

The University Landscape: The Best Fit



Mr. Jeff Mitz

This Evening's Agenda



- **Introduction and Welcome**
- **The Landscape**
 - **Ontario, Canada, UK, USA**
- **“The Best Fit” and The Role of the Parent**
- **Available Resources**
- **Next Steps**

Universities



- **Ontario Universities:**
 - Fairly straight forward approach
 - Look into prospective programs
 - Do your research on-line or through the Guidance Office
 - Consult Mr. Mitz or Ms. Hann



Universities

- **Personal Statements of Experience (PSE)**
 - Not all schools ask for them
 - Queen's Commerce and Ivey School of Business (AEO)
 - **Co-Curricular Activities**
 - Breadth and depth of involvement
 - Habit of engagement and leadership
 - Meaningful experiences



Universities

- Go and visit: Campus Tours, special visits
- Do your research on-line or in the Guidance Office
- University representatives come to Crestwood from September to December
- Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) – Guelph
 - Completed Grade 11 and 12 marks
 - Grade 12 courses in progress

Universities



- **Canadian (outside Ontario)**
 - McGill, Dalhousie, small colleges like Acadia, Mt. Allison, Bishop's and St. FX
 - Increased interest in schools in British Columbia

Universities



- **United Kingdom**
 - Understanding of UCAS system
 - LSE, St. Andrews, Sheffield, Oxford, Edinburgh, Trinity College
 - Direct entry Medical, Law and Veterinary Medicine Programs in England, Scotland and Ireland



Universities

- **United States**
 - variable interest
 - Standardized testing ACT or SAT
 - Application process begins in September of grade 12 year
 - “like an additional course” due to essays, applications
 - Teacher references + counsellor reference

Universities



- **International**
 - Hospitality Business Programs– Switzerland
 - Programs and applications tend to be very unique
 - Handle these on a case to case basis

Alternatives



- **GAP Years and Community College**
 - Students graduating can be just 17
 - Recent grads have pursued other interests for a year
 - Concern of parents that if the child does take a year off then he or she will never re-focus on school
 - Community College is a very viable alternative to university for practical skills development programs

“The Best Fit”



- What does success look like to you as a Crestwood parent?



The Next Steps

- Support your son or daughter in his or her dreams and goals
- Discuss concept of goals/success with your son or daughter
- Help your son or daughter to find ability to be self-aware and how to express who he or she is
 - provoke discussion
 - **“best fit” = realistic; a choice that promotes academic and social balance**

A Final Thought



There is no elevator to success.

You have to take the stairs.