

---

---

# College Planning Night

— Fall 2016 —

---

---

# Tonight's Agenda

- Overview of college planning at Rising Tide
- Panelist Presentations:
  - Boston University: Zoe Carter, Senior Assistant Director
  - Bridgewater State University: Gregg Meyer, Dean of Admissions
  - Stonehill University: Heather Mello, Assistant Dean of Admissions
- Question & Answers

# College Planning at Rising Tide

- Individual student meetings
  - Get to know students and their goals
  - Build a college list
  - Navigate application forms
  - Review essays and resumes
- Family meetings available upon request
- Advisory meetings
  - Future Fridays: Complete applications, ask questions
- Grade Level meetings
  - Review transcript
  - Review general college application information
  - Attend college Fair in Boston with juniors every spring
  - Provide guidance on the college preparation timeline and objectives

# College Application Materials

- Students send to colleges:
  - Application form
  - Essay(s)
  - Supplemental application forms (via the Common Application)
  - SAT or ACT scores directly from College Board or ACT
  - Resume
  - Program-specific materials (audition videos, portfolio, etc)
- Students complete for Rising Tide:
  - Teacher recommendation request forms
  - Student information sheet

# College Application Materials

- Automated emails sent to counselor and recommenders
- Rising Tide sends:
  - High school transcript(s)
  - School report form
  - School profile
  - Counselor recommendation (Ms. Foster)
- Teachers/recommenders send:
  - Teacher recommendation questionnaire
  - Recommendation letter

# Available Resources at Rising Tide

- Google Classroom and update emails
- SAT and ACT test preparation booklets
  - Students receive free online test preparation resources upon registration
- Information boards with open house and scholarship details
- College brochures
- Fee waivers: SAT, ACT, applications
- Books outlining majors, financial aid, and other college information

# Tasks for Seniors: Early Fall

- Finalize your college list with a mix of “likely” and “reach” schools
  - Track deadlines, application requirements, visits
  - Decide which might be Early Decision, Early Action, or Regular/Rolling Decision
- Begin completing applications and supplemental forms
- Proofread (and proofread and proofread) your essay
- Register for November/December SAT or ACT exams if necessary
- Complete all letter of recommendation requests
- Show interest in all colleges to which you plan on applying
  - Open House events, interviews, and attending sessions with visiting representatives
- Utilize Net Price Calculator tools on college websites
- Prepare information for financial aid forms (FAFSA, CSS Profile)
- Meet with Ms. Foster for help with all of the above!

# Tasks for Juniors: Throughout The Year

- Consider your post-secondary goals
  - Ask: What careers interest you? Would college help prepare you for your intended path?
  - Use MA Career Information Systems (MassCIS) tools to identify your interests and skills and search for careers: [masscis.intocareers.org](https://masscis.intocareers.org)
- Develop a preliminary list of colleges or programs that support your goals
  - Use Big Future search tools for majors and colleges: [bigfuture.collegeboard.org](https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org)
- Visit nearby colleges: Open houses, tours, and information sessions
- Utilize Net Price Calculator tools on college websites
  - Compare potential in-state, private, and out-of-state costs
- Stay focused!



# Financial Aid Night

Tuesday, October 25th  
6:30pm  
Rising Tide Upper School

Presentation and Q&A with Jan Combs from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA; [mefa.org](http://mefa.org))

Information about the types and sources of aid, how to apply, and how colleges make decisions about aid.

Geared towards seniors, open to all!

---

**Questions?**

# Admissions Panel

Zoe Carter, Senior Assistant Director, Boston University

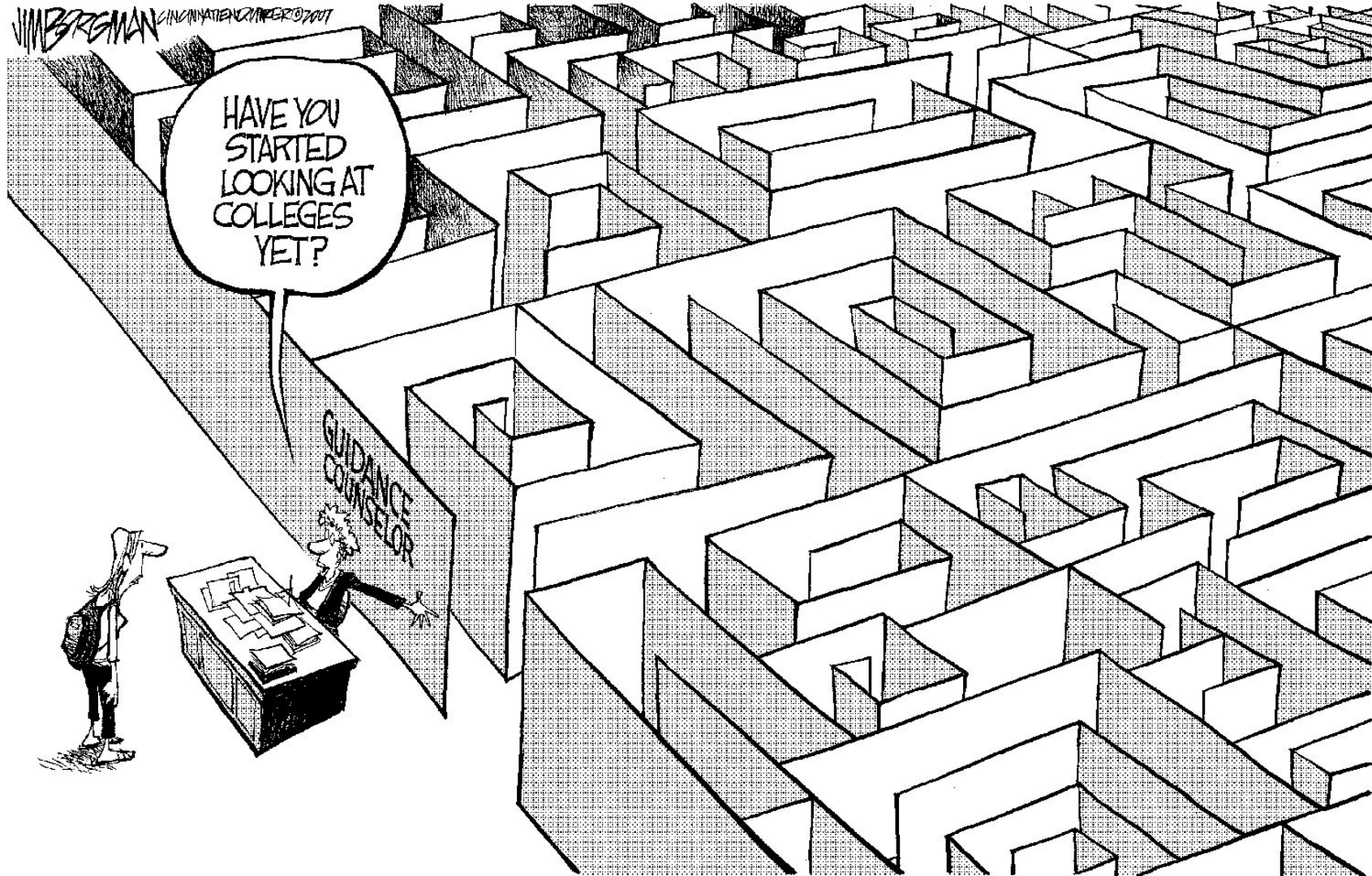
Gregg Meyer, Dean of Admissions, Bridgewater State University

Heather Mello, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Stonehill University

Welcome to Rising Tide!

HAVE YOU  
STARTED  
LOOKING AT  
COLLEGES  
YET?

GUIDANCE  
COUNSELOR



# Final Thoughts

- Avoid the noise
- Let your child take the lead
- Focus on “fit” rather than “brand”
- Trust the process
- Celebrate accomplishments

# Financial Aid Night

Tuesday, October 25th  
6:30pm  
Rising Tide Upper School

Presentation and Q&A with Jan Combs from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA; [mefa.org](http://mefa.org))

Information about the types and sources of aid, how to apply, and how colleges make decisions about aid.

Geared towards seniors, open to all!

---