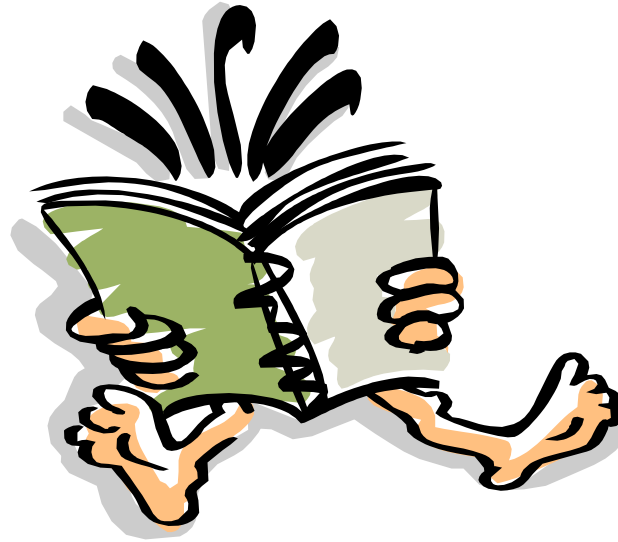


ENLIGHTENED COLLEGE COUNSELING RESOURCES AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY



Compiled by Susan Tree
Director of College Counseling
Westtown School, PA
ed. 9/08

(A work-in-progress... with apologies to all the good authors and resources out there not mentioned)

To enlighten: To make clear to the intellect or conscience; to shed the light of truth and knowledge upon; to furnish with increase of knowledge; to instruct; as, to enlighten the mind or understanding.

Source: Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.

If a link to websites is out of date, please Google on the title to find the correct link.

In no particular order....

1. NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE)

http://nsse.iub.edu/html/students_parents.cfm

NSSE is:

- An alternative view of collegiate quality that focuses on teaching and learning.
- A versatile, research-based tool that provides usable information for institutional improvement.
- Reliable, credible information about the quality of the undergraduate experience that can be used by accreditors, prospective students, and other.
- An annual assessment of how institutions are performing on effective teaching and learning activities.

The NSSE survey instrument, *The College Student Report*, is short, reliable, and easy for students to complete. The survey asks undergraduates about how they spend their time, what they feel they've gained from classes, their assessment of the quality of their interactions with faculty and friends, and other important activities.

NSSE results fall into five key clusters of activities that research studies show are linked to desired outcomes of college.

- *Level of academic challenge*
- *Enriching educational experiences*
- *Student-faculty interaction*
- *Active and collaborative learning*
- *supportive campus environment*

About 560,000 first-year and senior students were included in the NSSE 2004 sample. These students were randomly selected from data files provided by 437 participating four-year colleges and universities.

2. BLACK ENTERPRISE

<http://www.blackenterprise.com/lists/college.asp>
2007-08

50 Best colleges for African Americans: the right college environment can make or break an experience. Here's how to make sure students choose the school that's best for them.

Also, helpful information on:

[White Schools, Black Advocates](#)

[High School Summer Programs](#)

[Navigating Financial Aid](#)

[Investing as a Student](#)

[Creating an Outstanding Application](#)

[Admissions Deadlines](#)

[Cutting Edge: Back to School](#)

Times may have changed, but one thing has remained constant: Each year, thousands of African American teens and parents will sit down to make the big decision about which college to attend. Typically, families base their choices on several factors: overall cost, financial aid package, location, and the school's academic reputation. For some students, the decision is clear-cut. Yet, families often overlook another essential factor--whether a school is the right fit for the student. So how do you know which college is best? What qualities should you look for? This article will answer those questions. We've provided help from experts and notable alums of some of the schools that made this year's list of BLACK ENTERPRISE'S Top 50 Colleges for African Americans. We polled graduates of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), as well as those who attended predominantly white institutions to get their take on what makes a school the right one. These alumni, who hail from a wide variety of schools and careers (such as publishing, entertainment, education, and technology), also provide practical advice for students. The idea behind this story is that with the benefit of hindsight and foresight, students will have a broad range of issues to consider beyond cost.

3. BLACKS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

<http://www.jbhe.com/>

Source of articles focusing on students of color and education trends, college admission, and higher education success.
www.jbhe.com/features/38_leading_colleges.html

Ranking America's Leading Liberal Arts Colleges on Their Success in Integrating African Americans

JBHE now ranks America's leading liberal arts colleges according to their relative success in attracting, enrolling, and graduating African-American students as well as their progress in bringing black professors to their campuses. The liberal arts colleges are graded according to a blending of 13 widely accepted quantitative measures of institutional racial integration.

Ranking America's Leading Universities on Their Success in Integrating African Americans

JBHE has ranked America's leading universities according to their relative success in attracting, enrolling, and graduating African-American students as well as their progress in bringing black professors to their campuses. Universities are ranked according to a blending of 13 widely accepted quantitative measures of institutional racial integration.

4. OUTSIDE MAGAZINE

http://outside.away.com/outside/features/200309/200309_college_towns_1.html

Outside University: The Top 40; We rank the Top 40 schools where you can hit the books AND the backcountry. Your assignment: Rappel off that ivory tower and take our cram course on America's most adrenaline-friendly colleges. You'll come for your B.A. (Bachelor of Adventure) and want to stay for life.

When it came to ranking North America's best places to learn, live, work, and play, we did our homework, canvassing hundreds of colleges and enlisting an able crew of undergrad reporters. Then we narrowed the honor roll down to 40 schools that turn out smart grads with top-notch academic credentials, a healthy environmental ethos, and an A+ sense of adventure.

5. MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND

http://www.maldef.org/pdf/Scholarships_01252003.pdf

These scholarships do not require a social security number, legal residency, or citizenship in order to apply.

6. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH

<http://www.internationalstudent.com/scholarships>

This organization's goal is to provide international students with the best study abroad and international student scholarship search online.

7. MYMAJORS.COM

www.mymajors.com

Copyright 2003

Have you decided that you want to go to college, but don't know what you want to major in? If you aren't sure, MyMajors.com can provide useful advice on college and university majors that a high school senior or college freshman with your interests and achievements might do well in. Here's how it works:

- A. Enter data about your experience with high school courses in a 15 minute interview.
- B. MyMajors.com analyzes this information and suggests six majors to think about because they match your interests and high school experience.
- C. If you wish, MyMajors.com will give you more information about what these majors are, what type of courses you would take to get a degree and what jobs are available to graduates with this major.

8. WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS MAJOR?

<http://www.careers.siue.edu/majors/majors/default.html>

Finally, a convenient website that helps you connect majors with careers. For each major that interests you, choose "Information" to find an outline of common career areas, typical employers, and strategies designed to maximize career opportunities. Choose "Links" to find a list of websites that provide information about listed majors and related careers. Keep in mind that the information sheets and websites are representative of typical career paths associated with each major and not a comprehensive list. You may want to explore information and websites from multiple majors to help you learn about a wide range of career opportunities.

9. CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLLEGE

The Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI)

www.collegeguide.org/choosing/index.html
second edition, 2001

The complete, inside scoop on the 110 colleges and universities rated best by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Peterson's*, *Money*, and other higher education references. Compiled by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI)—a conservative non-profit educational foundation with a nationwide network of 50,000 student and faculty members—*Choosing the Right College* provides first-hand information on what life is really like on the nation's most prestigious campuses. This is an alternative to college guides that skimp on

real information and includes comprehensive, original, and independent research on what is actually happening on campuses nationwide. This 672-page survey amounts to a major statement on the condition of higher education in America today.

The research staff of *Choosing the Right College* interviewed hundreds of professors and students. The result is a commentary on the intellectual, political, and social conditions at each institution that provides insider information vital to assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the school. Each 3,000 word essay in *Choosing the Right College* assesses in depth the integrity and rigor of the institution's curriculum; reports on the state of academic freedom and the extent of political correctness, as well as analyzing their effect on campus life; lists the best professors and departments and the most politicized elements of each school; and paints a broad picture of the traditions, student organizations, and settings that make every institution unique.

10. THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS MYSTIQUE

Bill Mayher
January, 1998

This book is not new but it is still one of the best: an admissions pro demystifies the difficult process of applying for college. With humor and an insider's knowledge, he untangles the web of emotions and misinformation that makes the process so hazardous. Bill Mayher covers practical issues, including discovering colleges, narrowing the search, finding financial aid, and using college counselors to the best advantage. Sensible and level headed approach.

11. FAIRTEST

The National Center for Fair and Open Testing
www.fairtest.org/index.htm

The National Center for Fair & Open Testing is an advocacy organization working to end the abuses, misuses and flaws of standardized testing and ensure that evaluation of students and workers is fair, open, and educationally sound.

List of Test Optional Colleges: <http://www.fairtest.org/optinit.htm>

Ten Myths About the SAT: <http://www.fairtest.org/facts/myths.htm>

12. ARTICLES BY JAY MATHEWS

Staff Writer for the Washington Post

These and other useful, insightful articles found in the Washington Post archives at
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/linkset/2005/03/24/LI2005032400611.html>

The Thinking Behind Critical Thinking Courses (August 11, 2008)

Two Worlds of Advanced Placement (July 7, 2008)

Is Advanced Placement Good for Everybody? (June 8, 2008)

Six Reasons to Keep Early Admission (September 19, 2006;)

10 Ways to Fix College Admissions (July 11, 2006;)

How to Find a Great Arts College (May 30, 2006;)

10 Ways to Survive 11th Grade (April 11, 2006;)

Relax, It's Only College (March 7, 2006;)

How to Ace the SAT Essay in 6 Easy Steps (March 1, 2005)

Finding a College That's a Good Fit (Sept. 9, 2003)

Better Late Than Never to Pick Up Tips on College (Aug. 26, 2003)

AP Courses Not for Everyone, Educator Says (Aug. 5, 2003;)

Defending Dropping Out of School: For Some Students, the Best Course Is a Little-Prescribed One (July 29, 2003)

Trust Your Gut When It Comes to College Selection (July 8, 2003)

The College Admissions Game: Fear, Uncertainty Plague Students and Parents (June 17, 2003)

Is Dropping Out of High School Always Bad? (June 3, 2003)

What to Look for in a Good School (May 20, 2003)

A Silver Lining to the Wait-List's Dark Cloud (May 13, 2003)

14. MAKING A DIFFERENCE COLLEGE GUIDE

8TH Edition

<http://www.sageworks.net/pages/CGlinks.html>

SageWorks Press, P.O. Box 441, Fairfax, CA 94978

Searching for a college education to help you shape the world anew? Not all colleges really share your vision. So many colleges proclaim they "make a difference." But some unique colleges really do, and it is their central mission. Miriam Weinstein used over 10 different criteria to evaluate colleges before including them in *Making a Difference College & Graduate Guide*. And what choices! Over 75 innovative "60's" colleges, environmental colleges, peace colleges, unique state colleges, work colleges, big name colleges, a contemplative Buddhist college, college on a school bus and more! Summer and travel programs too. Many of these colleges care more about your values than your SAT's. Profiles in the Guide are up to 4 pages long and include school philosophy and mission, make-a-difference majors & classes, and even if the cafeteria serves vegetarian meals. Importantly, all the colleges offer practical, relevant majors leading to meaningful work. The Guide lists hundreds of career paths related to majors such as environmental studies, urban planning, natural resources, international /sustainable development, forestry, peace studies, sociology and child development.

15. COLLEGES THAT CHANGE LIVES

Penguin Books

www.ctcl.org

The college experience should be about more than the name of an institution; it should focus on what you are learning and the opportunities that you have to explore new interests, whether in course selection, athletic opportunities, or extracurricular-activities.

Colleges That Change Lives looks for schools that encourage this valuable, liberal arts education. The colleges listed in Loren Pope's book, and profiled on this website, seek out students interested in a challenging, engaging atmosphere. These institutions focus on:

- Small faculty-student ratios to encourage collaboration among all members of the community
- Residential campuses, where students live and work together making classroom discussions the frequent topic of dinnertime conversation
- Small student body size that assure participation in the activities of your choice, without sacrificing the social aspects of larger, more anonymous, universities
- Out of the classroom learning prospects such as internships and leadership positions early on in your college career, that make for a more memorable four years and a more impressive resume
- Unique opportunities for their alumni, both within graduate and professional schools and through career networking which can lead to extraordinary professional growth.

[Agnes Scott College](#)

[Allegheny College](#)

[Antioch College](#)

[Austin College](#)

[Beloit College](#)

[Birmingham-Southern College](#)

[Centre College](#)

[Clark University](#)

[College of Wooster](#)

[Cornell College](#)

[Denison University](#)

[Earlham College](#)

[Eckerd College](#)

[Emory & Henry College](#)

[The Evergreen State College](#)

[Goucher College](#)

[Guilford College](#)

[Hampshire College](#)

[Hendrix College](#)

[Hiram College](#)

[Hope College](#)

[Juniata College](#)
[Kalamazoo College](#)
[Knox College](#)
[Lawrence University](#)
[Lynchburg College](#)
[Marlboro College](#)
[McDaniel College](#)

[Millsaps College](#)
[New College of Florida](#)
[Ohio Wesleyan University](#)
[Reed College](#)
[Rhodes College](#)
[Southwestern University](#)
[St. John's College](#)

[St. Olaf College](#)
[Ursinus College](#)
[Wabash College](#)
[Wheaton College](#)
[Whitman College](#)

16. LOOKING BEYOND THE IVY LEAGUE: FINDING THE COLLEGE THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU

Loren Pope

Penguin USA (Paper); Revised edition (April 1996); Revised 2007

Popes' "twenty myths that can jinx your college choice" is priceless - Do you think your college has to be larger than your high school? Do you think you have to stay in the northeast to get a quality education? Do you think your college has to be in or near a city? Families' minds will be opened to think about the college search in different ways.

17. COUNCIL ON PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES

www.coplac.org/

Recognizing the importance of liberal arts and sciences education for success in a complex global society, the **Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC)** is championing the cause of liberal arts education of superior quality in the public sector. The twenty COPLAC institutions provide students of high ability and from all backgrounds access to an outstanding liberal arts education.

As it looks toward the new century, COPLAC is planning to grow selectively in the number of member institutions it admits and to increase its visibility and influence to accomplish its four goals:

- (1) To promote nationally the values of superior undergraduate liberal education in a public college setting in order to enhance understanding among the general public of the value of moderately sized public liberal arts colleges.
- (2) To communicate to state and federal policy makers the vital importance and benefits of providing students with comprehensive public higher education in the liberal arts and sciences.
- (3) To work actively with member institutions to improve the quality of liberal arts and sciences education on our own campuses and achieve the goals of the organization.
- (4) To support the efforts of the other institutions to achieve distinction in the liberal education of students.

What unites COPLAC are the collective educational missions that commit to providing superior liberal arts and sciences education to their students, and evidence of that commitment in the way that resources are allocated and outcomes achieved.

[College of Charleston*](#)

[Southern Oregon University*](#)

[Eastern Connecticut State University*](#)

[St. Mary's College of Maryland*](#)

[The Evergreen State College](#)

[SUNY College at Geneseo](#)

[Fort Lewis College](#)

[Truman State University](#)

[Georgia College & State University](#)

[University of Maine at Farmington*](#)

[Henderson State University](#)

[University of Mary Washington](#)

[Keene State College*](#)

[University of Minnesota, Morris*](#)

[Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts*](#)

[University of Montevallo](#)

[Midwestern State University](#)

[University of North Carolina at Asheville*](#)

[New College of Florida*](#)

[University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma](#)

[Ramapo College of New Jersey*](#)

[University of Virginia's College at Wise](#)

[Sonoma State University*](#)

[University of Wisconsin-Superior*](#)

18. WORK COLLEGES CONSORTIUM

www.workcolleges.org

On each campus, there has been a historical recognition of the value of work and an institutional commitment to promote an understanding of that value among students through establishment of a work program. These work programs help students to understand work as a tool for experiential education, as a means of serving the community, and as a place for integrating academic learning, practical knowledge, and life lived in the larger community. The colleges blend courses in liberal learning and applied studies with their own particular vision of the undergraduate curriculum. At work colleges, students are encouraged to reexamine the values of the larger society. All the work colleges stress the value of plain living. In this environment where work is a part of the educational experience along with academics, students and faculty can resist external pressure to view the world of higher education as an "ivory tower," out of touch with the real world. Rather, the world is here, and we are committed to the improvement of that world. Immediate benefits of participation in work college programs include reduction of student debt, increased opportunities for community service, and practical career preparation.

At the work colleges, we believe that the educational process should be comprehensive, with each of its many participants informing and being informed by the broader community. Work college students prepare for leadership through participation. Community service constitutes a significant portion of the work college experience.

At some of the colleges, students are paid for efforts to organize voluntary action. At others, students may work directly with a wide range of agencies such as schools and nursing homes or with individuals as part of their work contract. Students are encouraged and assisted in reflecting upon these experiences. This preparation provides students with a unique opportunity to examine the relationship between scholarship and the lived experience of citizens of their region, their country, and their world.

Alice Lloyd College (KY)
 Berea College (KY)
 Blackburn College (IL)
 College of the Ozarks (MI)
 Ecclesia College (AR)
 Sterling College (VT)
 Warren Wilson College (NC)

19. AMERICA'S BEST COLLEGES FOR B STUDENTS

Tamara Orr

Supercollege, Llc; 2nd edition (2007)

High school students who get average grades in high school and don't ace the SAT or ACT discover that an exceptional college education is by no means beyond their reach in this guide. Along with information on what to look for in a college and what colleges look for in their students besides grades, this college reference provides details on more than 75 colleges that make it a point to help students who have not achieved a stellar GPA and includes information on whether colleges feature extra tutoring, help from professors, and distance-learning programs. Advice on the application process emphasizes the schools that look beyond GPA to the extracurricular activities and community involvement at which many average students excel. Quelling both students' and parents' fears about finding a good education with a less-than-perfect academic record, this guide makes it clear that it is always possible to find an excellent education.

20. THE YOUNG WOMAN'S GUIDE TO THE TOP COLLEGES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO MAKE THE BEST CHOICE

Robert Mitchell

John Wiley & Sons, 1998

In-depth profiles of 200 top schools, each profile being split into a "statistics" and a "narrative" section. The statistics section includes information on enrollment, top majors, faculty, sports, and organizations for women. The narrative comprises women's views of their own schools--from the level of support for lesbian and gay students to opportunities in intramural and varsity sports, from the social scene to the availability of women's health care. The book is especially strong in its coverage of women's studies programs and campus security--including extensive information on each school's safety efforts, from night escorts and buses to safety phones and well-lit paths

21. COLLEGES OF DISTINCTION

Student Horizons

www.collegesofdistinction.com

Colleges of Distinction is the brainchild of a group of concerned parents, educators and admissions professionals. This diverse group's goal is to improve the current state of the college admissions process by providing consumers with the best possible information about higher education. On the website is information for students, parents, and college counselors aimed at helping families look beyond rankings to what really matters in making a successful match between students and institutions. From the website: *“The answers may surprise you. You’ll find both prominent names and “hidden gems” on our list. What they have in common is their excellent reputation among high school guidance counselors and education professionals, not to mention employers and graduate schools. Their classrooms are among the most exciting in the country; their programs are some of the most innovative.”*

The four “distinctions are Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Communities, and Successful Outcomes
<http://www.collegesofdistinction.com/subpagetemplates/aboutcolleges.asp>

22. COLLEGES THAT ENCOURAGE CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Templeton Foundation Press, 1999

http://www.templetonpress.org/book.asp?book_id=19

The Templeton Guide: Colleges that Encourage Character Development profiles 405 exemplary college programs in ten categories that inspire students to lead ethical and civic-minded lives, as well as 50 college presidents selected for their leadership in this area and 100 colleges named to the Templeton Honor Roll. This landmark guidebook is an indispensable resource for:

- parents, students, and counselors who want to learn more about what colleges and universities are doing to encourage values such as honesty, service, respect, and personal responsibility;
- college faculty, administrators, and trustees who wish to learn about some of the "best practices" in the field of character development; and alumni, policy makers, and members of the general public who are interested in the subject of college and character and want to learn what strategies individual institutions are using to meet this challenge.

The Exemplary Programs section consists of 405 programs divided into 10 categories.

- **First-Year Programs**: 60 college programs that offer students the tools to develop a moral compass to navigate between increased personal freedom and new responsibilities
- **Academic Honesty Programs**: 35 college programs that effectively communicate the values of honesty, trust, respect, responsibility, integrity, and fairness in the classroom
- **Faculty and Curriculum Programs**: 45 college programs that offer opportunities in the classroom for students to examine, reflect on, and articulate a set of moral ideals and commitments
- **Volunteer Service Programs**: 60 college programs that provide opportunities for students to learn through serving others in their communities and in the world
- **Substance-Abuse Prevention Programs**: 35 college programs that place character development at the heart of their alcohol- and drug-abuse prevention efforts
- **Student Leadership Programs**: 40 college programs that help students develop the competencies, conscience, and compassion required of leaders in a civil society
- **Spiritual Growth Programs**: 40 college programs, not all church-related, that provide opportunities for students to develop a coherent vision of moral integrity that connects belief to behavior
- **Civic Education Programs**: 40 college programs that encourage students to develop the skills and habits of mind to become active, well-informed, responsible citizens in a democratic society
- **Character and Sexuality Programs**: 20 college programs that help students to learn, appreciate, and apply the core virtues of self-control, respect, responsibility, and integrity in their relationships
- **Senior-Year Programs**: 30 college programs that help seniors reflect on, connect, and attach meaning to their undergraduate experience

23. CREATIVE COLLEGES: A GUIDE FOR STUDENT ACTORS, ARTISTS, DANCERS, MUSICIANS, AND WRITERS

Elaina Loveland

SuperCollege, LLC, 2005

From preparing for an audition and creating a portfolio to taking standardized tests and filing for financial aid, the entire college admissions process as it pertains to actors, artists, dancers, musicians, and writers is covered in this guide for creative college-bound students. Real-life profiles of students in each discipline, day-in-the-life snapshots, answers to frequently asked questions from admissions directors, and tips on auditioning and preparing portfolios from real students and faculty are included along with samples of artist statements, admission essays, and artistic resumes. More than 125 art, drama, dance, music, and creative writing programs in arts conservatories, liberal arts colleges, and universities are profiled with information that is critical to making the best college choice,

such as degrees offered, concentrations, faculty information, cost of attendance, scholarship availability, and alumni accomplishments. An appendix lists books, websites, and magazines that students might find useful in finding the right program for them.

24. THEY TEACH THAT IN COLLEGE?

College & Career Press LLC 2006)

They Teach That in College! features 77 chapters—68 of which focus on unique and interesting majors and nine of which focus on colleges and universities that are especially unique for reasons as varied as offering special instruction for students with learning disabilities (Beacon College and Landmark College), to offering one unique major (College of the Atlantic), to offering dozens of majors in one specific subject area (Unity College and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University).