

Amendment #1

Proposed by: Harry Huntley, Undergraduate Senator, AGNR

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Paragraph: Paragraph #2-5

Original Text:

The APAS Committee recommends that the University should continue to ask Judicial Information questions on its undergraduate admissions application. The APAS Committee recommends that the current questions be revised as noted in the report. The questions should continue to be answered with a yes or no answer, and if an applicant answers yes to any of the questions, they should continue to be asked to provide a detailed description on the situation and its resolution.

The APAS Committee also recommends that the text that precedes the questions on the application be revised to more strongly indicate the University's commitment to ensuring educational opportunities for those who may have a criminal background and to more clearly articulate the process for reviewing the responses to the questions on the application. The committee suggests text in the report to be considered as a replacement for the current text.

The APAS Committee recommends that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Student Conduct should consider how data regarding criminal background responses should be collected and kept.

The APAS Committee recommends that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Student Conduct should consider strategies for ensuring that students are given appropriate information on the University services and resources available to them after they enroll.

Text of Proposed Amendment:

The APAS Committee recommends that the University should continue to ask Judicial Information questions on its undergraduate admissions application. The APAS Committee recommends that the current questions be revised as noted in the report. The questions should continue to be answered with a yes or no answer, and if an applicant answers yes to any of the questions, they should continue to be asked to provide a detailed description on the situation and its resolution.

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The APAS Committee recommends that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Student Conduct should consider how data regarding criminal background responses should be collected and kept.

The APAS Committee recommends that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Student Conduct should consider strategies for ensuring that students are given appropriate information on the University services and resources available to them after they enroll.

The University Senate recommends that this issue be reconsidered in three (3) years as the national landscape around criminal justice evolves and more information on the questions' effects becomes available.

Rationale:

The national conversation around criminal justice has been changing rapidly in the past decade, and it is quite possible that the University will see more institutions around it remove these questions in three years. In just the past six months since the Senate last considered this issue, the Common App has removed the question.

There is limited data available on the subject, and hopefully in three years there will be more and better studies to understand how Judicial Information questions affect application attrition rates.