



Developing Effective Communication Strategies

Introductions



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Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
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Lake Forest College

Who receives our communications?



- We start planning during _____ months for the student population with whom we want to communicate.
- Who in the admissions office is involved in the decision-making process about the communication plan?
- Outside of the admissions office, with whom do we coordinate our communication efforts?
- Student populations with whom we typically communicate:
 - First year students
 - Transfer students
 - Parents & decision influences
 - Admissions counselors
 - Adult learners

Who receives our communications? (Lake Forest College)



Search Campaigns and Strategy

Planning and execution in spring

Director of Admissions/Marketing and Communications

Prospective Students (focus on rising seniors)

Planning and execution in early spring into summer

Director of Admissions/Assoc. Director of Admissions

Admitted Students

Planning and execution in fall into winter

Director of Admissions/Assoc. Director of Admissions

Enrolling Students

Planning and execution in late spring well into summer

Assoc. Director of Admissions

How we communicate with the population we've identified



- › After we identify our target student population(s), we think about the communication material we would like to send.
- › Who is involved in the decision-making process about the communication pieces we want to send?
- › Examples of our communication channels:
 - University promotion on sites like CollegeView, etc.
 - Brochures
 - Email campaigns (separate campaigns for first year students vs. transfer students)
 - Tele campaigns: At what point do we introduce call campaigns and who manages the call campaigns for us, including writing the call script?
 - Letters: When do we send letters and what topics do we communicate this way?
 - Text messaging
 - Invitation to on-campus and off-campus events: How do we manage our events?
 - Group Chat/Instant Chat
 - Facebook
 - LinkedIn
 - Twitter



Hi Test,

I'm Cerra Wilson, your admission counselor.

Thank you again for your interest in Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

I will be your main contact with SIUE as you go through the college admissions process. If you have any questions about admissions, scholarship opportunities or academic programs, feel free to contact me.

Go Cougars!



cewilso@siue.edu
800-447-SIUE
618-650-2323



SIUE Office of Admissions, Campus Box 1600, Edwardsville, IL 62026







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Lake Forest College

555 N Sheridan Road
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045-2399

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 **Lake Forest College Daily Click**



April 28

1 second ago from Flickr

 **Lake Forest College Daily Click**


April 28

1 second ago from Flickr



Telecenter



Overview

Admin

[New Call Job](#)
[Manage Call Jobs](#)
[Manage Call Result Lists](#)
[Manage Idle Timeouts](#)

Manager

[Call Job Reports](#)
[Caller Reports](#)
[Message](#)

Calls

Call Contacts Navigator



Back to Call Jobs

Call Job: [Transfer Inquiries](#)

Call List: 2014 Transfer Prospects

Last Refreshed: 4/28/2014 12:16 AM [Refresh](#)

Icon Legend:

- Contact has requested not to be called
- Contact on a call with caller
- Contact has no phone number on record
- Contact is in the Call Alert Period
- Contact has dropped out of the call list

Selecting a value from the Call Filter View or Contact Navigator dropdowns will update the information displayed below.

Call Filter View: All

Contact Navigator: Telecenter Default

Search: First Name [SEARCH](#)

Page 1 of 9 [GO](#) [25](#) [50](#) [100](#) Displaying: 1 to 50 of 404 Items/page:

ID	Last Name	First Name	E-mail	City	State/Province	Number of Times Called	Last Called Date	Last Called By	Follow-up Call	Call Status
490610	Dec	Alison	alisonadec@gmail.com	Downers Grove	Illinois					
490190	Dodd	Lisa	cirquedereves@yahoo.com	Lansing	Illinois					
490128	Garcia	Anthony	anthony.garcia85@yahoo.com	Chicago	Illinois					
490105	McCart	Dalton	daltonmcart.42@gmail.com	Waynesville	Missouri					
490091	Kovich	Michael		Northbrook	Illinois					
490054	O'Donnell	Charles	charles597od@gmail.com	Lake Villa	Illinois					
489989	Swift	Christopher	swift7188@gmail.com	Pleasant Prairie	Wisconsin					
489958	Cruz	David	davidcruz1295@gmail.com	New York	New York					
489870	Casey	Ryan	ryan.casey4@aol.com	Kenosha	Wisconsin					
489790	Moran-Flaherty	Andrew	aflahertystepahead@gmail.com	Nevada City	California					
489789	Rhodes	Emma	emmagrhodes@gmail.com	San Francisco	California					
489769	Stodola	Brian	Bstodola160@aol.com	Zion	Illinois					
489767	Northern	Kentrell	northern.kentrell@yahoo.com	Kennett	Missouri					

How often we communicate?



- After we've identified our target audience(s), and the types of communication(s) we want to send, we think about the frequency and sequence of communications.
- What type of communication is sent from the admissions office vs. the individual counselor?
- Different groups involved in this stage of the planning process might include:
 - Marketing team
 - CRM team

**Office of Admissions**

Schedule A VisitRequest InformationTake a Virtual TourMeet Your CounselorApply Now

Hello {#First Name#},

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Office of Admissions will be hosting an onsite admission at your high school on Monday, November 14.

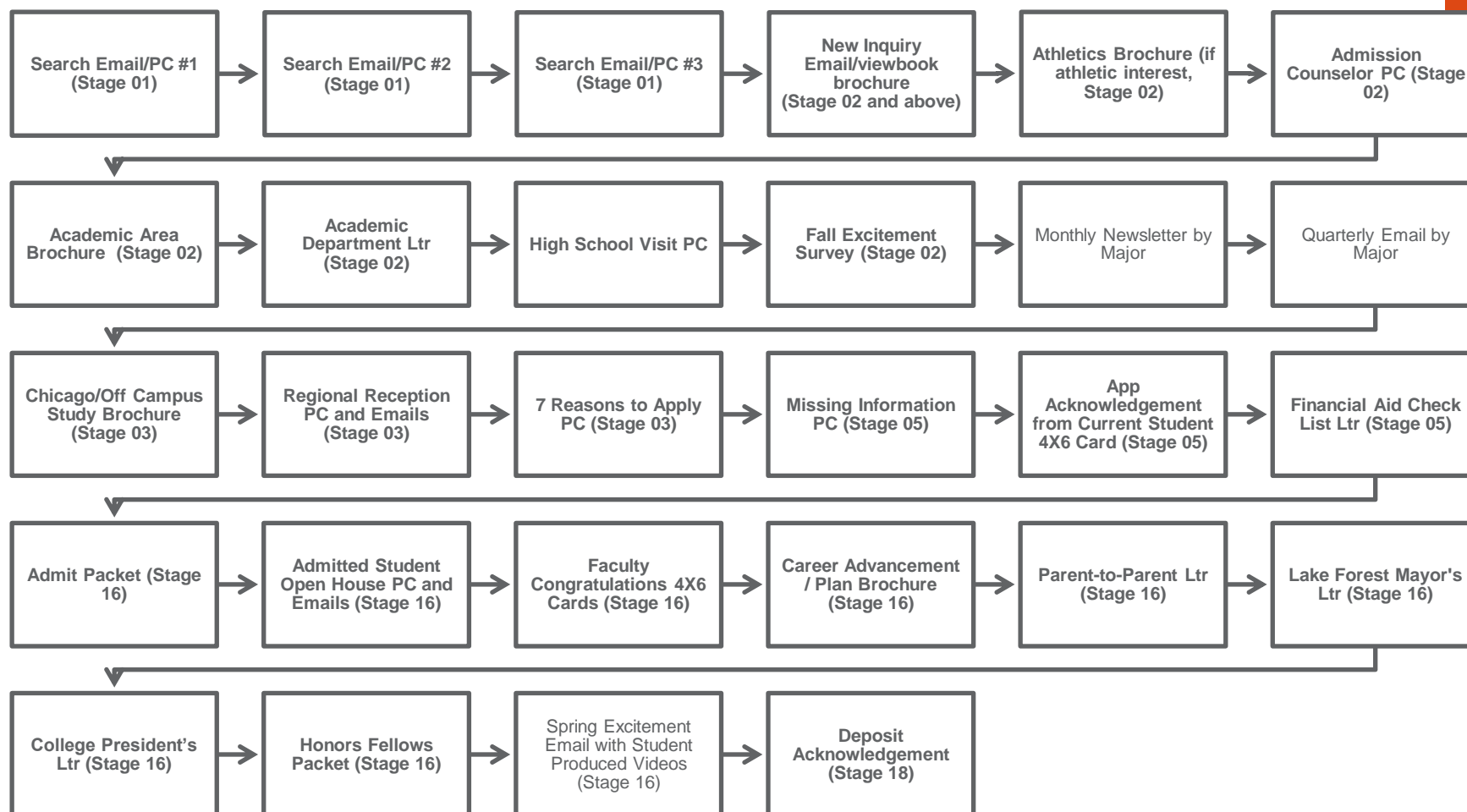
This is an opportunity for you to apply and be reviewed for admission for the fall 2012 academic year. Your application fee will be waived and you will be able to discuss your file with an admission counselor.

Please visit your guidance office to sign-up. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Gina Williams
Admission Counselor - Chicago Regional Representative

2014 Communication Flow



How we measure the effectiveness of our campaigns



- › How often we measure the success of our individual campaigns
- › How often we measure the success of our overall campaigns
- › How we communicate the results internally at our institution
- › What we've learned over the years about planning, building, and executing effective communication campaigns

Report Dashboard

Selecting a dashboard will display the corresponding reports.

Current Dashboard: Application Count Set as Default

[Manage](#)

Report Name: 2014 Application Count

Filter: 2014 Freshman Application Count

Attribute(s): Application Date

Generated: 4/28/2014 11:10 AM

Generated By: Irelynne Estevez

Application Date	Application Date Counts
9/2/2013 - 9/7/2013	<u>199</u>
9/8/2013 - 9/14/2013	<u>268</u>
9/15/2013 - 9/21/2013	<u>301</u>
9/22/2013 - 9/28/2013	<u>315</u>
9/29/2013 - 10/5/2013	<u>338</u>
10/6/2013 - 10/12/2013	<u>466</u>
Totals	1887

Report Name: 2013 Application Count

Filter: 2013 Freshman Application Count

Attribute(s): Application Date

Generated: 4/28/2014 11:10 AM

Generated By: Irelynne Estevez

Application Date	Application Date Counts
6/3/2012 - 6/9/2012	<u>61</u>
6/10/2012 - 6/16/2012	<u>26</u>
6/17/2012 - 6/23/2012	<u>17</u>
6/24/2012 - 6/30/2012	<u>16</u>
7/1/2012 - 7/7/2012	<u>19</u>
7/8/2012 - 7/14/2012	<u>26</u>
7/15/2012 - 7/21/2012	<u>31</u>
7/22/2012 - 7/28/2012	<u>35</u>
7/29/2012 - 8/4/2012	<u>38</u>
8/5/2012 - 8/11/2012	<u>56</u>
8/12/2012 - 8/18/2012	<u>49</u>
8/19/2012 - 8/25/2012	<u>92</u>
8/26/2012 - 9/1/2012	<u>138</u>
9/2/2012 - 9/8/2012	<u>209</u>
9/9/2012 - 9/15/2012	<u>246</u>

Overview

- New
- Manage
- Dashboard
- Manage Dashboard
- Contact Stage Reports
- Entry Term
- Major
- Department
- Staff
- Created Source Code

Report Dashboard

Selecting a dashboard will display the corresponding reports.

Current Dashboard: **Admissions** [Set as Default](#)

[Manage](#)

Report Name: Goal Gauge Test
Filter: Scholarship.com created
Attribute(s): Prospect Entry Year
Generated: 4/28/2014 2:06 PM
Generated By: Heather Fairweather

Goal Gauge Test

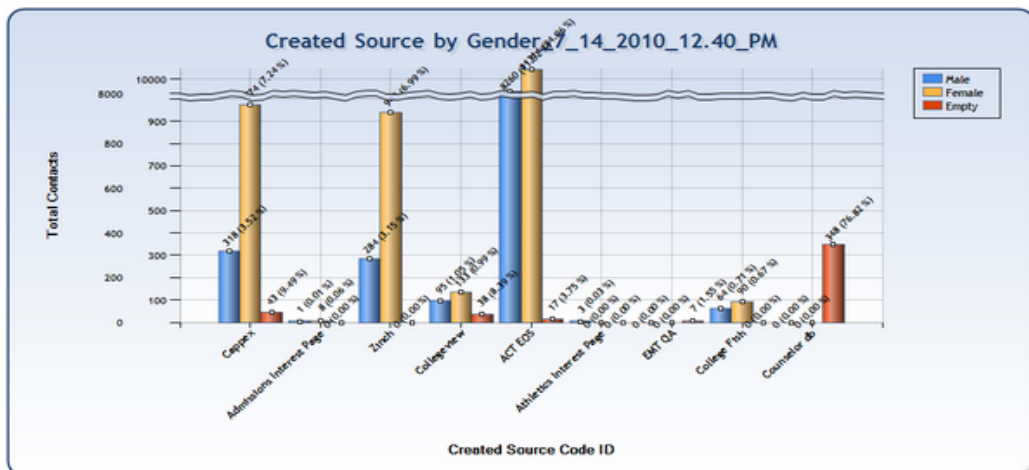
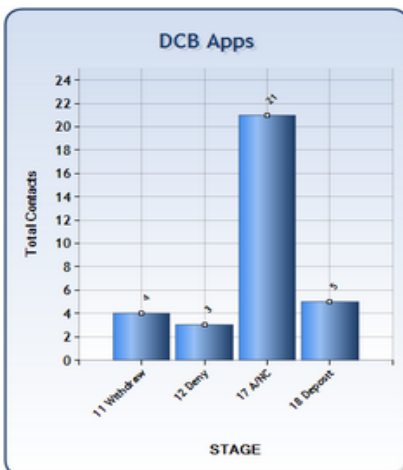


Show

Gender [Go](#)
 ALL

Report Name: DCB Apps
Filter: David Bennett
Attribute(s): STAGE
Generated: 4/28/2014 2:06 PM
Generated By: Heather Fairweather

Report Name: Created Source by Gender_7_14_2010_12:40_PM
Filter: Scholarship.com created
Attribute(s): Created Source Code ID, Gender
Generated: 7/14/2010 12:40 PM
Generated By: Anu Singh



Created Source Code ID	Gender - Male	Gender - Female	Gender - Empty	Created Source Code ID Totals
Coupon	318	974	43	1335
Admissions Interest Page	1	5	0	9
Zinch	284	941	0	1225
Collegeview	93	133	35	265
ACT EOS	8280	11314	17	19591
Admissions Interest Page	3	0	0	3
EMT QA	0	0	7	7
College Mail	64	90	0	154
Counselor db	0	0	345	345
Totals	9025	13480	453	22958

Communication Logs



Video: Stdnt Faculty Relations	E-mail Bounced	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results	Uses new swish template	Default Plan	4/24/2014 1:04:16 AM	Stage 16
Video: Chicago	E-mail Viewed	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results	Uses new swish template	Default Plan	4/22/2014 4:03:32 PM	Stage 16
Video: Outcomes	E-mail Sent/Not Viewed	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results	Uses new swish template	Default Plan	4/20/2014 4:05:20 PM	Stage 16
April 16-24 2014 Weekly Newsletter	E-mail Viewed	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results		Default Plan	4/17/2014 4:21:05 PM	All Admits and Deposits 4.17.14, DCB Only, Find Jackie Francis
Check in Sheet	Doc Merged	Letter and Mailing	Merged Doc Download	First Year Students	Default Plan	4/11/2014 7:04:23 AM	francis
Labels 5160 amb post cards	Doc Merged	Letter and Mailing	Merged Doc Download		Default Plan	4/11/2014 7:04:19 AM	cook
Welcome Ltr for Admit or Deposit	Doc Merged	Letter and Mailing	Merged Doc Download	For personal visit, includes VIP log-in information and next steps	Default Plan	4/11/2014 6:04:33 AM	zgeorge
March Madness Email	E-mail Sent/Not Viewed	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results	Includes links to Forester Five videos	Default Plan	4/4/2014 5:21:21 PM	000AAA DCB Ad Hoc Filter, DCB Only
ASOH 2014 Reminder to Register	E-mail Viewed	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results		Default Plan	3/27/2014 7:04:53 AM	ASOH 2014 Reminder to Register
ASOH 2014 Reminder to Register	E-mail Viewed	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results		Default Plan	3/6/2014 5:11:01 PM	ASOH 2014 Reminder to Register
Admit: Three Steps to Confirm	E-mail Bounced	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results		Default Plan	2/24/2014 2:21:19 PM	Admit: Three Steps to Confirm filter
Facebook Push	E-mail Bounced	Communication	EMT E-Mail Results	Sent to students pushing Facebook CQ2018	Default Plan	2/18/2014 3:11:24 PM	FB Push
			EMT E-				

Factors we always consider when planning and designing communication campaigns (SIUE)



› Simple

- Keeping the message simple but to the point; making sure the message is clear, readable, and actionable on any device

› Segmentation

- Send a particular message to students based on where they are from and what they would like to study.
 - Example: We send mailings to students from the Chicago region that highlight current SIUE Chicago-area students and why they would choose SIUE based on our offerings within their intended area of study.

› Action Item – Provide just one (link to a webpage/action) to avoid confusion

› What is our follow up?

- For those who click on our link (action item), we send them various emails and/or mailings and then code them for future follow-up.
- For those who view, but do not open our link (actions item), we develop another campaign to “peak” their interest again.
- For those who never view, we try again!

› Evaluation – Always view the results

- This helps us to gauge interest – what might be working and what might need more work.



Hello Test,

Thank you for applying to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville!
At this time our records indicate we are still missing the following items:
Please send all official documents to the Office of Admissions:

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Office of Admissions
Campus Box 1047
Edwardsville, IL 62026-1047

Note: It may take up to 10 business days to process your documents after they have been received. Your application will be reviewed after we receive all required documents.
Please visit www.siu.edu/transfer for more details.

Questions? Have questions about transfer credits, housing, taking a campus tour? Contact us by [email](#) or call 618-650-3705.
Sincerely,

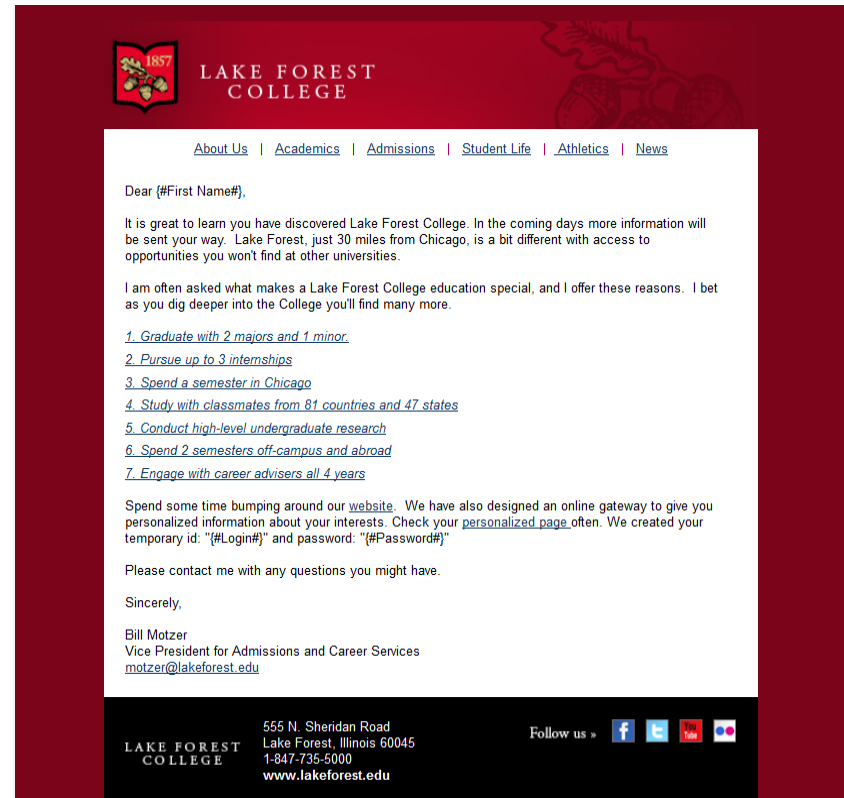
Todd Burrell
Director of Admissions



Factors we always consider when planning and designing communication campaigns (Lake Forest College)



- › Multi-channelled delivery approach
 - Map out communication plans and mix emails with mailed pieces and phone calls.
- › Map your communication plans
 - Share communication plan with relevant parties.
 - “Cradle to grave” flow chart
- › Avoid overload
 - Ensure that each message is on point, sent with purpose, and spread out from past and future communications.
 - Send only relevant content.
- › Segment
 - Send communication based on geographic location, majors, athletic or extracurricular activities.



Factors we always consider when planning and designing communication campaigns (Lake Forest College)



- Good data
 - Clean your data and watch for duplicates to avoid students receiving conflicting messages.
- An effective communication plan starts at first contact and continues through enrollment.
 - Work with departments to know what's being sent so the message is consistent.
- Constantly evaluate and rework each year as the market changes.
 - At Lake Forest College, we moved from a rather broad communication plan one year to a hyper-targeted one that caused our budget to explode. This last year, we met in the middle, targeting as much as possible to stay on budget.
- Have fun with your communication plan. Some of our best pieces have included:
 - “Happy birthday” email
 - Fun videos produced by our own students
 - Fall survey asking students what they’re looking forward to and how they plan on getting involved on campus.



› Questions