What type of engineering program does Puget Sound offer?
The University of Puget Sound offers a dual degree engineering program which allows students to combine the liberal arts approach of Puget Sound with the specific engineering training of some of the top engineering schools in the country. Dual degree students spend 3-4 years completing a bachelor’s degree at Puget Sound and then will be able to transfer to one of three schools, Columbia University, University of Southern California or Washington University in St. Louis, where they complete two years of study in professional engineering courses. The dual degree program is very competitive and demanding, but those who successfully complete the program find that it is extremely helpful in their careers.

What classes do you require students to take? *(pre-2007 alumni – this is new!)*
Every student must fulfill the Core Curriculum, totaling 9-10 units, or just under a 1/3 of their total undergraduate study at Puget Sound. The core areas are as follows:

- Seminar in Writing and Rhetoric
- Scholarly and Creative Inquiry Seminar
- Humanistic Approaches
- Natural Scientific Approaches
- Connections
- Fine Arts Approaches
Mathematical Approaches
Social Scientific Approaches

Additionally, students must complete the Graduation Requirements, including the Foreign Language requirement. The Foreign Language requirement requires a student to a) complete two semesters of foreign language study at the 100-level, or one semester at the 200-level, b) Pass a Puget Sound-approved foreign language proficiency exam at the third-year high school or first-year college level, or c) Receive a score of 4 or 5 on an Advanced Placement foreign language exam or a score of 5, 6, or 7 on an International Baccalaureate Higher Level foreign language exam.

Though students are required to complete one unit in each of the core areas (unless otherwise noted), they have quite a few courses from which to choose when satisfying each requirement.

**Do graduate students teach courses?**
No, courses are only taught by professors. Even lab sections are led by faculty.

**What is the advising program like?**
University of Puget Sound believes that student academic success is, in large part, a direct result of faculty guidance and mentorship. In order to facilitate this process, faculty members serve as academic advisors. Before arriving on campus each fall, new students will be assigned a faculty advisor with whom they meet prior to registering for classes. Students will continue to meet with their advisor prior to the beginning of each semester to discuss their educational goals and to register for classes. This system ensures that students are accurately meeting graduation requirements.

Of course, assigning faculty advisors is not unique to Puget Sound. In fact, most small schools have similar programs. However, there are a number of factors that make our program stand out. First, Puget Sound requires its students to meet with their advisor at the beginning of each semester throughout the entire time they are at our school. Second, Puget Sound also provides peer advisors for new students. Third, and most importantly, the professor to whom a new student is assigned will not only serve as an academic advisor, he or she will also teach one of the student's first semester courses. The combination of a student-teacher and advisor-advisee relationship means that students and faculty form good relationships that are well-suited to fostering a student’s academic development and success.

**What kind of research opportunities are available?**
There are a number of different research opportunities for students. There are no graduate students available to assist professors - as there would be at the typical large university - when faculty members are seeking research assistants, they will generally draw from our undergraduates. This provides students with invaluable opportunities to participate in important research projects.

Furthermore, students are also encouraged to develop and implement their own independent research projects. Puget Sound supports these endeavors by awarding summer research grants of $3,000 to interested students. For example, in the sciences alone, Puget Sound offers roughly 20 research grants each summer to students who have completed their junior year. Substantial grants are available to students in all academic disciplines at Puget Sound.

**What library facilities exist on campus?**
Puget Sound’s library was remodeled the summer of 2001 and provides great resources for students. If students are unable to locate a particular book, they may take advantage of Puget Sound's free Interlibrary Loan program.
What services are available through the Office of Career and Employment Services?
The office of Career and Employment Services (CES) provides counseling on resume and interview preparation, sponsors job fairs, coordinates ASK (Alumni Sharing Knowledge) sessions where Puget Sound alumni return to advise students, coordinates the internship program, and organizes on-campus employment interviews.

Are internships available?
Yes! About 65% of Puget Sound students complete an internship during their time on campus. The type of internship and length will vary, but we are well situated in an area with many companies (e.g. Russell Investments, Boeing, Microsoft, Starbucks, REI, Intel) and non-profit and cultural organizations, and students benefit from this proximity.

TECHNOLOGY

How good is the campus network?
Wireless access is readily available across campus. Most students bring their own computer, either a laptop or desktop depending on personal preference, to campus. Our Help Desk can advise students on connecting both Macs and PCs to the campus network.

There are several computer labs and printers in various locations across campus. Many of which are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

STUDY ABROAD

What study abroad opportunities are available?
Students planning to study abroad have an array of options. In fact, recent count indicates that Puget Sound students study regularly in roughly 50 different countries and on approximately 100 different programs. They may choose to participate in one of the Puget Sound sponsored programs, or participate in an approved program directed by another University. In either case, credits accumulated may be applied to a Puget Sound degree.

Students study worldwide. A comprehensive list of our offerings is available on our Study Abroad Web site, www.pugetsound.edu/studyabroad.

The "jewel" of our study abroad offerings is the Pacific Rim/Asia Study-Travel Program (Pac Rim). Pac Rim is a nine-month academic year of study and travel which is offered every three years. By completing the program students earn a full academic year of credit on location in Asia, with courses in such countries as Korea, Japan, China, Thailand, and India. The program is open to students of various academic interests and majors, though academic preparation in Asian Studies is required.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

What is your orientation program like at Puget Sound?
_Prelude, Passages and Perspectives_, Puget Sound's award-winning freshman orientation program, is truly unique. The first thing that sets our orientation apart is its length, which at eight days is twice as long as most other small college orientations. Designed to provide a social and academic transition to Puget Sound, our orientation is divided into three distinct sections.
Prelude - This portion of the orientation serves as the academic transition to campus. Students are divided into small groups and spend two days with a professor completing different readings and academic projects. This experience is intended to familiarize students with the academic expectations of college-level work and to help them gain confidence as they prepare for classes.

Passages - One of the biggest concerns freshmen have when beginning college is if they will be able to make new friends. Passages was created to alleviate this concern by giving students a fun environment in which they can begin to establish social networks. During the three days spent at a camp on Hood Canal (about 1.5 hours from campus), students will find many activities in which they can participate and which will help them get to know each other. Students can go hiking, swimming, backpacking or sailing, or they can simply hang out with other students, all in the beautiful natural surroundings of the Pacific Northwest. By the end of Passages, students have made friendships that will last a lifetime.

Perspectives - During this part of orientation, students remain on campus for a variety of social and educational workshops and activities that prepare them for life on a college campus. For example, students are given the opportunity to attend alcohol awareness, date rape, and diversity workshops, to volunteer and to see more of the metro area, and to participate in fun events like Playfair. It is also during Perspectives that students meet with their advisors and register for classes.

Do you have a Greek system?
As one of the many social opportunities available on campus, the college provides a Greek system. The following Greek letter societies are available:

- **Fraternities**
  - Sigma Alpha Epsilon
  - Phi Delta Theta
  - Sigma Chi

- **Sororities**
  - Alpha Phi
  - Gamma Phi Beta
  - Kappa Alpha Theta
  - Pi Beta Phi

Approximately 25% of our student body participates in Greek life. Freshmen are given the opportunity to join by going through deferred recruitment at the beginning of second semester. They can then move into Greek residences in their sophomore year.

Do students need to join the Greek system to have fun?
Absolutely not! It is not necessary for students to participate in the Greek system to have an active social life. Rather than dominating campus life, students discover that Greek life is just another way to get involved. Because the majority of our students are not affiliated with Greek Life, Puget Sound offers over 100 clubs and organizations.

What kind of clubs and activities are available on campus?
More than 100 student clubs and organizations provide opportunities for students with varied curricular and co-curricular interests. Our campus is big enough to offer a wide range of activities and small enough to enable all students to get involved. Some of the clubs and associations found on campus include Amnesty International, Asian Pacific American Student Union, Black Student Union, Community for Hispanic Awareness, Circle K, Martial Arts Association, BGLAD (LGBTQ Student Organization), and Repertory Dance Group. Recent campus concerts include such national acts as Maroon 5, Guster, Blackalicious, and Ben Folds. Another popular activity is climbing on the 1,650-square-foot indoor climbing wall. Located in the Pamplin Sports Center, the wall was designed, planned, funded and built almost entirely by students.
Does Puget Sound have a religious affiliation?
Puget Sound was founded by the United Methodist Church and remains connected historically, but we are now independently governed and operated. Today, Puget Sound maintains a strong campus chaplain’s office. We have a full-time United Methodist chaplain, student-run religious organizations for a variety of faiths (Baha’i; Buddhist; Catholic; two multi-denominational Christian groups; Christian Science; Jewish; LDS; Muslim; Pagan; Unitarian Universalist).

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Can I bring a car?
There are no restrictions on students, including freshmen, who wish to bring cars to school. Puget Sound provides parking for students and charges no additional fee for cars. It is important to note, however, that most students don’t need a car. Everything students need is on or near campus and good public transportation is readily available.

How many students live on campus? (This is new for Fall 2012!!)
Puget Sound now requires all students to live on campus for their first two years. While students are guaranteed housing for all four years, they are not required to live on campus for their junior or senior years. Currently, a little less than 75% of the student body lives on campus.

Puget Sound has just completed Commencement Hall – our newest residence hall. Commencement Hall comprises of house-style units for 9-14 students. The house themes, as well as additional information about the hall, can be found online.

What are residential housing options?
There are a number of residential options available for students. Most freshmen will live in one of our eight freshmen residence halls, all of which are coed. There are special theme halls and floors offered for freshmen. The Adventure Education Hall (Schiff) is designed for students who wish to participate actively in outdoor recreation, while Healthy Options is a special section for students committed to healthy lifestyles (no alcohol, no drugs, good nutrition, good fitness, etc.). There are also theme floors dedicated to international study and languages, as well as the humanities.

Beginning in the sophomore year, students are offered a number of alternatives. The college owns campus houses, many of which feature special themes. Examples of themes include the Outhaus (outdoor programs), the Harry Potter House, the Broadway House, and the Creativity College. A complete list can be found here. Theme houses combine the convenience of on-campus living with the independence of an off-campus lifestyle. Continuing students can also live in University Hall and Trimble Hall which are arranged in suites and reserved for older students, and in our Greek residences.

CAMPUS AND LOCATION

What is there to do in Tacoma?
Tacoma, with a population of about 200,000, is both small enough to be a cozy, comfortable town and big enough to support many of the social and cultural opportunities residents expect from an urban community. The city boasts the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, the Tacoma Art Museum, the Museum of Glass: International Center for Contemporary Art, the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, the Tacoma Dome for concerts and sporting events, and an emerging downtown cafe and music scene. The surrounding area is also full of possibilities. Our campus is within 1.5 hours of the mountains where students can enjoy skiing, hiking and camping; 2 hours to the Pacific Ocean; and 45 minutes south of Seattle, which at 1/2 million people is the largest city in the Northwest. One of the newest additions to downtown Tacoma is the
Is campus safe?
Yes, our campus is extremely safe. Puget Sound is located in a quiet, comfortable, residential community and crime problems are relatively rare. Of course, we take the necessary measures to make sure the campus remains safe and encourage students to be vigilant and aware of their surroundings at all times. Security Services patrols the campus 24-hours a day and provides an escort service for students. We also keep our residence halls locked at all times. Federal law requires all colleges to publish security statistics, and interested students and families can find Puget Sound’s on the Security Services website.

What is the weather like?
Contrary to popular belief, Tacoma does see its share of the sun. The "rainy season" is from December to April during which time it will rain quite a bit. Tacoma enjoys a temperate climate. In the winter, temperatures are typically in the 40's, while average summer temperatures are in the 70's. Rainfall averages 35-40 inches per year.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

What intercollegiate sports are available?
The athletic department offers 23 intercollegiate sports, eleven for men and twelve for women, and sponsors 20 intramural sports. Puget Sound is an NCAA Division III institution (this is new since 1999). The main feature of NCAA III that distinguishes it from other divisions is that no athletic scholarships are permitted and athletics may not be considered in admission or financial aid decisions. Our philosophy is that students come to college to be students above all else, but that there is great benefit in allowing scholar-athletes to pursue top-notch varsity athletics.

Women have the option of basketball, crew, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field (both indoor and outdoor), and volleyball.

Men have the option of baseball, basketball, crew, cross country, football, golf, soccer, swimming, tennis, and track and field (both indoor and outdoor).

PUGET SOUND PROFILE

The Class of 2016 profile is viewable online: http://www.pugetsound.edu/files/resources/6734_FR%20Profile%202016.pdf. The Class of 2017 profile will be available in late September.

What is the ratio of men to women on campus?
Approximately 40-45% of our student body is male, while 55-60% is female. This gender imbalance is typical of the situation at most colleges and reflects the growing national trend of women seeking a college education at higher rates than men.

How many freshmen return for their second year? How many graduate?
An important indicator of a happy and successful student body is its tendency to continue at the University after the first year. At Puget Sound, 85% of our first-year students continue for their second year. On average, 77% of graduating students do so in 5 years.
How easy is it to graduate in four years?
The typical student at Puget Sound graduates in four years. Rarely do students take additional time to graduate and, when they do, it is generally by choice. There are a number of possible reasons for our success at moving students in a timely fashion through our system. The courses a student needs to graduate are generally available. Our strong advising program ensures that students are well aware of their graduation requirements.

What percentage of freshmen are from Washington?
Puget Sound enjoys strong geographic diversity. For the last ten years students from Washington State have represented roughly 20-25% of the freshman class. After Washington, our top five states are California, Oregon, Colorado, Minnesota, and Hawaii.

What is the campus population, the average class size, and the student-to-faculty ratio?
Puget Sound has 2,600 students, an average class size of 18, and a 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING RESOURCES

- **Training Videos**: A small collection of videos of admission counselors answering common questions on topics from academic advising at Puget Sound, to Financial Aid, to the Top 5 Majors.
- **Training Manual**: Information about the admission process and commonly asked questions.
- **Rankings and Recognitions**: Puget Sound was named one of 40 Colleges That Change Lives and is ranked in the top 20 for “Most Accessible Professors” by the Princeton Review. These figures and many more can be found online.
- **Puget Sound Campus Events**: Stay current with what’s happening on campus!
- **Freshman FAQs**: Much of this information is covered in the Training Manual.
- **We are always happy to answer any questions you have. Contact the ACAC at acac@pugetsound.edu.**