A Simply Seamless System... at last!

Calhoun Honor College's new admissions process saves time and resources

Inside

Clemson University

Clemson, South Carolina

Products:

Intelligent Connections® Admissions Application Processing, Intelligent Connections Contact Management

Honors College Admissions

After implementing an online system for application management, over 880 Calhoun Honors College applications were processed by a single person – instead of five!

Why Intelligent Connections Contact Management

- Efficient
- Cost savings
- Personnel savings
- Flexibility
- User-friendly
- Customer service

The Savings:

Instead of five people pitching in to process over 880 applications – taking time from their other important job duties – the entire process can now be managed by a single dedicated person, which was the goal all along. Susan Falendysz, Program Assistant, enthuses that the entire application and admission process went "from something that was very difficult to manage to a seamless, user friendly system."

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Business Profile

When Thomas Clemson of South Carolina died in 1888, he bequeathed his land and assets with the idea of creating an educational institution that would teach scientific agriculture and the mechanical arts to South Carolina's young people. Opening its doors in 1893, Clemson University grew from these humble beginnings to become the world-class university it is today. Initially serving an all male military student body, in 1955 the university changed to admit women and drop any military affiliation. It currently serves over 18,000 students in 70 undergraduate and 100 graduate programs. Within the larger Clemson University student body, the Calhoun Honors College was founded in 1962 with the goal of enriching the college experience of Clemson's most motivated and talented students.

Problem

The Calhoun Honors College admits a select group of the larger applicant pool who demonstrate great academic, extracurricular, and leadership potential. Before implementing their Contact Management solution, there was no easy way to look through the applications carefully, so the Honors College was reduced to admitting applicants "by the numbers" – in other words, applicants were automatically admitted if their test scores and grades met a certain threshold. However, this meant that the Honors College wasn't able to really delve into the applications, or, in the words of Susan Falendysz, to "see what makes a student tick." In addition, any discussion or annotating of applications had to be done using paper copies, nearly 900 of which had to be manually passed from person to person and office to office.

Solution

CollegeNET created a dedicated online application form for the Honors College, distinct from the standard Clemson University application. Applicants submit their forms electronically, and they can then be evaluated by all the stakeholders on the university side, from faculty to administrators. All evaluating and commenting is done online, so there are no stacks of paper to send from one office to another, and no manual data entry that might lead to errors. Over 20 faculty members collaborate on the admissions process via the easy-to-use online system. Using the administration system and Intelligent Connections Contact Management System, they can view applications and all supplemental materials such as letters of recommendation, as well as comment, communicate, and ultimately make admission decisions from a central online location.

Benefits

In addition to the obvious benefit of streamlining the application and admissions process, the Calhoun Honors College staff found an unintended side benefit of the new system. "It makes a wonderful recruiting tool," says Susan Falendysz, "because we can easily automate and archive communication between us and the students, and target messages. For instance, if an applicant asks about a particular program, we can have an existing student from that program contact the applicant via email." She also raves about the ease with which staff members can answer questions from applicants by easily checking the status of their letters of recommendation, transcripts, and other supplemental materials.

Want to know more?

To discuss the many ways CollegeNET's products can save you time and money, and improve efficiency, contact sales@collegenet.com.

CollegeNET®

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