

Stats nuts, rejoice! UC by the numbers

Now that the push for high school seniors to complete their college applications has subsided, the waiting period begins.

Although much less hectic, it still can be quite stressful. Some fortunate students have received admissions decisions already if they applied early action, early decision or to a college with a rolling decision deadline. And, hopefully, it was good news.

The majority of applicants are still awaiting notification and should hear back by early April from all schools. Many are pinning their hopes on University of California admission, so I thought I would take this opportunity to examine some UC admissions and enrollment trends.

Perhaps I shouldn't admit this publicly, but I enjoy looking at this type of data; and lucky for me, there is a wealth of it compiled by UC's Institutional Research & Academic Planning department.

You can peruse interesting information on admissions and enrollment in a variety of ways by visiting <http://bit.ly/2CNQg3e>.

For example, maybe you have a burning desire to know which



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California Community College produces the most students who enroll at a particular UC campus. In that case, you have a treasure trove of data waiting for you at this website.

You can compare the different community colleges to see which has the higher number of transfers to which UC campus. Then you can take an even closer look and see which UC campuses enroll the most students from California Community Colleges. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/2F5viCa>.

And, if you are considering going the community college route, you can even get critical insights into the acceptance rates of different majors at different UC campuses which can help you be strategic in maximizing your chances of being admitted as a transfer student.

There is quite a range of acceptance rates across different colleges (such as Letters and

Science and Natural Resources at UC Berkeley, for instance) at different UC campuses. For more information on transfers by major, visit <http://bit.ly/2F9OAq4>.

Another useful tool is that you can analyze admissions data on high schools by average GPA and compare how Davis High and Da Vinci stack up against other local public and private high school options. For admissions by source school, visit <http://bit.ly/2EYKrWU>.

I also really appreciate that there is useful information about first-year retention and graduation rates for freshman and transfer students. When assessing the difference in costs between colleges — especially between public and private colleges — it is always helpful to have a sense of how long it takes to graduate from a particular program. Check out undergraduate graduation rates at <http://bit.ly/2BUFUlh>.

There are many ways to slice and dice the data, and I encourage you to spend some time on this website to get a better perspective on UC admissions and enrollment. But for those of you who want a synopsis here are some notable statistics:

With respect to 2017 enrollees from California Community Colleges:

■ Although Santa Monica City College tops the list with the largest number of transfers to UCs (1,289), tied for second and third at 938 students are more local schools — Diablo Valley and DeAnza. Even closer to home, Sacramento City is ranked 21st with 258 transfers.

■ UC Davis tops the list as the campus with the highest number of California Community College enrollees at 3,072, followed by UCLA and then UC Irvine with 2,913 and 2,807, respectively.

Information about high schools includes:

■ The total number of 2017 applicants to UCs from Davis High School was 296, with 201 of those being admitted. At Da Vinci, 38 students applied to UC campuses, and 27 were admitted.

■ The average GPA of the students from DHS who applied in 2017 was 3.93; the average of those accepted to UCs was 4.06. For Da Vinci, the average GPA for UC applicants was 3.82, with those accepted having average GPAs of 3.96.

About UC graduation and retention rates (see my December 2017 column at <https://wp.me/p3aczg-3c6u> for more detailed discussion of how to assess these rates):

■ The UC freshman first-year retention rate is 93.6 percent and the more-often quoted six-year graduation rate is 84.7 percent, which is the highest since 1997.

■ The first-year freshman retention rate is higher than the non-UC AAU (American Association of Universities) institutions of 91 percent, but lower than AAU private institutions of 96 percent.

■ The average time to earn a bachelor's degree is now at an average of 4.14 elapsed years, which is the lowest since 1997.

So, what does all of this mean? It means that students and families have more information from which to analyze and understand their chances of UC admissions.

With that I will sign off but I want to make sure to state that if you are a senior waiting for a UC decision, I wish you the best of luck!

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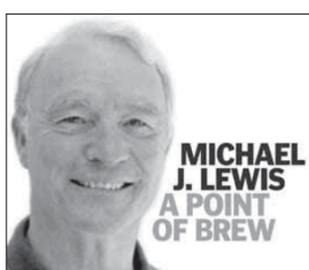
The true cost, and worth, of a bottle of beer

If a traveller be sufficiently careless a beer can cost a great deal of money.

Many years ago in Canada I bought a \$5 (Canadian) beer with a \$20 (American) bill. At the time the Canadian dollar was worth maybe 80 cents U.S. The bartender took my USD at par and gave me \$15 Canadian in change. I never did quite figure out how much that beer cost me (maybe \$8USD instead of \$4USD) but it was a seminal learning experience.

I excuse my naivete because my first experience of such transactions was in Buffalo, a border city, in the early 1960s when the Canadian dollar was maybe \$1.10 U.S.; American businesses always offered "change."

And so recently in Argentina in Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, the most southerly city on the planet (Fin del Mundo) at 54° degrees, 48 seconds S, when I was again faced with buying a beer with a \$20 (American) bill, I decided against change as pesos (for which I expected



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A POINT OF BREW

no further use) and took my change in the form of extra bottles of beer. Always useful.

I'm glad did. As a result I met a locally brewed craft beer called Beagle. The beer turned out to be quite ordinary, in the ways that most such beers are, but the bottle was lovely with elegant graphics in black and gold and I was intrigued by the name that I thought might have some historical association. Wikipedia helps with details.

"Beagle. A Fuegian Golden Ale."

Turns out this name was no great mystery because Ushuaia sits on a channel that joins the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and, for part of its length, divides Chile to the south from Argentina to the north. This long channel is named, not for the small



MICHAEL LEWIS/COURTESY PHOTO

Every beer has a story to tell; Beagle's is steeped in history.

and charming and talented dog, and certainly not for Snoopy, but for HMS Beagle whose first voyage was to survey this region for the British Admiralty (1826 to 1830).

This was a time (about 1825) when improvements by Thomas Earnshaw, among others, made marine chronometers, that were essential for determination of longitude, more available, cheaper and more reliable. Beagle

carried 22 chronometers on her second voyage.

Of great note of course is the association of Charles Darwin with the second voyage of HMS Beagle (1831 to 1836) on which he was a fee-paying self-employed naturalist and geologist. It was an interesting time to be a geologist as the science was still hesitantly moving from under the thumb of biblical ideas of the Earth's origin.

On seeing glaciers for the first time Darwin records, "It is scarcely possible to imagine anything more beautiful than the beryl-like blue of these glaciers, and especially as contrasted with the dead white of the upper expanse of snow." The same astonishing and beautiful blue glow in the glaciers and icebergs of the Antarctic is still there.

Later, in the Galapagos Islands of course, Darwin

began to develop his ideas about evolution, and it is this part of the second voyage of HMS Beagle that is so well known and celebrated. She was the first ship to circumnavigate the world, leaving in her wake specific accurate markers of longitude and latitude by which later ships could check their location and the accuracy of their instruments.

The sturdy HMS Beagle made a third survey voyage to chart parts of the coast of Australia in the years 1837 to 1843. She was then retired as a static watch vessel of the coast guard and was later lost.

I delight in the story of this little sailing ship and the men who sailed with her. It also reminds me of the extraordinary dedication of the British Admiralty to exploration and surveying even in the most remote parts of the planet that doubtless laid the foundations of the Empire.

So much history on a label on a beer bottle.

— Michael Lewis is a longtime Davis resident; his column is published every other week. Reach him at cymro@sbcglobal.net

Moffitt named state food and ag undersecretary

Enterprise staff

Jennifer Moffitt, 37, of Davis, has been appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown undersecretary at the California Department of Food and Agriculture, where she has served as deputy secretary since 2015.

Moffitt was managing director at Dixon Ridge Farms from 2005 to 2015. She was an education, outreach and research specialist at the American Farmland Trust from 2004 to 2005, where she was a land projects coordinator from 2002 to 2004.

Moffitt also is a member of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation.

This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$170,328. Moffitt is a Democrat.

Christine M. Ciccotti, 36, of Davis, has been appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown as deputy director, chief counsel at the California Department of State Hospitals.

Ciccotti has served as a deputy attorney general in the Correctional Law Section at the California Department of Justice, Office

NAME DROPPERS

of the Attorney General since 2014. She was a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Defense's Defense Contract Management Agency from 2012 to 2013 and an assistant general counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons from 2009 to 2012.

Ciccotti served in several positions for the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps at Nellis Air Force Base and Travis Air Force Base from 2006 to 2009, including trial counsel, chief of contract law, chief of civil law, chief of adverse actions and chief of claims.

She earned a juris doctor degree from the Georgetown University Law Center. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the annual compensation is \$177,900. Ciccotti is a Democrat.

Reyna Shauman of Davis was awarded Volunteer of the Year by the Yolo County SPCA. She is a ninth-grader currently attending Holmes Junior High School.

According to her father Blake Shauman, she rides her bike to Petco at The Marketplace every Saturday and volunteers four to five hours to assist with pet adoptions. She helps prospective adoptive clients by discussing the animals who are up for adoption, helping insert microchips in new animals, providing general care for the animals and completing adoption documentation.

Kristy Nguyen of Davis earned the distinction of faculty honors for fall 2017 at the Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have a 4.0 academic average for the semester.

More than 25,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled at Georgia Tech, which is ranked in the nation's top 10 public universities by U.S. News and World Report.

Margaret Ji of Davis has recently been named to the dean's list at Boston University for the fall semester.

Each school and college at Boston University has their own criterion for the dean's list, but

students generally must attain a 3.5 grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale), or be in the top 30 percent of their class, as well as a full course load as a full-time student.

West Sacramento City Manager Martin Tuttle has announced he is resigning from his position effective July 1.

Tuttle was appointed in 2012 as West Sacramento's fourth city manager after a distinguished career of transformative public service throughout the state and region. He served as deputy director for the California Department of Transportation and was the widely acclaimed executive director of the Sacramento Area Council of Governments for six years.

Tuttle's achievements include securing funding and expediting construction of the McGowan Bridge and Village Parkway, planning and building a city-wide network of walking and bike trails and introducing several urban farms on unused city properties.

In his role as city manager, Tuttle also served as CEO of the Port of West Sacramento. He led efforts in 2012 to privatize the

port's operations and executed a contract with Seattle-based SSA Marine to manage the north terminal.

In a press release, Tuttle says he has "nothing but respect for our remarkable mayor, City Council and staff, along with city partners who helped us reach so many goals."

The City Council will launch a search in the coming weeks and intends to appoint a new city manager by the summer.

Amanda McAdam of Davis was named to the Marist College dean's list for the fall 2017. She is majoring in fashion merchandising and is a member of the class of 2021.

Marist College is located in the historic Hudson River Valley. It is a comprehensive, independent institution grounded in the liberal arts.

— Do you know of someone who has won an award or accomplished something noteworthy? Email it to newsroom@davisenterprise.net or send it to *Name Droppers, The Davis Enterprise, P.O. Box 1470, Davis, CA 95617*