SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE TRANSFERS WHO EARNED ACADEMIC HONORS AT U.C.L.A.
BY- GOLD, BEN K.
LOS ANGELES CITY COLL., CALIF.
REPORT NUMBER LACC-RS-67-12

PERFORMANCE OF 31 LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO ACHIEVED ACADEMIC HONORS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES GIVES FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT JUNIOR COLLEGES CAN PROVIDE GOOD PREPARATION FOR UPPER-DIVISION UNIVERSITY WORK. ALTHOUGH THREE QUARTERS OF THESE STUDENTS WERE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE UNIVERSITY ON COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL, THEIR ATTENDANCE AT THE CITY COLLEGE HAD ENABLED THEM TO CORRECT THEIR DEFICIENCIES. THERE WERE NO STRIKING SIMILARITIES IN THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDENTS, E.G., 20 WERE MALE, FIVE WERE OF FOREIGN BACKGROUND, THEIR AGES RANGED FROM 20 TO 54 (MEDIAN AGE, 24), HALF WERE FROM LOS ANGELES CITY HIGH SCHOOLS, THEY REPRESENTED 16 DIFFERENT MAJORS (SIX IN ENGINEERING, FIVE IN ART), THEY HAD A 3.29 GRADE POINT AVERAGE, THEY AVERAGED 65 UNITS AT LACC, AND 12 RECEIVED THE AA DEGREE. OF THE 18 FOR WHOM SCHOOL AND COLLEGE ABILITY TEST SCORES WERE AVAILABLE, NINE SCORED BELOW THE MEDIAN FOR COLLEGE FRESHMEN IN EITHER VERBAL OR QUANTITATIVE ABILITIES. ONLY TWO STUDENTS SCORED IN THE TOP DECILE IN BOTH ABILITIES, WHILE FIVE HAD COMBINED VERBAL AND QUANTITATIVE SCORES IN THE TOP DECILE. OF TWO STUDENTS WHO FELL BELOW A C AVERAGE IN THEIR FIRST SEMESTER AT THE UNIVERSITY, ONE WAS DISMISSED. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY REINSTATED AND REACHED THE DEAN'S HONOR LIST THREE YEARS LATER. (HH)
"SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF LACC TRANSFERS WHO EARNED ACADEMIC HONORS AT U.C.L.A."

Ben K. Gold

November, 1967
Research Office
"SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF LACC TRANSFERS WHO EARNED ACADEMIC HONORS AT U.C.L.A."

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

In September 1967, the UCLA Office of Relations with Schools sent to LACC a list of 31 former LACC students who had received academic honors at UCLA. These honors included election into honor societies such as Phi Beta Kappa and Tau Beta Pi, honors at graduation, awards of fellowship and scholarships, and inclusions on Dean's Honor Lists. Seven of the students won two or more honors.

The purpose of this study is to investigate some of the characteristics of these students, particularly in reference to their performance while at LACC.

PROCEDURE OF THE STUDY

Admissions Office and Counseling records were searched to obtain pertinent information. Also, first semester grade reports previously sent by the UCLA Office of Relations with Schools furnished information as to high school eligibility determination. The Appendix to this report details the available information for each student.

FINDINGS

LACC permanent record cards were found for all 31 students. UCLA first semester grade reports were not available for five students. SCAT scores were found for 18 of the 31. The following observations are based on information (detailed in the appendix) obtained from these sources.
FINDINGS (continued)

Twenty (65%) of the thirty-one students were male. Five were of foreign background. Ages (as of 1966) ranged from twenty to fifty-four with a median age of 24. Half of the students were products of a Los Angeles city high school. Sixteen different majors were indicated for the students with six in Engineering and five in Art heading the list. Grade point averages earned at LACC and in the first semester at UCLA were both figured to be 3.29. Average number of units attempted at LACC was 65, with 12 students completing requirements for the AA degree.

Half of the students for whom SCAT college aptitude tests were available scored below the median for college freshmen in either verbal or quantitative abilities. Only two students scored in the top decile in both verbal and quantitative abilities, while the combined verbal and quantitative scores for five students were in the top decile.

Two students found themselves in academic difficulty their first semester at UCLA, failing below a C average. One student was in fact dismissed, only to be reinstated and placed on the Dean's Honor List three years later.

Possibly the most significant statistic to be observed is that, of the twenty-six students for whom information was available, twenty-one (81%) were ineligible to attend the University directly from high school.

CONCLUSIONS

This report of 31 students obtaining academic honors at UCLA adds more evidence to the already well established truth that junior colleges provide high level preparation for upper division University work. The fact that three fourths of the students were not eligible to enter UCLA directly from high school but were, after a tenure at LACC, later able to earn high academic honors at the University is a tribute to the LACC faculty and staff.
APPENDIX
FORMER LACC STUDENTS RECEIVING HONORS AT UCLA, SEPTEMBER, 1967

1. AGUILAR, John Lewis
2. ANQUELLO, Patrick J.
3. BERNSTEIN, Charles N.
4. BLANDER, David A.
5. BOISCLAIRE, Lawrence
6. BRUER, Frederick Leo
7. CINCURA, Andrew
8. COOK, (Risman), Myrna J.
9. DAVIS, Richard S.
10. GENEVIN, (Babitz), Thelma
11. HAREL, Abraham I.
12. KLINER, Alex
13. MALKOFF, Susan Freyda
14. MAROLIS, Faye R.
15. MARSEN, Richard S.
16. MAYER, Ida E.
17. NARIKAWA, Isao Pat
18. PILLIWIN, Michael A.
19. PREZANT, Claire H.
20. REBAIRE, Simone
21. ROBBINS, Harriett W.
22. SAGAMOTO, Margaret T.
23. SHORT, Robert Price
24. SHELLE, Michael
25. SONA, Zvi
26. SWANCE, Wayne Earl
27. TOBISHAN, Stuart P.
28. TODLOKA, Audrey S.
29. TONO, Yoko
30. WILLIAMS, (Kirtley), Phyllis M.
31. YOKOTA, Fusao
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* See code next page

N. A. = not available

** rm. scores in purple, national college freshman percentiles in red
CODE FOR UCLA HONORS:

P: Elected to Phi Beta Kappa

DF: Dean's Honor List, College of Fine Arts
(requires 3.5 grade point average or better
in 12 or more units)

DL: Dean's Honor List, College of Letters and Science
(requires at least 12 units of A and not more than
3 of B)

DN: Dean's Honor List, School of Nursing
(requires a 3.5 grade point average or higher
in 12 or more units)

T: Elected to Tau Beta Pi
(Honorary fraternity whose membership is open
to students in Engineering)

MCL,E: Graduated Magna Cum Laude in College of Engineering
(requires 3.6 grade point average or higher)

CL,E: Graduated Cum Laude in College of Engineering
(requires 3.2 grade point average or higher)

WW: Received Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship
(for first year graduate work leading to a career
in college teaching)

WE: Received from the Western Electronic Education
Fund, Engineering Scholarship