

**Structure and Charter of the
Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid
September 2012**

The Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid advises the Provost and the Deans of Columbia College and the School of Engineering and Applied Science on policies for undergraduate admissions and financial aid in Columbia College and the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

The Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid consists of eleven faculty appointed by the Provost. Committee members will usually serve terms of three years duration. The Dean of Columbia College, the Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences will serve *ex officio*.

The Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid provides recommendations about overall admissions and financial policies and procedures. It does not participate in individual admissions or financial aid decisions, does not make recommendations regarding the admission of individual applicants, and does not consider the financial aid awards of individual students.

The Committee advises on admissions criteria, such as curriculum and testing requirements, and evaluates these criteria in relation to student academic performance at Columbia.

The Committee offers guidance on how diversity—of personal experience, of academic interest, of non-academic achievement, of place of origin, of family background, of secondary school—should be considered in evaluation of applicants for their potential to contribute to and benefit from the undergraduate experience at Columbia.

The Committee advises on programs used to assemble the undergraduate student body, including the use of early decision, the offering of a combined plan and transfer programs, and the provision of visiting student opportunities.

The Committee provides recommendations on recruitment initiatives to develop an applicant pool and yield efforts to produce an entering class that reflects the established academic and non-academic criteria for admission.

The Committee advises on financial aid policies that enable the achievement of admissions goals, and assesses the effectiveness of these policies in meeting educational objectives.